

State Grant Background



BETHEL UNIVERSITY

811 State Grant recipients were on campus last academic year — that was **26 percent** of all Bethel undergraduates.

The average State Grant award at Bethel was \$5,182

In total, **more than \$4.2 million** in State Grant awards were made to Bethel students.

"I cannot express enough how the scholarships and grants I received will impact my life. Receiving this will help me to educate myself and better the world in return."



MCKENSIE CLEMONS, Bethel University, Class of 2025
HOMETOWN: Hastings, MN MAJOR: Music Education
Grades K-12 EXTRA-CURRICULAR: Choir



BETHEL
UNIVERSITY

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



71,900 students from across Minnesota receive a State Grant.

And they go to all kinds of colleges.

4-YEAR

PRIVATE

PUBLIC

2-YEAR

2022 State Grant Agenda

We ask Governor Walz and the Legislature to prioritize college students through the Minnesota State Grant program, which supports students who need it most.

New State Grant investments help two out of five Minnesota resident college students.

REQUEST:

THE SHARE OF EXPENSES THAT THE STATE GRANT FORMULA EXPECTS STUDENTS TO COVER SHOULD BE LOWERED FROM 50 TO 46 PERCENT OF COLLEGE COSTS.

Legislation that would do this with a \$42 million investment has been introduced: Senate File 2894 and House File 2859.

BENEFIT:

1. Larger grants

- Help the 66,000 students who would already receive State Grant awards.
- Looking at all students, full- and part-time, the average grant increase would be \$635.
- For full-time students, grant increases would range from \$670 to \$1,170.

BACKGROUND:

It makes sense that students should help pay for their college education. But the student share shouldn't be unreasonable. The State Grant program has outdated assumptions about what a student can afford to pay. Fixing this is important; it will help students stay in college and earn their degrees.

Lower-income students have been hit the hardest during the pandemic. Last year the number of Pell Grant recipients enrolled in college in Minnesota fell by 12 percent, while there was a drop of only 2 percent for those who did not receive Pell Grants.

Investing in the State Grant program makes the difference for college students, their families — and our state's economy.