

**136A.653 EXEMPTIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Exemption.** A school that is subject to licensing by the office under sections 136A.82 to 136A.834 is exempt from the provisions of sections 136A.61 to 136A.71. The determination of the office as to whether a particular school is subject to regulation under sections 136A.82 to 136A.834 is final for the purposes of this exemption.

Subd. 2. **Educational program; nonprofit organizations.** Educational programs which are sponsored by a bona fide and nonprofit trade, labor, business, professional or fraternal organization, which programs are conducted solely for that organization's membership or for the members of the particular industries or professions served by that organization, and which are not available to the public on a fee basis, are exempted from the provisions of sections 136A.61 to 136A.71.

Subd. 3. **Educational program; business firms.** Educational programs which are sponsored by a business firm for the training of its employees or the employees of other business firms with which it has contracted to provide educational services at no cost to the employees are exempted from the provisions of sections 136A.61 to 136A.71.

Subd. 3a. **Tuition-free educational courses.** A school, including a school using an online platform service, offering training, courses, or programs is exempt from sections 136A.61 to 136A.71, to the extent it offers tuition-free courses to students in Minnesota. A course will be considered tuition-free if the school charges no tuition and the required fees and other required charges paid by the student for the course do not exceed two percent of the most recent average undergraduate tuition and required fees as of January 1 of the current year charged for full-time students at all degree-granting institutions as published annually by the United States Department of Education as of January 1 of each year. To qualify for an exemption, a school or online platform service must prominently display a notice comparable to the following: "IMPORTANT: Each educational institution makes its own decision regarding whether to accept completed coursework for credit. Check with your university or college."

Subd. 4. **Voluntary submission.** Any school or program exempted from the provisions of sections 136A.61 to 136A.71 by the provisions of this section may voluntarily submit to the provisions of those sections.

**History:** 1978 c 603 s 6; 1Sp1993 c 2 art 2 s 18; 1995 c 212 art 3 s 59; 2013 c 99 art 2 s 15; 2015 c 69 art 2 s 46