Overview

This bill establishes a program of tuition and textbook reimbursement grants for students enrolled in accredited post-secondary Minnesota school guidance counseling training institutions.

Section

1 School guidance and counseling incentive grants.

Subd. 1. Establishment. Establishes a scholarship grant program for students enrolled in accredited post-secondary Minnesota school guidance counseling training institutions in order to increase the number of future school guidance counselors.

Subd. 2. Eligibility. Limits eligibility to a student enrolled in accredited post-secondary Minnesota school guidance counseling training institutions who is a resident of Minnesota, attends a post-secondary educational institution, provides verification of enrollment in a school guidance counselor program and a plan of study for completion of degree and licensure as a school guidance counselor, consents to recoupment if the student fails to complete the plan of study, and consents to be employed for five years as a school guidance counselor in a Minnesota school district. Allows the commissioner of children, families, and learning in collaboration with representatives from state school guidance counseling training institutions to determine additional eligibility criteria. Tuition and textbook reimbursement grants received under this section may not be considered in determining a person's eligibility for a scholarship or grant-in-aid.

Subd. 3. Application process. Requires the commissioner in consultation with representatives from state school guidance counselor training institutions to develop a grant process for applicants. Requires post-secondary school students to request an application from the commissioner.

Subd. 4. Incentive grants; amounts. Allows the commissioner to award an unspecified number of grants in fiscal years 2000 and 2001. Sets the maximum grant award at an amount
equal to 75 percent of the tuition and textbook costs.

2 **Appropriation.** Appropriates an unspecified amount from the general fund in fiscal year 2000 for the purposes of the grant program specified in section 1. Of this amount, appropriates unspecified amounts to be available in fiscal years 2000 and 2001.

3 **Effective date.** Makes sections 1 and 2 effective the day following final enactment.