



MINNESOTA STATE

Annual Z-Degree Report to the Legislature

MINNESOTA STATE

January 2026



Annual Z-Degree Report to the Legislature

Minnesota State

Table of Contents

Executive Summary.....	3
Systemwide Support	4
Grant Support	5
Conclusion.....	12
Learn More.....	13
References	13



Executive Summary

Z-degrees: Gaining momentum and impacting students

For more than eleven years, as rising costs increasingly make textbooks unaffordable for students, Minnesota State has explored an emerging alternative: open educational resources (OER), openly licensed or commonly licensed materials that faculty could make available to students at no cost.

Initially, Minnesota State partnered with the University of Minnesota's Open Education Network, which, along with other efforts, helped introduce faculty to OER possibilities. As interest grew, Central Lakes College became the first college to launch a zero-cost textbook program.

With funding and support from the Minnesota Legislature, Minnesota State has been able to accelerate its efforts and increase its impact:

- In the 2025 academic year, the annual savings to students reached **\$4.4 million**.
- Since the inception of Z-degrees at Minnesota State, the savings to over **186,000** students totals **\$18.6 million**.
- **Twelve colleges** offer Z-degrees, which allow students to complete an associate degree with zero textbook costs.
- The initiative is **impacting the equity gap** for students of color, first-generation students, and students who receive Pell Grants. Those categories of students took at least one Z-degree course at a higher percentage than a comparable group of students.

Minnesota State colleges that offer a Z-degree as of January 2026

- Anoka-Ramsey Community College
- Central Lakes College
- Century College
- Lake Superior College
- Minneapolis College
- Minnesota North College
- Minnesota State Community and Technical College
- Minnesota West Community & Technical College
- Northland Community & Technical College
- Normandale Community College
- Rochester Community and Technical College
- St. Cloud Technical & Community College



Systemwide Support

To provide the infrastructure to nurture and grow the Z-degree initiative, Minnesota State has developed systemwide support for faculty and staff as they address the challenges of finding zero-cost textbooks, materials, and resources for courses. Supported by both Legislative and system funds, they include the following initiatives:

- **Network for Educational Development (NED).** Under this umbrella, Minnesota State offers webinars and short courses for faculty and staff by faculty and staff, including a wide variety of courses around OER, as well as learning circles where faculty and staff develop OER development knowledge and skills and share best practices. In the 2025 academic year, the NED offered 106 webinars and 44 short courses and inaugurated a two-day in-person conference which were attended by 1,184 faculty and staff. In addition, it launched key initiatives including Generative AI Webinars, a community of practice, guidance documents, and other workshops to support teaching and curriculum development with Artificial Intelligence.
- An OER faculty coordinator who facilitates learning circles and helps faculty with adopting, adapting, or creating open education materials.
- A half-time OER librarian who works with faculty throughout the system to find OER and other options for textbooks and materials.
- A half-time Pressbooks support and training librarian. Pressbooks is an online publishing platform that allows faculty and staff to create, adapt and share digital books. It allows authors to easily remix sources, localize materials, publish collaboratively in various formats, and increase student engagement using interactives like social annotation and H5P objects, like quizzes or games.
- Access to an e-platform where colleges and universities can tap e-books and other no-cost resources.
- Financial support for creative commons certification courses, which helps faculty who want to generate their own OER materials, and librarians who wish to support OER development.
- A repository for faculty to upload the OER materials they create.
- A community of practice where faculty, staff, and administrators from campuses receiving Z-Degree funding can share best practices, challenges, and opportunities.



In addition, with support from its Board of Trustees, Minnesota State recently completed a grant from the federal government that funded a pilot project to create open textbooks and OER for teacher education courses.

In moving the Z-degree initiatives forward, faculty, staff, and administrators continue to learn and adapt. For example, some faculty may not find what they need in the open resource world. Minnesota State librarians assist by using e-platforms or purchasing e-books with grant money. To make course resources truly affordable, Minnesota State has widened the path to zero-cost materials.

Although there have and will continue to be challenges to implementing an initiative of this scope and scale, the impact of the work is substantial. Students tell faculty, staff, and administrators how much they appreciate no-cost textbooks and materials and how much of a difference the savings means to them and to their education. Many faculty who transformed their course materials appreciate the flexibility and the control over content that allows OER to enhance the classroom experience.

