

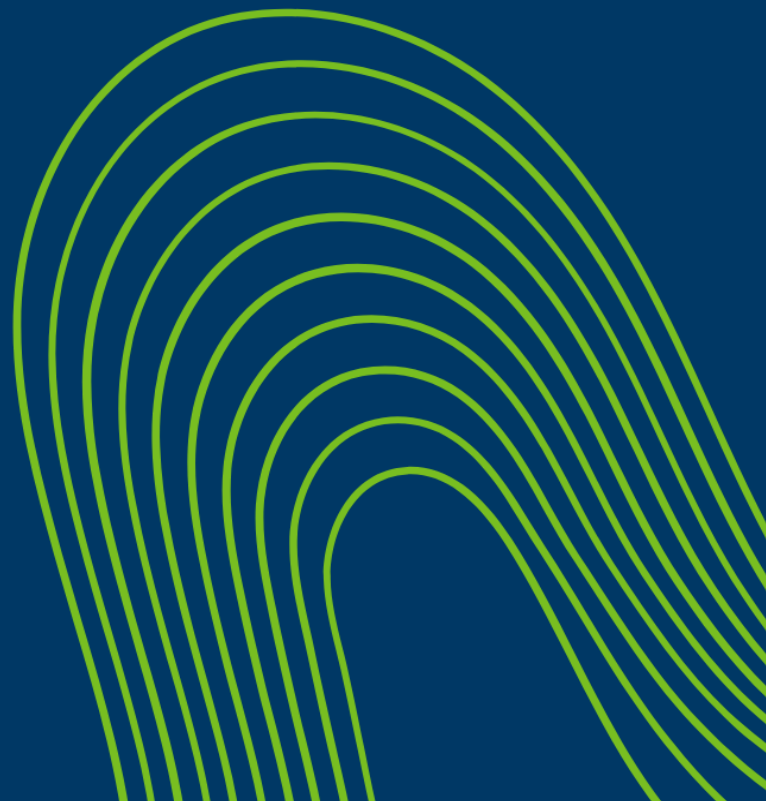


PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR
LICENSING AND STANDARDS BOARD

STUDENT TEACHING STIPEND PILOT

A Preliminary Report to the
Legislature

February 2025





For More Information

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Glossary

Financial aid package: The total amount of financial aid a student is to receive. It may include grant, work, and loan funds from a variety of sources, and is assembled by the school's financial aid office.¹

Financial need: The difference between the price of attending a postsecondary institution and the family's ability to pay for those costs.²

Student loan: Money borrowed to help pay for the student's education that must be repaid with interest.

Student teacher: A teacher candidate, who is enrolled in an initial licensure program and is completing the minimum of 12 weeks of clinical experiences with a school.

Acronyms

MDE: Minnesota Department of Education

PELSB: Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board

OHE: Office of Higher Education

¹ Glossary from the Minnesota Office of Higher Education, <https://www.ohe.state.mn.us/mPg.cfm?pageID=193>.

² Glossary from the Minnesota Office of Higher Education, <https://www.ohe.state.mn.us/mPg.cfm?pageID=193>.

Appropriation Language

Minnesota Session Laws 2024, Chapter 115, Article 5, Section 20.

STUDENT TEACHING STIPEND PILOT PROGRAM.

Subdivision 1. **Pilot program established.** A pilot program is established to support student teachers placed in Minnesota school districts or charter schools to complete clinical experiences necessary to obtain Minnesota teaching licenses, and help policymakers determine how to reduce the financial burden of completing valuable clinical experiences and strengthen the pipeline of qualified teachers. The pilot program is effective for the 2024-2025 school year.

Subd. 2. Participating teacher preparation program providers.

(a) The pilot program consists of the following teacher preparation program providers:

- (1) St. Cloud State University;
- (2) Bemidji State University;
- (3) Minnesota State University, Mankato;
- (4) Winona State University;
- (5) Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College;
- (6) the University of Minnesota-Duluth;
- (7) the University of Minnesota-Crookston; and
- (8) Augsburg University.

(b) A participating teacher preparation program provider must:

- (1) determine the stipend amount based on the available funding and number of eligible student teachers;
- (2) use the full amount of funding provided under this section to award each student teacher placed in a student teaching assignment a stipend of the same amount regardless of the student teacher's financial need or intended licensure area; and
- (3) notify student teachers of their stipend amounts no later than 30 days before the student teacher is placed in a student teaching assignment.

Subd. 3. Student teacher eligibility.

(a) A student teacher is eligible for a stipend through the pilot program if the student teacher:

(1) is enrolled in a teacher preparation program approved by the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board that requires at least 12 weeks of student teaching in order to be recommended for a Tier 3 teaching license;

(2) is placed in a Minnesota school district or charter school to complete required student teaching; and

(3) is meeting satisfactory academic progress as defined under Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.101, subdivision 10.

