

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

H. F. No. 4252

03/12/2026 Authored by Wolgamott
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Higher Education Finance and Policy
04/22/2026 Adoption of Report: Amended and re-referred to the Committee on Ways and Means
04/28/2026 Adoption of Report: Placed on the General Register as Amended
Read for the Second Time

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to higher education; modifying student aid reporting requirements; requiring

1.3 additional accommodations for parenting students; modifying American Indian

1.4 Scholars program eligibility; modifying provisions related to private career schools,

1.5 private and out-of-state postsecondary institutions, unemployment insurance aid,

1.6 and developmental courses; requiring reports; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024,

1.7 sections 135A.121, subdivision 2; 136A.053; 136A.091, subdivisions 2, 9;

1.8 136A.121, subdivision 2; 136A.1215, subdivision 5; 136A.1241, subdivision 8;

1.9 136A.125, subdivision 2; 136A.1274, subdivision 4; 136A.1275, subdivision 4;

1.10 136A.1465, subdivision 10; 136A.233, subdivision 3; 136A.62, by adding a

1.11 subdivision; 136A.64, subdivisions 1, 5; 136A.65, subdivision 8; 136A.653,

1.12 subdivisions 1b, 3a; 136A.672, subdivision 5; 136A.675, subdivision 1, by adding

1.13 a subdivision; 136A.821, subdivisions 13, 16, 17; 136A.822, subdivisions 4, 10,

1.14 12, by adding subdivisions; 136A.823, subdivisions 1, 3; 136A.826, subdivision

1.15 1; 136A.827, subdivisions 1, 4; 136A.828, subdivision 6; 136A.829, subdivisions

1.16 1, 3; 136A.8295, subdivision 5; 136A.83; 136G.03, subdivisions 30, 31, by adding

1.17 a subdivision; 136G.05, subdivision 10; 136G.13, by adding a subdivision; 268.193,

1.18 subdivision 2; Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, sections 135A.1582,

1.19 subdivisions 1, 2, 3; 136A.246, subdivision 1a; 136A.69, subdivision 1; 136A.82,

1.20 subdivision 1; 136A.821, subdivisions 5, 21; 136A.822, subdivisions 6, 8, 13;

1.21 136A.824, subdivisions 1, 2; 136A.833, subdivisions 1, 2; Laws 2025, First Special

1.22 Session chapter 5, article 1, section 3, subdivisions 1, 3; proposing coding for new

1.23 law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 135A; 136A; repealing Minnesota Statutes

1.24 2024, sections 124D.09, subdivision 10a; 136A.657; 136A.827, subdivisions 1b,

1.25 2; 136A.834, subdivisions 2, 3, 4; 136G.03, subdivision 11; 136G.09, subdivision

1.26 10; Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, section 136A.834, subdivisions 1, 5.

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

1.28 Section 1. [135A.082] DEVELOPMENTAL COURSES.

1.29 (a) For purposes of this section, "developmental course" means a postsecondary course

1.30 taken to prepare a student for college-level work that the postsecondary institution does not

1.31 grant credit for and that cannot be used to meet degree, diploma, or certificate requirements.

2.1 (b) A public postsecondary institution that receives financial aid on behalf of students
2.2 under section 136A.121 must, before a student enrolls in a developmental course: (1) provide
2.3 the student with a clear, written explanation regarding the difference between a developmental
2.4 course and a course that provides credits that count toward graduation; and (2) require the
2.5 student to sign a written acknowledgment that the student understands the difference.

2.6 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 135A.121, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

2.7 Subd. 2. **Eligibility.** To be eligible each year for the program a student must:

2.8 (1) be enrolled in an undergraduate certificate, diploma, or degree program at the
2.9 University of Minnesota or a Minnesota state college or university;

2.10 (2) be either (i) a ~~Minnesota resident for resident tuition purposes~~ student eligible for a
2.11 resident tuition rate who is an enrolled member or citizen of a federally recognized American
2.12 Indian Tribe or Canadian First Nation, or (ii) an enrolled member or citizen of a Minnesota
2.13 Tribal Nation, regardless of resident tuition status;

2.14 (3) have not (i) obtained a baccalaureate degree, or (ii) been enrolled for 12 semesters
2.15 or the equivalent, excluding courses taken that qualify as developmental education or below
2.16 college-level; and

2.17 (4) meet satisfactory academic progress as defined under section 136A.101, subdivision
2.18 10.

2.19 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, section 135A.1582, subdivision 1, is amended
2.20 to read:

2.21 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have
2.22 the meanings given.

2.23 (b) "Parenting student" means a student enrolled at a ~~public college or university~~
2.24 postsecondary institution who is the parent or legal guardian of or can claim as a dependent
2.25 a child under the age of 18.

2.26 (c) "Pregnancy or related conditions" has the meaning given in Code of Federal
2.27 Regulations, title 34, section 106.2.

2.28 (d) "Postsecondary institution" means an institution governed by the Board of Trustees
2.29 of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities or a private postsecondary institution that
2.30 offers in-person courses on a campus located in Minnesota and is an eligible institution as

3.1 defined in section 136A.103. Institutions governed by the Board of Regents of the University
3.2 of Minnesota are requested to comply with this section.

3.3 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, section 135A.1582, subdivision 2, is amended
3.4 to read:

3.5 Subd. 2. **Rights and protections.** (a) A postsecondary institution may not require and
3.6 the University of Minnesota is requested not to require a pregnant or parenting student,
3.7 solely because of the student's status as a pregnant or parenting student or due to issues
3.8 related to the student's pregnancy or parenting, to:

3.9 (1) take a leave of absence or withdraw from the student's degree or certificate program;

3.10 (2) limit the student's studies;

3.11 (3) participate in an alternative program;

3.12 (4) change the student's major, degree, or certificate program; or

3.13 (5) refrain from joining or cease participating in any course, activity, or program at the
3.14 ~~college or university~~ postsecondary institution.

3.15 (b) A postsecondary institution shall provide and the University of Minnesota is requested
3.16 to provide reasonable modifications to a pregnant student, including modifications that:

3.17 (1) would be provided to a student with a temporary medical condition; or

3.18 (2) are related to the health and safety of the student and the student's unborn child, such
3.19 as allowing the student to maintain a safe distance from substances, areas, and activities
3.20 known to be hazardous to pregnant women or unborn children.

3.21 (c) A postsecondary institution must and the University of Minnesota is requested to,
3.22 for reasons related to a student's pregnancy, childbirth, or any resulting medical status or
3.23 condition:

3.24 (1) excuse the student's absence for a reasonable period of time as determined to be
3.25 medically necessary by a student's treating health care provider insofar as to not compromise
3.26 the fundamental outcomes of the academic course, program, or activity. If the postsecondary
3.27 institution has a medical leave or temporary disability policy that provides a longer period
3.28 of leave, the policy must be made available to students affected by pregnancy and related
3.29 conditions;

3.30 (2) allow the student to make up missed assignments or assessments;

4.1 (3) allow the student additional time to complete assignments in the same manner as the
4.2 institution allows for a student with a temporary medical condition; ~~and~~

4.3 (4) provide the student with access to instructional materials and video recordings of
4.4 lectures for classes for which the student has an excused absence under this section to the
4.5 same extent that instructional materials and video recordings of lectures are made available
4.6 to any other student with an excused absence; and

4.7 (5) ensure the benefits and services provided to students affected by pregnancy are no
4.8 less than those provided to students with temporary medical conditions.

4.9 (d) A postsecondary institution must and the University of Minnesota is requested to
4.10 allow a pregnant or parenting student to:

4.11 (1) take a leave of absence; ~~and~~ for a reasonable period of time as determined to be
4.12 medically necessary by a student's treating health care provider or the health care provider
4.13 of the parenting student's child insofar as to not compromise the fundamental outcomes of
4.14 the academic course, program, or activity. If the postsecondary institution has a medical
4.15 leave or temporary disability policy that provides a longer period of leave, the policy must
4.16 be made available to students affected by pregnancy and related conditions and to parenting
4.17 students;

4.18 (2) if in good academic standing at the time the student takes a leave of absence, return
4.19 to the student's degree or certificate program in good academic standing without being
4.20 required to reapply for admission; and

4.21 (3) obtain reasonable modifications, including an excused absence for parenting students
4.22 to attend to their child's health care needs, unless the modification would compromise the
4.23 fundamental outcomes of the academic course, program, or activity.

4.24 (e) If a postsecondary institution provides early registration for courses or programs at
4.25 the institution for any group of students, the institution must provide and the University of
4.26 Minnesota is requested to provide early registration for those courses or programs for
4.27 pregnant or parenting students in the same manner.

4.28 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, section 135A.1582, subdivision 3, is amended
4.29 to read:

4.30 Subd. 3. **Policy on discrimination.** Each postsecondary institution must adopt and the
4.31 University of Minnesota is requested to adopt a policy for students on pregnancy and
4.32 parenting discrimination. The policy must:

5.1 (1) include the contact information of the Title IX coordinator who is the designated
5.2 point of contact for a student requesting each protection or modification under this section.
5.3 Contact information must include the Title IX coordinator's name, phone number, email,
5.4 and office;

5.5 (2) be posted in an easily accessible, straightforward format on the ~~college or university's~~
5.6 postsecondary institution's website; and

5.7 (3) be made available annually to faculty, staff, and employees of the ~~college or university~~
5.8 postsecondary institution.

5.9 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.053, is amended to read:

5.10 **136A.053 CONSOLIDATED STUDENT AID REPORTING.**

5.11 (a) The commissioner of the Office of Higher Education shall report annually beginning
5.12 February 15, 2026, to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees
5.13 with jurisdiction over higher education, on the details of programs administered under
5.14 sections 136A.091 to ~~136A.1276~~, 136A.121, 136A.1215, 136A.1241, 136A.125, 136A.126,
5.15 136A.1274, 136A.1275, 136A.1465, and ~~136A.231 to 136A.246~~ 136A.233, including the:

5.16 (1) total funds appropriated and expended;

5.17 (2) total number of students applying for funds;

5.18 (3) total number of students receiving funds;

5.19 (4) average and total award amounts;

5.20 (5) summary demographic data on award recipients;

5.21 (6) retention rates of award recipients;

5.22 (7) completion rates of award recipients;

5.23 (8) average cumulative debt at exit or graduation; and

5.24 (9) average time to completion.

5.25 (b) Data must be disaggregated by aid program, institution, aid year, race and ethnicity,
5.26 gender, ~~income~~, socioeconomic status, family type, ~~dependency status~~, and any other factors
5.27 determined to be relevant by the commissioner, as available. The commissioner must report
5.28 any additional data and outcomes relevant to the evaluation of programs administered under
5.29 sections 136A.091 to ~~136A.1276~~, 136A.121, 136A.1215, 136A.1241, 136A.125, 136A.126,
5.30 136A.1274, 136A.1275, 136A.1465, and ~~136A.231 to 136A.246~~ 136A.233 as evidenced
5.31 by activities funded under each program.

6.1 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.091, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

6.2 Subd. 2. **Eligibility.** To be eligible for a program stipend, a student shall:

6.3 (1) be a resident of ~~Minnesota~~ Minnesota student under section 136A.101, subdivision 8;

6.4 (2) attend an eligible office-approved program;

6.5 (3) be in grades 3 through 12, but not have completed high school;

6.6 (4) meet income requirements for free or reduced-price school meals; and

6.7 (5) be 19 years of age or younger.

6.8 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.091, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

6.9 Subd. 9. **Report.** Annually, the office shall submit a report to the legislative committees
6.10 ~~with jurisdiction over higher education finance regarding the program providers, stipend~~
6.11 ~~recipients, and program activities. The report shall include information about the students~~
6.12 ~~served, the organizations providing services, program goals and outcomes, and student~~
6.13 ~~outcomes~~ in accordance with section 136A.053.

6.14 Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.121, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

6.15 Subd. 2. **Eligibility for grants.** (a) An applicant is eligible to be considered for a grant,
6.16 regardless of the applicant's sex, creed, race, color, national origin, or ancestry, under sections
6.17 136A.095 to 136A.131 if the office finds that the applicant:

6.18 (1) is a resident of ~~the state of Minnesota~~ Minnesota student under section 136A.101, subdivision
6.19 8;

6.20 (2) is a graduate of a secondary school or its equivalent, or is 17 years of age or over,
6.21 and has met all requirements for admission as a student to an eligible college or technical
6.22 college of choice as defined in sections 136A.095 to 136A.131;

6.23 (3) has met the financial need criteria established in Minnesota Rules;

6.24 (4) is not in default, as defined by the office, of any federal or state student educational
6.25 loan;

6.26 (5) is not more than 30 days in arrears in court-ordered child support that is collected or
6.27 enforced by the public authority responsible for child support enforcement or, if the applicant
6.28 is more than 30 days in arrears in court-ordered child support that is collected or enforced
6.29 by the public authority responsible for child support enforcement, but is complying with a
6.30 written payment agreement under section 518A.69 or order for arrearages; and

7.1 (6) has not been convicted of or pled nolo contendere or guilty to a crime involving
 7.2 fraud in obtaining federal Title IV funds within the meaning of Code of Federal Regulations,
 7.3 subtitle B, chapter VI, part 668, subpart C.

