

Minnesota Equity Legislation: 2016 & 2017

New or expanded in 2016	2017 Funding	New in 2017
Equity in Education and Job Connection Grants. Grants to MN state colleges and universities and private organizations to improve postsecondary attendance and completion for historically underrepresented college students and help them get well-paid jobs. Includes academic and nonacademic counseling, mentoring, tutoring, career exploration, internships, job placement services, college orientation, financial aid counseling, and instruction in math and language arts. \$500K in FY17 for grants through the State Office of Higher Education.	No continued funding.	
Good Food Access Program: Financial and technical assistance for construction or expansion of grocery stores and small food retailers to increase access to affordable, nutritious, and culturally appropriate food for underserved communities in low- and moderate-income areas. \$250K in FY17 for grants through the Dept. of Agriculture.	Up to \$500K in FY18/19 and FY20/21.	
As part of the \$35M approved for developing broadband throughout Minnesota, \$500K may be used for grants to expand broadband service in areas that have a significant proportion of low-income households. Grants through the Dept. of Employment and Economic Development (DEED).	\$20M in FY18 for broadband development to drive economic development in Greater Minnesota.	
Exploited Families Rental Assistance Pilot Program. Rental assistance to individuals or families with a minor child who are from emerging communities, are at risk of being homeless, and have been victims of gender-based violence (domestic violence, sexual assault, trafficking, international		Homework Starts with Home Initiative. \$2M in FY18 for loans or grants to secure stable housing for families with children eligible for enrollment in pre-K through Grade 12.

abusive marriage, or forced marriage). \$500K in FY17 for grants through the Housing Finance Agency.		
Expands existing DEED job training grants for very low-income people. Grants paid to job training programs for graduates that are placed in a job and for graduates that remain in their post-training job for at least one year are increased from \$9,000 to \$11,000 per graduate. Raises income and asset eligibility limits for training participants (income raised from \$11,000 to \$12,000 per year; assets raised from \$7,000 to \$10,000).		
The existing Urban Initiative Program, which gives grants to nonprofits who in turn provide loans to minority-owned businesses in low-income areas in the Twin Cities, is renamed the “Minnesota Emerging Entrepreneur Program,” and will give grants to nonprofits who provide loans to businesses in Greater Minnesota or in low-income areas of the Twin Cities that are owned by minorities, women, veterans, or people with disabilities. \$500K is available in FY17 and \$1.5M in each succeeding biennium. An additional \$357K is available in FY17 for the seven-county Twin Cities area. Grants are awarded through DEED.	\$1.376M in FY18/19 (a decrease of \$124K). \$2M in FY20/21 (an increase of \$500K).	
\$1.5M in FY17 and \$1.5M in each succeeding biennium is awarded to the Neighborhood Development Center for small business development for immigrants in suburban communities, for outreach and training in Greater Minnesota, and for a small business incubator program.	\$1.5M in FY18/19. \$0 in FY 20/21.	
Grants to organizations that provide support services to low-income communities, to young adults from families with a history of intergenerational poverty, and to communities of color. “Support services” include job readiness and job training, internships, job assistance to fathers, financial	\$1.5M in FY18/19 and \$2M in FY20/21.	

literacy, academic and behavioral interventions for low-performing students, and youth intervention. \$2M in FY17 and \$3M in each succeeding biennium. Also called “Competitive Grants for Self Sufficiency”		
\$1M in FY17 and \$500K in each succeeding biennium to YWCA-St. Paul for job training and workforce development programs.	\$500K in FY18/19. \$0 in FY 20/21.	
\$750K in FY17 and \$750K in each succeeding biennium to YWCA-Minneapolis to provide low-income persons with job training and placement in early childhood education careers.	\$1.05M in FY18/19. \$0 in 20/21.	
\$4.25M in FY17 and \$2M in each succeeding biennium to EMERGE Community Development for job readiness, training and support services, and a “general education development fast track adult diploma program” in communities with the highest concentrations of African and African-American unemployment. Primarily serves North Minneapolis and Cedar Riverside areas.	\$2M in FY18/19. \$0 in FY20/21.	
\$2.5M in FY 17 and \$2.35M in each succeeding biennium to the Metropolitan Economic Development Association (MEDA) for statewide business development, with priority to minority-owned businesses and businesses that create jobs for unemployed and underemployed people.	\$2.35M in FY18/19 and \$0 in FY20/21.	
Grant to Minneapolis Foundation for North@Work (Northside Funders Group) program: job training and placement for African American men. \$1M in FY17, \$2M in FY18/19 and \$2M in FY 20/21.	\$2M FY18/19. \$0 in FY 20/21.	
Twin Cities RISE. Job training for hard-to-train, low-income individuals. \$1.2M FY17, \$1.2M in FY18/19 and \$1.2M in	\$2.097M in FY18/19. Of this amount, \$497K in FY18/19 is for	

