

Governor's 2016 Supplemental Budget Bill

Article 1: General Education

Section 1: The school calendar year for a voluntary prekindergarten program must have at least 350 hours of instruction.

Section 2: Expands allowable uses of long-term facilities maintenance revenue to remodeling facilities to accommodate instructional space for prekindergarten instruction.

Sections 3 and 4: All students in voluntary prekindergarten programs receive free breakfast.

Section 5: Establishes the voluntary prekindergarten program

- Districts and charters may establish a voluntary prekindergarten program for four year olds;
- Sets program components, such as : measuring child skills aligned to state early learning standards; providing instructional and comprehensive program content; providing instructional staff with salaries comparable to those of local K-12 staff; coordinating appropriate kindergarten transition, comprehensive community-based services, and with all relevant district programs; including parent engagement strategies; ensuring staff-to-child ratios of one-to-ten with a maximum class size of 20 children; and providing high-quality professional development.
- Programs must ensure that all classroom teachers are licensed by the 2022-2023 school year.
- Allows for mixed delivery of services, partnering with charters, Head Starts, child care centers, family child care programs, or a community-based organization.
- Students are eligible to participate if they are four years of age on Sept. 1 of that school calendar year. Students must have completed a health and development screening within 90 days of enrolling, and provide documentation of required immunization.
- District or charter must apply by July 1, 2016, for FY 2017, and Jan 30 of prior fiscal year thereafter; applications are divided into four pots: urban, suburban, greater Minnesota, and charters; within each pot, applications are ranked on a sliding scale based on poverty and proximity of three- and four-star Parent Aware

rated programs; funds are spread across pots based on each groups' proportion of statewide kindergarten enrollment;

- Sets 0.6 cap on prekindergarten pupil units.
- Provides \$25 million in FY17, \$40 million in FY18, and \$60 million in FY19.

Section 6: Includes prekindergarten students in definition of English learner.

Section 7: Sets prekindergarten pupil units at no more than 0.6.

Section 8: Includes prekindergarten units in calculation of compensatory revenue.

Section 9: Excludes prekindergarten from the calculation of declining enrollment revenue for FY17- FY19.

Section 10: Adjusts the operating capital equalizing factor.

Section 11: Appropriations connect with the voluntary prekindergarten program.

Article 2: Education Excellence

Section 1: Gives the department permanent authority to spend the fees collected for the licensure via portfolio process.

Section 2: Increases alternative teacher compensation aid by \$240,000 in FY16 and allows the commissioner to shift program aid from the second year of the biennium to the first year in case the cap is met.

Section 3: Increases per-site grants to \$150,000 in full-service community school program, clarifies that if planning funds not needed then plan must be submitted with application, and modifies how factors are considered in awarding grants.

Section 4: Minnesota's Future Teachers Grant Program

- Defines eligible institution, high needs area and high needs school, and qualified candidate.
- Office of Higher Education (OHE) makes grants to teacher preparation programs for financial assistance and support for teaching students.
- Sets program requirements, such as: having OHE set maximum grant level; eligible institutions must demonstrate that most of grant will go for costs, fees, and tuition of candidates; program must do outreach to underserved populations; program must provide support services and experiential opportunities; candidates must provide a letter of intent to teach in high needs area/school; and candidate must receive mentoring.

Section 5: Board of Teaching must adopt rules for Certificates of Advanced Professional Study, which are credentials for teachers with full licenses to get a waiver or variance when a licensure program doesn't exist in MN or when a teacher with a license in that area cannot be found. Sets requirements for the certificates.

Section 6: Stepping up for Kids

- Defines high needs area, high needs school, and qualified candidate.
- OHE disburses funds to paraprofessionals when enrolled in a MN program leading to teacher licensure.
- Awards go to those employed in high needs areas/schools. Commissioner must take into account diversifying the workforce.
- Candidate must commit to remain employed in a MN district for four years upon completion of teacher preparation. Those who don't complete may be required to repay. Candidate must provide a letter of intent.
- Grants can only be used for tuition and expenses related to completing the program a getting licensed.
- Commissioner of Education with assistance of the Commissioner of the Office of Higher Education may adopt additional policies and procedures to implement the program.

Section 7: Provides \$10 million for teacher development and evaluation for FY17 only for those entities that are not currently in the alternative professional pay system. This equals \$341.74 times the number of full-time equivalent teachers.

Section 8: Appropriations

- \$2 million for full-service community schools in FY17 only.
- \$10 million for Minnesota's future teachers grant program in FY17 and thereafter.
- \$2 million for Stepping up for kids program in FY17 and thereafter.
- \$204,000 in FY16 for the alternative teacher compensation revenue program \$10 million for teacher development and evaluation in FY17 only.

Article 3: Charter School

Section 1: Deletes existing language and will allow prekindergarten deaf or hard of hearing pupils to enroll in a charter school beginning the 2016 school year.

Article 4: Special Education

Section 1: Clarifies that intermediate districts can charge access fees to nonmember districts for unreimbursed costs. Assures reasonableness of costs. Technical change to cleanup language that was missed after local optional revenue was instituted.

Section 2: Relating to third party revenue and reimbursements. Requires districts to reserve third party revenue for certain purposes. The current language is permissive. Also requires MDE to establish procedures through the uniform financial accounting and reporting system (UFARS) to all revenue.

Section 3: Technical reinstatement of language inadvertently deleted when the new special education formula was enacted.

Sections 4 and 5: Technical change to cleanup language that was missed after local optional revenue was instituted.

Section 6: Appropriations

- \$Appropriates money to cover the costs of deaf and hard of hearing students when enrolling in a prekindergarten charter school.
- \$1 million in FY17 and thereafter to implement recommendations of the restrictive procedures work group.

Article 5: Early Childhood Education

Section 1: Help Me Grow

- Establishes a comprehensive, statewide, coordinated system of early identification, referral and follow-up for children prenatal to age eight and their families.
- Requires the commissioners of education, health and human services to work collaboratively to create and implement the system.
- System facilitates collaboration across child health, early learning and education, and family supports through provider outreach, identification of at-risk factors, linking families and children to community-based services and maintaining an extensive resource directory that is a centralized access point for parents and professionals.
- System collects data to identify gaps and barriers.
- Requires the Department of Education to annually review the system performance and impacts.

Article 6: Self-Sufficiency and Lifelong Learning

Section 1: Covers 100% of fee for all eligible individuals to take one general education development (GED) test battery in FY17 only.

Section 2: Appropriation: \$120,000 for GED tests in FY 17 only.

Article 7: State Agencies

Section 1: Appropriations to the Department of Education

- \$30,000 in FY16, \$77,000 in FY17, \$83,000 in years thereafter to the Board of Teaching.
- \$302,000 to Board of Teaching to implement Certificates of Advanced Professional study program in FY17. Base appropriation is \$50,000 in years thereafter.
- \$4.385 million in FY17 only to the Department of Education for IT enhancements and security.

Section 2: Appropriations

- \$1 million in FY 17 only for Help Me Grow.
- \$2.75 million in FY17 only for Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports.
- \$2 million in FY17 to develop a statewide online special education reporting system and \$540,000 in years thereafter for ongoing costs.