

**SENATE**  
**STATE OF MINNESOTA**  
**NINETIETH SESSION**

**S.F. No. 178**

(SENATE AUTHORS: FISCHBACH)

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OFFICIAL STATUS  
Introduction and first reading  
Referred to Higher Education Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to higher education; providing extended financial aid eligibility; facilitating  
1.3 credit transfer; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters  
1.4 135A; 136A.

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

1.6 Section 1. **[135A.082] CREDIT TRANSFER FOR STUDENTS OF CLOSED**  
1.7 **FOR-PROFIT INSTITUTIONS.**

1.8 (a) The Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities and the  
1.9 Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota must award transfer credit to an admitted  
1.10 student who enrolls because the student was unable to complete a course of study at a private,  
1.11 for-profit postsecondary institution located in Minnesota as a result of that institution's  
1.12 closure.

1.13 (b) The number of credits an institution must award under this section must be based  
1.14 upon:

1.15 (1) the number of credits the student completed at the closed for-profit postsecondary  
1.16 institution; and

1.17 (2) the relationship of the transferred credits to the student's new program or course of  
1.18 study.

1.19 (c) An institution that accepts transfer credits under this section must count as completed  
1.20 any goal area within the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum that the transferred credits fulfill.

(d) This section only requires an award of transfer credits if a student transfers within two years of the closure of a private, for-profit postsecondary institution. An institution covered by this section may choose to award transfer credits after two years have elapsed.

Sec. 2. **[136A.1251] FINANCIAL AID ELIGIBILITY FOR STUDENTS OF CLOSED FOR-PROFIT INSTITUTIONS.**

(a) If a student attended a private, for-profit postsecondary education institution located in Minnesota and was unable to complete a course of study at the institution due to the institution's closure, the commissioners of higher education and veterans affairs must grant the student additional eligibility for state financial aid programs, as provided in this section.

(b) If the student applies for:

(1) a child care grant under section 136A.125, the commissioner of higher education must not count any semester the student attended the closed institution towards the eight-semester limit in section 136A.125, subdivision 2, paragraph (a);

(2) a state grant under section 136A.121, the commissioner of higher education must not count any semester the student attended the closed institution towards the eight-semester limit in section 136A.121, subdivision 9; and

(3) a Minnesota GI Bill benefit under section 197.791, the commissioner of veterans affairs must not count any awards received while attending the closed institution toward the per semester, per fiscal year, or lifetime award limits in section 197.791, subdivision 5.