In December, Minnesota State was one of six institutions that received a Student Success Through OER Rubric Grant from the Driving OER Sustainability for Student Success (DOERS) Working Group. The grant supports institutions and systems that are advancing evidence-based, student-centered approaches to open education. Minnesota State will use the [Student Success Through OER Rubric](#) to examine gaps, strengthen OER strategy, and align open education initiatives with student success goals.

None of these campuses' successes – and other such successes – would be possible without the Legislature's endorsement and funding. Future financial support will ensure that Minnesota State can continue to develop and expand Z-degree opportunities, and, more critically, sustain the initiative. Minnesota State administrators, faculty, and staff all appreciate the Legislative commitment to student success.

Grant Support

Funds help jump-start efforts throughout the system

The Funding Spark: 2019-2020

The Minnesota Legislature allocated \$500,000 in funding for at least three Minnesota State colleges to offer Z-degrees by the 2020-2021 academic year (AY). Minnesota State awarded \$250,000 in each AY to faculty for creating, adopting, or adapting OER textbooks for courses



supporting a Z-degree. Based on strong campus interest in pursuing Z-degrees, Minnesota State offered a total of \$390,000 in matching funds from the Academic and Student Affairs (ASA) division in AY 2020, \$175,000 in AY 2021, \$150,000 in AY 2023.

Colleges submitted a grant application to participate in the Z-degree project. Minnesota State evaluated applications on the following criteria:

- The readiness of campus personnel
- Structural readiness
- Cultural readiness
- Current open/zero-cost textbook inventory
- Proposed Z-degree and course sequence

Large Grant Awards

Minnesota State awarded the following colleges large-grant awards of \$100,000 each to fund and support college completion of a Z-degree:

- Anoka-Ramsey Community College*
- Century College
- Lake Superior College*
- Mesabi Range College* (now Minnesota North College)
- Minneapolis College
- Northland Community & Technical College

** Funded through legislative appropriations. The remaining three colleges were funded by the Academic and Student Affairs (ASA) Educational Development and Technology unit.*

Small Grant Awards

Funding did not allow for all colleges that applied to receive a large grant award. Because Minnesota State wanted to ensure that remaining colleges maintain momentum in working toward Z-degrees, it allocated four small-grant awards.

The following colleges received small-grant awards of \$10,000 each to continue foundational work toward a Z-degree:

- Central Lakes College
- Hibbing Community College (now Minnesota North College)



- Inver Hills Community College
- Minnesota West Community & Technical College

Grants for Different Phases: 2020-2021

Minnesota State granted several different types of awards to help colleges make progress, whether they were considering Z-degrees, implementing a Z-degree on their campus, or looking to expand existing ones.

Z-degree Exploration Awards

The following colleges received \$25,000 each to assess campus readiness and culture to ensure future success in implementing a Z-degree:

- Minnesota West Community & Technical College
- Saint Paul College

Z-degree Implementation Awards

The following colleges received \$100,000 each to fund and support college completion of a Z-degree by AY 2023:

- Minnesota State Community and Technical College
- St. Cloud Technical & Community College
- Hibbing Community College (now Minnesota North College)

Z-degree Expansion Awards

Minnesota State awarded grants of \$25,000 per campus for the following colleges that wanted to add courses or course sections to an existing Z-degree:

- Century College
- Lake Superior College
- Minnesota North College (formerly Mesabi Range College)
- Northland Community & Technical College



Increasing Interest: 2021-2022

Minnesota State awarded its first grant to a university and continues to see Z-degree implementation and expansion.

Z-degree Exploration Awards

Inver Hills Community College and St. Cloud State University received \$25,000 each to assess campus readiness and culture to ensure future success in implementing a Z-degree.

Z-degree Implementation Awards

Minnesota West Community & Technical College received \$100,000 to fund and support completion of a Z-degree by AY 2024.

Z-degree Expansion Awards

St. Cloud Technical & Community College received \$25,000 to add courses and course sections to an existing Z-degree.

Momentum: 2022-2024

More colleges and universities expressed an interest in Z-degrees, as implementation and expansion continued.

