

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

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### Overview

The 2011 Legislature appropriated \$4 million in Fiscal Year 2013 for early childhood scholarships for qualifying families, and set an ongoing appropriations base of \$2 million per year for each subsequent year of the program. A family with a child aged 3 to 5 is eligible for an early education scholarship if the family meets the program's income guidelines or qualifies for one of a number of family assistance programs.

This bill would divide the funding into two equal portions, one for parents in greater Minnesota and the other for parents in the seven-county metro area.

- 1 Early childhood education scholarships.** Divides the \$4 million appropriation for early childhood education scholarships in two and reserves half for parents in greater Minnesota and half for parents in the seven-county metro area. Allows the commissioner to reallocate grants among the regions if there is not enough demand for the full amount of the grants in the other region.