

SENATE

STATE OF MINNESOTA

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

S.F. No. 1978

(SENATE AUTHORS: RARICK, Drazkowski, Gruenhagen, Coleman and Jasinski)

DATE

D-PG

02/27/2025

Introduction and first reading

Referred to Higher Education

OFFICIAL STATUS

1.1

A bill for an act

1.2

relating to higher education; providing that undocumented noncitizens are ineligible

1.3

for state financial aid programs; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, section

1.4

136A.1465, subdivision 1; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes,

1.5

chapter 136A.

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

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Section 1. [136A.099] STATE-FUNDED FINANCIAL AID TO UNDOCUMENTED

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NONCITIZENS PROHIBITED.

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Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, noncitizens of the United States who are

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undocumented or otherwise not lawfully present in the United States must not receive from

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the commissioner any payment, grant, loan, subsidy, or other form of financial aid or

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assistance funded by state tax revenue.

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EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment and

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applies to financial aid awards beginning in the fall term of the 2025-2026 academic year.

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Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 136A.1465, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

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Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** The following terms have the meanings given:

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(1) "eligible student" means a resident student under section 136A.101, subdivision 8,

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clauses (1) to (8) or (10), who is enrolled in any public postsecondary educational institution

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or Tribal college and who meets the eligibility requirements in subdivision 2;

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(2) "gift aid" includes:

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(i) all federal financial aid that is not a loan or pursuant to a work-study program;

(ii) state financial aid, unless designated for other expenses, that is not a loan or pursuant to a work-study program;

(iii) institutional financial aid, including a grant, scholarship, tuition waiver, fellowship stipend, or other payment, unless designated for other expenses, that is not a loan or pursuant to a work-study program; and

(iv) all private financial aid that is not a loan or pursuant to a work-study program.

Financial aid from the state, public postsecondary educational institutions, and Tribal colleges that is specifically designated for other expenses is not gift aid for purposes of the North Star Promise scholarship.

(3) "other expenses" includes books, required supplies, child care, emergency assistance, food, and housing;

(4) "public postsecondary educational institution" means an institution operated by this state, or the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota;

(5) "recognized cost of attendance" has the meaning given in United States Code, title 20, chapter 28, subchapter IV, part F, section 1087ll;

(6) "Tribal college" means a college defined in section 136A.1796, subdivision 1, paragraph (c); and

(7) "tuition and fees" means the actual tuition and mandatory fees charged by an institution.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment and applies to scholarship awards beginning in the fall term of the 2025-2026 academic year.