House Workforce Development Finance and Policy Committee

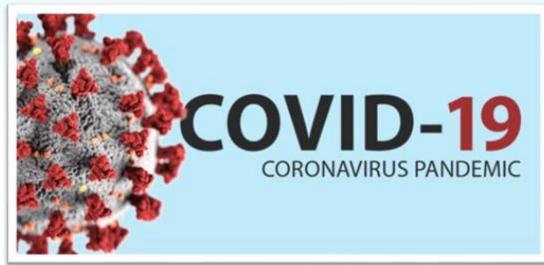
Marc Majors | Deputy Commissioner Workforce

Evan Rowe | Deputy Commissioner Workforce Services

A Time for Transformational Thinking









Minnesota's 10 Year Economic Expansion Plan



To achieve a more equitable, inclusive, sustainable, and resilient Minnesota economy, we must all commit to take action.

- Commit to our people, as Minnesota's number one strength and the key to a prosperous future.
- 2 Commit to our communities, as the nexus point of growth and opportunity.
- 3 Commit to our businesses, as the engine that will write the next chapter of the global economy.

- 4 Commit to innovation, as the central dynamic needed to adapt to an ever-changing economic landscape.
- 5 Commit to infrastructure, as the foundation of all economic progress.



Invest in Talent



- The One Minnesota Budget recommends \$30 million in the FY24-25 biennium for the **Drive for 5 Workforce Fund** to prepare the workforce to enter **five of the most critical occupational categories** in the state with high-growth jobs and family-sustaining wages:
 - Technology
 - Caring professions
 - Education
 - Manufacturing
 - Trades

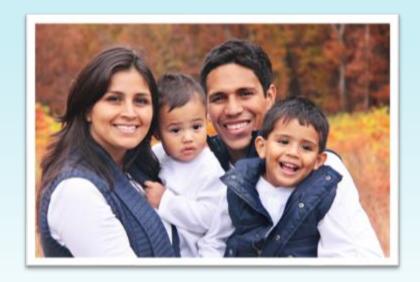


• Competitive grants focused on training + support services with funding for Trade Association sector partnerships to engage business associations in job matching.



Targeted Population Workforce Programs

- This One Minnesota Budget recommends investing \$80 million in the FY24-45 biennium and \$20 million in the FY26-27 biennium in employment services and training to bring workers who have been overlooked for employment particularly people of color into the workforce at family-sustaining wages.
- This is a critical initiative to bring Minnesotans into the workforce, ensure employers have the staff to help their business thrive, and move Minnesota's economy forward.





- Minnesota's new Americans create robust businesses, offer extraordinary cultural contributions, and play a critical role in meeting labor needs throughout Minnesota. But there are multiple barriers to getting established in Minnesota.
- This budget proposes funding in the amount of \$1.5
 million in each biennium to establish an Office of New
 Americans focused on:
 - Supporting immigrant and refugee integration
 - Reducing barriers to employment, and
 - Improving connections between employers and job seekers.





Youth Workforce Development

- The Governor and Lieutenant
 Governor recommend doubling the existing
 funding to put \$20 million in the FY24-25
 biennium toward youth workforce development –
 which would serve over 38,000 young people.
- This expands Minnesota's results-driven Youth at Work, Minnesota Youth Program and YouthBuild programs to prepare more Minnesota young people to enter the workforce focused and workready.







- During COVID-19, Minnesota lost approximately 60,000 workers who were 55 years old+, and the loss of older workers impacted both public and private sectors.
- The Governor and Lieutenant Governor recommend \$10 million in the FY24-25 biennium to create a new Return-to-Work Program for Minnesotans who have left the workforce due to retirement.





Minnesota Reasonable Accommodation Program

- Governor Walz and Lieutenant Governor
 Flanagan recommend \$4 million in the FY24-25
 biennium to create a Minnesota Reasonable
 Accommodation Program.
- The program will reimburse small- to mid-sized Minnesota employers for expenses tied to providing reasonable accommodations for employees with disabilities.
- During this historically tight labor market, the Reasonable Accommodation Program is a critical tool to help Minnesota employers create disability-inclusive workplaces.





Individual Placement and Supports (IPS) Program Increases

- Governor Walz and Lieutenant Governor Flanagan recommend an increase of \$3.89 million in each biennium to allow the program to provide specialized supports to almost 700 people with serious mental illnesses so they can find and maintain steady employment.
- This proposal will assist more people with serious mental illness to achieve their goals of working in competitive, integrated employment.





Workforce Digital Transformation

- The pandemic has shown us digital services for workforce development are more essential than ever before, yet the state's existing tools are falling behind.
- The Governor and Lieutenant Governor propose
 a one-time \$10 million investment to modernize
 the digital tools that support workforce
 development initiatives across Minnesota.





Enhancing State Services for the Blind

- The Governor and Lieutenant Governor recommend \$4
 million in each biennium for the State Services for
 the Blind program.
- These resources will maximize the program's federal match and enable the program to keep pace with operational increases due to inflation, as well as expand services to reach more individuals who are blind, visually impaired, DeafBlind, or have a printrelated disability.



Growing Small Business



Child Care Economic Development Grants

- Lack of affordable, quality child care is a major barrier to the participation of women, single parents, low-income parents, and rural parents in the workforce.
- Recommend \$15 million in the FY24-25 biennium and \$3 million in the FY26- 27 biennium to support child care economic development in Greater Minnesota, which will assist child care providers, create much-needed new child care slots, and increase the capacity and quality of child care across the state.





Office of Child Care and Community Partnerships

- Governor Walz and Lieutenant Governor Flanagan recommend \$1 million in funding in each biennium to establish an Office of Child Care and Community Partnerships at the Department of Employment and Economic Development.
- This would serve as a central office for DEED's work partnering with the public and private sectors to address child care as an economic and workforce development issue across the state.





- As power plants across Minnesota plan for closure, communities surrounding them face **economic uncertainty.**
- The Governor and Lieutenant Governor recommend \$10 million in new funding in the FY24-25 biennium to support impacted areas by providing resources for these communities to diversify their economies and find new opportunities for quality jobs and economic growth.





Destination Medical Center Clarifications

• The Governor and Lieutenant Governor recommend making clarifying changes to Minn. Stat. § 496.47, subds. 3, 4 and 5 that will provide greater clarity and consistency for the Destination Medical Center Initiative (DMC). The clarifying language will expedite and increase maximum annual payments from \$4.5 million to \$7.5 million.

Thank you!

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