



North Star Promise Program 2024-2025 Report

September 1, 2025

Author

Tara Winchester

North Star Promise Program Administrator

Tel: 651-355-6016

tara.winchester@state.mn.us

About the Office of Higher Education

The Minnesota Office of Higher Education is a cabinet-level state agency providing students with financial aid programs and information to help them gain access to postsecondary education. The agency also serves as the state's clearinghouse for data, research and analysis on postsecondary enrollment, financial aid, finance and trends.

The Minnesota State Grant Program is the largest financial aid program administered by the Office of Higher Education, awarding more than \$224 million annually in need-based grants to Minnesota residents attending eligible colleges, universities and career schools in Minnesota. The agency oversees other state scholarship programs, tuition reciprocity programs, a student loan program, Minnesota's 529 College Savings Plan, licensing and early college awareness programs for youth.

About This Report

This is a legislative-mandated report. As requested by Minnesota Statutes, section 3.197, this report cost approximately \$800.94 to prepare, including staff time.

Minnesota Office of Higher Education

1450 Energy Park Drive, Suite 350

Saint Paul, MN 55108-5227

Tel: 651.642.0567 or 800.657.3866

TTY Relay: 800.627.3529

Fax: 651.642.0675

Email: info.ohe@state.mn.us

Table of Contents

Status of North Star Promise Scholarship Fund	1
North Star Promise Spending as of August 25, 2025	1
Students Receiving NSP as of August 25, 2025.....	1
Average Award Amounts as of August 25, 2025.....	2
North Star Promise Participation Data	3
North Star Promise Awards by Eligible Institution.....	3

Status of North Star Promise Scholarship Fund

North Star Promise Scholarship program legislation was originally passed during the 2023 MN legislative session and can be found in statute [136A.1465¹](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/136A.1465). For the 2024-25 award year the North Star Promise program consists of two separate awards: North Star Promise Base (NSP Base) and North Star Promise Plus (NSP+). The NSP Base award is the “last-dollar” tuition and fee award. The NSP+ award is given to an NSP eligible student in the amount of 15% of the Pell Grant amount that student received. NSP+ awards were available for fall 2024 and spring 2025 terms, but not the summer 2025 term.

North Star Promise (NSP) Scholarship program began awarding funds to students in the fall term of 2024 and has continued through spring 2025 and summer 2025. The following report details program spending information as of August 25, 2025. Closeout of the 2024-25 award year will happen after August 29, 2025. The information in this report is preliminary until the program has closed out for the award year. Final data will be presented in the legislatively mandated report due February 15, 2026.

As of August 25, 2025, North Star Promise has paid \$108,237,015 in awards to 53,567 unique students for the 2024-25 academic year. The tables below indicate the status of the scholarship fund as it pertains to overall spending between both the NSP Base and NSP+ awards, the number of students receiving NSP by term, and the average award amounts by term.

North Star Promise Spending as of August 25, 2025

	Fall Term	Spring Term	Summer Term	Total
NSP Base	\$28,047,852	\$27,943,904	\$14,339,563	\$70,331,319
NSP+	\$19,475,026	\$18,430,670	\$0	\$37,905,696
Total NSP Paid	\$47,522,877	\$46,374,575	\$14,339,563	\$108,237,015

Students Receiving NSP as of August 25, 2025

	Fall Term	Spring Term	Summer Term	Total
NSP Base	15,647	15,356	9971	40,974
NSP+	45,469	43,595	0	89,064
Students Receiving Both Base and Plus	9,556	9,229	0	NA
Unique Awards	42,004	40,493	9971	53,567*

*Unique number of students receiving either NSP Base or NSP+ for 2024-25 academic year.

¹ <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/136A.1465>

Average Award Amounts as of August 25, 2025

	Fall Term	Spring Term	Summer Term	Average of All Terms
NSP Base	\$1,793	\$1,820	\$1,438	\$1,716
NSP+	\$428	\$423	--	\$426

North Star Promise Participation Data

Below are tables that outline the North Star Promise participation data aggregated for each eligible institution to show the number of eligible students who received the scholarship in 2024-25 award year and the average and total award amounts.

North Star Promise Awards by Eligible Institution

Eligible Institution	Total Award Amounts (Base and Plus)	Number of Eligible Students*	Average Award Amount
Alexandria Technical and Community College	\$814,798	557	\$1,463
Anoka Technical College	\$1,129,643	889	\$1,271
Anoka-Ramsey Community College	\$2,485,094	2,193	\$1,133
Bemidji State University	\$2,902,449	1,323	\$2,194
Central Lakes College	\$1,423,908	975	\$1,460
Century College	\$4,176,705	3,488	\$1,197
Dakota County Technical College	\$1,592,654	1,036	\$1,537
Fond Du Lac Tribal & Community College	\$315,657	351	\$899
Hennepin Technical College	\$2,195,212	1,714	\$1,281
Inver Hills Community College	\$1,203,707	1,193	\$1,009
Lake Superior College	\$1,907,094	1,001	\$1,905
Leech Lake Tribal College	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Metropolitan State University	\$9,016,676	4,381	\$2,058
Minneapolis Community & Technical College	\$3,585,314	3,428	\$1,046
Minnesota North	\$1,024,407	852	\$1,202
Minnesota State College - Southeast	\$829,224	549	\$1,510
Minnesota State Community & Technical College	\$1,311,459	1,128	\$1,163
Minnesota State University Moorhead	\$2,101,705	875	\$2,402
Minnesota State University, Mankato	\$9,191,282	3,106	\$2,959
Minnesota West Community & Technical College	\$742,497	595	\$1,248
Normandale Community College	\$4,735,641	4,261	\$1,111
North Hennepin Community College	\$1,985,361	1,960	\$1,013
Northland Community & Technical College	\$544,326	405	\$1,344
Northwest Technical College- Bemidji	\$650,056	458	\$1,420
Pine Technical and Community College	\$337,801	287	\$1,177
Red Lake Nation College	\$188,191	226	\$833
Ridgewater College	\$1,367,261	1,195	\$1,144
Riverland Community and Technical College	\$1,339,380	1,020	\$1,313

Eligible Institution	Total Award Amounts (Base and Plus)	Number of Eligible Students*	Average Award Amount
Rochester Community & Technical College	\$1,987,129	1,705	\$1,165
South Central College	\$1,212,835	1,037	\$1,170
Southwest Minnesota State University	\$2,123,512	1,110	\$1,913
St. Cloud State University	\$4,771,878	2,145	\$2,225
St. Cloud Technical College	\$1,963,763	1,836	\$1,070
St. Paul College	\$3,178,890	2,997	\$1,061
University Of Minnesota - Crookston	\$1,589,033	572	\$2,778
University Of Minnesota - Duluth	\$4,519,011	1,613	\$2,802
University Of Minnesota - Morris	\$299,986	214	\$1,402
University Of Minnesota - Twin Cities	\$24,839,691	8,231	\$3,018
White Earth Tribal and Community College	\$72,980	103	\$709
Winona State University	\$2,580,808	1,131	\$2,282
Total	\$108,237,015	62,140	\$1,742

*Contains duplicates between NSP Base and NSP+.

The summary demographic data on award recipients, retention rates of participating students, total number of students enrolled in eligible institutions in the prior academic year, and number of eligible students who graduated with a degree and number of consecutive and nonconsecutive semesters of attendance prior to graduation are not available at the time of this report. However, these data points may be available when the final report is issued on February 15, 2026.



OFFICE OF
HIGHER EDUCATION

2025