7.4 (b) A student is entitled to an additional semester or the equivalent of grant eligibility
 7.5 if the student withdraws from enrollment:

7.6 (1) for active military service after December 31, 2002, because the student was ordered
 7.7 to active military service as defined in section 190.05, subdivision 5b or 5c;

7.8 (2) for a serious health condition, while under the care of a medical professional, that
 7.9 substantially limits the student's ability to complete the term; or

7.10 (3) while providing care that substantially limits the student's ability to complete the
 7.11 term to the student's spouse, child, or parent who has a serious health condition.

7.12 **Sec. 10. [136A.1212] FRAUD; DENIAL OF FUNDING.**

7.13 Applicants or recipients of any student aid or grant program administered under chapter
 7.14 136A may be denied funding if the applicant or recipient:

7.15 (1) presents information concerning the financial aid or grant application that is false,
 7.16 fraudulent, misleading, deceptive, or inaccurate in a material respect;

7.17 (2) refuses to allow reasonable inspection or to supply reasonable information after a
 7.18 written request by the office or school has been received; or

7.19 (3) has been determined by the commissioner or judicially determined to have committed
 7.20 fraud or a material violation of law involving federal, state, or local government funding.

7.21 Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.1215, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

7.22 ~~Subd. 5. **Reporting.** By February 15 of each year, the commissioner of higher education~~
 7.23 ~~must submit a report on the details of the program under this section to the legislative~~
 7.24 ~~committees with jurisdiction over higher education finance and policy. The report must~~
 7.25 ~~include the following information, broken out by postsecondary institution: Annually, the~~
 7.26 ~~office must submit a report in accordance with section 135A.053.~~

7.27 ~~(1) the number of students receiving an award;~~

7.28 ~~(2) the average and total award amounts; and~~

7.29 ~~(3) summary demographic data on award recipients.~~

8.1 Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.1241, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

8.2 Subd. 8. **Report.** ~~(a) Annually, the office shall prepare an anonymized report to be~~
8.3 ~~submitted annually to the chairperson and minority chairperson of the legislative committees~~
8.4 ~~with jurisdiction over higher education that contains: must submit a report in accordance~~
8.5 ~~with section 136A.053.~~

8.6 ~~(1) the number of students receiving foster grants and the institutions attended; and~~

8.7 ~~(2) annual retention and graduation data on students receiving foster grants.~~

8.8 ~~(b) The report required under this subdivision may be combined with other legislatively~~
8.9 ~~required reporting. If submitted as a separate report, the report must be submitted by January~~
8.10 ~~15.~~

8.11 Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.125, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

8.12 Subd. 2. **Eligible students.** (a) An applicant is eligible for a child care grant if the
8.13 applicant:

8.14 (1) is a resident ~~of the state of Minnesota~~ student under section 136A.101, subdivision
8.15 8, or the applicant's spouse is a resident of the state of Minnesota;

8.16 (2) has a child 12 years of age or younger, or 14 years of age or younger who is disabled
8.17 as defined in section 125A.02, and who is receiving or will receive care on a regular basis
8.18 from a licensed or legal, nonlicensed caregiver;

8.19 (3) is income eligible as determined by the office's policies and rules, but is not a recipient
8.20 of assistance from the Minnesota family investment program;

8.21 (4) has not received child care grant funds for a period of ten semesters or the equivalent;

8.22 (5) is pursuing a nonsectarian program or course of study that applies to an undergraduate,
8.23 graduate, or professional degree, diploma, or certificate;

8.24 (6) is enrolled in at least one credit in an undergraduate program or one credit in a
8.25 graduate or professional program in an eligible institution; and

8.26 (7) is in good academic standing and making satisfactory academic progress.

8.27 (b) A student is entitled to an additional semester or equivalent of grant eligibility and
8.28 will be considered to be in continuing enrollment status upon return if the student withdraws
8.29 from enrollment:

8.30 (1) for active military service after December 31, 2002, because the student was ordered
8.31 to active military service as defined in section 190.05, subdivision 5b or 5c;

9.1 (2) for a serious health condition, while under the care of a medical professional, that
 9.2 substantially limits the student's ability to complete the term; or

9.3 (3) while providing care that substantially limits the student's ability to complete the
 9.4 term to the student's spouse, child, or parent who has a serious health condition.

9.5 Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.1274, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

9.6 Subd. 4. **Reporting.** ~~By February 15 of each year, the commissioner must submit a~~
 9.7 ~~report on the details of the program under this section to the legislative committees with~~
 9.8 ~~jurisdiction over E-12 and higher education finance and policy. The report must include the~~
 9.9 ~~following information:~~ Annually, the office must submit a report in accordance with section
 9.10 136A.053. Additionally, the report must be submitted to the chairs and ranking minority
 9.11 members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over E-12 finance and policy.

9.12 ~~(1) the number of eligible applicants and the number of teacher candidates receiving an~~
 9.13 ~~award, each broken down by postsecondary institution;~~

9.14 ~~(2) the total number of awards, the total dollar amount of all awards, and the average~~
 9.15 ~~award amount; and~~

9.16 ~~(3) other summary data identified by the commissioner as outcome indicators.~~

9.17 Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.1275, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

9.18 Subd. 4. **Reporting.** ~~(a) By February 1 of each year, the commissioner must submit a~~
 9.19 ~~report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with~~
 9.20 ~~jurisdiction over E-12 and higher education finance and policy. The report must include the~~
 9.21 ~~following information:~~ Annually, the office must submit a report in accordance with section
 9.22 136A.053. Additionally, the report must include

9.23 ~~(1) the total number of awards, the total dollar amount of all awards, and the average~~
 9.24 ~~award amount;~~

9.25 ~~(2) the number of eligible applicants and the number of student teachers receiving an~~
 9.26 ~~award, each broken down by postsecondary institution;~~

9.27 ~~(3) the licensure areas and school districts in which the student teachers taught; and~~ must
 9.28 be submitted to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with
 9.29 jurisdiction over E-12 finance and policy.

10.1 ~~(4) other summary data identified by the commissioner as outcome indicators, including~~
10.2 ~~how many student teachers awarded a rural teacher grant were employed in a rural school~~
10.3 ~~district after graduation.~~

10.4 ~~(b) By July 1 of each odd numbered year, the commissioner must update and post on~~
10.5 ~~the office's website a list of licensure shortage areas eligible for a grant under this section.~~

10.6 Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.1465, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

10.7 Subd. 10. **Report.** ~~The commissioner of higher education shall submit a preliminary~~
10.8 ~~report by September 1, 2025, and an annual report beginning February 15, 2026, to the~~
10.9 ~~chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over~~
10.10 ~~higher education, on the details of the program, including the: Annually, the office must~~
10.11 ~~submit a report in accordance with section 136A.053.~~

10.12 ~~(1) status of the scholarship fund; and~~

10.13 ~~(2) North Star Promise participation data aggregated for each eligible institution to show~~
10.14 ~~the:~~

10.15 ~~(i) number of eligible students who received scholarships in the prior academic year;~~

10.16 ~~(ii) average and total award amounts;~~

10.17 ~~(iii) summary demographic data on award recipients;~~

10.18 ~~(iv) total number of students enrolled in eligible institutions in the prior academic year;~~

10.19 ~~(v) retention rates of participating students; and~~

10.20 ~~(vi) number of eligible students who graduated with a degree and, for each eligible~~
10.21 ~~student, the number of consecutive semesters and nonconsecutive semesters attended prior~~
10.22 ~~to graduation.~~

10.23 Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.233, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

10.24 Subd. 3. **Payments.** Work-study payments shall be made to eligible students by
10.25 postsecondary institutions as provided in this subdivision.

10.26 (a) Students shall be selected for participation in the program by the postsecondary
10.27 institution on the basis of student financial need.

10.28 (b) ~~In selecting students for participation, priority must be given to students enrolled for~~
10.29 ~~at least 12 credits.~~ In each academic year, a student may be awarded work-study payments

11.1 for one period of nonenrollment or less than half-time enrollment if the student will enroll
11.2 on at least a half-time basis during the following academic term.

11.3 (c) Students will be paid for hours actually worked and the maximum hourly rate of pay
11.4 shall not exceed the maximum hourly rate of pay permitted under the federal college
11.5 work-study program.

11.6 (d) Minimum pay rates will be determined by an applicable federal or state law.

11.7 (e) The office shall annually establish a minimum percentage rate of student compensation
11.8 to be paid by an eligible employer.

11.9 (f) ~~Each postsecondary institution receiving money for state work-study grants shall~~
11.10 ~~make a reasonable effort to place work-study students in employment with eligible employers~~
11.11 ~~outside the institution. However, a public employer other than the institution may not~~
11.12 ~~terminate, lay off, or reduce the working hours of a permanent employee for the purpose~~
11.13 ~~of hiring a work-study student, or replace a permanent employee who is on layoff from the~~
11.14 ~~same or substantially the same job by hiring a work-study student.~~

11.15 (g) ~~The percent of the institution's work-study allocation provided to graduate students~~
11.16 ~~shall not exceed the percent of graduate student enrollment at the participating institution.~~

11.17 (h) An institution may use up to 30 percent of its allocation for student internships with
11.18 private, for-profit employers.

11.19 Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, section 136A.246, subdivision 1a, is
11.20 amended to read:

11.21 Subd. 1a. **Definitions.** (a) The terms defined in this subdivision apply to this section.

11.22 (b) "Competency standard" has the meaning given in section 175.45, subdivision 2.

11.23 (c) "Eligible training" means training provided by an eligible training provider that:

11.24 (1) includes training to meet one or more identified competency standards;

11.25 (2) is instructor-led for a majority of the training or leads to an accredited certificate,
11.26 diploma, or degree issued by a postsecondary institution; and

11.27 (3) results in the employee receiving an industry-recognized degree, certificate, or
11.28 credential.

11.29 (d) "Eligible training provider" means an institution:

11.30 (1) operated by the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
11.31 or the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota;

- 12.1 (2) licensed or registered as a postsecondary institution by the office; or
- 12.2 (3) exempt from the provisions of section 136A.822 to 136A.834 or 136A.61 to 136A.71
- 12.3 as approved by the office.
- 12.4 (e) "Industry-recognized degrees, certificates, or credentials" means:
- 12.5 (1) accredited certificates, diplomas, or degrees issued by a postsecondary institution;
- 12.6 (2) registered apprenticeship certifications or certificates;
- 12.7 (3) occupational licenses or registrations;
- 12.8 (4) certifications issued by, or recognized by, industry or professional associations; and
- 12.9 (5) other certifications as approved by the commissioner.

12.10 Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.62, is amended by adding a subdivision

12.11 to read:

12.12 Subd. 3b. **Institution.** "Institution" means school, as defined in this section.

12.13 Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.64, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

12.14 Subdivision 1. **Schools to provide information.** As a basis for registration, schools

12.15 shall provide the office with such information as the office needs to determine the nature

12.16 and activities of the school, including but not limited to the following which shall be

12.17 accompanied by an affidavit attesting to its accuracy and truthfulness:

- 12.18 (1) articles of incorporation, constitution, bylaws, or other operating documents;
- 12.19 (2) a duly adopted statement of the school's mission and goals;
- 12.20 (3) evidence of current school or program licenses granted by departments or agencies
- 12.21 of any state;
- 12.22 (4) compliance audits and audited financial statements that meet the requirements of
- 12.23 Code of Federal Regulations, title 34, section 668.23; United States Code, title 20, chapter
- 12.24 28, section 1094; Code of Federal Regulations, title 2, subpart A, part 200, subpart F, under
- 12.25 200.501 and 200.503; and United States Code, title 31, chapter 75, which shall be submitted
- 12.26 to the office on the same schedule stated under section 136A.675, subdivision 1a, paragraph
- 12.27 (a);
- 12.28 (5) all current promotional and recruitment materials and advertisements; ~~and~~
- 12.29 (6) the current school catalog and, if not contained in the catalog:

- 13.1 (i) the members of the board of trustees or directors, if any;
- 13.2 (ii) the current institutional officers;
- 13.3 (iii) current full-time and part-time faculty with degrees held or applicable experience;
- 13.4 (iv) a description of all school facilities;
- 13.5 (v) a description of all current course offerings;
- 13.6 (vi) all requirements for satisfactory completion of courses, programs, and degrees;
- 13.7 (vii) the school's policy about freedom or limitation of expression and inquiry;
- 13.8 (viii) a current schedule of fees, charges for tuition, required supplies, student activities,
- 13.9 housing, and all other standard charges;
- 13.10 (ix) the school's policy about refunds and adjustments;
- 13.11 (x) the school's policy about granting credit for prior education, training, and experience;
- 13.12 (xi) the school's policies about student admission, evaluation, suspension, and dismissal;
- 13.13 and
- 13.14 (xii) the school's disclosure to students on the student complaint process under section
- 13.15 136A.672; and
- 13.16 (7) enrollment data by academic term or calendar period following the submission
- 13.17 schedules in section 136A.675, subdivision 1a, paragraph (b).