Z-degree Exploration Awards

During this period, the following colleges and universities received up to \$25,000 each to assess campus readiness and culture to ensure future success in implementing a Z-degree:

- Bemidji State University
- Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College
- Minnesota State University Moorhead
- Rochester Community and Technical College



Z-degree Implementation Awards

In addition, the following colleges received \$100,000 each to fund and support college completion of a Z-degree by academic year 2025:

- Minnesota State Community and Technical College
- Normandale Community College

Z-degree Expansion Awards

Minnesota State also awarded grants of \$25,000 per campus for the following colleges that wanted to add courses or course sections to an existing Z-degree:

- Century College
- Minnesota North College (formerly Hibbing Community College, Itasca Community College, Mesabi Range Community College, Rainy River Community College, and Vermilion Community College)
- Minnesota West Community & Technical College

Continued Investments: 2024-2026

Z-degree Exploration Awards

In spring 2024 the following colleges and universities received up to \$25,000 each to assess campus readiness and culture to ensure future success in implementing a Z-degree:

- Alexandria Technical & Community College
- Dakota County Technical College
- Minnesota State College Southeast
- Minnesota State University, Mankato
- Northwest Technical College

Z-degree Implementation Awards

In addition, the following colleges received \$100,000 each to fund and support college completion of a Z-degree by academic year 2026:

- Inver Hills Community College



- Minnesota State University, Mankato (Spanish)
- Minnesota State University Moorhead
- Rochester Community and Technical College
- Saint Cloud State University

Z-degree Expansion Awards

In spring 2024, Minnesota State modified the amount available to campuses for expanding their Z-degrees from \$25,000 to up to \$50,000. Discussions with campuses indicated that for campuses to maintain and grow their Z-degrees, greater flexibility in the amount awarded needed to be provided. Those colleges with a Z-degree that wanted to add courses, course sections, or provide no-cost resources to their students were:

- Century College
- Lake Superior College
- Minnesota State Community and Technical College
- Northland Community & Technical College
- St. Cloud Technical & Community College

Momentum Continues: 2025-2027

Z-degree Exploration Awards

In spring 2025 the following colleges and universities received up to \$25,000 each to assess campus readiness and culture to ensure future success in implementing a Z-degree:

- Bemidji State University
- Minnesota State College Southeast
- Minnesota State University, Mankato (Gender Studies)
- Minnesota State Community and Technical College (AI exploration)
- Southwest Minnesota State University
- Winona State University

Z-degree Implementation Awards

In addition, the following colleges received up to \$100,000 each to fund and support college completion of a Z-degree by academic year 2027:



- Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College
- Minnesota State University, Mankato
- South Central College

Z-degree Expansion Awards

In spring 2025 the following colleges and universities received up to \$50,000 to update curriculum, add courses, course sections, or provide no-cost resources to their students were:

- Anoka-Ramsey Community College
- Century College
- Minnesota North College
- Minnesota State Community and Technical College – AA expansion
- Minnesota State University Moorhead

Continued Funding Opportunities: 2026-2028

Looking to the future, Minnesota State is committed to leveraging the gains it has made and continue expanding the Z-degree initiatives. In December 2025, Minnesota State issued a call for grant applications that will continue to support Z-Degree expansion and exploration efforts. New for AY27, Minnesota State is launching a grant initiative which will provide funding for two or more Z-Degree funded colleges or universities to collaborate on a project or initiative that will address one of the following goals or challenges:

- Equity 2030
- Critical subjects/disciplines (e.g., Biology, Math, et al.)
- High demand areas (e.g., lab manuals, quiz banks)
- Cross campus faculty professional development

The Z-Degree Multi-Campus Collaborative Grant is intended for Z-Degree colleges and universities to work together to leverage their individual strengths to address goals or challenges that may be a challenge for one campus to address on its own and may benefit the system as a whole.



Supporting Z-Degree Transfer Pathways (Z-TPs)

In addition, Minnesota State has launched an initiative to provide Z-degree transfer pathways (Z-TP). The first Z-TP will provide a zero-textbook cost business degree with OER course development. The first courses, which will be developed in Spring, Summer, and Fall of 2026, will be Introduction to Management and Introduction to Marketing. The courses will be developed by faculty cohorts drawn from throughout the system who will write, provide feedback, and pilot the courses.

Conclusion

Z-Degrees: Developing deep roots within the system

In the 2025 academic year, Minnesota State continued to expand its Z-degree offerings with twelve colleges awarding associate arts Z-degrees, with an anticipated two more colleges and university awarding degrees by the beginning of AY27. Faculty continue to immerse themselves in developing or converting traditional course materials to no-cost materials. Colleges with one Z-degree have started work to offer another.

As a result, the return on investment continues to grow and multiply. In the 2025 academic year, annual savings to students exceeded \$4.38 million. The savings to 178,582 students since inception of the Z-degree initiative totals \$18.6 million (see [Table 1](#) and [Table 2](#)).

