

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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This bill establishes a supplemental grant program to provide additional support for certain TRIO student support services programs. \$5 million in fiscal year 2017 is appropriated for the grants.

“TRIO” is a federal grant program that funds targeted support programs for K-12 and postsecondary students from disadvantaged backgrounds, including low-income students, first generation students, and students with disabilities. In K-12 schools, Upward Bound is an example of a type of program funded by TRIO. At postsecondary institutions, certain qualifying “Student Support Services” programs are eligible for TRIO grants.

This bill provides a state grant to supplement federal grant funding that is already being received by eligible Student Support Services programs. The supplemental grant would be available only for programs specifically designed to increase college retention and graduation rates.

Supplemental grants would be issued once per year. The amount of the grant would be proportional, based on the amount of federal funding received by each program qualifying for the supplemental grant.

Each program that receives a supplemental grant must submit data on program outcomes to the commissioner of higher education. The commissioner of higher education is required to use that data to prepare annual report on program outcomes, which would be due to the legislature by January 1 of each year.