

SENATE  
STATE OF MINNESOTA  
NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

S.F. No. 4360

(SENATE AUTHORS: CHAMPION)

DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
03/11/2026	6594	Introduction and first reading Referred to Health and Human Services

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to foster care; establishing an extended foster care services grant program;

1.3 requiring reports; appropriating money; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota

1.4 Statutes, chapter 260C.

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

1.6 Section 1. [260C.453] EXTENDED FOSTER CARE SERVICES GRANT PROGRAM.

1.7 Subdivision 1. Establishment. The commissioner of children, youth, and families must

1.8 establish an extended foster care services grant program to provide financial support and

1.9 case management services to eligible youth at least 21 years of age and under 27 years of

1.10 age.

1.11 Subd. 2. Grantee eligibility. In order to be eligible for a grant under this section to

1.12 provide services to eligible youth, a grantee must be a community-based provider and:

1.13 (1) demonstrate expertise serving transition-age youth;

1.14 (2) maintain nondiscrimination policies that are consistent with state and federal law;

1.15 (3) ensure geographic access to any services provided under subdivision 4, including in

1.16 areas outside of the seven-county metropolitan area;

1.17 (4) meet performance metrics determined by the commissioner for education,

1.18 employment, housing stability, and youth satisfaction; and

1.19 (5) meet training standards determined by the commissioner.

1.20 Subd. 3. Youth eligibility. (a) Youth are eligible to receive services under this section

1.21 if the youth:

- 2.1 (1) was in Minnesota foster care at 14 years of age or older;
- 2.2 (2) is currently at least 21 years of age and under 27 years of age;
- 2.3 (3) is not currently receiving Title IV-E foster placement; and
- 2.4 (4) is currently:
- 2.5 (i) completing secondary education or a program leading to an equivalent credential;
- 2.6 (ii) enrolled in an institution that provides postsecondary or vocational education;
- 2.7 (iii) participating in a program or activity designed to promote or remove barriers to
- 2.8 employment;
- 2.9 (iv) employed for at least 80 hours per month;
- 2.10 (v) receiving treatment for mental health or substance use disorder; or
- 2.11 (vi) facing documented barriers, including a medical condition, disability, pregnancy,
- 2.12 parenting, or domestic violence.
- 2.13 (b) In order to maintain eligibility, the youth must maintain monthly contact with the
- 2.14 youth's case manager.
- 2.15 (c) Youth may be eligible for services under this section whether the youth is living with
- 2.16 others or living independently.
- 2.17 Subd. 4. Services. Grantees must provide to eligible youth:
- 2.18 (1) monthly stipends that cover basic living expenses of the youth, including education
- 2.19 costs. Stipends must be adjusted for geographic cost of living and inflation. When the youth
- 2.20 reaches 25 years of age, the stipend must gradually decrease according to the schedule
- 2.21 developed by the commissioner;
- 2.22 (2) case management services, including conducting monthly financial wellness check-ins;
- 2.23 (3) access to training on budgeting and employment readiness to develop financial
- 2.24 literacy;
- 2.25 (4) assistance in establishing a savings account;
- 2.26 (5) housing navigation services, including assistance in finding stable housing; and
- 2.27 (6) transition planning, including a comprehensive plan with step-down preparation
- 2.28 beginning when the youth reaches 24 years of age and helping the youth coordinate adult
- 2.29 services.

3.1 Subd. 5. Report. (a) The commissioner must track and report outcomes disaggregated  
 3.2 by protected classes and geography to track disparities in the grant program.

3.3 (b) Beginning February 1, 2029, and each February 1 thereafter, a grantee must report  
 3.4 to the commissioner the number of youth the grantee served, the amount of money the  
 3.5 grantee spends on stipends, any outcomes disaggregated by protected classes and geography,  
 3.6 and any other information the grantee determines as relevant.

3.7 (c) Beginning July 1, 2029, and each July 1 thereafter, the commissioner must report to  
 3.8 the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction  
 3.9 over children, youth, and families on the grant program, including program outcomes, costs,  
 3.10 and equity determinations.

3.11 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2028.

3.12 Sec. 2. **DIRECTION TO COMMISSIONER OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND**  
 3.13 **FAMILIES; EXTENDED FOSTER CARE SERVICES GRANT PROGRAM.**

3.14 (a) By January 1, 2027, the commissioner of children, youth, and families must establish  
 3.15 application procedures, stipend rates, performance metrics for grantees, and a stipend  
 3.16 decrease schedule for the extended foster care services grant program under Minnesota  
 3.17 Statutes, section 260C.453.

3.18 (b) The commissioner of children, youth, and families must consult with youth leadership  
 3.19 councils, stakeholders, and foster youth when developing the requirements under paragraph  
 3.20 (a) and when implementing the extended foster care services grant program under Minnesota  
 3.21 Statutes, section 260C.453.

3.22 (c) By March 1, 2028, the commissioner must coordinate with the successful transition  
 3.23 to adulthood for youth program to avoid duplication of services and must contract with  
 3.24 eligible grantees for the extended foster care services grant program under Minnesota  
 3.25 Statutes, section 260C.453.

3.26 Sec. 3. **APPROPRIATION; EXTENDED FOSTER CARE SERVICES GRANT**  
 3.27 **PROGRAM.**

3.28 \$..... in fiscal year 2027 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of  
 3.29 children, youth, and families to begin implementation of the extended foster care services  
 3.30 grant program under Minnesota Statutes, section 260C.453, and to establish the application  
 3.31 procedures, rates, and metrics for the grant program.