Overview

Establishes a grant program in fiscal years 2000 and 2001 to ensure the ongoing self sufficiency of adolescent families and the development and school readiness of their children and appropriates money.

1 Minnesota adolescent parenting grant program.

Subd. 1. Establishment. Establishes a grant program to ensure the ongoing self sufficiency of adolescent families and the development and school readiness of their children.

Subd. 2. Goals. Lists four program goals: assist pregnant and parenting adolescents to improve school attendance; attain state graduation standards and acquire school-to-work skills; prevent child abuse and neglect; reduce welfare dependency; and improve the health, development and school readiness outcomes of adolescent parents and their children.

Subd. 3. Eligible students. Makes a student under age 22 who is an expectant, custodial or noncustodial parent and enrolled in a school district with an approved parenting program, and the birth-to-age-4 child of such a student eligible for support services under this program.

Subd. 4. Grant application. Permits a school district, group of school districts, approved alternative learning programs or family service collaboratives to apply to the commissioner of children, families and learning for a grant. Requires the application to describe the program, including the population and number of pupils to be served, the collaborating agencies that will provide the support services to the site, how program components will achieve program outcomes, the program budget, and an evaluation plan.

Subd. 5. Program components. Lists 10 program components: a high quality educational program; collaboration with state and local entities to provide on-site support services; an individualized learning plan for each student; a prohibition against discrimination based on students' status; parent education and life skills courses; accountability measures linked to the state's graduation rule; professional development opportunities; documentation of fund expenditures; a data collection and reporting system; and a program advisory council.
Subd. 6. Program evaluation. Directs the commissioner to develop, implement and coordinate a program evaluation. Directs the commissioner to consider the program impact on school attendance, academic achievement, graduation rates, parenting skills, health and other outcomes. Directs the commissioner to testify before the legislature by January 15, 2001.

Appropriation; adolescent parent grants. Appropriates $5,000,000 from the general fund to the commissioner of children, families and learning in fiscal year 2000 for adolescent parenting grants. Makes any remaining balance in the appropriation available in fiscal year 2001. Directs the commissioner to continue grants to those programs demonstrating progress and to select additional grantees. Requires the department to coordinate the programs with other state and federal programs serving pregnant or parenting adolescents and programs for preventing pregnancy from occurring. Makes up to 2.5 percent of the appropriation available for administrative costs.