

State Grant Background



The Minnesota State Grant program:

Helps low- and middle-income families

Has statewide impact

Holds down borrowing

Increases graduation rates

Encourages students to stay in Minnesota

State Grant funds are awarded to students – not institutions.

68,000 students from across Minnesota receive a grant.

39% of students from Minnesota going to college here receive a grant.

And for Minnesota students of color and Native American students going to college here, **55%** receive a grant.

Students use their State Grant awards to pursue their education and career goals.

They are earning certificates, associate degrees and bachelor's degrees.

They are traditional-age students and adult learners.

They are at public, tribal and private colleges.

ST. OLAF COLLEGE

523 State Grant recipients were on campus last academic year — that was **17 percent** of all St. Olaf undergraduates.

The average State Grant award at St. Olaf was **\$6,316**.

“One of my main concerns when applying to colleges was that I would not be able to afford my school of choice. The Minnesota State Grant made it possible for me to attend St. Olaf and achieve the education I have always dreamed of.”



Cora Harpel

St. Olaf College, Class of 2026

Hometown: Ellendale, Minn.

Major: English and creative writing

Extra-curriculars: Students for reproductive rights, band and theater

