

Subject Small Business Partnership Program

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## Overview

Codifies and funds the small business partnership program, formerly known as the business development competitive grant program, to provide business development and technical assistance services to eligible businesses through grants to community nonprofits.

## Summary

Section	Description
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1	<b>[116J.8746] Small business partnership program.</b>
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Codifies the small business partnership program, formerly known as the business development competitive grant program.

**Subd. 1. Definitions.** Defines terms, including that an “eligible business” is one that is either (1) located in greater Minnesota, (2) in the field of high technology, or (3) majority owned by people who are people of color, women, immigrants, veterans, people with disabilities, or low income.

**Subd. 2. Establishment.** Establishes the program to make grants statewide to community-based nonprofits to provide free or low-cost professional business development and technical assistance services to eligible businesses.

**Subd. 3. Grants to nonprofits.** Sets the rules for the competitive grants to the nonprofits. Allows up to ten percent of the grant amount to be used by the nonprofit for administration. Requires preference for nonprofits that can demonstrate successful outcomes serving historically underserved communities and increasing economic mobility of clients.

**Subd. 4. Administration.** Allows the commissioner of employment and economic development to use up to five percent of program funds for administration and monitoring.

**Section** **Description**

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**Subd. 5. Reporting.** Stipulates grant recipients provide annual reports to the commissioner on the use of funds and program impact. Requires the commissioner to make reports to the legislature every two years on the use of funds and program impact.

**2** **Small business partnership program; appropriation.**

Appropriates \$12,500,000 each year in fiscal years 2024 and 2025 from the general fund for the small business partnership program.



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