

**SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETIETH SESSION**

S.F. No. 534

(SENATE AUTHORS: WIKLUND)

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Introduction and first reading
Referred to Higher Education Finance and Policy

OFFICIAL STATUS

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to higher education; appropriating money to support certain student support
1.3 services programs; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter
136A.

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

1.6 Section 1. **[136A.123] TRIO STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES.**

1.7 Subdivision 1. **Qualifying TRIO Student Support Services programs.** As used in this
1.8 section, "qualifying program" means a TRIO Student Support Services program that is
1.9 eligible for and has received federal grant aid under United States Code, title 20, section
1.10 1070a-14. A qualifying program's purpose must be to increase college retention and
1.11 graduation rates for eligible students. Qualifying program activities may include, but are
1.12 not limited to, academic advising, academic tutoring and instruction, financial aid counseling,
1.13 and direct grant aid to students.

1.14 Subd. 2. **Supplemental grant assistance.** (a) Upon application to the commissioner, a
1.15 public or private postsecondary institution in Minnesota that operates a qualifying program
1.16 is eligible to receive a supplemental grant to support the program, as provided in this
1.17 subdivision. The commissioner shall prescribe a form for this purpose.

1.18 (b) No later than September 1 of each year, the commissioner shall distribute a
1.19 supplemental grant to each institution that has submitted a completed application indicating
1.20 eligibility for the grant. The amount of each institution's grant shall be proportional, based
1.21 on the amount of federal grant aid received by the institution for the qualifying program.

1.22 (c) A supplemental grant must be used to support the program purpose and activities
1.23 described in subdivision 1. Notwithstanding the requirements of federal law, a supplemental

grant may be used to extend direct aid to students beyond their second year of enrollment.
Supplemental grants must be used to supplement, not supplant, other existing funds received
by the institution to support the qualifying program.

Subd. 3. **Outcomes report.** (a) As a condition of receiving a supplemental grant under
this section, an institution must provide the commissioner with a report on qualifying program
outcomes, no later than October 15 of each year. The report must describe the impact of
the supplemental grant on the institution's qualifying programs in the prior fiscal year,
including:

(1) the number of students served;

(2) the number of students receiving direct grant aid, if applicable;

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

(4) graduation rates of participating students.

(b) The commissioner, in consultation with each qualifying program, may prescribe a
consistent formula or methodology to be used in calculating the data required to be reported
under paragraph (a).

(c) No later than January 1 of each year, the commissioner shall submit a report to the
legislative committees with jurisdiction over higher education policy and finance on the
distribution of supplemental grants under this section in the prior year. The report must
include the data reported by institutions received under paragraph (a).

Sec. 2. SUPPLEMENTAL GRANTS; TRIO STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES
PROGRAMS.

\$5,000,000 in fiscal year 2018 and \$5,000,000 in fiscal year 2019 are appropriated from
the general fund to the commissioner of higher education for the purpose of providing
supplemental grants to support qualifying TRIO Student Support Services programs, as
provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.123.