

**Subject** Concurrent Enrollment Teacher Partnership

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## Overview

Minnesota's PSEO dual enrollment programs include concurrent enrollment courses. A concurrent enrollment course is usually taught by a high school teacher at the high school under the supervision and direction of a higher education partner institution. The higher education institutions are subject to accreditation, and the accrediting partner for many of Minnesota's higher education institutions is the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). This regional accrediting authority sets educational standards for instructors, including that PSEO concurrent enrollment teachers have either a master's degree in their content area or at least 18 graduate-level credits in the teacher's content area. A number of Minnesota's teachers who teach concurrent enrollment courses do not have these credentials.

Minnesota's Legislature acted in 2016 to appropriate money for a program enabling teachers to acquire the necessary graduate credits. The program is hosted by the Lakes Country Service Cooperative and is named the "18 Online" program (after the 18 graduate credits the teachers need to acquire in their respective content areas). After the first year of the program serving teachers in the Northwest region of the state, the program was extended statewide, but some confusion resulted from the terminology and the way the statewide program was described. The program was most recently funded at \$1.775 million for fiscal year 2020 and \$375,000 for fiscal year 2021.

H.F. 649 clarifies the program's structure, expands the teachers that may participate in the program, and appropriates \$1 million per year beginning in fiscal year 2022 to Lakes Country Service Cooperative as the fiscal agent for the 18 Online partnership.

## Summary

Section	Description
1	<p><b>Concurrent enrollment teacher partnership.</b></p> <p>Clarifies the language of the concurrent enrollment teacher partnership and consolidates the language of the Northwest partnership program and the statewide program. Establishes the Lakes Country Service Cooperative as the fiscal host for the voluntary partnership among Lakes Country Service Cooperative, the Northwest Service Cooperative, the Metro Service Cooperative, and the Minnesota State College and University system.</p> <p>Declares, going forward, that the concurrent enrollment teacher partnership may: (1) provide funding for course development in applicable postsecondary subject areas; (2) work with school districts to develop incentives for teachers to participate in the program; and (3) enroll college faculty, as space permits, and provide financial assistance if state aid remains available.</p> <p>Removes obsolete language.</p>
2	<p><b>Statewide concurrent enrollment training program; appropriations for FY 20 and FY 21.</b></p> <p>Removes the budget base for this program for fiscal year 2022 and later as the program is now funded through the new appropriation in section 3.</p>
3	<p><b>Appropriations; concurrent enrollment teacher training partnership.</b></p> <p>Appropriates \$1 million in fiscal year 2022 and \$1 million in fiscal year 2023 from the general fund to the commissioner of education for a grant to Lakes Country Service Cooperative for the concurrent enrollment teacher training partnership. Note: An appropriation in both years of the biennium establishes a K12 budget base for fiscal year 2024 and later of \$1 million per year for the program.</p>



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