

Subject Early learning programs
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Overview

This bill makes various changes related to the voluntary prekindergarten (VPK) and early scholarship programs, including to divide VPK application groups so that the Minneapolis and St. Paul school districts are separate, eliminate income verification requirements for some early learning scholarship applicants, clarify children's age when developmental screenings are required as part of early learning scholarships, and remove obsolete language.

Summary

Section	Description
1	Program requirements. Clarifies that the cognitive and social skills formative measure administered to prekindergarten pupils under a voluntary prekindergarten program must be age-appropriate.
2	Application process; priority for high poverty schools. Splits the Minneapolis and St. Paul school districts into two separate regions for allocating voluntary prekindergarten funds. Makes technical changes, to remove obsolete language.
3	Family eligibility. Modifies early learning scholarship income verification requirements so that parents or guardians do not have to verify income for homeless children or children in need of protection or services.
4	Administration. Clarifies that children receiving early learning scholarships must receive an early learning developmental screening within 90 days after turning three years old, and screening is not before that age.

Section	Description
5	<p>Early childhood program eligibility.</p> <p>Removes an obsolete provision that allowed early learning scholarship pilot sites to participate in the statewide program prior to becoming rated through Parent Aware, the state's quality rating and improvement system.</p>



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