The impact of the initiative is helping close the equity gap for students of color, first-generation students, and students who receive Pell Grants. Those categories of students took at least one Z-degree course at a measurably higher percentage than a comparable group of students (see [Table 3](#)).

At the system level, Minnesota State continues to offer and evolve professional development support, including learning circles, short courses, webinars, and conference that give faculty members a place to share best practices, opportunities, and challenges with one another.

One exciting new frontier for Z-degrees involves targeting courses in fields whose credits will easily transfer to universities. Legislative support is helping to defer the costs in bringing faculty together to determine potential zero-cost textbooks and materials for those courses and to implement them in those courses throughout the system.



With an eye to the future, Minnesota State also knows the importance of work to sustain and grow its successes and values the contributions of the Minnesota Legislature in supporting ongoing efforts.

Learn More

Learn more about Minnesota State OER initiatives at MinnState.edu/OER, including [Z-degree projects](#).

More information about the student, faculty, and administration perspectives on Z-degrees can be viewed in the [Minnesota State Z-degree project video](#).



[Watch the Z-Degree Video](#)

References

See tables below for:

- [Institution Summary](#) (Table 1)
- [Total Z-Degree Cost Savings](#) (Table 2)
- [Equity 2030 and Affordability](#) (Table 3)

Z-Degree Campus Highlights

[Z-Degree Report – Fall 2024](#)

Table 1: Institution Summary

Academic Years 2020-2026 (through summer and fall). Minnesota State continues to expand Z-degree offerings through the support of the Minnesota State legislature. Following are the calculated student savings of campuses implementing and expanding Z-degree offerings.

Table 1: Total cost saving impact on all courses using zero-cost course resources for AY21-25, and summer/fall semester of AY26 (actual). As of March 2023, Minnesota State uses its Student Information System (SIS) as the sole source of truth for Textbook Cost Level. This data, which began being collected in January 2020, tracks for all colleges that use course markings whether a course offers a No-Cost Textbook. For this report, as with prior reports, average textbook cost savings are calculated at \$100 per course per student enrolled. Using the SIS data provides a consistent and auditable reporting.

Institutions	FY 2020-2021				FY 2021-2022				FY 2022-2023				FY 2023-2024				FY 2024-2025				Summer and Fall 2025 ¹				
	Courses Converted	Sections Offered	Students Enrolled	Savings	Un-duplicated Courses ²	Sections Offered	Students Enrolled	Savings	Un-duplicated Courses ²	Sections Offered	Students Enrolled	Savings	Un-duplicated Courses ²	Sections Offered	Students Enrolled	Savings	Un-duplicated Courses ²	Sections Offered	Students Enrolled	Savings	Un-duplicated Courses ²	Sections Offered	Students Enrolled	Savings	
	Total	649	1,181	23,852	\$2,385,200	616	1,273	24,394	\$2,439,400	522	1,151	22,657	\$2,265,700	595	1,537	31,437	\$3,143,700	740	1,856	43,786	\$4,378,600	864	1,798	39,986	\$3,998,600
Anoka-Ramsey Community College	75	172	4,226	\$422,600	46	106	2,566	\$256,600	26	53	1,181	\$118,100	59	170	4,229	\$422,900	71	229	5,401	\$540,100	59	151	3,524	\$352,400	
Central Lakes College	177	252	4,799	\$479,900	185	303	5,278	\$527,800	132	195	3,677	\$367,700	123	189	3,607	\$360,700	108	196	4,705	\$470,500	73	115	2,713	\$271,300	
Century College	70	128	2,132	\$213,200	48	141	2,743	\$274,300	68	157	3,305	\$330,500	80	205	4,735	\$473,500	81	229	5,431	\$543,100	232	443	8,881	\$888,100	
Hennepin Technical	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1	1	19	\$1,900	5	9	179	\$17,900	
Inver Hills Community	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	29	37	776	\$77,600	38	78	1,727	\$172,700	
Lake Superior College	100	181	3,718	\$371,800	72	152	3,416	\$341,600	80	205	4,636	\$463,600	81	197	4,220	\$422,000	68	182	4,078	\$407,800	49	105	2,325	\$232,500	
Minneapolis Community and Technical College	65	199	4,389	\$438,900	43	137	2,819	\$281,900	38	118	2,429	\$242,900	36	113	2,367	\$236,700	35	109	4,078	\$407,800	32	102	2,011	\$201,100	
Minnesota North College ³	43	56	1,144	\$114,400	NA	NA	NA	NA	1	1	11	\$1,100	1	1	37	\$3,700	20	25	480	\$48,000	31	44	989	\$98,900	
NHED Hibbing Community College (pre-merger)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
NHED Mesabi Range College (pre-merger)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Minnesota State Community and Technical	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	73	216	3,871	\$387,100	68	229	3,955	\$395,500	79	251	5,194	\$519,400	62	158	3,414	\$341,400	
Minnesota State University Moorhead	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	48	53	1,736	\$173,600	
Minnesota West Community and Technical	50	79	1,356	\$135,600	31	66	1,142	\$114,200	9	17	332	\$33,200	53	136	2,342	\$234,200	52	131	2,422	\$242,200	37	74	1,491	\$149,100	
Normandale Community	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	10	10	88	\$8,800	18	19	173	\$17,300	4	4	40	\$4,000	97	235	6,078	\$607,800	137	322	7,681	\$768,100
North Hennepin Community College	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1	1	12	\$1,200	3	3	27	\$2,700	1	1	9	\$900	1	1	15	\$1,500	NA	NA	NA	NA
Northland Community and Technical College	69	114	2,088	\$208,800	53	143	2,475	\$247,500	43	122	1,987	\$198,700	31	82	1,510	\$151,000	27	67	1,397	\$139,700	18	31	700	\$70,000	
Rochester Community and Technical College	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Saint Paul College	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	45	193	4,026	\$402,600	30	88	2,031	\$203,100	23	87	1,885	\$188,500	
St. Cloud Technical and Community College	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	36	77	1,661	\$166,100	31	45	1,028	\$102,800	13	17	360	\$36,000	41	75	1,681	\$168,100	20	26	730	\$73,000