13.18 Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.64, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

13.19 Subd. 5. **Public information.** All information submitted to the office is public information

13.20 except financial records, student complaint data, and accreditation records and reports.

13.21 ~~Except for accreditation reports,~~ The office may disclose any records or information

13.22 submitted to the office:

- 13.23 (1) to law enforcement officials; or
- 13.24 (2) in connection with a legal or administrative proceeding to:
- 13.25 (i) defend its decision to approve or disapprove granting of degrees or the use of a name;
- 13.26 (ii) defend its decision to revoke the institution's approval; or
- 13.27 (iii) enforce a requirement of law.

14.1 Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.65, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

14.2 Subd. 8. **Disapproval of registration; appeal.** (a) By giving written notice and reasons
14.3 to the school, the office may:

14.4 (1) revoke, suspend, or refuse to renew registration;

14.5 (2) refuse approval of a school's degree; and

14.6 (3) refuse approval of the use of a regulated term in its name.

14.7 (b) Reasons for revocation or suspension of registration or approval may be for one or
14.8 more of the following reasons:

14.9 (1) violating the provisions of sections 136A.61 to 136A.71;

14.10 (2) providing false, misleading, or incomplete information to the office;

14.11 (3) presenting information about the school which is false, fraudulent, misleading,
14.12 deceptive, or inaccurate in a material respect to students or prospective students;

14.13 (4) refusing to allow reasonable inspection or to supply reasonable information after a
14.14 written request by the office has been received;

14.15 (5) failing to have enrollment within the last two years at the school;

14.16 (6) failing to have any enrollment within two years of a program's approval, except for
14.17 programs that require extensive approval processes by the United States Department of
14.18 Education, or the program's institutional or programmatic accreditor; or

14.19 (7) having been ~~administratively~~ determined by the commissioner or judicially determined
14.20 to have committed fraud or any other material violation of law involving federal, state, or
14.21 local government funds.

14.22 (c) Any order refusing, revoking, or suspending a school's registration, approval of a
14.23 school's degree, or use of a regulated term in the school's name is appealable in accordance
14.24 with chapter 14. The request must be in writing and made to the office within 30 days of
14.25 the date the school is notified of the action of the office. If a school has been operating and
14.26 its registration has been revoked, suspended, or refused by the office, the order is not effective
14.27 until the final determination of the appeal, unless immediate effect is ordered by the court.

14.28 Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.653, subdivision 1b, is amended to read:

14.29 Subd. 1b. **Tribal colleges.** A Tribal college is exempted from the provisions of sections
14.30 136A.61 to 136A.71. A Tribal college that is exempt may voluntarily waive its ~~exception~~

15.1 exemption by registering under section 136A.63. Upon registration, the Tribal college is
15.2 subject to all applicable requirements of sections 136A.61 to 136A.71.

15.3 Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.653, subdivision 3a, is amended to read:

15.4 Subd. 3a. **Tuition-free educational courses.** A ~~school~~ course or program, including a
15.5 ~~school~~ course or program using an online platform service, offering training, courses, or
15.6 programs is exempt from sections 136A.61 to 136A.71, to the extent tuition, fees, and any
15.7 other charges for a student to participate do not exceed two percent of the most recent
15.8 average undergraduate tuition and required fees as of January 1 of the current year charged
15.9 for full-time students at all degree-granting institutions as published annually by the United
15.10 States Department of Education as of January 1 of each year. To qualify for an exemption,
15.11 a school or online platform service must prominently display a notice comparable to the
15.12 following: "IMPORTANT: Each educational institution makes its own decision regarding
15.13 whether to accept completed coursework for credit. Check with your university or college."

15.14 Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.672, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

15.15 Subd. 5. **Appeals.** Any order requiring remedial action by the school or assigning a
15.16 penalty under section 136A.705 is appealable in accordance with chapter 14. The request
15.17 for an appeal must be made in writing to the office within 30 days of the date the school is
15.18 notified of the action of the office. The court shall award costs and reasonable attorney fees
15.19 in a contested chapter 14 hearing to the office if: ~~(1) the office substantially prevails on the~~
15.20 ~~merits in an action brought under this section; and (2) the school has a net income from~~
15.21 ~~student tuition, fees, and other required institutional charges collected from the last fiscal~~
15.22 ~~year of \$1,000,000 or greater.~~

15.23 Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.675, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

15.24 Subdivision 1. **Standard development and usage.** (a) To screen and detect whether an
15.25 institution may not be financially or administratively responsible, the office shall ~~develop~~
15.26 use financial and nonfinancial indicators. The ~~development~~ of financial and nonfinancial
15.27 indicators shall use industry standards as guidance.

15.28 (b) Annually, the office must provide a copy of the financial and nonfinancial indicators
15.29 to each registered institution and post a list of reviewed indicators on the office website.

15.30 (c) The office shall use regularly reported data submitted to the federal government or
15.31 other regulatory or accreditation agencies wherever possible.

16.1 (d) The office must use the indicators in this subdivision to identify institutions at
16.2 potential risk of being unable to meet the standards established under sections 136A.646;
16.3 136A.64, subdivision 3; 136A.65, subdivisions 1a and 4, paragraph (a), clauses (1), (2), (3),
16.4 and (7); and 136A.685 and thus unlikely to meet its financial obligations or complete its
16.5 academic terms for the next 18 months.

16.6 Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.675, is amended by adding a subdivision
16.7 to read:

16.8 Subd. 1a. **Institutional reporting schedules for audits and enrollment data.** (a) An
16.9 institution must submit to the office the required audit reports under section 136A.64,
16.10 subdivision 1, clause (4), by the earlier of 30 days after the issuance date of an audit or nine
16.11 months after the last day of the institution's fiscal year.

16.12 (b) An institution must submit to the office the enrollment data required under section
16.13 136A.64, subdivision 1, clause (7), using one of the two following schedules:

16.14 (1) a school with limited program start dates within its academic year shall provide the
16.15 office with a copy of the school's internal enrollment report for each academic term as soon
16.16 as it is released internally. The school may provide the report with no additional data or
16.17 required calculations; or

16.18 (2) a school with multiple or rolling program start dates must provide enrollment data
16.19 to the office at least four times per year. Each school must determine four reporting dates
16.20 per year that would result in the most useful data being provided to the office and must
16.21 provide the office with the school's proposed enrollment reporting schedule.

16.22 Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, section 136A.69, subdivision 1, is amended
16.23 to read:

16.24 Subdivision 1. **Registration fees.** (a) The office shall collect reasonable registration fees
16.25 that are sufficient to recover, but do not exceed, its costs of administering the registration
16.26 program. The office shall charge the fees listed in paragraphs (b) to (d) for new registrations.

16.27 (b) A new school must pay registration fees based on the institution's total full-time
16.28 equivalent enrollment in the following amounts:

16.29 (1) \$5,000 for institutions with 2,500 or fewer full-time equivalent enrollment;

16.30 (2) \$7,500 for institutions with 2,501 to 5,000 full-time equivalent enrollment;

16.31 (3) \$10,000 for institutions with 5,001 to 7,500 full-time equivalent enrollment;

17.1 (4) \$15,000 for institutions with 7,501 to 10,000 full-time equivalent enrollment; and

17.2 (5) \$20,000 for institutions with 10,001 or greater full-time equivalent enrollment, and
 17.3 for institutions with no data on the previous year's full-time equivalent enrollment.

17.4 Full-time equivalent enrollment is established using the previous year's full-time equivalent
 17.5 enrollment as established in the United States Department of Education Integrated
 17.6 Postsecondary Education Data System. If enrollment cannot be established using the United
 17.7 States Department of Education Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, the office
 17.8 may establish an institution's full-time equivalent enrollment through verification of its
 17.9 enrollment data submitted in accordance with section 136A.64, subdivision 1, clause (7).

17.10 (c) A new school must pay registration fees in an amount equal to the fee under paragraph
 17.11 (b), plus fees for each nondegree program or degree as follows:

17.12 nondegree program	\$250
17.13 degree program	\$750

17.14 ~~(d) In addition to the fees under paragraphs (b) and (c), a fee of \$600 must be paid for~~
 17.15 ~~an initial application that: (1) has had four revisions, corrections, amendment requests, or~~
 17.16 ~~application reminders for the same application or registration requirement; or (2) cumulatively~~
 17.17 ~~has had six revisions, corrections, amendment requests, or application reminders for the~~
 17.18 ~~same license application and the school seeks to continue with the application process with~~
 17.19 ~~additional application submissions. If this fee is paid, the school may submit two final~~
 17.20 ~~application submissions for review prior to application denial under section 136A.65,~~
 17.21 ~~subdivision 8. This provision excludes from its scope nonrepetitive questions or clarifications~~
 17.22 ~~initiated by the school before the submission of the application, initial interpretation questions~~
 17.23 ~~or inquiries from the office regarding a completed application, and initial requests from the~~
 17.24 ~~office for verification or validation of a completed application.~~

17.25 ~~(e)~~ The annual renewal registration fee is based on an institution's total full-time
 17.26 equivalent enrollment in the following amounts:

17.27 (1) \$1,500 for institutions with 2,500 or fewer full-time equivalent enrollment;

17.28 (2) \$3,000 for institutions with 2,501 to 5,000 full-time equivalent enrollment;

17.29 (3) \$5,000 for institutions with 5,001 to 10,000 full-time equivalent enrollment; and

17.30 (4) \$7,500 for institutions with 10,001 or greater full-time equivalent enrollment, and
 17.31 for institutions with no data on the previous year's full-time equivalent enrollment.

18.1 Full-time equivalent enrollment is established using the previous year's full-time equivalent
 18.2 enrollment as established in the United States Department of Education Integrated
 18.3 Postsecondary Education Data System. If enrollment cannot be established using the United
 18.4 States Department of Education Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, the office
 18.5 may establish an institution's full-time equivalent enrollment through verification of its
 18.6 enrollment data submitted in accordance with section 136A.64, subdivision 1, clause (7).

18.7 ~~(f) In addition to the fee under paragraph (e), a fee of \$600 must be paid for a renewal~~
 18.8 ~~application that: (1) has had four revisions, corrections, amendment requests, or application~~
 18.9 ~~reminders for the same application or registration requirement; or (2) cumulatively has had~~
 18.10 ~~six revisions, corrections, amendment requests, or application reminders for the same license~~
 18.11 ~~application and the school seeks to continue with the application process with additional~~
 18.12 ~~application submissions. If this fee is paid, the school may submit two final application~~
 18.13 ~~submissions for review prior to application denial under section 136A.65, subdivision 8.~~
 18.14 ~~This provision excludes from its scope nonrepetitive questions or clarifications initiated by~~
 18.15 ~~the school before the submission of the application, initial interpretation questions or inquiries~~
 18.16 ~~from the office regarding a completed application, and initial requests from the office for~~
 18.17 ~~verification or validation of a completed application.~~

18.18 Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, section 136A.82, subdivision 1, is amended
 18.19 to read:

18.20 Subdivision 1. **Policy.** The legislature has found and hereby declares that the availability
 18.21 of legitimate ~~vocational~~ programs offered by responsible nonprofit and for-profit private
 18.22 career schools are in the best interests of the people of this state. The legislature has found
 18.23 and declares that the state can provide assistance and protection for persons choosing
 18.24 ~~vocational~~ programs by establishing policies and procedures to ensure the authenticity and
 18.25 legitimacy of ~~vocational~~ programs offered by nonprofit and for-profit private career schools.
 18.26 The legislature has found and declares that this same policy applies to any nonprofit and
 18.27 for-profit private career schools located in another state or country that offers or makes
 18.28 available to a Minnesota resident any ~~vocational~~ program which does not require leaving
 18.29 the state for its completion.

