A bill for an act
relating to higher education; providing for supplemental funding for the Office of Higher Education, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, and the University of Minnesota; creating and amending financial aid programs; appropriating money; requiring reports; amending Minnesota Statutes 2020, sections 136A.1796; 175.45, subdivision 1; Minnesota Statutes 2021 Supplement, sections 136A.121, subdivision 9; 136A.1241, subdivision 5; 136A.1791, subdivision 5; Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 2, article 1, section 2, subdivisions 1, 2, 8, 21, 24, 25, 26, 27, 36; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 136A.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

ARTICLE 1

APPROPRIATIONS

Section 1. HIGHER EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS.

The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are in addition to the appropriations in Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 2, article 1, as amended in this act, unless otherwise specified, and are appropriated to the agencies and for the purposes specified in this act. The appropriations are from the general fund, or another named fund, and are available for the fiscal years indicated for each purpose. The figures "2022" and "2023" used in this act mean that the appropriations listed under them are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, or June 30, 2023, respectively. "The first year" is fiscal year 2022, "The second year" is fiscal year 2023, "The biennium" is fiscal years 2022 and 2023.

APPROPRIATIONS

Available for the Year

Ending June 30

2022 2023
Sec. 2. MINNESOTA OFFICE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation

The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions.

Subd. 2. Student Parent Support Initiative

For grants to support student parents under Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.1251. Of this amount, up to five percent each year is for administration costs.

The base for fiscal year 2024 is $6,440,000.

The base for fiscal year 2025 and later is $5,940,000.

Subd. 3. College Application Fee Waiver Grant

For the Office of Higher Education to coordinate and administer an undergraduate college application fee waiver program to eligible Minnesota public postsecondary institutions, Tribal colleges, and private nonprofit institutions physically located in Minnesota and registered with the Office of Higher Education under Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.63.

This is a onetime appropriation.

Any balance does not cancel but is available until June 30, 2024.

Sec. 3. BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation

Article 1 Sec. 3.
The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions.

Subd. 2. Operations and Maintenance

(a) $15,000,000 in fiscal year 2023 is for protecting access and affordability for students; providing all students with access to a variety of mental health support options; addressing workforce gaps through innovative career, technical, and professional programming serving business and industry; and providing all students with access to a statewide basic needs resources hub to connect to resources on campus, in the local community, and nationally.

(b) $39,000,000 is added to the operations and maintenance base for fiscal year 2024 and later established in Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 2, article 1, section 3, subdivision 3, paragraph (l).

Sec. 4. BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation

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The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions.

Subd. 2. Operations and Maintenance

(a) $38,000,000 in fiscal year 2023 is for aid to those students who most need support to offset tuition, fees, and other costs of attendance items and creating a new scholarship program specifically supporting students from greater Minnesota campuses.
4.1 (b) $5,000,000 in fiscal year 2023 is for increased student supportive services to increase student outcomes including retention, graduation, mental health, and campus climate while addressing equity gaps that exist for low-income and Black, Indigenous, and People of Color students.

4.2 (c) $43,000,000 is added to the operations and maintenance base for fiscal year 2024 and later established in Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 2, article 1, section 4, subdivision 2, paragraph (f).

Sec. 5. Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 2, article 1, section 2, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

4.15 Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation

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The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions.

Sec. 6. Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 2, article 1, section 2, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

4.22 Subd. 2. State Grants

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4.24 (a) If the appropriation in this subdivision for either year is insufficient, the appropriation for the other year is available for it.

4.27 (b) The base for this appropriation is $234,289,000 for fiscal year 2024 and later.

Sec. 7. Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 2, article 1, section 2, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

4.31 Subd. 8. Tribal College Grants

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5.1 For Tribal college assistance grants under
5.2 Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.1796.
5.3 The commissioner may use no more than three
5.4 percent of the appropriation for administration
5.5 of the program.
5.6 The base for this appropriation is $1,850,000
5.7 in fiscal year 2024 and later.

5.8 Sec. 8. Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 2, article 1, section 2, subdivision 21, is
5.9 amended to read:

5.10 Subd. 21. Dual Training Competency Grants;
5.11 Office of Higher Education
2,000,000
4,000,000

5.12 (a) Of this appropriation, $2,000,000 in fiscal
5.13 year 2022 and $3,879,000 in fiscal year 2023
5.14 is for transfer to the Dual Training
5.15 Competency Grants account in the special
5.16 revenue fund under Minnesota Statutes,
5.17 section 136A.246, subdivision 10.
5.18 (b) Of this appropriation, $121,000 in fiscal
5.19 year 2023 is appropriated to the commissioner
5.20 of labor and industry.
5.21 (c) The base for this appropriation is
5.22 $4,000,000 in fiscal year 2024 and later.

5.23 Sec. 9. Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 2, article 1, section 2, subdivision 24, is
5.24 amended to read:

5.25 Subd. 24. Emergency Assistance for
5.26 Postsecondary Students
269,000
1,000,000

5.27 (a) This appropriation is for the Office of
5.28 Higher Education to allocate grant funds on a
5.29 matching basis to eligible institutions as
5.30 defined under Minnesota Statutes, section
5.31 136A.103, located in Minnesota with a
5.32 demonstrable homeless student population.
(b) This appropriation shall be used to meet immediate student needs that could result in a student not completing the term or their program including, but not limited to, emergency housing, food, and transportation. Institutions shall minimize any negative impact on student financial aid resulting from the receipt of emergency funds.

