

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

S.F. No. 2223

(SENATE AUTHORS: BENSON, Tomassoni, Pratt, Rarick and Hoffman)

DATE
03/22/2021

D-PG

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; establishing a postsecondary innovation grant program;
1.3 appropriating money; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter
1.4 136A.

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

1.6 Section 1. **[136A.903] POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION INNOVATION GRANT**
1.7 **PROGRAM.**

1.8 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have
1.9 the meanings given them.

1.10 (b) "Postsecondary education innovation program" means a postsecondary program at
1.11 a Minnesota State Colleges and Universities technical college campus or opportunities
1.12 industrialization center that trains students in high-growth, high-demand careers, which
1.13 program has developed a partnership with local businesses and as well as one or more K-12
1.14 school districts, trade associations, unions, local chamber of commerce, or economic
1.15 development authority.

1.16 (c) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of the Office of Higher Education.

1.17 Subd. 2. **Establishment; eligibility.** (a) The commissioner, in consultation with
1.18 representatives from Minnesota State Colleges and Universities and the business community,
1.19 must establish and administer a program annually awarding grants to eligible postsecondary
1.20 education innovation programs consistent with this section.

1.21 (b) Grants may be awarded to Minnesota State Colleges and Universities technical
1.22 college campuses and opportunities industrialization centers training students in high-growth,

2.1 high-demand careers that have developed a partnership with local businesses and K-12
2.2 school districts, trade associations, local chambers of commerce, and economic development
2.3 authorities. Funds must be used to develop new and accelerate existing employer-led
2.4 workforce exposure programs, technical education pathway programs, dual-training
2.5 programs, internships, youth skills training programs, and other industry-recognized
2.6 programs. Funding may be used for curriculum development, equipment procurement, or
2.7 other start-up costs. Priority consideration for funding shall be given to local partnerships
2.8 whose program addresses an industry with a demonstrated workforce shortage. Local
2.9 partnerships must demonstrate how business and industry are providing financial and in-kind
2.10 contributions to the program.

2.11 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION.**

2.12 \$..... in fiscal year 2022 and \$..... in fiscal year 2023 are appropriated from the general
2.13 fund to the commissioner of higher education for the postsecondary education innovation
2.14 program under Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.903.