

State of Minnesota

H. F. No. **2488**

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to education; creating a linked high school-college experience with an

1.3 emphasis on workforce development; establishing P-TECH schools; appropriating

1.4 money; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 124D; 136A.

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

1.6 Section 1. **[124D.092] HIGH SCHOOL PATHWAYS TO EMPLOYMENT.**

1.7 Subdivision 1. **Purpose.** The purpose of the high school pathways to employment

1.8 program is to provide a seamless linkage between high school and postsecondary programs

1.9 for underserved and diverse student populations for whom traditional dual enrollment

1.10 programs are underutilized.

1.11 Subd. 2. **Definitions.** (a) "Course" includes postsecondary courses or programs, whether

1.12 remedial or not, and approved certificate programs.

1.13 (b) "Eligible institution" means an institution as defined in section 124D.09, subdivision

1.14 3, paragraph (a).

1.15 (c) "Eligible student" means a student in grades 9 through 12 who meets any of the

1.16 criteria of the graduation incentives program under section 124D.68.

1.17 (d) "Recent graduate" means an otherwise eligible student in the first or second year

1.18 following graduation from high school.

1.19 (e) "P-TECH school" means a school partnership program defined in subdivision 3.

1.20 (f) "Qualifying secondary program" means a P-TECH program under subdivision 4 or

1.21 a high school program operated by a school district or charter school that has been separately

2.1 approved as a high school pathways to employment program by the commissioner of
2.2 education.

2.3 (g) "Supplementary services" means student support services provided by counselors,
2.4 advisors, school social workers, and others providing student support services to participating
2.5 students.

2.6 Subd. 3. **Pathways to higher education.** A school district or charter school may form
2.7 a high school pathways to employment qualifying secondary program. Notwithstanding
2.8 section 124D.09, an eligible student participating in a high school pathways to employment
2.9 program, including a recent graduate, may participate in a course or program offered by an
2.10 eligible institution or a P-TECH provider according to an agreement adopted by the eligible
2.11 institution or P-TECH provider and the high school pathways to employment program. The
2.12 high school pathways to employment program may enter into an agreement for these courses
2.13 with an eligible institution under any of the arrangements authorized under section 124D.09.

2.14 Subd. 4. **Establishment of P-TECH.** (a) P-TECH schools are established as a
2.15 public-private partnership comprised of a school district, an accredited institution, a private
2.16 sector employer partner seeking to hire trained staff, and other service providers capable of
2.17 providing social services to support a P-TECH program. A P-TECH program must prepare
2.18 students for high-skill jobs of the future in identified growth industries.

2.19 (b) The P-TECH school model must deliver five core benefits to students:

2.20 (1) a rigorous, relevant, six-year education program designed to allow students to
2.21 complete a high school diploma and a two-year degree focused on knowledge and skills
2.22 that students need for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics careers;

2.23 (2) workplace learning that includes mentoring by industry professionals, worksite visits,
2.24 speakers, and internships;

2.25 (3) intensive, individualized academic support by both secondary and postsecondary
2.26 faculty within an extended academic year or school day that enables students to progress
2.27 through the program at their own pace;

2.28 (4) an opportunity to earn an associate's degree; and

2.29 (5) a commitment to students who complete the program to be first in line for a job with
2.30 participating business partners following completion of the program.

2.31 Subd. 5. **P-TECH objectives.** (a) P-TECH schools must accomplish the following:

2.32 (1) develop programs of study in high-wage, high-skill, and high-demand career areas;

3.1 (2) align school, college, employers, and supportive services in the programs of study
3.2 developed under this section;

3.3 (3) support strong academic performance by program participants;

3.4 (4) promote informed and appropriate career choices and preparation; and

3.5 (5) ensure that participating employers in key technical fields have access to a talented
3.6 and skilled workforce.

3.7 (b) Through the programs of study developed under this section, participating students
3.8 must be able to earn college course credit toward an associate's degree. Career pathways
3.9 begin in grade 9 and must include workplace learning, high school, and postsecondary
3.10 coursework. These pathways must provide a seamless sequence of study, extending through
3.11 two years of postsecondary career and technical education, and culminating in an associate's
3.12 degree.

3.13 (c) The commissioner of education must designate one P-TECH school in each of the
3.14 state's congressional districts.

3.15 Subd. 6. **Reporting.** By February 15 of each year, each P-TECH program must report
3.16 to the education committees of the legislature on the number of P-TECH participants, courses
3.17 taken by students, public-private partnerships established, and the placement rates of
3.18 graduates in high-skill fields. The report must also identify barriers to postsecondary
3.19 enrollment options participation.

3.20 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

3.21 Sec. 2. **[136A.1212] HIGH SCHOOL PATHWAYS TO EMPLOYMENT STATE**
3.22 **GRANT SUPPLEMENT.**

3.23 Notwithstanding section 136A.121, subdivision 2, an eligible student under section
3.24 124D.092 qualifies for a pathways state grant supplement under this section. The pathways
3.25 state grant supplement equals \$..... for each postsecondary course in which an eligible
3.26 student enrolls. The pathways grant must supplement postsecondary enrollment options
3.27 payments, must be paid directly to the postsecondary institution, and must be used for
3.28 supplementary services under section 124D.092, subdivision 2, paragraph (g), for that
3.29 student.

4.1 Sec. 3. **APPROPRIATIONS.**

4.2 Subdivision 1. **Department of Education.** The sums indicated in this section are
4.3 appropriated from the general fund to the Department of Education in the fiscal years
4.4 designated for the purposes of establishing P-TECH schools and pathways programs.

4.5 Subd. 2. **21st century workforce best practice grants.** (a) For grants to P-TECH
4.6 programs, approved secondary programs, and employer partners for designing a well defined
4.7 high school pathways to employment program:

4.8 \$ 2020

4.9 \$ 2021

4.10 (b) The base in fiscal year 2022 is \$.....

4.11 Subd. 3. **P-TECH schools.** (a) For P-TECH schools under Minnesota Statutes, section
4.12 124D.092, for supplementary service activities:

4.13 \$ 2020

4.14 \$ 2021

4.15 (b) The base in fiscal year 2022 is \$.....

4.16 Subd. 4. **Pathways state grant supplement.** (a) For transfer to the Office of Higher
4.17 Education for payment of pathways state grant supplements under Minnesota Statutes,
4.18 section 136A.1212, to support students participating in P-TECH programs:

4.19 \$ 2020

4.20 \$ 2021

4.21 (b) The base in fiscal year 2022 is \$.....