(c) The commissioner shall determine the application process and the grant amounts. The Office of Higher Education shall partner with interested postsecondary institutions, other state agencies, and student groups to establish the programs.

(d) The base for this appropriation is $319,000 in fiscal year 2024 and later.

Sec. 10. Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 2, article 1, section 2, subdivision 25, is amended to read:

Subd. 25. Grants to Student Teachers in Shortage Areas

(a) For grants to student teachers in shortage areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.1275.

(b) The commissioner may use no more than three percent of the appropriation for administration of the program.

(c) The base for this appropriation is $3,500,000 in fiscal year 2024 and later.
Sec. 11. Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 2, article 1, section 2, subdivision 26, is amended to read:

Subd. 26. Grants to Underrepresented Student Teachers

For grants to underrepresented student teachers under Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.1274.

The commissioner may use no more than three percent of the appropriation for administration of the program.

The base for this appropriation is $1,125,000 in fiscal year 2024 and later.

Sec. 12. Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 2, article 1, section 2, subdivision 27, is amended to read:

Subd. 27. Teacher Shortage Loan Repayment

For transfer to the teacher shortage loan repayment account in the special revenue fund under Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.1791, subdivision 8.

The commissioner may use no more than three percent of the amount transferred under this subdivision to administer the program.

The base for this appropriation is $900,000 in fiscal year 2024 and later.

Sec. 13. Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 2, article 1, section 2, subdivision 36, is amended to read:

Subd. 36. Fostering Independence Higher Education Grants

(a) For grants to eligible students under Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.1241. Of this amount, $238,000 in the first year is for
administration costs. The base for fiscal year 2024 and later is $3,761,000 $4,816,000.

(b) Beginning in fiscal year 2023, the commissioner of the Office of Higher Education may use no more than three percent of the appropriation to administer the grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.1241.

ARTICLE 2
FINANCIAL AID

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2021 Supplement, section 136A.121, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

Subd. 9. Awards. An undergraduate student who meets the office's requirements is eligible to apply for and receive a grant in any year of undergraduate study unless the student has obtained a baccalaureate degree or previously has been enrolled full time or the equivalent for eight semesters or the equivalent has previously received state grant funds for a period of ten semesters or the equivalent, excluding (1) courses taken from a Minnesota school or postsecondary institution which is not participating in the state grant program and from which a student transferred no credit, and (2) courses taken that qualify as developmental education or below college-level. A student enrolled in a two-year program at a four-year institution is only eligible for the tuition and fee maximums established by law for two-year institutions.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2021 Supplement, section 136A.1241, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. Foster grant amount; payment; opt-out. (a) Each student shall be awarded a foster grant based on the federal need analysis. Applicants are encouraged to apply for all other sources of financial aid. The amount of the foster grant must be equal to the applicant's recognized cost of attendance after deducting:

(1) the student aid index as calculated by the federal need analysis;

(2) the amount of a federal Pell Grant award for which the applicant is eligible;

(3) the amount of the state grant;

(4) the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant;
(5) the sum of all Tribal scholarships;

(6) the amount of any other state and federal gift aid;

(7) the Education and Training Voucher Program;

(8) extended foster care benefits under section 260C.451;

(9) the amount of any private grants or scholarships, excluding grants and scholarships provided by the private institution of higher education in which the eligible student is enrolled; and

(10) for public institutions, the sum of all institutional grants, scholarships, tuition waivers, and tuition remission amounts.

(b) The foster grant shall be paid directly to the eligible institution where the student is enrolled.

(c) An eligible private institution may opt out of participating in the foster grant program established under this section. To opt out, the institution shall provide notice to the office by September 1 for the next academic year.

(d) An eligible private institution that does not opt out under paragraph (c) and accepts the student's application to attend the institution must provide institutional grants, scholarships, tuition waivers, or tuition remission in an amount equal to the difference between:

(1) the institution's cost of attendance as calculated under subdivision 4, paragraph (b), clause (1); and

(2) the sum of the foster grant under this subdivision and the sum of the amounts in paragraph (a), clauses (1) to (9).

(e) An undergraduate student who is eligible may apply for and receive a foster grant in any year of undergraduate study unless the student has obtained a baccalaureate degree or previously has been enrolled full time as defined in section 136A.101, subdivision 7a, or the equivalent for eight semesters or the equivalent, or received a foster grant for five years, whichever occurs first. A foster grant must not be awarded to a student for more than three years for a two-year degree, certificate, or diploma, or five years for a four-year undergraduate degree.

(f) Foster grants may be awarded to an eligible student for four quarters, three semesters, or the equivalent during the course of a single fiscal year. In calculating the award amount, the office must use the same calculation it would for any other term.
Sec. 3. [136A.1251] STUDENT-PARENT SUPPORT INITIATIVE.

