

SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-THIRD SESSION

S.F. No. 5326

(SENATE AUTHORS: FATEH)

DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
04/04/2024	13378	Introduction and first reading
		Referred to Higher Education
04/24/2024		Comm report: To pass as amended and re-refer to Finance

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to higher education; providing for funding and related policy changes to

1.3 certain licensure and grant provisions; establishing fees; appropriating money;

1.4 amending Minnesota Statutes 2022, sections 136A.69, subdivision 1; 136A.824,

1.5 subdivisions 1, 2; Laws 2022, chapter 42, section 2.

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

1.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 136A.69, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

1.8 Subdivision 1. **Registration fees.** (a) The office shall collect reasonable registration fees

1.9 that are sufficient to recover, but do not exceed, its costs of administering the registration

1.10 program. The office shall charge the fees listed in paragraphs (b) ~~and (c)~~ to (d) for new

1.11 registrations.

1.12 (b) A new school offering no more than one degree at each level during its first year

1.13 must pay registration fees for each applicable level in the following amounts:

1.14	associate degree	\$2,000
1.15	baccalaureate degree	\$2,500
1.16	master's degree	\$3,000
1.17	doctorate degree	\$3,500

1.18 (c) A new school that will offer more than one degree per level during its first year must

1.19 pay registration fees in an amount equal to the fee for the first degree at each degree level

1.20 under paragraph (b), plus fees for each additional nondegree program or degree as follows:

1.21	nondegree program	\$250
1.22	additional associate degree	\$250
1.23	additional baccalaureate degree	\$500

2.1	additional master's degree	\$750
2.2	additional doctorate degree	\$1,000

2.3 (d) In addition to the fees under paragraphs (b) and (c), a fee of \$600 must be paid for
 2.4 an initial application that: (1) has had four revisions, corrections, amendment requests, or
 2.5 application reminders for the same application or registration requirement; or (2) cumulatively
 2.6 has had six revisions, corrections, amendment requests, or application reminders for the
 2.7 same license application and the school seeks to continue with the application process with
 2.8 additional application submissions. If this fee is paid, the school may submit two final
 2.9 application submissions for review prior to application denial under section 136A.65,
 2.10 subdivision 8.

2.11 ~~(d)~~ (e) The annual renewal registration fee is \$1,500.

2.12 (f) In addition to the fee under paragraph (e), a fee of \$600 must be paid for a renewal
 2.13 application that: (1) has had four revisions, corrections, amendment requests, or application
 2.14 reminders for the same application or registration requirement; or (2) cumulatively has had
 2.15 six revisions, corrections, amendment requests, or application reminders for the same license
 2.16 application and the school seeks to continue with the application process with additional
 2.17 application submissions. If this fee is paid, the school may submit two final application
 2.18 submissions for review prior to application denial under section 136A.65, subdivision 8.

2.19 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 136A.824, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

2.20 Subdivision 1. **Initial licensure fee.** (a) The office processing fee for an initial licensure
 2.21 application is:

2.22 (1) \$2,500 for a private career school that will offer no more than one program during
 2.23 its first year of operation;

2.24 (2) \$750 for a private career school licensed exclusively due to the use of the term
 2.25 "college," "university," "academy," or "institute" in its name, or licensed exclusively in
 2.26 order to participate in state grant or SELF loan financial aid programs; and

2.27 (3) \$2,500, plus \$500 for each additional program offered by the private career school,
 2.28 for a private career school during its first year of operation.

2.29 (b) In addition to the fee under paragraph (a), a fee of \$600 must be paid for an initial
 2.30 application that: (1) has had four revisions, corrections, amendment requests, or application
 2.31 reminders for the same application or licensure requirement; or (2) cumulatively has had
 2.32 six revisions, corrections, amendment requests, or application reminders for the same license
 2.33 application and the private career school seeks to continue with the application process with

3.1 additional application submissions. If this fee is paid, the private career school may submit
3.2 two final application submissions for review prior to application denial under section
3.3 136A.829, subdivision 1, clause (2).

3.4 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 136A.824, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

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

3.7 (1) for a private career school that offers one program, the license renewal fee is \$1,150;

3.8 (2) for a private career school that offers more than one program, the license renewal
3.9 fee is \$1,150, plus \$200 for each additional program with a maximum renewal licensing
3.10 fee of \$2,000;

3.11 (3) for a private career school licensed exclusively due to the use of the term "college,"
3.12 "university," "academy," or "institute" in its name, the license renewal fee is \$750; and

3.13 (4) for a private career school licensed by another state agency and also licensed with
3.14 the office exclusively in order to participate in state student aid programs, the license renewal
3.15 fee is \$750.

3.16 (b) If a license renewal application is not received by the office by the close of business
3.17 at least 60 days before the expiration of the current license, a late fee of \$100 per business
3.18 day, not to exceed \$3,000, shall be assessed.

3.19 (c) In addition to the fee under paragraph (a), a fee of \$600 must be paid for a renewal
3.20 application that: (1) has had four revisions, corrections, amendment requests, or application
3.21 reminders for the same application or licensure requirement; or (2) cumulatively has had
3.22 six revisions, corrections, amendment requests, or application reminders for the same license
3.23 application and the private career school seeks to continue with the application process with
3.24 additional application submissions. If this fee is paid, the private career school may submit
3.25 two final application submissions for review prior to application denial under section
3.26 136A.829, subdivision 1, clause (2).

