

Subject Increasing Funding for the Education Partnership Program

Authors Wolgamott and others

Analyst Tim Strom, tim.strom@house.mn

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Overview

Minnesota's K12 budget includes state aid to promise neighborhoods, achievement zones, and other community partnerships through the Education Partnership Program codified in Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.99. This program supports a coalition of coordinated, education partnerships providing a network of evidence-based support services designed to close opportunity gaps by improving educational and developmental outcomes of children and their families. The existing program divides the funding between Tier 1 sustaining grants and Tier 2 implementation grants.

The 2019 Legislature funded two Tier 1 grants on an ongoing basis. The grants are \$1.3 million per year for the Northside Achievement Zone in Minneapolis and the St. Paul Promise Neighborhood. The 2019 Legislature provided Tier 2 grants of \$250,000 per grantee for each of fiscal years 2020 and 2021 to the Northfield Healthy Community Initiative, the Jones Family Foundation for the Every Hand Joined program in Red Wing, the United Way of Central Minnesota for the Partners for Student Success program, the Austin Aspires program, and the Rochester Area Foundation for the Cradle to Career program. The 2019 law set the base for Tier 2 grants at \$480,000 per year, to be awarded through a competitive grant process.

H.F. 156 adds a third tier to the program for planning and development grants and provides funding as follows: Tier 1 grants of \$2.3 million per grantee per year; Tier 2 grants of \$250,000 per year per grantee to the five grantees funded in the 2019 bill and adding Generation Next as a sixth grantee; and \$500,000 per year for Tier 3 planning grants of up to \$100,000 per grant.

Summary

| Section | Description |
|---------|---|
| 1 | Definitions; Tier 3 grant. Adds a third tier of grants to the Education Partnership Program. Defines a Tier 3 grant as a community planning grant. |
| 2 | Appropriations; education partnership program. Appropriates \$4.6 million per year for Tier 1 grants, \$1.5 million per year for Tier 2 grants, \$500,000 per year for Tier 3 grants, and \$330,000 per year to the Minnesota Department of Education for administrative costs associated with the program. |



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