

H.F. 4500
As Introduced

Subject Teachers

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Overview

This bill modifies the aspiring Minnesota teachers of color scholarship program, codifies it in statute, and appropriates \$10 million for the program. The language is currently in session law. In 2021, the higher education bill appropriated a total of \$3 million for fiscal years 2022-2023 for the aspiring Minnesota teachers of color scholarship program. The appropriation is available to be spent until July 1, 2025. There was no appropriation for the program in 2023.

The bill appropriates \$5 million for mentoring, induction, and retention programs for teachers of color or American Indian teachers. In 2023, the legislature appropriated \$3.5 million in fiscal year 2024, and \$3.5 million in fiscal year 2025 for these programs. The base for fiscal year 2026 and later is \$4.5 million.

The bill also appropriates \$1 million for the collaborative urban and greater Minnesota educators of color grant program. In 2023, the legislature appropriated \$5.44 million in fiscal year 2024 and \$5.44 million in fiscal year 2025 for the program.

Summary

Section Description

1 Aspiring Minnesota teachers of color scholarship program.

Modifies eligibility for scholarship for students preparing to become early childhood teachers. Prohibits an applicant from receiving scholarships under both this program and the underrepresented student teacher grant program, unless there are sufficient funds to support all eligible applicants. Modifies how scholarship award amounts are calculated and caps the maximum award for an applicant enrolled in an associate's degree program at \$6,000 per year for full-time study. Creates an aspiring Minnesota teacher of color scholarship program account in the special revenue fund.

Section Description

2 Appropriations; Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board.

Appropriates \$1 million for the collaborative urban and greater Minnesota educators of color grant program in fiscal year 2025, and \$5 million for mentoring programs for teachers of color or American Indian teachers in fiscal year 2025.

3 Appropriations; Office of Higher Education.

Appropriates \$10 million in fiscal year 2025 for transfer to the aspiring Minnesota teachers of color scholarship program. Transfers to the special revenue fund any remaining balance of the amount appropriated from the program in 2021.

4 Revisor instruction.

Instructs the revisor of statutes to codify the aspiring Minnesota teacher of color scholarship program language that is currently in session law.



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