(b) A student teacher may receive a stipend under this section, and under Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.1274 or 136A.1275.

Subd. 4. Stipends not considered income for certain purposes.

(a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, payments under this section must not be considered income, assets, or personal property for purposes of determining eligibility or recertifying eligibility for:

(1) child care assistance programs under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 119B, and early learning scholarships under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.165;

(2) general assistance, Minnesota supplemental aid, and food support under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 256D;

(3) housing support under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 256I;

(4) the Minnesota family investment program and diversionary work program under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 256J; and

(5) economic assistance programs under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 256P.

(b) The commissioner of human services must not consider a stipend under this section as income or assets when determining medical assistance eligibility under Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.055, subdivisions 7, 7a, and 12; or section 256B.057, subdivisions 3, 3a, 3b, and 4. The commissioner of human services must not include the stipend received under this section when calculating an individual's premiums under Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.057, subdivision 9.

Subd. 5. Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board.

(a) The Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board must develop and administer a survey to students who receive stipends through the pilot program, and interview a representative sample of student teachers who receive stipends. The surveys and interviews must seek information related to the impact of the stipend on the student teacher, whether the student teacher received any other stipends or compensation for student teaching, and other information relevant to development of a statewide paid student teaching program.

(b) The board must submit reports to the chairs and minority leaders of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over kindergarten through grade 12 education and higher education by February 1, 2025, and July 1, 2025, in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 3.195. Each report must identify the number of student teachers receiving stipends by teacher preparation program provider and the districts or charter schools where the student teachers were placed, and the amount each student teacher received under this section. The second report must also summarize the results of the surveys and interviews, and make recommendations for implementing a statewide paid student teacher program.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2024, except for subdivision 4, paragraph (b), which is effective July 1, 2024, or upon federal approval, whichever is later.

Introduction

The 2024 state legislature established a pilot program to provide stipends to student teachers placed in Minnesota school districts and charter schools. The goal of this pilot program was twofold:

1. to support student teachers as they complete clinical experiences necessary to obtain a Minnesota teaching license and
2. to help policymakers determine how to reduce the financial burden of completing valuable clinical experiences.

Eligibility

The legislature identified eight institutions to provide stipends to student teachers. Those institutions were:

1. St. Cloud State University,
2. Bemidji State University,
3. Minnesota State University - Mankato
4. Winona State University,
5. Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College,
6. the University of Minnesota - Duluth,
7. the University of Minnesota - Crookston, and
8. Augsburg University.

A student teacher from one of the eight institutions above was considered eligible for funding if the individual was:

1. enrolled in an approved initial licensure program that requires a minimum of 12 weeks of student teaching,
2. completing a minimum of 12 weeks of student teaching during the fall of 2024 or spring of 2025 in a Minnesota school district or charter school, and
3. meeting satisfactory academic progress, as defined under Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.01, subdivision 10.

Note: Eligibility did not consider financial need or licensure area.

Findings from the Fall Semester

345 eligible student teachers received funding this fall through this pilot program. Funding ranged from \$6,200 to \$10,300.00 per student teacher.

Table 1: Fall Distributions

Institutions	Appropriation	Number of Recipients	Full Stipend Amount
Augsburg University	\$317,000	20	\$8,000.00
Bemidji State University	\$744,000	52	\$6,200.00
Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College	\$7,000	1	\$7,000.00
Minnesota State University, Mankato	\$1,618,000	69	\$5,9700.00
St. Cloud State University	\$929,000	58	\$8,000.00
University of Minnesota-Crookston	\$103,000	1	\$10,300
University of Minnesota-Duluth	\$1,115,000	64	\$7,689.70
Winona State University	\$1,570,000	80	\$8,971.00

*Note: At least 1 student teacher did not receive a stipend because they were over the credit limit.

Student teachers supported through this pilot were placed in clinical experiences across the state, including in traditional public schools, charter schools, and virtual academies.

Table 2: Participating School Districts

School District or Charter School	Placing Institution
Beacon Academy	Augsburg
FIT Academy	MSU Mankato

School District or Charter School	Placing Institution
GFW Schools	MSU Mankato
Hermantown Community Schools	UMD-Duluth
Hiawatha Academies	Augsburg
Hmong College Prep Academy	Augsburg
Intermediate School District 287	St. Cloud State University
Irving Pertzsch	MSU Mankato
ISD 100- Wrenshall School District	UMD-Duluth
ISD 11 - Anoka-Hennepin School District	UMD-Duluth, St. Cloud State University, MSU Mankato
ISD 112 - Eastern Carver County Schools	UMD-Duluth, MSU Mankato, Winona State University
ISD 115 – Cass Lake – Bena Public Schools	St. Cloud State University
ISD 116 - Pillager Public School District	UMD-Duluth, Bemidji State University
ISD 152 – Moorhead School District	Bemidji State University, MSU Mankato
ISD 16 – Spring Lake Park School District	MSU Mankato
ISD 162 – Bagley Area Schools	Bemidji State University
ISD 181 - Brainerd Public Schools	UMD-Duluth, Bemidji State University