18.30 Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, section 136A.821, subdivision 5, is amended
 18.31 to read:

18.32 Subd. 5. **Private career school.** "Private career school" means a person who maintains
 18.33 a physical presence for any program at less than an associate degree level. Except for those

19.1 required to obtain a license exclusively to participate in state financial aid or be listed on
19.2 the eligible training provider list, access WIOA funding, or receive the dual training grant,
19.3 private career school does not extend to:

19.4 (1) public postsecondary institutions with a physical presence in Minnesota;

19.5 (2) postsecondary institutions registered under sections 136A.61 to 136A.71;

19.6 (3) postsecondary institutions exempt from registration under section 136A.653,
19.7 subdivisions 1b, 2, 3, and 3a; ~~136A.657;~~₂ or 136A.658 due to the nature of the institution's
19.8 programs;

19.9 (4) ~~schools~~ persons, programs, or courses exclusively engaged in training physically or
19.10 mentally disabled persons;

19.11 (5) persons, programs, or courses taught to students in an apprenticeship program
19.12 registered by the United States Department of Labor or Minnesota Department of Labor
19.13 and taught by or required by a trade union in which students are not responsible for tuition,
19.14 fees, or any other charges, regardless of payment or reimbursement method;

19.15 (6) persons, programs, or courses contracted by persons or government agencies for the
19.16 training of their own employees for which no fee is charged to the employee, regardless of
19.17 whether that fee is reimbursed by the employer or a third party after the employee
19.18 successfully completes the training, ~~except for institutions or programs required to obtain~~
19.19 ~~a limited license exclusively to receive the dual training grant;~~

19.20 (7) ~~schools~~ persons, programs, or courses with no physical presence in Minnesota engaged
19.21 exclusively in offering distance programs that are located in and approved by other states
19.22 or jurisdictions if the distance education program does not include internships, externships,
19.23 field placements, or clinical placements for residents of Minnesota;

19.24 (8) ~~schools~~ persons, programs, or courses licensed or approved by other state boards or
19.25 agencies authorized under Minnesota law to issue licenses for institutions or programs;
19.26 ~~except for institutions or programs required to be licensed exclusively to participate in state~~
19.27 ~~financial aid or be listed on the eligible training provider list, access WIOA funding, or~~
19.28 ~~receive the dual training grant;~~

19.29 (9) ~~review classes, courses, or~~ persons, programs, or courses intended to prepare students
19.30 to sit for undergraduate, graduate, postgraduate, or occupational licensing, certification, or
19.31 entrance examinations;

19.32 (10) ~~classes, courses, or~~ persons, programs, or courses conducted by a bona fide trade,
19.33 professional, or fraternal organization, solely for that organization's membership and not

20.1 available to the public. In making the determination that the organization is bona fide, the
20.2 office may request the school provide three certified letters from persons that qualify as
20.3 evaluators under section 136A.828, subdivision 3, paragraph (1), that the organization is
20.4 recognized in Minnesota;

20.5 (11) persons, programs in the fine arts provided by organizations, or courses that are
20.6 exempt from taxation under section 290.05 and registered with the attorney general under
20.7 chapter 309. ~~For purposes of this clause, "fine arts" means activities resulting in artistic~~
20.8 ~~creation or artistic performance of works of the imagination which are engaged in for the~~
20.9 ~~primary purpose of creative expression rather than commercial sale, vocational or career~~
20.10 ~~advancement, or employment; or~~

20.11 (12) classes, courses, or persons, programs, or courses intended to fulfill the continuing
20.12 education requirements for a bona fide licensure or certification in a profession that have
20.13 been approved by a legislatively or judicially established board or agency responsible for
20.14 regulating the practice of the profession or by an industry-specific certification entity and
20.15 that are offered exclusively to individuals with the professional licensure or certification.

20.16 Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.821, subdivision 13, is amended to read:

20.17 Subd. 13. **Compliance audit.** "Compliance audit" means an audit of a private career
20.18 ~~school's compliance with federal requirements related to its participation in federal Title IV~~
20.19 ~~student aid programs or other federal grant programs performed under either Uniform Grant~~
20.20 ~~Guidance, including predecessor Federal Circular A-133, or the United States Department~~
20.21 ~~of Education's audit guide, Audits of Federal Student Financial Assistance Programs at~~
20.22 ~~Participating Institutions and Institution Serviceers~~ administration of federal money conducted
20.23 by a certified public accountant or federal auditor to determine if the school is adhering to
20.24 applicable laws, regulations, and other grant conditions as required by Code of Federal
20.25 Regulations, title 2, subtitle A, chapter II, part 200.

20.26 Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.821, subdivision 16, is amended to read:

20.27 Subd. 16. **Audited Financial statements audit report.** "Audited Financial statements
20.28 audit report" means the ~~financial statements of an entity or higher-level entity that have~~
20.29 ~~been examined by a certified public accountant or an equivalent government agency for~~
20.30 ~~public entities that include (1) an auditor's report, a statement of financial position, an income~~
20.31 ~~statement, a statement of cash flows, and notes to the financial statements or (2) the required~~
20.32 ~~equivalents for public entities as determined by the Financial Accounting Standards Board,~~
20.33 ~~the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, or the Securities and Exchange Commission~~

21.1 result of a service provided by a certified public accountant or federal auditor that conducts
 21.2 a comprehensive and independent examination of the entity's financial statements as defined
 21.3 in Code of Federal Regulations, title 34, section 668.23(d). If an entity's own financial
 21.4 statements audit report is subsequently consolidated into a higher-level entity's financial
 21.5 statements audit report, financial statements audit report can refer to both the entity's own
 21.6 report and the higher-level entity's consolidated report in accordance with Code of Federal
 21.7 Regulations, section 668.23(d)(2).

21.8 Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.821, subdivision 17, is amended to read:

21.9 Subd. 17. ~~Review-level engagement~~ **Compilation report.** ~~"Review-level engagement"~~
 21.10 ~~means a service performed by a certified public accountant that provides limited assurance~~
 21.11 ~~that there are no material modifications that need to be made to an entity's financial statements~~
 21.12 ~~in order for them to conform to generally accepted accounting principles. Review-level~~
 21.13 ~~engagement provides fewer assurances than those reported under audited financial statements~~
 21.14 "Compilation report" means the result of an accounting service provided by a certified public
 21.15 accountant to organize financial information provided by a client into professionally
 21.16 formatted financial statements. A compilation report provides no assurances about the
 21.17 financial statements, unlike those provided in a financial statements audit report.

21.18 Sec. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, section 136A.821, subdivision 21, is
 21.19 amended to read:

21.20 Subd. 21. ~~Vocational Institution or school.~~ **Vocational Institution or school.** ~~"Vocational" means education or training~~
 21.21 ~~for skills used in the labor market~~ "Institution" or "school" means a private career school
 21.22 or distance education private career school, as defined in this section.

21.23 Sec. 35. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.822, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

21.24 Subd. 4. **Application.** Application for a license shall be on forms prepared and furnished
 21.25 by the office, and shall include the following and other information as the office may require:

21.26 (1) the title or name of the private career school, ownership and controlling officers,
 21.27 members, managing employees, and director;

21.28 (2) the specific programs which will be offered ~~and the specific purposes of the~~
 21.29 ~~instruction;~~

21.30 (3) the place or places where the instruction will be given;

21.31 (4) a listing of the equipment available for instruction in each program;

22.1 (5) the maximum enrollment to be accommodated with equipment available in each
 22.2 specified program;

22.3 (6) the qualifications of instructors and supervisors in each specified program;

22.4 (7) financial documents related to the entity's and higher-level entity's most recently
 22.5 completed fiscal year; including a federal income tax return and, in accordance with the
 22.6 table below, one or more of the following: financial statements audit report, compliance
 22.7 audit report, or compilation report. An applicant with financial statements that are
 22.8 consolidated into a higher-level entity's financial statements must include the consolidated
 22.9 financials of the higher-level entity with the documents listed in each row of the table except
 22.10 for the final row. If not stated in the financial statements audit report, compliance audit, or
 22.11 compilation report, the entity must include a statement providing the total gross tuition and
 22.12 fee revenues associated with the programs and the total amount of institutional discounts
 22.13 and aid provided to students in the programs. An entity or higher-level entity subject to
 22.14 fluctuating levels of total gross revenues must continue to submit the required financial
 22.15 documents per the table even if the most current fiscal year's total gross revenues moves
 22.16 the entity or higher-level entity into a different category. If an entity or higher-level entity
 22.17 continues to experience a change in total gross revenues for two consecutive fiscal years,
 22.18 the office must notify the entity that the entity will be subject to the documentation
 22.19 requirements on a different row of the table for the next annual licensing application cycle.

22.20 **Applicant or Renewal Applicant's**
 22.21 **Financial Situation for Most**
 22.22 **Recently Completed Fiscal Year**

Financial Documents to be Submitted
to the Office

22.23 Required by federal or other external
 22.24 entities to have both a financial
 22.25 statements audit and a compliance
 22.26 audit.

The financial statements audit report
and the compliance audit report. This
may be combined into one document.

22.27 Required by federal or other external
 22.28 entities to have a financial statements
 22.29 audit, but not a compliance audit.

The financial statements audit report.

22.30 Applicant is not required to have a
 22.31 financial statements audit, but elects
 22.32 to have one.

The financial statements audit report.

22.33 Applicant does not fall into a prior
 22.34 category but had gross annual revenues
 22.35 from all sources in the most recently
 22.36 completed fiscal year of \$5,000,000 or
 22.37 more. The office requires the applicant
 22.38 to have a financial statements audit.

The financial statements audit report, if
the applicant is a nonprofit entity then
must also include the completed Federal
Form 990 tax return for the most
recently completed fiscal year.

22.39 Applicant does not fall into a prior
 22.40 category but had gross annual revenues
 22.41 from all sources in the most recently
 22.42 completed fiscal year of \$250,000 or

The compilation report including
footnotes only for material items. If the
applicant is a nonprofit entity then must
also include the completed Federal

23.1 more but less than \$5,000,000. The
 23.2 office requires the applicant to have a
 23.3 compilation engagement.

Form 990 tax return for the most
recently completed fiscal year.

23.4 Applicant does not fall into a prior
 23.5 category but had gross annual revenues
 23.6 from all sources in the most recently
 23.7 completed fiscal year of less than
 23.8 \$250,000.

Depending on the ownership or
corporate organization, the applicant's
federal income tax return and, if the net
income flows through to the owners'
personal federal tax returns, then must
submit a copy of each owner's personal
federal tax return. In addition to the tax
return information, an applicant must
provide a balance sheet dated as of the
last day of the most recently ended
fiscal year.

23.15 ~~(i) annual gross revenues from all sources;~~

23.16 ~~(ii) financial statements subjected to a review-level engagement or, if requested by the~~
 23.17 ~~office, audited financial statements;~~

23.18 ~~(iii) a school's most recent compliance audit, if applicable; and~~

23.19 ~~(iv) a current balance sheet, income statement, and adequate supporting documentation,~~
 23.20 ~~prepared and certified by an independent public accountant or CPA;~~

23.21 (8) copies of all media advertising and promotional literature and brochures or electronic
 23.22 display currently used or reasonably expected to be used by the private career school; and

23.23 (9) copies of all Minnesota enrollment agreement forms and contract forms and all
 23.24 enrollment agreement forms and contract forms used in Minnesota; and.

23.25 ~~(10) gross income earned in the preceding year from student tuition, fees, and other~~
 23.26 ~~required institutional charges.~~

23.27 Sec. 36. Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, section 136A.822, subdivision 6, is amended
 23.28 to read:

23.29 Subd. 6. **Bond.** (a) No license shall be issued to any private career school with a physical
 23.30 presence within the state of Minnesota for any program, unless the applicant files with the
 23.31 office a continuous corporate surety bond written by a company authorized to do business
 23.32 in Minnesota conditioned upon the faithful performance of all contracts and agreements
 23.33 with students made by the applicant.

23.34 (b) The amount of the surety bond shall be ten percent of the preceding year's net revenue
 23.35 from student tuition, fees, and other required institutional charges collected, ~~but in no event~~
 23.36 ~~less than \$10,000,~~ except that a private career school may must deposit a greater amount at
 23.37 ~~its own~~ the office's discretion. A private career school in each annual application for licensure

24.1 must compute the amount of the surety bond and verify that the amount of the surety bond
24.2 complies with this subdivision. A private career school that operates at two or more locations
24.3 may combine net revenue from student tuition, fees, and other required institutional charges
24.4 collected for all locations for the purpose of determining the annual surety bond requirement.
24.5 The net revenue from tuition and fees used to determine the amount of the surety bond
24.6 required for a private career school having a license for the sole purpose of recruiting students
24.7 in Minnesota shall be only that paid to the private career school by the students recruited
24.8 from Minnesota. In the case of an entity applying for an initial license where the entity has
24.9 no history of revenues from student tuition, fees, or other required institutional charges, the
24.10 amount of the bond must be ten percent of the total amount of tuition, fees, and other required
24.11 institutional charges anticipated in the entity's first year of operation, based on a calculation
24.12 of total student tuition, fees, and other required institutional charges multiplied by the
24.13 maximum student enrollment in one academic year.

