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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

H. F. No. 1110

02/19/2025 Authored by Hemmingsen-Jaeger, Schomacker, Reyer and Zeleznikar The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Workforce, Labor, and Economic Development Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to economic development; making grants for dental assisting and hygiene
1.3 education programs; appropriating money; proposing coding for new law in
1.4 Minnesota Statutes, chapter 116J.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. [116J.4181] DENTAL ASSISTING AND DENTAL HYGIENE
1.7 EDUCATION PROGRAM EXPANDED-CAPACITY GRANTS.

1.8 Subdivision 1. Grant program established. The commissioner of employment and
1.9 economic development shall make grants available to dental assisting higher education
1.10 programs and dental hygiene higher education programs that are accredited by the
1.11 Commission on Dental Accreditation for eligible projects to expand student enrollment
1.12 capacity. The commissioner may consider programs that have applied for but have not yet
1.13 received accreditation from the Commission on Dental Accreditation. Eligible projects
1.14 include but are not limited to:

- 1.15 (1) expanding or improving existing clinic physical infrastructure;
1.16 (2) creating and building new clinic physical infrastructure;
1.17 (3) improving classroom physical structure;
1.18 (4) creating student scholarships;
1.19 (5) improving faculty and staff salaries;
1.20 (6) obtaining needed equipment and educational resources; and
1.21 (7) addressing other needs identified by an applicant.

2.1 Subd. 2. **Program oversight.** (a) The commissioner shall award grants based on  
2.2 information provided in the grant application. The commissioner may request additional  
2.3 information from applicants when determining eligibility.

2.4 (b) The commissioner shall give priority to programs that have the highest potential to  
2.5 increase student capacity and increase the dental assisting or hygiene workforce pipeline.

2.6 (c) When making determinations, the commissioner shall not demonstrate any preference  
2.7 between dental hygiene and dental assisting programs.

2.8 (d) A higher education institution with both dental hygiene and dental assisting programs  
2.9 that is interested in applying for grants may submit one joint application.

2.10 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION; DENTAL ASSISTING AND DENTAL HYGIENE**  
2.11 **EDUCATION PROGRAM EXPANDED-CAPACITY GRANTS.**

2.12 \$15,000,000 in fiscal year 2026 is appropriated from the workforce development fund  
2.13 to the commissioner of employment and economic development for the dental assisting and  
2.14 dental hygiene education program expanded-capacity grants in section 116J.4181. This is  
2.15 a onetime appropriation and is available until June 30, 2027.