

SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

S.F. No. 2527

(SENATE AUTHORS: RARICK)

DATE
03/13/2025

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Introduction and first reading
Referred to Higher Education

OFFICIAL STATUS

- 1.1 A bill for an act
- 1.2 relating to higher education; expanding program eligibility for workforce
- 1.3 development scholarships; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136F.38,
- 1.4 subdivision 3.
- 1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:
- 1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136F.38, subdivision 3, is amended to read:
- 1.7 Subd. 3. **Program eligibility.** (a) Scholarships shall be awarded only to a student eligible
- 1.8 for resident tuition, as defined in section 135A.043, who is enrolled in any of the following
- 1.9 programs of study or certification: (1) advanced manufacturing; (2) agriculture; (3) health
- 1.10 care services; (4) information technology; (5) early childhood; (6) transportation; (7)
- 1.11 construction; (8) education; (9) public safety; (10) energy; (11) cybersecurity; or ~~(11)~~ (12)
- 1.12 a program of study under paragraph (b).
- 1.13 (b) Each institution may add one additional area of study or certification, based on a
- 1.14 workforce shortage for full-time employment requiring postsecondary education that is
- 1.15 unique to the institution's specific region, as reported in the most recent Department of
- 1.16 Employment and Economic Development job vacancy survey data for the economic
- 1.17 development region in which the institution is located. A workforce shortage area is one in
- 1.18 which the job vacancy rate for full-time employment in a specific occupation in a region is
- 1.19 higher than the state average vacancy rate for that same occupation. The institution may
- 1.20 change the area of study or certification based on new data once every two years.
- 1.21 (c) The student must be enrolled for at least nine credits in a two-year college in the
- 1.22 Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system to be eligible for first- and second-year
- 1.23 scholarships.

- 2.1 (d) The student is eligible for a one-year transfer scholarship if the student transfers from
- 2.2 a two-year college after two or more terms, and the student is enrolled for at least nine
- 2.3 credits in a four-year university in the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system.