24.14 (c) The bond shall run to the state of Minnesota and to any person who may have a cause
24.15 of action against the applicant arising at any time after the bond is filed and before it is
24.16 canceled for breach of any contract or agreement made by the applicant with any student.
24.17 The aggregate liability of the surety for all breaches of the conditions of the bond shall not
24.18 exceed the principal sum deposited by the private career school under paragraph (b). The
24.19 surety of any bond may cancel it upon giving 60 days' notice in writing to the office and
24.20 shall be relieved of liability for any breach of condition occurring after the effective date
24.21 of cancellation.

24.22 (d) In lieu of bond, the applicant may deposit with the commissioner of management
24.23 and budget a sum equal to the amount of the required surety bond in cash, an irrevocable
24.24 letter of credit issued by a financial institution equal to the amount of the required surety
24.25 bond, or securities as may be legally purchased by savings banks or for trust funds in an
24.26 aggregate market value equal to the amount of the required surety bond.

24.27 (e) Failure of a private career school to post and maintain the required surety bond or
24.28 deposit under paragraph (d) may result in denial, suspension, or revocation of the school's
24.29 license.

24.30 Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, section 136A.822, subdivision 8, is amended
24.31 to read:

24.32 Subd. 8. **Minimum standards.** A license shall be issued if the office first determines:

24.33 (1) that the applicant has a sound financial condition with sufficient resources available
24.34 to:

- 25.1 (i) meet the private career school's financial obligations;
- 25.2 (ii) refund all tuition and other charges, within 60 days, in the event of dissolution of
25.3 the private career school or in the event of any justifiable claims for refund against the
25.4 private career school by the student body;
- 25.5 (iii) provide adequate service to its students and prospective students; and
- 25.6 (iv) maintain and support the private career school;
- 25.7 (2) that the applicant has satisfactory facilities with sufficient tools and equipment and
25.8 the necessary number of work stations to prepare adequately the students currently enrolled,
25.9 and those proposed to be enrolled;
- 25.10 (3) that the applicant employs a sufficient number of qualified teaching personnel to
25.11 provide the educational programs contemplated;
- 25.12 (4) that the private career school has an organizational framework with administrative
25.13 and instructional personnel to provide the programs and services it intends to offer;
- 25.14 (5) that the quality ~~and content~~ of each occupational course or program of study provides
25.15 education and adequate preparation to enrolled students for entry level positions in the
25.16 occupation for which prepared, based on minimum standards for employment in the field,
25.17 learning outcomes, assessment mechanisms, and clear structure of the curriculum;
- 25.18 (6) that the premises and conditions where the students work and study and the student
25.19 living quarters which are owned, maintained, recommended, or approved by the applicant
25.20 are sanitary, healthful, and safe, ~~as evidenced by certificate of occupancy issued by the~~
25.21 ~~municipality or county where the private career school is physically situated, a fire inspection~~
25.22 ~~by the local or state fire marshal, or another verification deemed acceptable by the office;~~
- 25.23 (7) that the contract or enrollment agreement used by the private career school complies
25.24 with the provisions in section 136A.826;
- 25.25 (8) that contracts and agreements do not contain a wage assignment provision or a
25.26 confession of judgment clause;
- 25.27 (9) that there has been no adjudication of fraud or misrepresentation in any criminal,
25.28 civil, or administrative proceeding in any jurisdiction against the private career school or
25.29 its owner, officers, agents, or sponsoring organization;
- 25.30 (10) that the private career school or its owners, officers, agents, or sponsoring
25.31 organization has not had a license revoked under section 136A.829 or its equivalent in other

26.1 states or has closed the institution prior to all students, enrolled at the time of the closure,
26.2 completing their program within two years of the effective date of the revocation; and

26.3 (11) that the school includes a joint and several liability provision for torts and compliance
26.4 with the requirements of sections 136A.82 to 136A.834 in any contract effective after July
26.5 1, 2026, with any individual, entity, or postsecondary school located in another state for the
26.6 purpose of providing educational or training programs or awarding postsecondary credits
26.7 to Minnesota residents that may be applied to a program.

26.8 Sec. 38. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.822, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

26.9 Subd. 10. **Catalog, brochure, or electronic display.** Before a license is issued to a
26.10 private career school, the private career school shall furnish to the office a catalog, brochure,
26.11 or electronic display including: all required information to students under section 136A.826.

26.12 ~~(1) identifying data, such as volume number and date of publication;~~

26.13 ~~(2) name and address of the private career school and its governing body and officials;~~

26.14 ~~(3) a calendar of the private career school showing legal holidays, beginning and ending
26.15 dates of each course quarter, term, or semester, and other important dates;~~

26.16 ~~(4) the private career school policy and regulations on enrollment including dates and
26.17 specific entrance requirements for each program;~~

26.18 ~~(5) the private career school policy and regulations about leave, absences, class cuts,
26.19 make-up work, tardiness, and interruptions for unsatisfactory attendance;~~

26.20 ~~(6) the private career school policy and regulations about standards of progress for the
26.21 student including the grading system of the private career school, the minimum grades
26.22 considered satisfactory, conditions for interruption for unsatisfactory grades or progress, a
26.23 description of any probationary period allowed by the private career school, and conditions
26.24 of reentrance for those dismissed for unsatisfactory progress;~~

26.25 ~~(7) the private career school policy and regulations about student conduct and conditions
26.26 for dismissal for unsatisfactory conduct;~~

26.27 ~~(8) a detailed schedule of fees, charges for tuition, books, supplies, tools, student
26.28 activities, laboratory fees, service charges, rentals, deposits, and all other charges;~~

26.29 ~~(9) the private career school policy and regulations, including an explanation of section
26.30 136A.827, about refunding tuition, fees, and other charges if the student does not enter the
26.31 program, withdraws from the program, or the program is discontinued;~~

- 27.1 ~~(10) a description of the available facilities and equipment;~~
- 27.2 ~~(11) a course outline syllabus for each course offered showing course objectives, subjects~~
 27.3 ~~or units in the course, type of work or skill to be learned, and approximate time, hours, or~~
 27.4 ~~credits to be spent on each subject or unit;~~
- 27.5 ~~(12) the private career school policy and regulations about granting credit for previous~~
 27.6 ~~education and preparation;~~
- 27.7 ~~(13) a notice to students relating to the transferability of any credits earned at the private~~
 27.8 ~~career school to other institutions;~~
- 27.9 ~~(14) a procedure for investigating and resolving student complaints;~~
- 27.10 ~~(15) the name and address of the office; and~~
- 27.11 ~~(16) the student complaint process and rights under section 136A.8295.~~
- 27.12 ~~A private career school that is exclusively a distance education school is exempt from~~
 27.13 ~~clauses (3) and (5).~~

27.14 Sec. 39. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.822, subdivision 12, is amended to read:

27.15 Subd. 12. **Permanent student records.** (a) A private career school or a distance education
 27.16 private career school licensed under sections 136A.82 to 136A.834 and located in Minnesota
 27.17 shall maintain a ~~permanent~~ student record for each student for 50 years from the last date
 27.18 of the student's attendance. ~~A private career school licensed under this chapter and offering~~
 27.19 ~~distance instruction to a student located in Minnesota shall maintain a permanent record for~~
 27.20 ~~each Minnesota student for 50 years from the last date of the student's attendance~~ The private
 27.21 career school or distance education private career school may choose to reduce the amount
 27.22 of time the school maintains a student record to no less than 20 years if the entity sends the
 27.23 permanent student record to the office to hold for the remainder of the duration the student
 27.24 records are required to be maintained. Records include school transcripts, documents, and
 27.25 files containing student data about academic credits earned, courses completed, grades
 27.26 awarded, degrees awarded, and periods of attendance.

27.27 (b) A private career school or distance education private career school licensed under
 27.28 sections 136A.82 to 136A.834 and located in Minnesota shall maintain a permanent student
 27.29 record required for professional licensure in Minnesota for each student for ten years from
 27.30 the last date of the student's attendance or the number of years required by an institutional
 27.31 or programmatic accreditor, whichever is greater. ~~A private career school licensed under~~
 27.32 ~~this chapter and offering distance instruction to a student located in Minnesota shall maintain~~

28.1 ~~records required for professional licensure in Minnesota that are not included in paragraph~~
 28.2 ~~(a) for each Minnesota student for ten years from the last date of the student's attendance~~
 28.3 ~~or the number of years required by an institutional or programmatic accreditor, whichever~~
 28.4 ~~is greater.~~

28.5 (c) To preserve permanent student records, a private career school shall submit a plan
 28.6 that meets the following requirements:

28.7 ~~(1) at least one copy of the records must be held in a secure, fireproof depository;~~

28.8 ~~(2) an appropriate official must be designated to provide a student with copies of records~~
 28.9 ~~or a transcript upon request; and~~

28.10 ~~(3) an alternative method, approved by the office, of complying with clauses (1) and (2)~~
 28.11 ~~must be established if the private career school ceases to exist; and~~

28.12 ~~(4)~~ (2) a continuous surety bond or irrevocable letter of credit issued by a financial
 28.13 institution must be filed with the office in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 if the private
 28.14 career school has no binding agreement approved by the office, for preserving student
 28.15 records. The bond or irrevocable letter of credit shall run to the state of Minnesota. In the
 28.16 event of a school closure, the surety bond or irrevocable letter of credit must be used by the
 28.17 office to retrieve, recover, maintain, digitize, and destroy academic records.

28.18 Sec. 40. Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, section 136A.822, subdivision 13, is
 28.19 amended to read:

28.20 Subd. 13. **Limited license.** (a) Unless otherwise exempt under sections 136A.82 to
 28.21 136A.834:

28.22 (1) a private career school licensed by another state agency or board must be required
 28.23 to obtain a limited license to participate in state financial aid; and

28.24 (2) a private career school exclusively seeking to be listed on the eligible training provider
 28.25 list, access WIOA funding, or receive the dual training grant shall be required to obtain a
 28.26 limited license.

28.27 (b) A private career school seeking a limited license under this subdivision shall be
 28.28 required to satisfy ~~only~~ the requirements of subdivisions 4, clauses (1), (2), and (3), (7), (8),
 28.29 (9), and (10); 5; 8, clauses (1), ~~(4), (7), (8),~~ (9), and (10); 9; ~~10; 11;~~ and 12. If requested by
 28.30 the office, a private career school seeking a limited license under this subdivision must
 28.31 satisfy the requirements of subdivisions 4, clauses (7), (8), (9), and (10); 8, clauses (4), (7),
 28.32 and (8); 9; 10; and 11. If a private career school is licensed to participate in state financial

29.1 aid under this chapter, the private career school must follow the refund policy in section
29.2 136A.827, even if that section conflicts with the refund policy of the licensing agency or
29.3 board. A distance education private career school located in another state, or a distance
29.4 education private career school licensed to recruit Minnesota residents for attendance at a
29.5 distance education private career school outside of this state, or a distance education private
29.6 career school licensed by another state agency as its primary licensing body, may continue
29.7 to use the distance education private career school's name as permitted by its home state or
29.8 its primary licensing body.

29.9 Sec. 41. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.822, is amended by adding a subdivision
29.10 to read:

29.11 Subd. 14. **Financial records.** The office shall not disclose financial records or
29.12 accreditation reports provided to the office by a school pursuant to this section except for
29.13 the purpose of defending, at hearings pursuant to chapter 14, or other appeal proceedings,
29.14 the office's decision to approve or not to approve the granting of degrees or the use of a
29.15 name by the school. Section 15.17, subdivision 4, shall not apply to such records.

29.16 Sec. 42. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.822, is amended by adding a subdivision
29.17 to read:

29.18 Subd. 15. **Public information.** All information submitted to the office is public
29.19 information except financial records, student complaint data, and accreditation records and
29.20 reports. The office may disclose any records or information submitted to the office:

29.21 (1) to law enforcement officials; or

29.22 (2) in connection with a legal or administrative proceeding to:

29.23 (i) defend its decision to approve or disapprove a program or course;

29.24 (ii) defend its decision to revoke the institution's approval; or

29.25 (iii) enforce a requirement of law.

29.26 Sec. 43. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.823, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

29.27 Subdivision 1. **Application.** (a) Application for renewal of a license must be made at
29.28 least 60 days, other than the exception in paragraph (b), before expiration of the current
29.29 license on a form provided by the office. A renewal application shall be accompanied by a
29.30 nonrefundable fee as provided in section 136A.824 that is sufficient to recover, but does
29.31 not exceed, the administrative costs of the office.