Table 1 is an image that displays the full dataset. Simplified and structured tables presenting the same information are provided in the Appendix.

¹Fall 2025 data are preliminary. Final data will be available in March 2026.

² Courses (subject and course number) unduplicated by institution for each fiscal year.

³ With the merger of Hibbing Community College (HCC), Mesabi Range College (MRC), Itasca College, Rainy River College, and Vermillion Community College in May 2022, the data regarding courses converted, sections offered, students enrolled, and cost savings for HCC and MRC's Z-degree have been combined. In AY25, Minnesota North College began specifying whether a course is using a No-Cost Textbook, and whether the course supports a Z-degree. We anticipate that additional data will be available in the future as Minnesota North College fully completes the merger.

⁴ Rochester Community and Technical College was designated as Z-Degree awarding college in December 2025. Future reports will reflect savings to students.



Table 2: Total Z-Degree Cost Savings

Minnesota State continues to expand Z-degree offerings through the support of the Minnesota Legislature. Below is the combined Academic Years 2021-2026 (through summer and fall).

Institution	Unduplicated Courses	Sections Offered	Students Enrolled	Savings
Total	3,986	8,796	186,112	\$18,611,200
Anoka-Ramsey Community College	336	881	21,127	\$2,112,700
Central Lakes College	798	1,250	24,779	\$2,477,900
Century College	579	1,303	27,227	\$2,722,700
Hennepin Technical College	6	10	198	\$19,800
Inver Hills Community College	67	115	2,503	\$250,300
Lake Superior College	450	1,022	22,393	\$2,239,300
Minneapolis Community and Technical College	249	778	18,093	\$1,809,300
Minnesota North College*	96	127	2,661	\$266,100
NHED Hibbing Community College (pre-merger)	48	59	742	\$74,200
NHED Mesabi Range College (pre-merger)	43	78	1,452	\$145,200
Minnesota State Community and Technical College	282	854	16,434	\$1,643,400
Minnesota State University Moorhead	48	53	1,736	\$173,600
Minnesota West Community and Technical College	232	503	9,085	\$908,500
Normandale Community College	266	590	14,060	\$1,406,000
North Hennepin Community College	6	6	63	\$6,300



Institution	Unduplicated Courses	Sections Offered	Students Enrolled	Savings
Northland Community and Technical College	241	559	10,157	\$1,015,700
Rochester Community and Technical College**	0	0	0	\$0
Saint Paul College	98	368	7,942	\$794,200
St. Cloud Technical and Community College	141	240	5,460	\$546,000

Table 2: Total cost saving impact on all courses using zero-cost course resources for colleges offering Z-degree for AY21, AY22, AY23, AY24, AY25 and summer/fall semester of AY26 (actual).