FY 20/21. \$407K of the FY17 amount is for the Metro Transit Technician training program.	Metro Transit technician training.	
Hennepin County Career Connections Pathways. As a way to serve people who face barriers to employment or who are underrepresented in the workforce, and to increase diversity, Hennepin County offers employees in certain jobs tuition-free job training and professional support to help them advance their careers. \$2.5M in FY17, with \$300,000 of this amount to be used for a Career Connections Pilot Program in Greater Minnesota.	No continued funding.	
High-wage, high-demand, nontraditional job training and placement grants for women of color. Grants may also be for approved job training or apprenticeship programs for girls of color. Grants may be used for support services for women in nontraditional jobs, services such as family caregiving and financial assistance for childcare, transportation and safe and stable housing. \$1.5M in FY17, \$2M in FY18/19, and \$2M in FY 20/21. Grants awarded through DEED.	\$1M in FY18/19 and \$1.5M per biennium in FY20/21 and beyond.	
Youth-at-Work competitive grant program. Workforce development for economically disadvantaged or at-risk youth, ages 14-24. (“At-risk” includes young people who are pregnant or parents, and young people with limited English proficiency.) Priority is given to programs that serve youth from communities of color or youth with disabilities. Base \$8.696M in FY18/19 and \$8.696M in FY 20/21.	\$7.696M in FY18/19 and \$8.196M in FY 20/21.	
Competitive grants to organizations working to relieve economic disparities in the Southeast Asian community. \$2M in FY17 and \$2M in FY18-19.	\$1M in FY18/19 and \$2M in FY 20/21.	
\$1.5M FY17 and \$1.5M in each succeeding biennium to CLUES (Comunidades Latinas Unidas en Servicio) to	\$1.5M in FY18/19. \$0 in FY20/21.	

address employment and education skill gaps for working parents and underserved youth. At least 50% must be targeted to Greater Minnesota.		
\$880K in FY17 and \$500K in each succeeding year to American Indian Opportunities and Industrialization Center (AIOIC) and Northwest Indian Community Development Center to reduce educational disparities in the American Indian community.	\$500K in FY18/19. \$0 in FY 20/21.	
\$500K in FY17 and \$250K in each succeeding biennium to the White Earth Nation for the White Earth Nation Integrated Business Development System.	\$250Kfor FY18/19. \$0 in FY 20/21.	
Additional funding for existing Pathways to Prosperity grant program. Workforce development (basic skills education and career-specific training in high-demand occupations) for individuals who lack basic educational and occupational skills. Includes educational and experiential opportunities for teens and young adults in the construction industry. \$1M in FY17, \$2M in FY18-19, and \$2M in FY20-21. Grants awarded through DEED.	\$12,286,000 in FY18/19 and \$17,286,000 in FY20/21 Prior base was \$2M per biennium.	
New DEED capacity building grant program to help nonprofit organizations who provide or seek to provide workforce and economic development services. \$320,000 FY17 and \$2M in each succeeding biennium.	\$1M in FY18/19 and \$1M in FY20/21	
\$2M in FY17 for DEED grants to organizations that service Somali youth. \$1M of this amount must go to Youthprise. If possible, 50% of funds must go to Greater Minnesota.	No continued funding.	
\$600K in FY17 and \$1.2M in each succeeding biennium to Ujamaa Place to train young (age 18-30), economically disadvantaged African American men in St. Paul in the	\$1.2M in FY18/19. \$0 in FY20/21.	

construction trades, to provide housing for these men, and to build organizational capacity for Ujamaa Place.		
\$1.75M in FY17 and \$875K in each succeeding year to Enterprise Minnesota (a state-funded corporation that provides business development services and products and financial assistance to small- and medium-sized manufacturing businesses) for small business development, focusing on Greater Minnesota.	\$1.75M in FY18/19. \$0 in FY20/21.	
\$1M in FY17 and \$1M in each succeeding biennium to the State Services for the Blind for services for senior citizens who are becoming blind.	At least \$500K in FY18/19 and at least \$500K in FY20/21.	
\$2M in FY17 and \$2M in each succeeding biennium to the Construction Careers Foundation to educate teens (starting in middle school) and young adults in construction careers. Priority given to teens and young adults that are economically disadvantaged or historically underrepresented in the construction industry, including women, veterans, and members of minority and immigrant groups.	\$2M in FY18/19. \$0 in FY 20/21.	
\$500,000 in FY17 and \$1M in each succeeding biennium for a grant to Build Wealth MN for a family stabilization program including financial literacy education and budget and debt counseling. Focus on families with low to moderate incomes in underserved communities. An additional one-time appropriation of \$250,000 for grants for programs to reduce landlord financial risk for renting to families that are homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless.	\$1M in FY18/19 and \$1M in FY 20/21	
“Landlord Guarantee Fund” pilot program to reduce landlord financial risks for renting to families or persons younger than age 22 who are homeless or at risk of being homeless.	No continued funding.	