30.1 (b) The financial documents listed in section 136A.822, subdivision 4, clause (7), required
30.2 to be submitted to the office as part of a renewal application, shall be submitted according
30.3 to the following schedule:

30.4 (1) the financial statements audit reports, compliance audit reports, and compilation
30.5 reports, by the earlier of 30 days after the issuance date of each report or nine months after
30.6 the last day of the entity's or higher-level entity's fiscal year; or

30.7 (2) for federal tax returns and stand-alone balance sheets, by the earlier of 30 days after
30.8 the federal tax return is completed or one week following the last day of a federal filing
30.9 extension period that is usually six months in length.

30.10 Sec. 44. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.823, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

30.11 Subd. 3. **Change of ownership.** Within 30 days of a change of ownership, a school must
30.12 submit a registration renewal application, the information and materials for an initial
30.13 registration under section 136A.822, subdivision 4, and the applicable registration fees for
30.14 a new institution under section 136A.824, subdivision 1. For purposes of this subdivision,
30.15 "change of ownership" means: a merger or consolidation with a ~~corporation~~ separate entity
30.16 or higher-level entity; a sale, lease, exchange, or other disposition of all or substantially all
30.17 of the assets of a school; the transfer of a controlling interest of at least 51 percent of the
30.18 school's stock; entering into receivership; or a change in the nonprofit or for-profit status
30.19 of a school.

30.20 Sec. 45. Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, section 136A.824, subdivision 1, is amended
30.21 to read:

30.22 Subdivision 1. **Initial licensure fee.** ~~(a)~~ The office processing fee for an initial licensure
30.23 application is:

30.24 (1) \$3,730 for a private career school that will offer no more than one program during
30.25 its first year of operation;

30.26 (2) \$1,500 for a private career school licensed by another state agency and seeking a
30.27 limited license exclusively in order to participate in state financial aid; and

30.28 (3) \$3,730, plus \$500 for each additional program offered by the private career school,
30.29 for a private career school during its first year of licensed operation.

30.30 ~~(b) In addition to the fee under paragraph (a), a fee of \$600 must be paid for an initial~~
30.31 ~~application that: (1) has had four revisions, corrections, amendment requests, or application~~
30.32 ~~reminders for the same application or licensure requirement; or (2) cumulatively has had~~

31.1 ~~six revisions, corrections, amendment requests, or application reminders for the same license~~
 31.2 ~~application and the private career school seeks to continue with the application process with~~
 31.3 ~~additional application submissions. If this fee is paid, the private career school may submit~~
 31.4 ~~two final application submissions for review prior to application denial under section~~
 31.5 ~~136A.829, subdivision 1, clause (2). This provision excludes from its scope nonrepetitive~~
 31.6 ~~questions or clarifications initiated by the school before the submission of the application;~~
 31.7 ~~initial interpretation questions or inquiries from the office regarding a completed application;~~
 31.8 ~~and initial requests from the office for verification or validation of a completed application.~~

31.9 Sec. 46. Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, section 136A.824, subdivision 2, is amended
 31.10 to read:

31.11 Subd. 2. **Renewal licensure fee; late fee.** (a) The office processing fee for a renewal
 31.12 licensure application is:

31.13 (1) for a private career school, the license renewal fee is \$3,160; and

31.14 (2) for a private career school licensed by another state agency and that also has a limited
 31.15 license with the office exclusively in order to participate in state financial aid, the license
 31.16 renewal fee is \$1,500.

31.17 (b) If a license renewal application is not received by the office by the expiration of the
 31.18 current license, a late fee of \$100 per business day, not to exceed \$3,000, shall be assessed.

31.19 ~~(c) In addition to the fee under paragraph (a), a fee of \$600 must be paid for a renewal~~
 31.20 ~~application that: (1) has had four revisions, corrections, amendment requests, or application~~
 31.21 ~~reminders for the same application or licensure requirement; or (2) cumulatively has had~~
 31.22 ~~six revisions, corrections, amendment requests, or application reminders for the same license~~
 31.23 ~~application and the private career school seeks to continue with the application process with~~
 31.24 ~~additional application submissions. If this fee is paid, the private career school may submit~~
 31.25 ~~two final application submissions for review prior to application denial under section~~
 31.26 ~~136A.829, subdivision 1, clause (2). This provision excludes from its scope nonrepetitive~~
 31.27 ~~questions or clarifications initiated by the school before the submission of the application;~~
 31.28 ~~initial interpretation questions or inquiries from the office regarding a completed application;~~
 31.29 ~~and initial requests from the office for verification or validation of a completed application.~~

31.30 Sec. 47. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.826, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

31.31 Subdivision 1. **Catalog, brochure, or electronic display.** (a) A private career school
 31.32 or its agent must provide the catalog, brochure, or electronic display required in this section

32.1 ~~136A.822, subdivision 10~~, to a prospective student in a time or manner that gives the
32.2 prospective student at least five days to read the catalog, brochure, or electronic display
32.3 before signing a contract or enrollment agreement or before being accepted by a private
32.4 career school that does not use a written contract or enrollment agreement.

32.5 (b) A catalog, brochure, or electronic display must include, at a minimum:

32.6 (1) identifying data, such as volume number or date of publication;

32.7 (2) name, address, governing body, and names of senior officials;

32.8 (3) an academic calendar showing legal holidays, beginning and ending dates of each
32.9 course quarter, term, or semester, and other important dates;

32.10 (4) the policy and regulations on enrollment including dates and specific entrance
32.11 requirements for each program;

32.12 (5) the policy and regulations regarding leave, absences, class cuts, make-up work,
32.13 tardiness, and interruptions for unsatisfactory attendance;

32.14 (6) the policy and regulations regarding standards of progress for the student including
32.15 the grading system of the private career school, the minimum grades considered satisfactory,
32.16 conditions for interruption for unsatisfactory grades or progress, a description of any
32.17 probationary period allowed by the private career school, and conditions of reentrance for
32.18 those dismissed for unsatisfactory progress;

32.19 (7) the policy and regulations regarding student conduct and conditions for dismissal
32.20 for unsatisfactory conduct;

32.21 (8) a detailed schedule of fees, charges for tuition, books, supplies, tools, student
32.22 activities, laboratory fees, service charges, rentals, deposits, and all other charges;

32.23 (9) the policy and regulations, including an explanation of section 136A.827, regarding
32.24 refunding tuition, fees, and other charges if the student does not enter the program, withdraws
32.25 from the program, or the program is discontinued;

32.26 (10) a description of the available facilities and equipment;

32.27 (11) a course outline or syllabus for each course offered showing course objectives,
32.28 subjects or units in the course, type of work or skill to be learned, and approximate time,
32.29 hours, or credits to be spent on each subject or unit;

32.30 (12) the policy and regulations regarding granting credit for previous education and
32.31 preparation;

33.1 (13) a notice to students relating to the transferability of any credits earned; or

33.2 (14) a procedure for investigating and resolving student complaints and the rights of the
33.3 student under section 136A.8295.

33.4 Sec. 48. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.827, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

33.5 Subdivision 1. **Student.** For the purposes of this section, "student" means the party to
33.6 the contract, whether the party is the student, the student's parent or guardian, or other person
33.7 on behalf of the student. If there is no contract, student means the party who has been
33.8 accepted into the course or program.

33.9 Sec. 49. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.827, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

33.10 Subd. 4. **Proration.** (a) When a student has been accepted by a private career school
33.11 and gives notice of cancellation after the program of instruction has begun, the student is
33.12 entitled to a refund if, at the last documented date of attendance, the student has not completed
33.13 at least 75 percent of the entire program of instruction. For purposes of this subdivision,
33.14 program of instruction is calculated under paragraph (c) or (d). Program of instruction does
33.15 not mean one term, a payment period, a module, or any other portion of the entire
33.16 instructional program.

33.17 (b) A notice of cancellation from a student under this subdivision must be confirmed in
33.18 writing by the private career school and mailed to the student's last known address. The
33.19 confirmation from the school must state that the school has withdrawn the student from
33.20 enrollment, ~~and if this action was not the student's intent, the student must contact the school.~~

33.21 (c) The length of a program of instruction for a program that has a defined calendar start
33.22 and end date that does not change after the program has begun equals the number of days
33.23 from the first scheduled date of the program through the last scheduled date of the program.
33.24 To calculate the completion percentage, divide the number of calendar days from the first
33.25 date of the program through the student's last documented date of attendance by the length
33.26 of the program of instruction, and truncate the result after the second digit following the
33.27 decimal point. If the completion percentage is less than 75 percent, the private career school
33.28 may retain:

33.29 (1) tuition, fees, and charges equal to the total of tuition, fees, and charges multiplied
33.30 by the completion percentage; plus

33.31 (2) the initial program application fees, not to exceed \$50; plus

33.32 (3) the lesser of (i) 25 percent of the total tuition, or (ii) \$100.

34.1 (d) The length of a program of instruction for a program that is measured in clock hours
34.2 equals the number of clock hours the student was scheduled to attend. To calculate the
34.3 completion percentage, divide the number of clock hours that the student actually attended
34.4 by the length of the program of instruction, and truncate the result after the second digit
34.5 following the decimal point. If the completion percentage is less than 75 percent, the private
34.6 career school may retain:

34.7 (1) tuition, fees, and charges equal to the total of tuition, fees, and charges multiplied
34.8 by the completion percentage; plus

34.9 (2) the initial program application fees, not to exceed \$50; plus

34.10 (3) the lesser of (i) 25 percent of the total tuition, or (ii) \$100.

34.11 Sec. 50. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.828, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

34.12 Subd. 6. **Financial aid payments Transcripts.** ~~(a) All private career schools must~~
34.13 ~~collect, assess, and distribute funds received from loans or other financial aid as provided~~
34.14 ~~in this subdivision.~~

34.15 ~~(b) Student loans or other financial aid funds received from federal, state, or local~~
34.16 ~~governments or administered in accordance with federal student financial assistance programs~~
34.17 ~~under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, United States Code, title~~
34.18 ~~20, chapter 28, must be collected and applied as provided by applicable federal, state, or~~
34.19 ~~local law or regulation.~~

34.20 ~~(c) Student loans or other financial aid assistance received from a bank, finance or credit~~
34.21 ~~card company, or other private lender must be collected or disbursed as provided in~~
34.22 ~~paragraphs (d) and (e).~~

34.23 ~~(d) Loans or other financial aid payments for amounts greater than \$3,000 must be~~
34.24 ~~disbursed:~~

34.25 ~~(1) in two equal disbursements, if the term length is more than four months. The loan~~
34.26 ~~or payment amounts may be disbursed no earlier than the first day the student attends class~~
34.27 ~~with the remainder to be disbursed halfway through the term; or~~

34.28 ~~(2) in three equal disbursements, if the term length is more than six months. The loan~~
34.29 ~~or payment amounts may be disbursed no earlier than the first day the student attends class,~~
34.30 ~~one-third of the way through the term, and two-thirds of the way through the term.~~

34.31 ~~(e) Loans or other financial aid payments for amounts less than \$3,000 may be disbursed~~
34.32 ~~as a single disbursement on the first day a student attends class, regardless of term length.~~

35.1 ~~(f) No private career school may enter into a contract or agreement with, or receive any~~
35.2 ~~money from, a bank, finance or credit card company, or other private lender, unless the~~
35.3 ~~private lender follows the requirements for disbursements provided in paragraphs (d) and~~
35.4 ~~(e).~~

35.5 ~~(g)~~ No private career school may withhold an official transcript for arrears or default on
35.6 any loan made by the private career school to a student if the loan qualifies as an institutional
35.7 loan under United States Code, title 11, section 523(a)(8)(b).

35.8 Sec. 51. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.829, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

35.9 Subdivision 1. **Grounds.** The office may, after notice and upon providing an opportunity
35.10 for a hearing, under chapter 14 if requested by the parties adversely affected, refuse to issue,
35.11 refuse to renew, revoke, or suspend a license or solicitor's permit for any of the following
35.12 grounds:

35.13 (1) violation of any provisions of sections 136A.821 to 136A.833 or any rule adopted
35.14 by the office;

35.15 (2) furnishing to the office false, misleading, or incomplete information;

35.16 (3) presenting to prospective students information relating to the private career school
35.17 that is false, fraudulent, deceptive, substantially inaccurate, or misleading;

35.18 (4) refusal to allow reasonable inspection or supply reasonable information after written
35.19 request by the office;

35.20 (5) having been ~~administratively~~ determined by the commissioner or judicially determined
35.21 to have committed fraud or any other material violation of law involving federal, state, or
35.22 local government funds;

35.23 (6) the existence of any circumstance that would be grounds for the refusal of an initial
35.24 or renewal license under section 136A.822; or

35.25 (7) using fraudulent or coercive practices, whether in the course of business in this state
35.26 or elsewhere.

