

Subject Higher education: MnState workforce development

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Overview

This bill contains changes to the Workforce Development Scholarship program at Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnState) and includes MnState's budget request related to workforce and economic development.

Summary

Section	Description
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| 1 | Workforce development scholarships: program eligibility.
Adds construction, education, and public safety to the program areas eligible for a workforce development scholarship. Expands the scholarship program to include students enrolled in their first and second years at state universities. Expands the scholarship program to include students enrolled in certificate programs, who may receive awards up to \$1,500. |
| 2 | Workforce development scholarships: renewal; cap.
Increases the total lifetime award cap on scholarships from \$7,500 to \$12,000 per student. |
| 3 | Workforce development scholarships: administration.
Allows up to 1.5 percent of program funds to be used for administering the program. |
| 4 | Appropriations.
Appropriates \$50,000,000 per year in FY 2024-2025 to the MnState for workforce development. This is in addition to MnState's existing base appropriation. Of this amount: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) \$24,500,000 per year is to upgrade college and university equipment and learning environments;2) \$12,750,000 per year is to develop and expand industry sector programming; and |

Section	Description
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| | 3) \$12,750,000 per year is to expand the Workforce Development Scholarship program. |
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Items 1 and 2 allow 1.5 percent of the dedicated amounts to be used for program administration. The amounts dedicated in all three items must be matched with cash or in-kind contributions from nonstate sources.

5	Repealer.
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Repeals a subdivision in the Workforce Development Scholarship program statute setting the award amount. This subdivision is replaced by the new language added in section 1 of the bill.



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