

**SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-SECOND SESSION**

S.F. No. 2001

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DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
03/11/2021	839	Introduction and first reading Referred to Higher Education Finance and Policy See First Special Session 2021, HF7

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to higher education; requiring campus mental health services, training,

1.3 and information; appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 2020, section

1.4 136F.20, by adding a subdivision.

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

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 136F.20, is amended by adding a subdivision

1.7 to read:

1.8 Subd. 4. **Mental health awareness program.** The board shall implement a mental health

1.9 awareness program at each community and technical college by the start of the 2022-2023

1.10 academic year. A mental health awareness program shall include but not be limited to:

1.11 (1) links to existing online screening tools to identify symptoms and assist in connecting

1.12 students to mental health services, including immediate emergency resources;

1.13 (2) mandatory mental health first aid training, evidence-based suicide prevention training,

1.14 or other similar mental health training for all staff, faculty, and students working in student

1.15 housing and campus safety and efforts to make the training available to all faculty and staff;

1.16 (3) a website with information dedicated to campus, local, state, and national mental

1.17 health resources and services available to students, faculty, and staff;

1.18 (4) an annual student orientation session that includes information about maintaining

1.19 good mental health, the symptoms of mental health conditions, and available mental health

1.20 resources and services;

2.1 (5) information on the available mental health resources, online mental health screening
2.2 tools, and mental wellness information, which must be provided to students at least once
2.3 per term, and also during periods of high academic stress;

2.4 (6) the establishment of a peer support program to assist students with a mental health
2.5 condition. The program shall utilize student peers to support students living with mental
2.6 health conditions on campus. The peer support program may be housed within the counseling
2.7 center, wellness center, or resident assistance programs on campus, and the peer support
2.8 program leaders must be trained to facilitate discussions on mental health, identify students
2.9 who may be in crisis, and refer students to programs for mental health support; and

2.10 (7) requiring that all student identification cards include contact information for the
2.11 suicide prevention helpline and textline.

2.12 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION.**

2.13 (a) \$250,000 in fiscal year 2022 and \$250,000 in fiscal year 2023 are appropriated from
2.14 the general fund to the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
2.15 to provide grants to community and technical colleges to achieve the requirements of
2.16 Minnesota Statutes, section 136F.20. Colleges may also apply for the funding to contract
2.17 with an organization to provide mental health care services to students.

2.18 (b) The Board of Trustees shall convene a committee to review and approve grant
2.19 applications. A majority of the committee's membership must be students appointed by the
2.20 statewide student association representing community and technical college students.