

Subject Higher Education: Z-Degree program

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Overview

The Z-Degree program is a zero-textbook-cost associate's degree requirement at state colleges.¹ It was created by the legislature in 2019 and was given onetime funding of \$250,000 per year in FY2020 and FY2021.² The last legislative report on the Z-Degree requirement is available online [here](#).³

Summary

Section	Description
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1	Z-Degrees.
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This section makes various changes to the Z-Degree statute.

Subd. 1. Definitions. Amends definitions of terms for the section.

Subd. 2. Requirement. Adds a new requirement that two additional state colleges or universities offer a Z-Degree by the 2023-2024 academic year. Requires MnState to continuously expand the Z-Degree offerings on system campuses.

Subd. 3. Open educational resource development. Removes redundant language.

Subd. 4. Report. Requires annual reporting on Z-Degree offerings.

¹ See Minn. Stat. § 136F.305.

² See Laws 2019 Chapter 64, Art. 1, § 3, subd. 3(h); Art. 2, § 39.

³ <https://www.lrl.mn.gov/docs/2021/mandated/210038.pdf>

Section	Description
2	Appropriation. Provides a to be determined amount of funding to MnState for Z-Degrees in FY2022 only. Because no funding is provided in FY2023, no base appropriation is set for future years.



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