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State of Minnesota  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

H. F. No. 3702

03/30/2016 Authored by Thissen; Bly; Johnson, S., and Slocum

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Higher Education Policy and Finance

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to higher education; broadening the intervention for college attendance  
1.3 grant program; appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 2014, section  
1.4 136A.861, subdivisions 3, 5, 6, 7; Minnesota Statutes 2015 Supplement, section  
1.5 136A.861, subdivision 1.

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

1.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2015 Supplement, section 136A.861, subdivision 1,  
1.8 is amended to read:

1.9 Subdivision 1. **Grants.** (a) The commissioner shall award grants to foster  
1.10 postsecondary attendance and retention by providing outreach services to historically  
1.11 underserved students in grades ~~six~~ 9 through 12 and historically underrepresented college  
1.12 students. Grants must be awarded to programs that provide precollege or college services,  
1.13 including, but not limited to:

- 1.14 (1) academic and nonacademic counseling or advising;
- 1.15 (2) mentoring;
- 1.16 (3) fostering and improving parental involvement in planning for and facilitating a  
1.17 college education;
- 1.18 (4) services for students with English as a second language;
- 1.19 (5) academic enrichment activities;
- 1.20 (6) structured tutoring;
- 1.21 (7) career awareness and exploration;
- 1.22 (8) orientation to college life;
- 1.23 (9) assistance with high school course selection and information about college  
1.24 admission requirements; ~~and~~
- 1.25 (10) financial aid counseling;

2.1 (11) academic instruction programs in core curricular areas of mathematics and  
 2.2 language arts;

2.3 (12) supplemental instruction programs for college courses with high failure and  
 2.4 withdrawal rates; and

2.5 (13) co-requisite college course models for delivery of academic support.

2.6 ~~(b) To the extent there are sufficient applications, the commissioner shall award~~  
 2.7 ~~an approximate equal amount of grants for program-eligible students who are from~~  
 2.8 ~~communities located outside the metropolitan area, as defined in section 473.121,~~  
 2.9 ~~subdivision 2, as for students from communities within the metropolitan area. If necessary~~  
 2.10 ~~to achieve the approximately equal metropolitan area and nonmetropolitan area allocation,~~  
 2.11 ~~the commissioner may award a preference to a nonmetropolitan area application in the~~  
 2.12 ~~form of five points on a one hundred point application review scale.~~

2.13 ~~(e)~~ (b) Grants shall be awarded to postsecondary institutions, professional  
 2.14 organizations, community-based organizations, or ~~others~~ other service providers deemed  
 2.15 appropriate by the commissioner.

2.16 ~~(d)~~ (c) Grants shall be awarded for one year and may be renewed for a second year  
 2.17 with documentation to the office of successful program outcomes.

2.18 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 136A.861, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

2.19 Subd. 3. **Application process.** (a) The commissioner shall develop a grant  
 2.20 application process. The commissioner shall attempt to support projects in a manner that  
 2.21 ensures that eligible students throughout the state have access to program services.

2.22 (b) The grant application must include, at a minimum, the following information:

2.23 (1) a description of the characteristics of the students to be served reflective of the  
 2.24 need for services listed in subdivision 1;

2.25 (2) a description of the services to be provided and a timeline for implementation of  
 2.26 the activities;

2.27 (3) a description of how the services provided will foster postsecondary readiness  
 2.28 and attendance and support postsecondary retention and completion;

2.29 (4) a description of how the services will be evaluated to determine whether the  
 2.30 program goals were met; and

2.31 (5) other information as identified by the commissioner.

2.32 Grant recipients must specify both program and student outcome goals, and performance  
 2.33 measures for each goal.

2.34 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 136A.861, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

3.1 Subd. 5. **Review Advisory committee.** The commissioner must establish and  
 3.2 convene ~~a grant selection~~ an advisory committee to review ~~assist the commissioner in~~  
 3.3 reviewing applications and award grants ~~advise the commissioner on grantees and grant~~  
 3.4 amounts. The members of the committee may include representatives of postsecondary  
 3.5 institutions, school districts, organizations providing precollege outreach services, and  
 3.6 others deemed appropriate by the commissioner.

3.7 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 136A.861, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

3.8 Subd. 6. **Program evaluation Outcome report.** Each grant recipient must annually  
 3.9 submit a report to the Office of Higher Education delineating its program and student  
 3.10 ~~outcome~~ goals; and activities implemented to ~~achieve the stated outcomes.~~ The goals must  
 3.11 be clearly stated and measurable. ~~Grant recipients are required to collect, analyze, and~~  
 3.12 report on participation and outcome data that enable the office to verify that the program  
 3.13 goals were met. ~~The office shall maintain:~~ The report's description of impacts must  
 3.14 include, but not be limited to, information on:

3.15 (1) ~~information about successful precollege program and undergraduate student~~  
 3.16 ~~retention program activities for dissemination to individuals throughout the state interested~~  
 3.17 ~~in adopting or replicating successful program practices; and~~ number of students served;

3.18 (2) ~~data on the success of the funded projects in increasing the high school~~  
 3.19 ~~graduation, college participation, and college graduation rates of students served by the~~  
 3.20 ~~grant recipients. The office may convene meetings of the grant recipients, as needed, to~~  
 3.21 ~~discuss issues pertaining to the implementation of precollege services and undergraduate~~  
 3.22 ~~retention programs.~~ course taking and grade point average of participating students;

3.23 (3) persistence and retention rates of participating students;

3.24 (4) high school and postsecondary graduation rates of participating students; and

3.25 (5) the number of students who required postsecondary academic remediation and  
 3.26 number of remedial courses for each of those students and in the aggregate.

3.27 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 136A.861, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

3.28 Subd. 7. **Report.** By January 15 of each odd-numbered year, the office shall submit  
 3.29 a report to the committees in the legislature with jurisdiction over higher education finance  
 3.30 regarding the grant recipients and their activities. The report shall include information  
 3.31 about the students served, the organizations providing services, program activities,  
 3.32 program goals and outcomes, and program revenue sources and funding levels. The report  
 3.33 must include recommendations, if any, for legislation to improve program outcomes.

4.1       Sec. 6. **APPROPRIATION.**

4.2               \$..... is appropriated in fiscal year 2017, from the general fund to the commissioner  
4.3 of the Office of Higher Education for the purpose of Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.861.  
4.4 This appropriation is in addition to appropriations for the same purpose made in Laws  
4.5 2015, chapter 69, article 1, section 3, subdivision 9. This is a onetime appropriation and  
4.6 is available until June 30, 2020.