School District or Charter School	Placing Institution
ISD 191 – Burnsville-Eagan-Savage School District	Winona State University
ISD 192 – Farmington Area Public Schools	MSU Mankato
ISD 194 - Lakeville Area Schools	UMD-Duluth, MSU Mankato
ISD 199 – Inver Grove Heights School District	MSU Mankato
ISD 2 – Hill City	Bemidji State University
ISD 200 – Hastings Public School District	Winona State University
ISD 204 – Kasson-Mantorville School District	Winona State University
ISD 206 – Alexandria Public Schools	St. Cloud State University
ISD 213 – Osakis School District	St. Cloud State University
ISD 2135 – Maple River School District	MSU Mankato
ISD 2144 – Chisago Lakes School District	MSU Mankato
ISD 2169 – Murray County Central School District	MSU Mankato
ISD 22 - Detroit Lakes Public Schools	UMD-Duluth, Bemidji State University
ISD 2364 – Belgrade-Brooten-Elrose Public School District	St. Cloud State University
ISD 239 – Rushford-Peterson School District	Winona State University
ISD 252 – Cannon Falls Area Schools	Winona State University

School District or Charter School	Placing Institution
ISD 256 – Red Wing Public Schools	Winona State University
ISD 2687 – Howard Lake – Waverly – Winsted Public School District	St. Cloud State University
ISD 270 – Hopkins Public Schools	MSU Mankato
ISD 271 - Bloomington Public School District	UMD-Duluth, MSU Mankato
ISD 272 - Eden Prairie Public Schools	UMD-Duluth, MSU Mankato, Winona State University
ISD 273 - Edina Public Schools	Augsburg, MSU Mankato, Winona State University
ISD 276 – Minnetonka School District	MSU Mankato, Winona State University
ISD 279 - Osseo Area Schools	UMD-Duluth, St. Cloud State University, MSU Mankato, Winona State University
ISD 2805 – Zumbrota-Mazeppa School District	Winona State University
ISD 284 - Wayzata Public Schools	Augsburg, MSU Mankato
ISD 2899 – Plainview Elgin Millville School District	Winona State University
ISD 2905 – Tri-City United School District	MSU Mankato
ISD 294 – Houston Public Schools (Minnesota Virtual Academy)	Augsburg, Winona State University
ISD 299 – Caledonia Public School District	Winona State University
ISD 300 – La Crescent-Hokah School District	Winona State University

School District or Charter School	Placing Institution
ISD 309 – Park Rapids	Bemidji State University
ISD 31 – Bemidji Public Schools	Bemidji State University
ISD 316 - Greenway Public School District	UMD-Duluth
ISD 32 – Blackduck Public Schools	Bemidji State University
ISD 361 – International Falls Public Schools	Bemidji State University
ISD 362 – Littlefork – Big Falls School District	Bemidji State University
ISD 381 - Lake Superior School District	UMD-Duluth
ISD 390 – Lake of the Woods School	Bemidji State University
ISD 397 – Le Seur-Henderson School District	MSU Mankato
ISD 423 – Hutchinson	Bemidji State University
ISD 463 – Eden Valley-Watkins School District	St. Cloud State University
ISD 465 – Litchfield School District	St. Cloud State University
ISD 47 – Sauk Rapids	MSU Mankato, St. Cloud State University
ISD 477 – Princeton School District	St. Cloud State University
ISD 480 – Onamia School District	Winona State University

School District or Charter School	Placing Institution
ISD 482 - Little Falls Community Schools	UMD-Duluth, Bemidji State University, St. Cloud State University
ISD 484 – Perz School District	MSU Mankato
ISD 492 – Austin Public School District	Winona State University
ISD 508 – Saint Peter School District	MSU Mankato
ISD 51 - Foley Public Schools	UMD-Duluth, St. Cloud State University
ISD 531 – Byron Public School District	MSU Mankato, Winona State University
ISD 533 – Dover-Eyota Public School District	Winona State University
ISD 535 – Rochester School District	Winona State University
ISD 593 – Crookston Public School District	UM Crookston
ISD 6 – South St. Paul	Bemidji State University
ISD 601 – Fosston Public School	Bemidji State University
ISD 621 - Mounds View School District	UMD-Duluth, Bemidji State University, MSU Mankato
ISD 622 - North St Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale School District	UMD-Duluth, St. Cloud State University, Winona State University
ISD 624 - White Bear Lake Area Schools	UMD-Duluth, MSU Mankato, Winona State University
ISD 656 – Faribault Public School District	MSU Mankato