35.27 Sec. 52. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.829, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

35.28 Subd. 3. **Powers and duties.** The office shall have (in addition to the powers and duties
35.29 now vested therein by law) the following powers and duties:

36.1 (a) To negotiate and enter into interstate reciprocity agreements with similar agencies
36.2 in other states, if in the judgment of the office such agreements are or will be helpful in
36.3 effectuating the purposes of Laws 1973, chapter 714;

36.4 (b) To grant conditional private career school license ~~for periods of less than one year~~
36.5 if in the judgment of the office correctable deficiencies exist at the time of application and
36.6 when ~~refusal to issue private career school license would adversely affect currently enrolled~~
36.7 ~~students~~ the risk of harm to students can be minimized through the use of restrictions and
36.8 requirements as conditions of the license. Conditional licenses may include requirements
36.9 and restrictions for:

36.10 (1) periodic monitoring and submission of reports on the school's deficiencies to ascertain
36.11 whether compliance improves;

36.12 (2) periodic collaborative consultations with the school on noncompliance with sections
36.13 136A.82 to 136A.834 or how the institution is managing compliance;

36.14 (3) the submission of contingency plans such as teach-out plans or transfer pathways
36.15 for students;

36.16 (4) a prohibition from accepting tuition and fee payments prior to the add-drop period
36.17 of the current period of instruction or before the funding has been earned by the school
36.18 according to the refund requirements of section 136A.827;

36.19 (5) a prohibition from enrolling new students;

36.20 (6) enrollment caps;

36.21 (7) the initiation of alternative processes and communications with students enrolled at
36.22 the school to notify students of deficiencies or probation status;

36.23 (8) the submission of a surety under section 136A.822, subdivision 6, paragraph (b),
36.24 that exceeds ten percent of the preceding year's net revenue from student tuition, fees, and
36.25 other required institutional charges collected; or

36.26 (9) submission of closure information under section 136A.8225;

36.27 (c) The office may upon its own motion, and shall upon the verified complaint in writing
36.28 of any person setting forth fact which, if proved, would constitute grounds for refusal or
36.29 revocation under Laws 1973, chapter 714, investigate the actions of any applicant or any
36.30 person or persons holding or claiming to hold a license or permit. However, before proceeding
36.31 to a hearing on the question of whether a license or permit shall be refused, revoked or
36.32 suspended for any cause enumerated in subdivision 1, the office shall grant a reasonable

37.1 time to the holder of or applicant for a license or permit to correct the situation. If within
37.2 such time the situation is corrected and the private career school is in compliance with the
37.3 provisions of sections 136A.82 to 136A.834, no further action leading to refusal, revocation,
37.4 or suspension shall be taken.

37.5 ~~(d) To grant a private career school a probationary license for periods of less than three~~
37.6 ~~years if, in the judgment of the office, correctable deficiencies exist at the time of application~~
37.7 ~~that need more than one year to correct and when the risk of harm to students can be~~
37.8 ~~minimized through the use of restrictions and requirements as conditions of the license.~~
37.9 Probationary licenses may include requirements and restrictions for:

37.10 ~~(1) periodic monitoring and submission of reports on the school's deficiencies to ascertain~~
37.11 ~~whether compliance improves;~~

37.12 ~~(2) periodic collaborative consultations with the school on noncompliance with sections~~
37.13 ~~136A.82 to 136A.834 or how the institution is managing compliance;~~

37.14 ~~(3) the submission of contingency plans such as teach-out plans or transfer pathways~~
37.15 ~~for students;~~

37.16 ~~(4) a prohibition from accepting tuition and fee payments prior to the add/drop period~~
37.17 ~~of the current period of instruction or before the funds have been earned by the school~~
37.18 ~~according to the refund requirements of section 136A.827;~~

37.19 ~~(5) a prohibition from enrolling new students;~~

37.20 ~~(6) enrollment caps;~~

37.21 ~~(7) the initiation of alternative processes and communications with students enrolled at~~
37.22 ~~the school to notify students of deficiencies or probation status;~~

37.23 ~~(8) the submission of a surety under section 136A.822, subdivision 6, paragraph (b),~~
37.24 ~~clause (1), that exceeds ten percent of the preceding year's net revenue from student tuition,~~
37.25 ~~fees, and other required institutional charges collected; or~~

37.26 ~~(9) submission of closure information under section 136A.8225.~~

37.27 Sec. 53. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.8295, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

37.28 Subd. 5. **Appeals.** Any order requiring remedial action by the school or assigning a
37.29 penalty under section 136A.832 is appealable in accordance with chapter 14. The request
37.30 for an appeal must be made in writing to the office within 30 days of the date the school is
37.31 notified of the action of the office. The court shall award costs and reasonable attorney fees
37.32 in a contested chapter 14 hearing to the office if: ~~(1) the office substantially prevails on the~~

38.1 merits in an action brought under this section; ~~and (2) the school has a net income from~~
38.2 ~~student tuition, fees, and other required institutional charges collected from the last fiscal~~
38.3 ~~year of \$1,000,000 or greater.~~

38.4 Sec. 54. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.83, is amended to read:

38.5 **136A.83 INSPECTION.**

38.6 (a) The office or a delegate may inspect the instructional books and records, classrooms,
38.7 dormitories, tools, equipment and classes of any private career school or applicant for license
38.8 at any reasonable time. ~~The office may require the submission of audited financial statements.~~
38.9 The office or a delegate may inspect the financial books and records of the private career
38.10 school. In no event shall such financial information be used by the office to regulate or set
38.11 the tuition or fees charged by the private career school.

38.12 (b) Data obtained from an inspection of the financial records of a private career school
38.13 or submitted to the office as part of a license application or renewal are nonpublic data as
38.14 defined in section 13.02, subdivision 9. Data obtained from inspections may be disclosed
38.15 to other members of the office, to law enforcement officials, or in connection with a legal
38.16 or administrative proceeding commenced to enforce a requirement of law.

38.17 Sec. 55. Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, section 136A.833, subdivision 1, is amended
38.18 to read:

38.19 Subdivision 1. **Application for exemptions.** (a) A school that seeks an exemption from
38.20 the provisions of sections 136A.822 to 136A.834 for the school and all of its programs or
38.21 some of its programs must apply to the office to establish that the school or program meets
38.22 the requirements of an exemption. An exemption for the school or program expires two
38.23 years from the date of approval or when a school ~~adds a new program or makes a~~
38.24 ~~modification equal to or greater than 25 percent to an existing educational program that~~
38.25 brings the school or program outside the scope of the school's or program's exemption. If
38.26 a school is reapplying for an exemption, the application must be submitted to the office 90
38.27 days before the current exemption expires. If a school fails to apply within 90 days of
38.28 expiration or any change that would bring the school or program outside the scope of the
38.29 school's or program's exemption, the school is subject to fees and penalties under sections
38.30 136A.831 and 136A.832. This exemption shall not extend to any school that uses any
38.31 publication or advertisement that is not truthful and gives any false, fraudulent, deceptive,
38.32 inaccurate, or misleading impressions about the school or its personnel, programs, services,
38.33 or occupational opportunities for its graduates for promotion and student recruitment.

39.1 Exemptions denied under this section are subject to appeal under section 136A.829. If an
39.2 appeal is initiated, the denial of the exemption is not effective until the final determination
39.3 of the appeal, unless immediate effect is ordered by the court.

39.4 (b) A school that meets any of the exemptions in this section and exclusively seeks to
39.5 be listed on the eligible training provider list, access WIOA funding, or receive the dual
39.6 training grant, is exempt from sections 136A.822 to 136A.834, except the school must
39.7 satisfy the requirements of section 136A.822, subdivisions 4, clauses (1), (2), and (3); 8,
39.8 clauses (9) and (10); 10, clause (8); and 12.

39.9 Sec. 56. Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, section 136A.833, subdivision 2, is amended
39.10 to read:

39.11 Subd. 2. **Exemption reasons.** Sections 136A.821 to 136A.832 shall not apply to the
39.12 following:

39.13 (1) ~~private career schools engaged exclusively in the teaching of avocational programs~~
39.14 ~~that are engaged primarily for personal development, recreation, or remedial education, and~~
39.15 ~~are not generally intended for vocational or career advancement, including adult basic~~
39.16 ~~education, exercise or fitness teacher programs, modeling, or acting, as determined by the~~
39.17 ~~office;~~

39.18 (2) classes, courses, or programs providing 40 or fewer clock hours of instruction; and

39.19 (3) (2) private career schools providing training, instructional programs, or courses where
39.20 tuition, fees, and any other charges for a student to participate do not exceed \$500.

39.21 Sec. 57. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136G.03, subdivision 30, is amended to read:

39.22 Subd. 30. **Qualified higher education expenses.** "Qualified higher education expenses"
39.23 means expenses as defined in ~~section~~ sections 529(c)(7), (8), and (9); 529(e)(3); and 529(f)
39.24 of the Internal Revenue Code.

39.25 Sec. 58. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136G.03, subdivision 31, is amended to read:

39.26 Subd. 31. **Qualified rollover distribution.** "Qualified rollover distribution" means a
39.27 distribution that qualifies as a rollover under section 529(c)(3)(C) and (E) of the Internal
39.28 Revenue Code.

40.1 Sec. 59. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136G.03, is amended by adding a subdivision
40.2 to read:

40.3 Subd. 35. **Uncashed distribution check.** "Uncashed distribution check" means any
40.4 distribution check generated by an account owner's request regardless of the payee that
40.5 remains uncashed by the payee for at least 180 days.

40.6 Sec. 60. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136G.05, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

40.7 Subd. 10. **Data.** Account owner data, account data, and data on beneficiaries of accounts
40.8 are private data on individuals or nonpublic data as defined in section 13.02, except that the
40.9 names and addresses of the beneficiaries of accounts that receive matching grants are public.
40.10 The office may use data received under this chapter to share information with account
40.11 owners about the office's other programs and resources including those that describe the
40.12 process to pay for postsecondary education.

40.13 Sec. 61. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136G.13, is amended by adding a subdivision
40.14 to read:

40.15 Subd. 6. **Handling of uncashed distribution checks.** Unless otherwise directed by the
40.16 office, the plan administrator must mark an uncashed distribution check as no longer
40.17 outstanding and must credit back the amount of the check to the account owner's account
40.18 from which the check was originally disbursed. The amount being credited must be accounted
40.19 for as a new contribution and be invested by the plan administrator according to the current
40.20 instructions on file from the account owner.

40.21 Sec. 62. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 268.193, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

40.22 Subd. 2. **Unemployment insurance aid.** Eligible postsecondary institutions are eligible
40.23 to receive unemployment insurance aid under this section. For each fiscal year, an eligible
40.24 entity's aid is the difference between fiscal year 2022's unemployment insurance costs and
40.25 the current year's unemployment insurance costs, as reflected in the unemployment insurance
40.26 employer accounts maintained by the state. If the total eligible unemployment insurance
40.27 aid for a fiscal year is greater than the annual appropriation for that year, the Board of
40.28 Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities ~~or the commissioner of the Office~~
40.29 ~~of Higher Education, as applicable,~~ must proportionately reduce the aid payment to each
40.30 eligible entity.

41.1 Sec. 63. Laws 2025, First Special Session chapter 5, article 1, section 3, subdivision 1, is
 41.2 amended to read:

41.3			<u>878,550,000</u>
41.4	Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation	\$ 879,039,000 \$	<u>880,055,000</u>

41.5 The amounts that may be spent for each
 41.6 purpose are specified in the following
 41.7 subdivisions.

41.8 Sec. 64. Laws 2025, First Special Session chapter 5, article 1, section 3, subdivision 3, is
 41.9 amended to read:

41.10			<u>830,384,000</u>
41.11	Subd. 3. Operations and Maintenance	830,873,000	<u>831,889,000</u>

41.12 (a) \$5,700,000 in fiscal year 2026 and
 41.13 \$5,700,000 in fiscal year 2027 are to provide
 41.14 supplemental aid for operations and
 41.15 maintenance to the president of each two-year
 41.16 institution in the system with at least one
 41.17 campus that is not located in a metropolitan
 41.18 county, as defined in Minnesota Statutes,
 41.19 section 473.121, subdivision 4. The board
 41.20 shall transfer at least \$158,000 for each
 41.21 campus not located in a metropolitan county
 41.22 in each year to the president of each institution
 41.23 that includes such a campus.