** With the merger of Hibbing Community College (HCC), Mesabi Range College (MRC), Itasca College, Rainy River College, and Vermillion Community College in May 2022, the data regarding courses converted, sections offered, students enrolled, and cost savings for HCC and MRC's Z-degree have been combined. In AY25, Minnesota North College began specifying whether a course is using a No-Cost Textbook, and whether the course supports a Z-degree. We anticipate that additional data will be available in the future as Minnesota North College fully completes the merger.*

*** Rochester Community and Technical College was designated as Z-Degree awarding college in December 2025. Future reports will reflect savings to students.*



Table 3: Z-Degrees and Equity 2030

Percent of Students who Took at Least One
Z-Degree Course
FY21-FY25

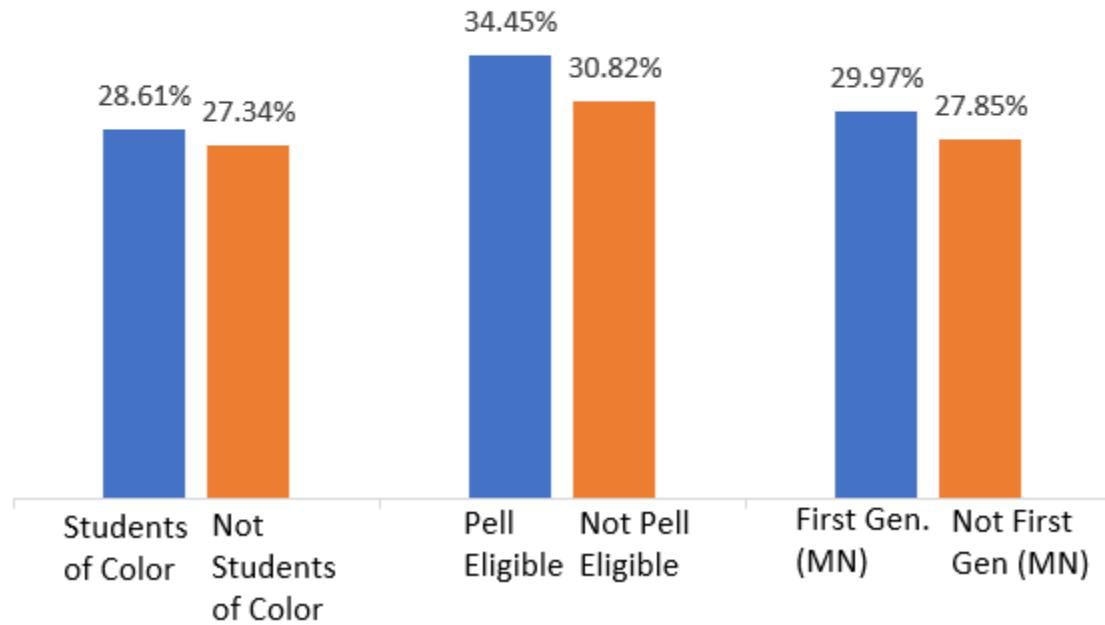


Table 3: Comparison of students taking at least one Z-Degree course FY21 – FY25 between students of color and not students of color, Pell eligible and not Pell eligible students, and first-generation students and not first-generation students.



Appendix

The Table 1 image contains a large table that may not be accessible to all users. An accessible, structured version of the same data is provided in the tables below.

Table 1: Counts of Courses, Sections, and Students Enrolled along with Estimated Savings

Following are the calculated student savings of campuses implementing and expanding Z-degree offerings.

FY 2020-2021

Institution	Courses Converted	Sections Offered	Students Enrolled	Savings
Anoka-Ramsey Community College	75	172	4,226	\$422,600
Central Lakes College	177	252	4,799	\$479,900
Century College	70	128	2,132	\$213,200
Hennepin Technical College	NA	NA	NA	NA
Inver Hills Community College	NA	NA	NA	NA
Lake Superior College	100	181	3,718	\$371,800
Minneapolis Community and Technical College	65	199	4,389	\$438,900