School District or Charter School	Placing Institution
ISD 659 – Northfield School District	MSU Mankato
ISD 676 – Badger School District	Bemidji State University
ISD 695 – Chisholm Public Schools	Bemidji State University
ISD 700 - Hermantown Public Schools	UMD-Duluth
ISD 701 – Hibbing Public Schools	Bemidji State University
ISD 704 - Proctor Public Schools	UMD-Duluth
ISD 709 - Duluth Public Schools	UMD-Duluth
ISD 719 - Prior Lake- Savage Area School District	UMD-Duluth, MSU Mankato, Winona State University
ISD 720 - Shakopee Public Schools	UMD-Duluth, MSU Mankato
ISD 726 – Becker Public Schools	St. Cloud State University
ISD 727 – Big Lake Public School District	St. Cloud State University
ISD 728 - Elk River-Otsego-Rogers-Zimmerman School District	UMD-Duluth, St. Cloud State University
ISD 738 – Holdingford	Bemidji State University, St. Cloud State University
ISD 740 - Melrose Area Public Schools	UMD-Duluth, St. Cloud State University
ISD 741 – Paynesville School District	St. Cloud State University

School District or Charter School	Placing Institution
ISD 742 – Saint Cloud Area School District	UMD-Duluth, Bemidji State University, St. Cloud State University
ISD 745 – Albany Area Schools	Bemidji State University, St. Cloud State University
ISD 761 – Owatonna School District	MSU Mankato
ISD 77 – Mankato School District	MSU Mankato
ISD 786 Bertha-Hewitt	Bemidji State University
ISD 820 – Sebeka Public Schools	Bemidji State University
ISD 829 – Waseca School District	MSU Mankato
ISD 831 - Forest Lake Area Schools	UMD-Duluth
ISD 833 – South Washington County	Bemidji State University, Winona State University
ISD 834 – Stillwater	Bemidji State University
ISD 837 – Madelia School District	MSU Mankato
ISD 858 – Saint Charles School District	Winona State University
ISD 861 – Winona Independent School District	Winona State University
ISD 876 – Annandale	Bemidji State University, St. Cloud State University

School District or Charter School	Placing Institution
ISD 877 – Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose Schools	St. Cloud State University, MSU Mankato, Winona State University
ISD 88 – New Ulm School District	MSU Mankato
ISD 881 – Maple Lake School District	St. Cloud State University
ISD 882 - Monticello School District	UMD-Duluth, St. Cloud State University
ISD 885 – St. Michael- Albertville School District	Augsburg, St. Cloud State University, MSU Mankato, Winona State University
ISD 912 – Milaca School District	St. Cloud State University
ISD 99 - Esko School District	UMD-Duluth
ISD-196 Rosemount-Eagan-Apple Valley	Augsburg, Bemidji State University, MSU Mankato, Winona State University
La Crescent Montessori	Winona State University
Lake City Public Schools	Winona State University
Lakes International Language Academy	St. Cloud State University
Lakeville Public School District	Augsburg
Lindgren Child Care Center	St. Cloud State University
Lionsgate Academy	MSU Mankato

School District or Charter School	Placing Institution
Medford Public School District	UMD-Duluth
Nay Ah Shig School	Fond Du Lacc
Nay Ah Shing Abinoojiyag Elementary School	St. Cloud State University
New Discoveries Montessori Academy	
North Shore Community School	UMD-Duluth
Partnership Academy	Augsburg
Proctor Public Schools	UMD-Duluth
Rollingstone Community Schools	Winona State University
School District of Maple (Maple, WI)	UMD-Duluth
Southern Plains Education Cooperative, Fairmont	MSU Mankato
Special School District #1 - Minneapolis Public School District	Augsburg, St. Cloud State University, MSU Mankato
St. Croix River Education District	MSU Mankato
St. James	MSU Mankato
St. Paul (Charter)	MSU Mankato
STEP Academy	Augsburg
Superior School District	UMD-Duluth

Initial Recommendations

While the intent of this legislation was to provide direct compensation to student teachers, the complexities of higher education funding mechanisms made this difficult. Most institutions applied funding allocated through this pilot program towards a student teacher's financial aid package. While financial aid through this pilot program reduced a number of student teacher's total loan amount (student loans) or covered a portion of the student teacher's tuition and fees, many student teachers shared with their institution that they had hoped to receive this funding as a direct payment (income) to allow the funding to be used for things like rent, food, and utilities during the duration of their student teaching experience. PELSB recommends further collaboration with the Office of Higher Education (OHE) and the Minnesota Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (MACTE) to determine the best method for making direct payments to student teachers.