

State Grant Background



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

The State Grant program:

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



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

And they go to all kinds of colleges.



MINNEAPOLIS COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN

214 State Grant recipients were on campus last academic year — that was **27 percent** of all MCAD undergraduates.

The average State Grant award at MCAD was \$5,546.

In total, **\$1.2 million** in State Grant awards were made to MCAD students.

"I'm able to pursue my goal of expanding our appreciation for nature and the environment through my work. All of this wouldn't be possible without receiving the State Grants, which have helped financially so I can focus more on schoolwork than having to worry about making ends meet."



Andy Pan, Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Class of 2020 **HOMETOWN:** Byron, MN **MAJOR:** Graphic Design **EXTRA-CURRICULARS:** AIGA Design Club member, Ping Pong Club member, Basketball Club member, design intern at Architectural Antiques, freelance photographer and designer for a small business



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

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