

State Grant Background



MINNESOTA STATE GRANT

- > The average State Grant award at four-year institutions was \$4,063
- > 9 out of 10 State Grant recipients had a family income below the state's median family income of \$89,000

THE STATE GRANT PROGRAM HELPS STUDENTS AFFORD THE COLLEGES THAT BEST MEET THEIR NEEDS.

The State Grant program:

- > Targets low- and middle-income families
- > Supports all college options
- > Has statewide impact
- > Holds down additional borrowing
- > Invests in the state's economy by building the future workforce

"I know that support from the State Grant helps me stay in



school and will help me graduate on-time. It also makes it possible for me to attend

the college that fits me best."

VIRIDIANA MARTINEZ, St. Thomas Class of 2021
HOMETOWN: Minneapolis, MN **MAJORS:** Leadership and management **EXTRA-CURRICULARS:** President of the LatinX Club, work study in Student Affairs, mentor in Linkages program, student representative on the accreditation team and a member of undergraduate student government



80,000 students from across Minnesota receive a State Grant.

And they go to all kinds of colleges.

4-YEAR

PRIVATE

PUBLIC

2-YEAR

Equity & Prosperity: A Student Aid Agenda

We ask Governor Walz and the Legislature to invest in college students through the State Grant program.

2020 Request

To help low- and middle-income college students, reduce the share of college costs students are expected to pay from 50 percent to 48 percent in the State Grant program's formula, through an investment of \$24 million in the program.

This investment would lower the amount students need to borrow or earn from working by:

- **INCREASING THE SIZE OF GRANTS FOR ALL CURRENT RECIPIENTS**
- **GIVING AWARDS TO 3,500 NEWLY ELIGIBLE MINNESOTA STUDENTS**

Reducing the student share in the State Grant program is one of the recommendations included in the Minnesota Education Equity Partnership's (MnEEP's) January 2020 policy brief, "Reducing Racial Disparities in College Completion."

"In the arena of financial aid, assistance to those who need it most will boost the national economy. And need-based aid for college helps achieve the separate social goal of greater equity."

— excerpt from "College Financial Aid: Equity and Efficiency," The Region, Oct. 18, 2018, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis

Benefits

These funds would help keep college affordable for low- and middle-income Minnesotans. A large majority of the new recipients would have family incomes below \$50,000.

The State Grant program is the only way the state of Minnesota targets funds to college students based on their financial need. Recipients:

- earn bachelor's degrees, associate degrees and certificates
- attend part-time and full-time
- attend private and public institutions
- are recent high school grads and adult learners

MINNESOTA
PRIVATE
COLLEGE
COUNCIL