

**Subject** Higher education: Office of Higher Education agency bill

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## Overview

This is the Office of Higher Education's (OHE) agency bill. It makes a variety of technical and substantive changes to OHE programs and powers.

## Summary

Section	Description
1	<b><i>Data Practices: Minnesota Office of Higher Education.</i></b> Amends the "postsecondary education data coded elsewhere" section of the Government Data Practices Act to cross-reference the private classification of student complaint data contained in sections 17 and 25 of the bill.
2	<b><i>Teacher Candidate Grant Program: Eligibility.</i></b> Amends the teacher candidate grant program statute to clarify how intent to teach in a shortage area may be documented. Also clarifies that an "underrepresented racial or ethnic group" is one which is underrepresented in the Minnesota teacher workforce.
3	<b><i>Teacher Candidate Grant Program: Administration; repayment.</i></b> Amends the teacher candidate grant program statute to strike language regarding repayment responsibilities for recipients who do not fulfill the teaching obligation. Clarifies that an "underrepresented racial or ethnic group" is one which is underrepresented in the Minnesota teacher workforce.
4	<b><i>SELF Loans: Eligible student.</i></b> Amends the definition of "eligible student" for the SELF Loan program to incorporate the expanded definition at § 136A.1701, subd. 12, which is repealed in section 27 of the bill.
5	<b><i>SELF Loans: Designation.</i></b> Changes a cross-reference to incorporate additional statutes governing the SELF Refi program.

Section	Description
6	<b><i>SELF Loans: Rules, policies, and conditions.</i></b> Amends the subdivision regarding OHE's rules and policies for administering student loan programs. Removes a reference to a federal loan program that no longer exists.
7 - 10	<b><i>SELF Loans: Various sections.</i></b> Changes cross-references to incorporate additional statutes governing the SELF Refi program.
11	<b><i>SELF Loans: Repayment of loans.</i></b> Strikes repayment procedures for supplemental loans under § 136A.1701, and inserts a cross-reference to OHE's general rules and policies for student loan programs in § 136A.16. This allows OHE to provide more flexible repayment terms to borrowers.
12	<b><i>Private and Out-of-State Public: Schools to provide information.</i></b> Amends the list of information that schools must provide when registering with OHE to include the school's disclosure on the student complaint process, which is required in section 14 of the bill.
13	<b><i>Private and Out-of-State Public: Public information.</i></b> Clarifies that student complaint data are private. Permits OHE to disclose student complaint data and other information to law enforcement officials or as part of a legal or administrative proceeding commenced to enforce a legal requirement.
14	<b><i>Private and Out-of-State Public: Disclosure.</i></b> Requires a school to disclose information regarding the student complaint process.
15	<b><i>Private and Out-of-State Public: School closure.</i></b> Amends the requirements for when a school intends to close.
16	<b><i>Private and Out-of-State Public: Additional security.</i></b> (a) Clarifies that new schools without accreditation must provide a surety bond equal to 10% of annual net revenue from tuition and fees, but not less than \$10,000. (b) For registered institutions that fall below certain federal minimum financial standards, adds an option for the school to provide a reduced surety bond equal to 10% of annual federal student financial aid funds received by the institution, subject to the \$10,000 minimum and \$250,000 maximum in current law.
17	<b><i>Private and Out-of-State Public: Private information.</i></b> Classifies student complaint data as private data under chapter 13.
18	<b><i>Private Career Schools: Clock hour.</i></b> Adds a definition of "clock hour." Some schools use clock hours instead of credit hours.

Section	Description
19	<b><i>Private Career Schools: Student record.</i></b> Adds a definition of “student record.”
20	<b><i>Private Career Schools: Bond.</i></b> Corrects technical accounting terminology.
21	<b><i>Private Career Schools: Catalog, brochure, or electronic display.</i></b> Amends the list of information that schools must provide for OHE licensure to include the school’s disclosure on the student complaint process, which is required in section 24 of the bill.
22	<b><i>Private Career Schools: Permanent student records.</i></b> Adds the word “student” to the records that must be maintained to conform to the new definition at section 19 of the bill.
23	<b><i>Private Career Schools: School closure.</i></b> Amends the requirements for when a school intends to close.
24	<b><i>Private Career Schools: Disclosure.</i></b> Requires a school to disclose information regarding the student complaint process.
25	<b><i>Private Career Schools: Private information.</i></b> Classifies student complaint data as private, but provides that the data may be disclosed to law enforcement officials or as part of a legal or administrative proceeding commenced to enforce a legal requirement.
26	<b><i>Emergency Assistance for Postsecondary Students.</i></b> Amends language in the appropriation from the 2017 higher education omnibus act (Laws 2017, ch. 89) to clarify that eligible institutions must be located in Minnesota. Also, deletes language requiring that the grant award will not impact a student’s state financial aid award.
27	<b><i>Repealer.</i></b> Repeals three definitions within the SELF loan program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• § 136A.15, subd. 2, “Academic year or its equivalent.” This definition refers to an obsolete federal loan program.</li><li>• § 136A.15, subd. 7, “Eligible lender.” This defined term does not appear anywhere else in chapter 136A.</li><li>• § 136A.1701, subd. 12, “Eligible student.” Section 4 of the bill incorporates the substance of this repealed definition into the existing general definition of “eligible student” at § 136A.15, subd. 8.</li></ul>



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