41.24 (b) The Board of Trustees is requested to help
 41.25 Minnesota close the attainment gap by funding
 41.26 activities which improve retention and
 41.27 completion for students of color.

41.28 (c) \$9,500,000 in fiscal year 2026 and
 41.29 \$9,500,000 in fiscal year 2027 are for
 41.30 enterprise-wide technology, including
 41.31 upgrading the Integrated Statewide Record
 41.32 System and maintaining enterprise-wide
 41.33 technology services.

42.1 (d) \$50,000 in fiscal year 2026 and \$50,000
42.2 in fiscal year 2027 are to reduce students'
42.3 out-of-pocket costs by expanding free
42.4 offerings in course materials and resources,
42.5 including through open educational resources,
42.6 open textbooks, and implementation of
42.7 Z-Degrees under Minnesota Statutes, section
42.8 136F.305.

42.9 (e) \$3,158,000 in fiscal year 2026 and
42.10 \$3,158,000 in fiscal year 2027 are to expand
42.11 student support services. This appropriation
42.12 provides funding to campuses to address basic
42.13 needs insecurity, mental health, and other
42.14 high-need student support services by
42.15 increasing the amount of available resources
42.16 to students. In addition, this funding provides
42.17 systemwide resources and coordination,
42.18 including electronic connections for peer
42.19 support and professional clinical support for
42.20 mental health. These systemwide resources
42.21 must be available online 24 hours a day, seven
42.22 days a week.

42.23 (f) \$883,000 in fiscal year 2026 and \$894,000
42.24 in fiscal year 2027 are for costs associated
42.25 with the increased employer contribution rates
42.26 for the higher education individual retirement
42.27 account plan under Minnesota Statutes, section
42.28 354B.23, subdivision 3.

42.29 (g) \$282,000 in fiscal year 2026 and \$282,000
42.30 in fiscal year 2027 are to pay the cost of
42.31 supplies and equipment necessary to provide
42.32 access to menstrual products under Minnesota
42.33 Statutes, section 135A.1365.

42.34 (h) \$809,000 in fiscal year 2026 and \$809,000
42.35 in fiscal year 2027 are for unemployment

43.1 insurance aid under Minnesota Statutes,
43.2 section 268.193, to institutions within the
43.3 system.

43.4 (i) \$500,000 in fiscal year 2026 and \$500,000
43.5 in fiscal year 2027 are for the Juvenile
43.6 Detention Alternatives Initiative at
43.7 Metropolitan State University. Of this amount,
43.8 \$280,000 each year is to provide juvenile
43.9 justice services and resources, including the
43.10 Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative, to
43.11 Minnesota counties and federally recognized
43.12 Tribes; and \$220,000 each year is for funding
43.13 to local units of government, federally
43.14 recognized Tribes, and agencies to support
43.15 local Juvenile Detention Alternative
43.16 Initiatives, including but not limited to
43.17 alternatives to detention. Any unencumbered
43.18 balance remaining in the first year does not
43.19 cancel and is available in the second year.

43.20 (j) \$500,000 in fiscal year 2026 is to address
43.21 contamination of PFAS, as defined in
43.22 Minnesota Statutes, section 116.943, arising
43.23 from or associated with the use of firefighting
43.24 foam at the Lake Superior College Emergency
43.25 Response Training Center (ERTC) prior to
43.26 January 1, 2015. Money may be used to
43.27 conduct environmental investigation and
43.28 response activities, including ERTC program
43.29 accommodations, and reimburse past expenses
43.30 incurred for these activities. This is a onetime
43.31 appropriation.

43.32 (k) \$1,500,000 in fiscal year 2027 is for
43.33 acquisition, implementation, support, and
43.34 maintenance of automated identity verification
43.35 systems to combat enrollment fraud.

44.1 Minnesota Statutes, section 13.05, subdivision
44.2 11, applies to any contract entered into by
44.3 Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
44.4 regarding the automated identity verification
44.5 systems.

44.6 (l) \$5,000 in fiscal year 2027 is for a transfer
44.7 to Bemidji State University for campus
44.8 reforestation. This is a onetime appropriation.

44.9 (m) The base for this appropriation is
44.10 \$831,884,000 in fiscal year 2028 and
44.11 thereafter.

44.12 Sec. 65. **REPEALER.**

44.13 (a) Minnesota Statutes 2024, sections 124D.09, subdivision 10a; 136A.657; 136A.827,
44.14 subdivisions 1b and 2; 136A.834, subdivisions 2, 3, and 4; 136G.03, subdivision 11; and
44.15 136G.09, subdivision 10, are repealed.

44.16 (b) Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, section 136A.834, subdivisions 1 and 5, are
44.17 repealed.

124D.09 POSTSECONDARY ENROLLMENT OPTIONS ACT.

Subd. 10a. **Statewide concurrent enrollment evaluation.** The Office of Higher Education and the Department of Education shall collaborate in order to provide annual statewide evaluative information on concurrent enrollment programs to the legislature. The commissioners of the Office of Higher Education and the Department of Education, in consultation with stakeholders, including students and parents, must determine what student demographics and outcomes data are appropriate to include in the evaluation, and will use systems available to the office and department to minimize the reporting burden on postsecondary institutions. The commissioners must report by December 1, 2021, and each year thereafter, to the committees of the legislature with jurisdiction over early education through grade 12 and Minnesota State Colleges and Universities.

136A.657 EXEMPTION; RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS.

Subdivision 1. **Exemption.** (a) A program is exempt from the provisions of sections 136A.61 to 136A.71 if it is:

- (1) offered by a school or any department or branch of a school that is substantially owned, operated, or supported by a bona fide church or religious organization;
- (2) primarily designed for, aimed at and attended by persons who sincerely hold or seek to learn the particular religious faith or beliefs of that church or religious organization; and
- (3) primarily intended to prepare its students to become ministers of, to enter into some other vocation closely related to, or to conduct their lives in consonance with, the particular faith of that church or religious organization.

(b) A school or a department or branch of a school is exempt from the provisions of sections 136A.61 to 136A.71 if all of its programs are exempt under paragraph (a).

Subd. 2. **Limitation.** (a) This exemption shall not extend to any program or school or to any department or branch of a school that through advertisements or solicitations represents to any students or prospective students that the school, its aims, goals, missions or purposes or its programs are different from those described in subdivision 1.

(b) This exemption shall not extend to any school that represents to any student or prospective student that the major purpose of its programs is to:

- (1) prepare the student for a vocation not closely related to that particular religious faith; or
- (2) provide the student with a general educational program recognized by other schools or the broader educational, business or social community as being substantially equivalent to the educational programs offered by schools or departments or branches of schools that are not exempt from sections 136A.61 to 136A.71, and rules adopted pursuant thereto.

(c) This exemption shall not extend to any school that uses any publication or advertisement that is not truthful and gives any false, fraudulent, deceptive, inaccurate, or misleading impressions about the school; its personnel, programs, or services; or occupational opportunities for its graduates for promotion and student recruitment. Exemptions denied under this section are subject to appeal under section 136A.65, subdivision 8, paragraph (c). If an appeal is initiated, the denial of the exemption is not effective until the final determination of the appeal, unless immediate effect is ordered by the court.

Subd. 3. **Scope.** Nothing in sections 136A.61 to 136A.71, or the rules adopted pursuant thereto, shall be interpreted as permitting the office to determine the truth or falsity of any particular set of religious beliefs.

Subd. 4. **Statement required; religious nature.** Any degree awarded upon completion of a religiously exempt program shall include descriptive language to make the religious nature of the award clear.

Subd. 5. **Application.** A school that seeks an exemption under this section from the provisions of sections 136A.61 to 136A.71 must apply to the office to establish that the school meets the requirements of an exemption. An exemption expires two years from the date of approval or when a school adds a new program or makes a modification equal to or greater than 25 percent to an existing educational program. If a school is reapplying for an exemption, the application must be submitted to the office 90 days before the current exemption expires.

136A.827 REFUNDS.

Subd. 1b. **Short-term programs.** Licensed private career schools conducting programs not exceeding 40 hours in length shall not be required to make a full refund once a program has commenced and shall be allowed to prorate any refund based on the actual length of the program as stated in the private career school catalog or advertisements and the number of hours attended by the student.

Subd. 2. **Private career schools using written contracts.** (a) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, a private career school that uses a written contract or enrollment agreement shall refund all tuition, fees and other charges paid by a student, if the student gives notice of cancellation within five business days after the day on which the contract was executed regardless of whether the program has started.

(b) When a student has been accepted by the private career school and has entered into a contractual agreement with the private career school and gives notice of cancellation following the fifth business day after the date of execution of contract, but before the start of the program in the case of resident private career schools, or before the first lesson has been serviced by the private career school in the case of distance education private career schools, all tuition, fees and other charges, except 15 percent of the total cost of the program but not to exceed \$50, shall be refunded to the student.

136A.834 EXEMPTION; RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS.

Subdivision 1. **Exemption.** (a) A program is exempt from the provisions of sections 136A.821 to 136A.832 if it is:

(1) offered by a school or any department or branch of a school that is substantially owned, operated, or supported by a bona fide church or religious organization;

(2) primarily designed for, aimed at, and attended by persons who sincerely hold or seek to learn the particular religious faith or beliefs of that church or religious organization; and

(3) primarily intended to prepare its students to become ministers of, to enter into some other vocation closely related to, or to conduct their lives in consonance with the particular faith of that church or religious organization.

(b) Any school or any department or branch of a school is exempt from the provisions of sections 136A.821 to 136A.832 if all of its programs are exempt under paragraph (a).

Subd. 2. **Limitations.** (a) An exemption shall not extend to any private career school, department or branch of a private career school, or program of a private career school that through advertisements or solicitations represents to any students or prospective students that the school, its aims, goals, missions, purposes, or programs are different from those described in subdivision 1.

(b) An exemption shall not extend to any private career school or program that represents to any student or prospective student that the major purpose of its programs is to:

(1) prepare the student for a vocation not closely related to that particular religious faith; or

(2) provide the student with a general educational program recognized by other private career schools or the broader educational, business, or social community as being substantially equivalent to the educational programs offered by private career schools or departments or branches of private career schools which are not religious in nature and are not exempt from sections 136A.82 to 136A.834 and from rules adopted under sections 136A.82 to 136A.834.

(c) This exemption shall not extend to any school that uses any publication or advertisement that is not truthful and gives any false, fraudulent, deceptive, inaccurate, or misleading impressions about the school or its personnel, programs, services, or occupational opportunities for graduates for promotion and student recruitment. Exemptions denied under this section are subject to appeal under section 136A.65, subdivision 8, paragraph (c). If an appeal is initiated, the denial of the exemption is not effective until the final determination of the appeal, unless immediate effect is ordered by the court.

Subd. 3. **Scope.** Nothing in sections 136A.82 to 136A.834 or the rules adopted under them shall be interpreted as permitting the office to determine the truth or falsity of any particular set of religious beliefs.

APPENDIX
Repealed Minnesota Statutes: H4252-2

Subd. 4. **Descriptive language required.** Any certificate, diploma, degree, or other formal recognition awarded upon completion of any religiously exempt program shall include such descriptive language as to make the religious nature of the award clear.

Subd. 5. **Application.** A school that seeks an exemption from the provisions of sections 136A.82 to 136A.834 must apply to the office to establish that the school meets the requirements of an exemption. An exemption expires two years from the date of approval or when a school adds a new program or makes a modification equal to or greater than 25 percent to an existing educational program. If a school is reapplying for an exemption, the application must be submitted to the office 90 days before the current exemption expires. If a school fails to apply within 90 days of expiration, the school is subject to the fees and penalties under sections 136A.831 and 136A.832.

136G.03 DEFINITIONS.

Subd. 11. **Dormant account.** "Dormant account" means an account that has not received contributions for at least three consecutive years and the account statements sent to the account owner have been returned as undeliverable.

136G.09 PLAN ACCOUNTS; GENERALLY.

Subd. 10. **Dormant accounts.** (a) The plan administrator shall attempt to locate the account owner or the beneficiary, or both, to determine the disposition of a dormant account. A fee of five percent of the total account balance of the dormant account, not to exceed \$100, plus allowable costs, may be charged for this service. Costs will not exceed \$100 or five percent of the total account balance in the dormant account, whichever is less.

(b) If the account owner, or the account owner's legal heirs, are not found after three attempts by the plan administrator, the remaining funds in the dormant account must be turned over to the office. The funds are treated as unclaimed property for purposes of sections 345.31 to 345.60, and the office shall turn all remaining dormant account funds over to the commissioner of commerce. If the dormant account has a matching grant account, all amounts in the beneficiary's matching grant account, if any, must be returned to the office.