

# State Grant Background



## CONCORDIA COLLEGE

639 State Grant recipients were on campus last academic year — that was **30 percent** of all Concordia undergraduates.

The average State Grant award at Concordia was \$5,172.

In total, **more than \$3.3 million** in State Grant awards were made to Concordia students.

*“Before, I did not even have a career plan and didn’t think that college*



*and a four year degree was even possible. The State Grant has made a lot of things*

*possible for me. I worry less about paying for school.”*

**Franz Tasha**, Concordia College, Class of 2019  
**HOMETOWN:** Inver Grove Heights, MN **MAJORS:** Management Information Systems **EXTRA-CURRICULARS:** Plays for Concordia’s football team and works in Career Services



**THE STATE GRANT PROGRAM HELPS STUDENTS AFFORD THE COLLEGES THAT BEST MEET THEIR NEEDS.**

### The State Grant program:

- > Targets low- and middle-income families
- > Supports all college options
- > Has statewide impact
- > Holds down additional borrowing
- > Invests in the state’s economy by building the future workforce



**80,000** students from across Minnesota receive a State Grant.

And they go to all kinds of colleges.

- 4-YEAR
- PRIVATE
- PUBLIC
- 2-YEAR

# Equity & Prosperity: A Student Aid Agenda

---

We ask Governor Walz and the Legislature to invest in college students through the State Grant program.

## 2020 Request

Reduce the share of costs the state expects students to pay for college with a \$24 million investment in the State Grant program. This would:

- **INCREASE THE SIZE OF GRANTS FOR ALL CURRENT RECIPIENTS**
- **GIVE AWARDS TO 3,500 NEWLY ELIGIBLE MINNESOTA STUDENTS — most with family incomes below \$50,000**

## Benefits

Acting now to reduce the student share would lower the amount students need to borrow or earn from working. The result would help keep college affordable for low- and middle-income Minnesotans. This investment would also help address racial disparities in college completion, as the Minnesota Education Equity Partnership (MnEEP) recommended in a January 2020 policy brief.

### STATE GRANT 101

The State Grant program is the only way the state of Minnesota targets funds to college students based on their financial need. Recipients:

- Earn bachelor's degrees, associate degrees and certificates
- Attend part-time and full-time
- Attend private and public institutions
- Are recent high school grads and adult learners

---

*“In the arena of financial aid, assistance to those who need it most will boost the national economy. And need-based aid for college helps achieve the separate social goal of greater equity.”*

— excerpt from “College Financial Aid: Equity and Efficiency,” The Region, Oct. 18, 2018, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis

MINNESOTA  
PRIVATE  
COLLEGE  
COUNCIL