

Subject Higher Education: grant and waiver programs for students formerly in foster care

Authors Her

Analyst Nathan Hopkins

Date March 9, 2021

Overview

This bill creates a new grant program for students formerly in foster care to cover the cost of attendance at a public or private postsecondary institution.

Summary

Section	Description
---------	-------------

1	Fostering higher education grants.
---	---

Creates a grant program for students at public postsecondary institutions who have been in foster care. The first round of grants would be awarded in the 2022-2023 academic year.

Subd. 1. Definitions. Provides definitions for the grant program.

Subd. 2. Establishment. Establishes the program within the Office of Higher Education (OHE). Requires OHE to identify eligible students and their institutions and inform them of their eligibility for the grant.

Subd. 3. Eligibility. Sets forth eligibility criteria for the grant program, which includes being in foster care at age 13 or older.

Subd. 4. Cost of attendance. Provides a method for determining the cost of attendance for public and private institutions for purposes of determining a grant award amount. For private institutions, the cost of attendance is capped at the highest cost of attendance among public institutions.

Subd. 5. Grant amount. Provides that students' grant award amounts are based upon their federal need analysis. Award amounts would be "last dollar" grants that cover the cost of attendance after factoring in all other grants, aid, and scholarships received. For private institutions, requires that the institution provide additional aid to cover any remaining costs to the student.

Section **Description**

Subd. 6. Report. Requires OHE to submit an annual legislative report on the program. The first report is due by January 15, 2024.

2 **Appropriation.**

Appropriates a currently-unspecified amount to OHE for the program in FY 23 and sets a currently-unspecified base amount for FY24 and FY25.



**MN HOUSE
RESEARCH**

Minnesota House Research Department provides nonpartisan legislative, legal, and information services to the Minnesota House of Representatives. This document can be made available in alternative formats.

www.house.mn/hrd | 651-296-6753 | 155 State Office Building | St. Paul, MN 55155