

Subject School District School-Age Care Programs

Authors Edelson

Analyst Tim Strom

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Overview

A school district may offer a school-age care program for children in kindergarten through grade six. The program must provide supervised activities during nonschool hours. Programs are primarily funded through participant fees on a sliding-fee scale based on family income. About one-half of Minnesota's school districts participate in the school-age care program.

Districts with school-age care programs receive school-age care revenue for the additional costs of providing services to children with disabilities or children experiencing temporary family or related problems. A district's school-age care revenue equals its qualifying expenses. School-age care revenue totaled about \$17.2 million for fiscal year 2019. While the school-age aid program is equalized, the equalizing factor is set so low that the statewide aid totals less than \$1,000 and therefore nearly the full amount of the revenue comes through the local property tax levy.

H.F. 768 proposes to extend the program to students in all grades. In addition, to keep the statewide school-age care levy unchanged, the school-age care equalizing factor is increased from \$2,318 to \$12,590.

Summary

Section	Description
1	School-age care programs. Raises the age limit for students who may be served in a school-age care program from 6 th grade to 12 th grade effective for the 2019-2020 school year.
2	School-age care revenue. Beginning in the 2020-2021 school year, includes students of all ages participating in school-age care programs in the eligible expenditure for the program. Increases the program equalizing factor from \$2,318 to \$12,590, to ensure that the statewide increase in school-age care revenue is funded through school-age care equalization aid.

Section	Description
3	Fiscal year 2020. Clarifies that the higher level of school age care revenue does not begin until the 2020-2021 school year.
4	Appropriation; school-age care aid. Appropriates an unspecified amount of state aid for school-age care equalization aid under section 124D.22.



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