

Subject Direct support professional certification pilot project

Authors Perez-Vega and others

Analyst Danyell A. Punelli

Date March 28, 2025

Overview

This bill establishes a direct support professional certification pilot project and appropriates money for the pilot project.

Summary

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

1	Direct support professional certification pilot project.
---	---

Subd. 1. Establishment. Requires the commissioner of human services to establish a three-year direct support professional certification pilot project in partnership with other specified entities to implement a direct support curriculum leading to the credential of certified direct support professional.

Subd. 2. Definitions. Defines the terms “covered program” and “direct support.”

Subd. 3. Curriculum requirements. Requires the direct support curriculum developed as a component of the pilot project to meet or exceed the training requirements for CFSS support workers who qualify for an enhanced rate and be based on the validated results of the National Direct Services Workforce Resource Center’s Core Competencies for Direct Service Workforce Project. Requires the curriculum to include at least 80 hours of instruction and training provided over the course of no less than eight weeks.

Subd. 4. Scholarships. Requires the commissioner of human services to provide direct support professional certification scholarships that include a work stipend of \$20 per hour for 80 hours of instruction.

Subd. 5. Certification. Requires individuals who successfully complete the certification curriculum to receive the credential of certified direct support professional and, with federal approval, to receive an enhanced rate in a covered program.

Subd. 6. Accreditation criteria. Requires participating postsecondary institutions to collaborate with the Metropolitan Center for Independent Living to create

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

	continuity of educational programming and to develop accreditation criteria that provides guidance to other postsecondary institutions.
--	---

Subd. 7. Evaluation. Requires the commissioner of human services to hire an independent program evaluator to prepare an evaluation of the pilot project. Specifies the information the evaluation must include.

Subd. 8. Report. Requires the commissioner to submit the evaluation and the program accreditation criteria to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over higher education and MA long-term services and supports.

Provides a July 1, 2025, effective date.

2	Appropriation; direct support professional certification pilot project.
---	--

	Appropriates an unspecified amount in fiscal year 2026 from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for the direct support professional certification pilot project. Specifies this is a onetime appropriation and is available until June 30, 2029.
--	---



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.gov/hrd | 651-296-6753 | Third Floor, Centennial Office Building | St. Paul, MN 55155