<p>\$250,000 in FY17. Grants awarded through the Housing Finance Agency.</p>		
<p>State contracts up to \$25,000 for goods, services, or construction may be awarded to small targeted group businesses, small veteran-owned businesses, or small businesses located in an economically disadvantaged area without a competitive bid process. (Targeted group businesses are businesses owned by women, persons with disabilities, or minorities.) The Dept. of Administration may require prime contractors in state contracts for construction or professional or technical services to subcontract part of the contract to a veteran-owned small business or to a small business located in an economically disadvantaged area. (Current law already gives this discretion for small targeted group businesses.) The Dept. of Administration may require specific state contracts for goods or services be awarded only to veteran-owned small businesses or only to small businesses located in an economically disadvantaged area. (Current law already gives this discretion for small targeted group businesses.) All of the above provisions in this state contracting section also apply to combinations of small targeted group businesses, veteran-owned small businesses or small businesses located in an economically disadvantaged area. Note that a business must be certified by the State of Minnesota as a targeted group business, veteran-owned business, or business in an economically disadvantaged area to be eligible for this new provision.</p>		
<p>\$1M in FY17 to Dept. of Administration to assess and upgrade its targeted group business software.</p>		
<p>The existing development, evaluation, and peer coaching program for teachers is amended to be directed to provide all students with “improved and equitable access to more</p>		

effective and diverse teachers” and to include mentoring and induction programs for teachers who reflect the diversity of students.		
The existing “Achievement and Integration for Minnesota” program, which aims to reduce academic disparities arising from students’ racial, ethnic, and economic backgrounds, is amended to include providing students with improved and equitable access to effective and more diverse teachers.		
The required school boards’ long-term plans to improve teaching and learning must include strategies to ensure that low-income and minority children are not taught at higher rates than other children by inexperienced, ineffective, or out-of-field teachers.		
Student data must be “disaggregated” (separated) into student categories of homelessness, ethnicity, race, home language, immigrant and refugee status, English learners, and free or reduced-price lunch.		
Creates a Student Discipline Working Group to analyze and submit recommendations to the Legislature on pre-K-12 school disciplinary policies and practices.		
Grants to low-income students in a teacher preparation program who are interested in teaching after graduation in a geographical or subject area with a shortage of teachers. \$2.8M in FY17 through the Office of Higher Education.	No continued funding.	
\$1.5M in FY17 to the Sanneh Foundation for academic and behavioral interventions for low-performing students, with a focus on low-income students and students of color.	No continued funding.	
\$1.5M in FY17 to Girls in Action, to continue and expand Twin Cities’ school- and community-based programs that encourage and support low-income girls, including low-income girls of color, to graduate from high school on time, complete a postsecondary preparation program, become community leaders, and participate in service learning.	No continued funding.	

<p>\$2.35M in FY17 and \$700K in each succeeding biennium for the “Parent-Child Home Program”—a home-based literacy and school readiness program for low-income children, ages 16 months to four years. The Parent-Child Home Program is administered by the Dept. of Education.</p>	<p>\$1.8M in FY18/19 and \$1.8M in FY20/21.</p>	
<p>For FY17, there will be no charge to Minnesotans taking the GED test.</p>		
<p>Additional adult basic education aid for the International Education Center, the American Indian Opportunities Industrialization Center, and the Minnesota Office of Communication Service for the Deaf. A total of \$400,000 in FY17.</p>		
<p>\$150K in FY17 for a grant to the International Institute of Minnesota (serving refugees and immigrants) to establish a college readiness academy.</p>		
<p>\$150K in FY17 to Summit Academy OIC for GED and adult diploma programs leading to entry into career credentialing programs.</p>	<p>\$1.5M in FY18/19 to Summit Academy OIC for its “contextualized” GED and employment placement programs. “Contextualized” means teaching and learning are focused on concrete, real-life applications.</p>	
<p>\$25.85M per biennium for the Housing Finance Agency’s long-standing program to address the disparity rate between white households and indigenous and communities of color.</p>	<p>\$29.85M in FY18/19 and \$29.85M in FY 20/21</p>	
<p>\$1.77M per biennium for the Housing Finance Agency’s Home Ownership Assistance Fund, addressing the disparity gap in the homeownership rate between white households and indigenous and communities of color.</p>	<p>\$1.77M in FY18/19 and \$1.77M in FY 20/21</p>	