Institution	Courses Converted	Sections Offered	Students Enrolled	Savings
Minnesota North College ³	43	56	1,144	\$114,400
NHED Hibbing Community College (pre-merger)	NA	NA	NA	NA
NHED Mesabi Range College (pre-merger)	NA	NA	NA	NA
Minnesota State Community and Technical College	NA	NA	NA	NA
Minnesota State University Moorhead	NA	NA	NA	NA
Minnesota West Community & Technical College	50	79	1,356	\$135,600
Normandale Community College ⁴	NA	NA	NA	NA
North Hennepin Community College	NA	NA	NA	NA
Northland Community & Technical College	69	114	2,088	\$208,800
Rochester Community and Technical College ⁴	NA	NA	NA	NA



Institution	Courses Converted	Sections Offered	Students Enrolled	Savings
Saint Paul College	NA	NA	NA	NA
St. Cloud Technical & Community College	NA	NA	NA	NA
Total	649	1,181	23,852	\$2,385,200

FY 2021-2022

Institution	Un-duplicated Courses ²	Sections Offered	Students Enrolled	Savings
Anoka-Ramsey Community College	46	106	2,566	\$256,600
Central Lakes College	185	303	5,278	\$527,800
Century College	48	141	2,743	\$274,300
Hennepin Technical College	NA	NA	NA	NA
Inver Hills Community College	NA	NA	NA	NA
Lake Superior College	72	152	3,416	\$341,600



Institution	Un-duplicated Courses ²	Sections Offered	Students Enrolled	Savings
Minneapolis Community and Technical College	43	137	2,819	\$281,900
Minnesota North College³	NA	NA	NA	NA
NHED Hibbing Community College (pre-merger)	48	59	742	\$74,200
NHED Mesabi Range College (pre-merger)	43	78	1,452	\$145,200
Minnesota State Community and Technical College	NA	NA	NA	NA
Minnesota State University Moorhead	NA	NA	NA	NA
Minnesota West Community & Technical College	31	66	1,142	\$114,200
Normandale Community College⁴	10	10	88	\$8,800
North Hennepin Community College	1	1	12	\$1,200



Institution	Un-duplicated Courses ²	Sections Offered	Students Enrolled	Savings
Northland Community & Technical College	53	143	2,475	\$247,500
Rochester Community and Technical College⁴	NA	NA	NA	NA
Saint Paul College	NA	NA	NA	NA
St. Cloud Technical & Community College	36	77	1,661	\$166,100
Total	616	1,273	24,394	\$2,439,400

FY 2022-2023

Institution	Un-duplicated Courses ²	Sections Offered	Students Enrolled	Savings
Anoka-Ramsey Community College	26	53	1,181	\$118,100
Central Lakes College	132	195	3,677	\$367,700
Century College	68	157	3,305	\$330,500
Hennepin Technical College	NA	NA	NA	NA



Institution	Un-duplicated Courses ²	Sections Offered	Students Enrolled	Savings
Inver Hills Community College	NA	NA	NA	NA
Lake Superior College	80	205	4,636	\$463,600
Minneapolis Community and Technical College	38	118	2,429	\$242,900
Minnesota North College ³	1	1	11	\$1,100
NHED Hibbing Community College (pre-merger)	NA	NA	NA	NA
NHED Mesabi Range College (pre-merger)	NA	NA	NA	NA
Minnesota State Community and Technical College	73	216	3,871	\$387,100
Minnesota State University Moorhead	NA	NA	NA	NA
Minnesota West Community & Technical College	9	17	332	\$33,200
Normandale Community College ⁴	18	19	173	\$17,300



Institution	Un-duplicated Courses ²	Sections Offered	Students Enrolled	Savings
North Hennepin Community College	3	3	27	\$2,700
Northland Community & Technical College	43	122	1,987	\$198,700
Rochester Community and Technical College ⁴	NA	NA	NA	NA
Saint Paul College	NA	NA	NA	NA
St. Cloud Technical & Community College	31	45	1,028	\$102,800
Total	522	1,151	22,657	\$2,265,700

FY 2023-2024

Institution	Un-duplicated Courses ²	Sections Offered	Students Enrolled	Savings
Anoka-Ramsey Community College	59	170	4,229	\$422,900
Central Lakes College	123	189	3,607	\$360,700



Institution	Un-duplicated Courses ²	Sections Offered	Students Enrolled	Savings
Century College	80	205	4,735	\$473,500
Hennepin Technical College	NA	NA	NA	NA
Inver Hills Community College	NA	NA	NA	NA
Lake Superior College	81	197	4,220	\$422,000
Minneapolis Community and Technical College	36	113	2,367	\$236,700
Minnesota North College ³	1	1	37	\$3,700
NHED Hibbing Community College (pre-merger)	NA	NA	NA	NA
NHED Mesabi Range College (pre-merger)	NA	NA	NA	NA
Minnesota State Community and Technical College	68	229	3,955	\$395,500
Minnesota State University Moorhead	NA	NA	NA	NA