3.27 Sec. 4. Laws 2022, chapter 42, section 2, is amended to read:

3.28 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION; ALS RESEARCH.**

3.29 (a) \$20,000,000 in fiscal year 2023 is appropriated from the general fund to the
3.30 commissioner of the Office of Higher Education to award competitive grants to applicants
3.31 for research into amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). The commissioner may work with

4.1 the Minnesota Department of Health to administer the grant program, including identifying
 4.2 clinical and translational research and innovations, developing outcomes and objectives
 4.3 with the goal of bettering the lives of individuals with ALS and finding a cure for the disease,
 4.4 and application review and grant recipient selection.

4.5 (b) Up to \$15,000,000 of the appropriation under this section may be used by the
 4.6 commissioner for grants to the Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Association, Never Surrender,
 4.7 or other similar organizations to award and administer a competitive grant to applicants for
 4.8 research into ALS under this section.

4.9 (c) Not more than \$400,000 may be used by the commissioner to administer the grant
 4.10 program.

4.11 ~~(b)~~ (d) Grants shall be awarded to support clinical and translational research related to
 4.12 ALS. Research topics may include but are not limited to environmental factors, disease
 4.13 mechanisms, disease models, biomarkers, drug development, clinical studies, precision
 4.14 medicine, medical devices, assistive technology, and cognitive studies.

4.15 ~~(e)~~ (e) Eligible applicants for the grants are research facilities, universities, and health
 4.16 systems located in Minnesota. Applicants must submit proposals to the commissioner in
 4.17 the time, form, and manner established by the commissioner. Applicants may coordinate
 4.18 research endeavors and submit a joint application. When reviewing the proposals, the
 4.19 commissioner shall make an effort to avoid approving a grant for an applicant whose research
 4.20 is duplicative of an existing grantee's research.

4.21 ~~(d)~~ (f) Beginning January 15, 2023, and annually thereafter until January 15, 2027, the
 4.22 commissioner shall submit a report to the legislature specifying the applicants receiving
 4.23 grants under this section, the amount of each grant, the purposes for which the grant funds
 4.24 were used, and the amount of the appropriation that is unexpended. The report must also
 4.25 include relevant findings, results, and outcomes of the grant program, and any other
 4.26 information which the commissioner deems significant or useful.

4.27 ~~(e)~~ (g) This is a onetime appropriation. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section
 4.28 16A.28, unencumbered balances under this section do not cancel until June 30, ~~2026~~ 2024.

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

4.30 Sec. 5. **APPROPRIATIONS; ALS RESEARCH.**

4.31 (a) The amount canceled on June 30, 2024, under Laws 2022, chapter 42, section 2, as
 4.32 amended by this act is appropriated in fiscal year 2025 from the general fund to the
 4.33 commissioner of the Office of Higher Education to award competitive grants to applicants

5.1 for research into amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). The commissioner may work with
5.2 the Minnesota Department of Health to administer the grant program, including identifying
5.3 clinical and translational research and innovations, developing outcomes and objectives
5.4 with the goal of bettering the lives of individuals with ALS and finding a cure for the disease,
5.5 and application review and grant recipient selection. Up to \$15,000,000 minus the amount
5.6 used for the purpose of Laws 2022, chapter 42, section 2, paragraph (b), as amended, may
5.7 be used by the commissioner for grants to the Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Association,
5.8 Never Surrender, or other similar organizations to award and administer a competitive grant
5.9 to applicants for research into ALS under this section. Not more than \$400,000 minus the
5.10 amount used for the purpose of Laws 2022, chapter 42, section 2, paragraph (c), as amended,
5.11 may be used by the commissioner to administer the grant program.

5.12 (b) Grants shall be awarded to support clinical and translational research related to ALS.
5.13 Research topics may include but are not limited to environmental factors, disease
5.14 mechanisms, disease models, biomarkers, drug development, clinical studies, precision
5.15 medicine, medical devices, assistive technology, and cognitive studies.

5.16 (c) Eligible applicants for the grants are research facilities, universities, and health
5.17 systems located in Minnesota. Applicants must submit proposals to the commissioner in
5.18 the time, form, and manner established by the commissioner. Applicants may coordinate
5.19 research endeavors and submit a joint application. When reviewing the proposals, the
5.20 commissioner shall make an effort to avoid approving a grant for an applicant whose research
5.21 is duplicative of an existing grantee's research.

5.22 (d) Beginning January 15, 2025, and annually thereafter until January 15, 2030, the
5.23 commissioner shall submit a report to the legislature specifying the applicants receiving
5.24 grants under this section, the amount of each grant, the purposes for which the grant funds
5.25 were used, and the amount of the appropriation that is unexpended. The report must also
5.26 include relevant findings, results, and outcomes of the grant program, and any other
5.27 information which the commissioner deems significant or useful. This report may be
5.28 combined with the report required under Laws 2022, chapter 42, section 2, as amended.

5.29 (e) This is a onetime appropriation and is available until June 30, 2029.