

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 1224
Version: As introduced

DATE: March 4, 2015

Authors: Daniels and others

Subject: Minnesota State Academies; technology and general funding

Analyst: Tim Strom

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd/.

Overview

Minnesota operates two residential academies for deaf and blind students in Faribault. The academies are both public schools and state institutions and annually serve more than 500 students through residential programs, summer school, preschool programs, and outreach efforts. In fiscal year 2014, the Minnesota State Academy for the Blind enrolled approximately 46 full-time pupils, and the Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf enrolled approximately 144 full-time pupils.

The academies' budgets are primarily funded through direct state appropriations. The resident school district of a student attending the State Academies for the Deaf and the Blind counts the student for general education revenue, returns the basic formula revenue to the state and the state passes that along, according to a formula, to the academies. Compensatory revenue is calculated directly at the State Academies. The academies also receive special education funding from the state for certain costs and unreimbursed costs are charged back to the resident district. Resident school districts are responsible for the cost of transporting academy students to and from the academies on weekends during the school year.

This bill appropriates \$708,000 in FY 16 and \$490,000 in FY 17 for technology enhancement at the State Academies and adds this amount to the Governor's recommended budget level for the State Academies (base budget plus annual 1.8 percent adjustment).

Section

- 1** **Minnesota State Academies; appropriation.** Appropriates \$12.853 million in FY 16 and \$12.819 million in FY 17 from the general fund to the Minnesota State Academies for the Deaf and the Blind.