Institution	Un-duplicated Courses ²	Sections Offered	Students Enrolled	Savings
Minnesota West Community & Technical College	53	136	2,342	\$234,200
Normandale Community College⁴	4	4	40	\$4,000
North Hennepin Community College	1	1	9	\$900
Northland Community & Technical College	31	82	1,510	\$151,000
Rochester Community and Technical College⁴	NA	NA	NA	NA
Saint Paul College	45	193	4,026	\$402,600
St. Cloud Technical & Community College	13	17	360	\$36,000
Total	595	1,537	31,437	\$3,143,700



FY 2024-2025

Institution	Un-duplicated Courses ²	Sections Offered	Students Enrolled	Savings
Anoka-Ramsey Community College	71	229	5,401	\$540,100
Central Lakes College	108	196	4,705	\$470,500
Century College	81	229	5,431	\$543,100
Hennepin Technical College	1	1	19	\$1,900
Inver Hills Community College	29	37	776	\$77,600
Lake Superior College	68	182	4,078	\$407,800
Minneapolis Community and Technical College	35	109	4,078	\$407,800
Minnesota North College ³	20	25	480	\$48,000
NHED Hibbing Community College (pre-merger)	NA	NA	NA	NA
NHED Mesabi Range College (pre-merger)	NA	NA	NA	NA



Institution	Un-duplicated Courses ²	Sections Offered	Students Enrolled	Savings
Minnesota State Community and Technical College	79	251	5,194	\$519,400
Minnesota State University Moorhead	NA	NA	NA	NA
Minnesota West Community & Technical College	52	131	2,422	\$242,200
Normandale Community College⁴	97	235	6,078	\$607,800
North Hennepin Community College	1	1	15	\$1,500
Northland Community & Technical College	27	67	1,397	\$139,700
Rochester Community and Technical College⁴	NA	NA	NA	NA
Saint Paul College	30	88	2,031	\$203,100
St. Cloud Technical & Community College	41	75	1,681	\$168,100
Total	740	1,856	43,786	\$4,378,600



Summer and Fall 2025¹

Institution	Un-duplicated Courses ²	Sections Offered	Students Enrolled	Savings
Anoka-Ramsey Community College	59	151	3,524	\$352,400
Central Lakes College	73	115	2,713	\$271,300
Century College	232	443	8,881	\$888,100
Hennepin Technical College	5	9	179	\$17,900
Inver Hills Community College	38	78	1,727	\$172,700
Lake Superior College	49	105	2,325	\$232,500
Minneapolis Community and Technical College	32	102	2,011	\$201,100
Minnesota North College ³	31	44	989	\$98,900
NHED Hibbing Community College (pre-merger)	NA	NA	NA	NA
NHED Mesabi Range College (pre-merger)	NA	NA	NA	NA



Institution	Un-duplicated Courses ²	Sections Offered	Students Enrolled	Savings
Minnesota State Community and Technical College	62	158	3,414	\$341,400
Minnesota State University Moorhead	48	53	1,736	\$173,600
Minnesota West Community & Technical College	37	74	1,491	\$149,100
Normandale Community College⁴	137	322	7,681	\$768,100
North Hennepin Community College	NA	NA	NA	NA
Northland Community & Technical College	18	31	700	\$70,000
Rochester Community and Technical College⁴	NA	NA	NA	NA
Saint Paul College	23	87	1,885	\$188,500
St. Cloud Technical & Community College	20	26	730	\$73,000
Total	864	1,798	39,986	\$3,998,600



¹ Fall 2025 data are preliminary. Final data will be available in March 2026.

² Courses (subject and course number) unduplicated by institution for each fiscal year.

³ With the merger of Hibbing Community College (HCC), Mesabi Range College (MRC), Itasca College, Rainy River College, and Vermillion Community College in May 2022, the data regarding courses converted, sections offered, students enrolled, and cost savings for HCC and MRC's Z-degree have been combined. In AY25, Minnesota North College began specifying whether a course is using a No-Cost Textbook, and whether the course supports a Z-degree. We anticipate that additional data will be available in the future as Minnesota North College fully completes the merger.

⁴ Rochester Community and Technical College was designated as Z-Degree awarding college in December 2025. Future reports will reflect savings to students.