Subdivision 1. Grants. (a) To address the needs and support the educational goals of expectant and parenting college students across Minnesota, the commissioner shall award grants and provide support services to institutions and partnering entities that assist parents of young children and expectant parents. Grants shall be awarded to postsecondary institutions, professional organizations, community-based organizations, or other applicants deemed appropriate by the commissioner. Grants must be used to offer services to support the academic goals, health, and well-being of student parents. Services and costs eligible for grant funding include but are not limited to:

(1) program development costs;
(2) costs related to the start-up of on-campus child care;
(3) evaluation and data collection; and
(4) direct assistance to student parents including:
   (i) scholarships;
   (ii) basic needs support; and
   (iii) expenses related to child care.

(b) Postsecondary institutions may act as the fiscal agents in partnership with a local nongovernmental agency, childcare center, or other organization that serves student parents.

Subd. 2. Application process. The commissioner shall develop a grant application process. The commissioner shall support projects in a manner that attempts to ensure eligible students throughout the state have access to program services.

Subd. 3. Health-related supports. The commissioner, in partnership with the Department of Health, shall provide health-related supports. Activities for health-related supports include:

(1) ensuring programs, services, and materials are medically accurate, age appropriate, culturally and linguistically appropriate, and inclusive of all populations;
(2) working with community health care providers and other service support organizations that serve the target population for this program; and
(3) providing technical assistance and training for institutional parent support center staff on how to conduct screenings and referrals for the health concerns of student parents, including alcohol misuse, substance use disorders, depression, anxiety, intimate partner violence, tobacco and nicotine, and other health concerns.
Subd. 4. **Report and evaluation.** By August 1 of each odd-numbered year, the commissioner shall submit a report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over higher education finance regarding the grant recipients and their activities. The report shall include information about the students served, the organizations providing services, program activities, program goals, and outcomes.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2021 Supplement, section 136A.1791, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Amount of loan repayment.** (a) To the extent funding is available, the annual amount of teacher shortage loan repayment for an approved applicant shall not exceed $2,000 or the cumulative balance of the applicant's qualified educational loans, including principal and interest, whichever amount is less.

(b) Recipients must secure their own qualified educational loans. Teachers who graduate from an approved teacher preparation program or teachers who add a licensure field, consistent with the teacher shortage requirements of this section, are eligible to apply for the loan repayment program.

(c) No teacher shall receive more than five annual awards.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 136A.1796, is amended to read:

**136A.1796 TRIBAL COLLEGE SUPPLEMENTAL GRANT ASSISTANCE.**

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) As used in this section, the following terms have the meanings given them.

(b) "Beneficiary student" means a resident of Minnesota who is enrolled in a certificate, diploma, or degree program in a tribally controlled college and is an enrolled member of a federally recognized Indian tribe.

(c) "Nonbeneficiary student" means a resident of Minnesota who is enrolled in a certificate, diploma, or degree program in a tribally controlled college but is not an enrolled member of a federally recognized Indian tribe.

(d) "Tribally controlled college" means an accredited institution of higher education located in this state that is formally controlled by or has been formally sanctioned or chartered by the governing body of a federally recognized Indian tribe, or a combination of federally recognized Indian tribes. Tribally controlled college does not include any institution or campus subject to the jurisdiction of the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities or the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota.
Subd. 2. Eligibility; grant assistance. (a) A tribally controlled college is eligible to receive supplemental grant assistance from the office, as provided in this section, for beneficiary and nonbeneficiary student enrollment if the college is not otherwise eligible to receive federal grant funding for those students under United States Code, title 25, section 1808.

(b) The office shall make grants to tribally controlled colleges to defray the costs of education associated with the enrollment of beneficiary and nonbeneficiary students. Grants made pursuant to this section must be provided directly to the recipient college.

Subd. 3. Grant application. To receive a grant under this section, a tribally controlled college must submit an application in the manner required by the office. Upon submission of a completed application indicating that the tribally controlled college is eligible, the office shall distribute to the college, during each year of the biennium, a grant of $5,300 equal to the highest tuition and fees charged at a public two-year institution for each beneficiary and nonbeneficiary student on a full-time equivalent basis. If the amount appropriated for grants under this section is insufficient to cover the total amount of grant eligibility, the office shall distribute a prorated amount per nonbeneficiary student on a full-time equivalent basis.

Subd. 4. Reporting by recipient institutions. Each tribally controlled college receiving a grant under this section shall provide to the office, on an annual basis, an accurate and detailed account of the expenditures of the grant funds received by the college, and a copy of the college's most recent audit report and documentation of the enrollment status and ethnic status of each beneficiary and nonbeneficiary student for which grant assistance is sought under this section.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 175.45, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. Duties; goal. The commissioner of labor and industry shall convene industry representatives, identify occupational competency standards, and provide technical assistance to develop dual-training programs. The competency standards shall be identified for employment in occupations in advanced manufacturing, health care services, information technology, and agriculture, transportation, and childcare. Competency standards are not rules and are exempt from the rulemaking provisions of chapter 14, and the provisions in section 14.386 concerning exempt rules do not apply.