<p>Equity legislation in 2016 increased FY17 funding for the existing teacher shortage loan forgiveness program (forgiveness of up to \$1,000/yr. for five years for student loans for teachers in areas with a teacher shortage) from \$200K to \$2.2M.</p>	<p>The 2017 higher education legislation drops this back down to \$200K per year for the FY18/19 biennium.</p>	
<p>Grant to the Minnesota Alliance of Boys and Girls Clubs to increase youth job skills and career development, including STEM careers. \$1.5M in FY18/19 and \$1.5M in FY20/21.</p>	<p>\$1.5M in FY18/19. \$0 in FY20/21.</p>	
		<p>East Side Enterprise Center Grant. \$300K in FY18/19. Funds the work of African Economic Development Solutions, the Asian Economic Development Association, the Dayton's Bluff Community Council, and the Latino Economic Development Center in a collaborative approach to economic development that is effective with smaller, culturally diverse communities that seek to increase the productivity and success of new immigrant and minority populations living and working in the community. Programs must provide minority business growth and capacity building that generate wealth and jobs creation for local residents and business owners on the East Side of St. Paul.</p>
		<p>Fighting Chance competitive grant. \$50K in FY18 for behavioral intervention programs for at-risk youth.</p>
		<p>\$2M in FY18/19 to Pillsbury United Communities for construction of a healthy foods grocery store and wellness center in North Minneapolis. Emphasis on</p>

		employing residents within a five-mile radius of the store.
		\$1M in FY18/19 to Goodwill-Easter Seals' FATHER Project in Rochester, Park Rapids, St. Cloud, Minneapolis and surrounding areas. Assist fathers in overcoming barriers that prevent them from supporting their children economically and emotionally.
		Central Minnesota Opportunity Grant Program. Identify and support community initiatives in the St. Cloud area that enhance long-term economic self-sufficiency by improving education, housing, and economic outcomes for central Minnesota communities of color. A new program. \$500K in FY18.
		East Phillips Neighborhood Institute (EPNI). \$319K in FY18 to expand culturally tailored resources that address business growth and create green jobs. The grant will fund the collaborative work of Tamales y Bicicletas, Little Earth of the United Tribes, a nonprofit serving East Africans, and other members of the East Phillips Improvement Coalition.
		\$1M in FY18/19 to Resource, Inc., to provide low-income individuals career education and job skills training that are integrated with chemical and mental health services.
		Getting to Work Pilot Program. \$200K in FY18/19 for grants to nonprofits to

		provide or repair cars for low-income people so that they can obtain or maintain employment. Includes giving loans to purchase cars.
		\$230K in FY18 to the Bois Forte Tribal Employment Rights Office for an American Indian workforce development training pilot project.
		\$500K in FY18/19 for grant to Bridges to Healthcare, an existing program in Rochester, to provide training in health care careers for low-income parents, non-native speakers of English, and other hard-to-train individuals. Funds may also be used for support services for participants, including assistance with child care, transportation, and safe and stable housing.
		\$1M in FY18/19 to the Nonprofits Assistance Fund for capacity-building grants to small, culturally specific organizations that primarily serve historically underserved cultural communities.
		Increases funding (from \$200K to \$250K for FY18/19) for the Summer Academic Enrichment Program. This program, established in 2015, provides funding for low-income elementary and high school students to attend academic summer programs.
		Creates a new Emergency Assistance for Postsecondary Students program,

		providing grants to schools with homeless students to help meet the immediate financial needs of low-income students, including emergency housing, food, and transportation. \$350K in FY18/19.
		Student loan debt relief for attorneys who help low-income clients. \$50K in FY18/19 and \$50K in FY20/21 for the LRAP (Loan Repayment Assistance Program), leveraging funds in the federal Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program.
		Continued funding for the Minnesota Education Equity Partnership: a program that began in 1986 with the goal of increasing the academic success of students of color and indigenous students at all levels of education. \$90K in FY18/19 and \$90K in FY20/21. (Same as in FY 16/17.)
		Continued funding for College Possible, providing support and coaching for high school and postsecondary students to help them go to and graduate from college. \$500K in FY18/19 and \$500K in FY20/21. (Same as in FY16/17.)
		Continued funding for the long-existing Minnesota Youth Program, which provides grants for job training and secure employment for at-risk youth (ages 14-21. "At-risk" includes those who are

		<p>economically disadvantages, pregnant or parenting, of limited English proficiency, and homeless, among several other qualifying factors. \$8.1M in FY18/19 and \$8.1M in FY20/21.</p>
		<p>Continued funding of Youthbuild program, which provides specialized training and work experience for target youth. Work experience must include construction of housing and facilities that serve the homeless and very low-income, including child care center, homeless and battered women shelters, and senior citizen centers. “Targeted youth” are individuals age 16–24, who are economically disadvantaged, not in school, in danger of dropping out of school, pregnant or parenting, or who fall into certain other categories. \$2M in FY18/19 and \$2M in FY20/21. Prior base was \$2M per biennium.</p>