



# Summer Academic Enrichment Program

Technical Session

# Agenda

- Introduction to the Summer Academic Enrichment Program (SAEP)
- Requirements to become an eligible program sponsor
- Requirements for eligible programs (summer camps)
- Requirements for student eligibility
- Timelines

# Summer Academic Enrichment Program

- The program was originally supported by the federal College Access Challenge Grant (CACGP) to foster partnerships among federal, state and local governments and organizations.
- The program's goal has always been to increase the number of low-income students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education.
- The program has always been administered by the Office of Higher Education (OHE).
- Originally operated via federal funds; when the funding stream ended, OHE began to fund with remaining funds from other programs

# Summer Academic Enrichment Program

The Summer Academic Enrichment Program provides need-based stipends to help Minnesota students in grades 3–11 attend approved academic summer camps. Stipends can cover part or all of the program cost, up to \$1,000 per student.

# Summer 2026 and Summer 2027

2026 Funds Available: \$242,500

2027 Funds Available: \$242,500

Student awards: Up to \$1,000 per student to help cover the cost of their summer academic camp.

*\*The stipend will never be more than the actual cost the student is charged for the camp.*

Request for Applications: Summer 2026 and Summer 2027

If a student does not show up to the camp, the camp will not receive those funds.

# Eligible Sponsors

- Minnesota public postsecondary institutions
- Private postsecondary institutions if:
  - is accredited by an agency recognized by the United State Department of Education for purposes of eligibility to participate in title IV federal financial aid programs;
  - offers an associate or baccalaureate degree program under sections 136A.61; and
  - is located in Minnesota
- Nonprofit educational organizations if:
  - is incorporated;
  - has had favorable financial performances with federal or state funds; and
  - has not had significant audit findings

# Request for Sponsor Applications

- Sponsor Name
- Program/Camp titles
- Program Start Date
- Program End Date
- Statement of program goals and objectives
- Description of learning process and activities
- Curricular area for the program
- Instructional hours per day
- Number of days of the program
- Designation of if students stay on campus, commute or attend virtually
- Grade levels that can participate in the program
- Projected enrollment for the program
- Geographic region(s) of MN served
- Number of staff members/faculty delivering the program content
- Qualifications of the staff members/faculty
- Estimated charge of the program per student
- Program's refund policy
- Demographic data on who your program serves: provide year-end data from previous summers to indicate participant level of low-income students, students from greater Minnesota and students from diverse backgrounds.

# Request for Applications

Nonprofit educational organizations must email one of the following documents to [Nichole.Andersen@state.mn.us](mailto:Nichole.Andersen@state.mn.us)

- Most recent board reviewed financial statements, which should include a balance statement, income statement and a statement of functional expenses
- Most recent IRS form 990EZ or 990
- Most recent Certified Financial Audit

# MNAid

- MNAid is the program platform and student interface for several Minnesota Office of Higher Education financial aid programs
- Approved sponsors will be given access to MNAid
  - Sponsors are allowed up to three user accounts
- 2025 sponsors will be able to update previously submitted programs or submit new programs
- New sponsors will need to add programs for consideration

# Approved Sponsor Requirements

- Program sponsor collects student application and eligibility documents from students/families
- Student eligibility screened by program sponsor and documentation should be kept a minimum of 3 years
- Program sponsors can build in screening and student application into their existing processes

# Eligible Programs

- An eligible program must:
  - Provide, as its primary purpose, academic instruction for student enrichment in core curricular areas of :
    - English & language arts, humanities, social studies, science, mathematics, fine arts, performing arts, or world languages & culture
  - Not be offered for credit to postsecondary students;
  - Not provide remedial instruction;
  - Must have a charge for the student to participate;
  - Have a demonstrated commitment to serving one or more of the following: low-income students, students from greater Minnesota and students from diverse backgrounds.

# Student Eligibility

To receive a SAEP stipend, a student must:

- Be a resident of Minnesota,
- Attend an eligible program,
- Be in grades 3-11, but have not completed high school,
- Demonstrate financial need
- Students in grades 7-11 must either have an overall “C” average/equivalent for most recently recorded academic term, or if the student does not have an overall “C” average, the student must have a “C” in the subject area applicable to the summer program attending.

# Student Application Award Process

- 50% of the program allocation will be divided among all approved sponsors and reserved for student stipends for each sponsor (\$121,250)
  - Example: If there are 20 approved sponsors, each sponsor would have reserved funding of \$6,062 to be used on student stipends.
- 50% of the program allocation will be awarded based on student application date after reserved funds after awards have been approved through reserved funding (\$121,250)
- Reserved funds will be reserved until a deadline to be set later for sponsors to utilize their reserved funds
- Any reserved funds not awarded by the deadline will be added back to the general pool for other sponsors to access

# Student Application Requirements

- Student's Minnesota Automated Reporting Student System Number (MARSS Number) or student's SSN with trailing zeros if the student has no MARSS Number
- Student's DOB
- Student's First and Last Name
- Program charge
- Student's address
- Gender
- Ethnicity
- Name of the student's elementary, middle, or high school
- School's location
- Student's Grade level
- Income Verified (Y/N)
- GPA Verified (Y/N) – for students in grade 7-11

# Student Application – Income Verification

All students must provide documentation for one of the following:

- Documentation that the student qualifies for Free or Reduced School Lunch
- Documentation of MFIP or SNAP eligibility
- A copy of the student’s family federal income taxes for 2024 or 2025 showing they meet income thresholds for Free or Reduced School Lunch (see chart)

Household Size	Annual Income
1	\$28,953
2	\$39,128
3	\$49,303
4	\$59,478
5	\$69,653
6	\$79,828
7	\$90,003
8	\$100,178
For each add'l family member	+ \$10,175

# Student Application – Incomplete Apps

Applications can be submitted before Income Verification and GPA Verification have been received but must be updated before Application Awarding begins or the student will not be considered for award.

# Additional Sponsor Requirements

- Site visits will be held before and/or during the summer
- Sponsors must use approved award notification language from the Office of Higher Education and retain documentation of the award notice for each recipient.
  - Notification can be through email or letter

# Request for Program Outcomes

- OHE produces a legislative report each year
- We are required to report on program outcomes, specific to SAEP:
  - Increased percentage of low-income students enrolled in your camps
  - Impacts of free or low cost summer camp as an option
  - End of program student/parent feedback that mentions SAEP
  - Students finding out about your summer camp as a result of SAEP

# 2026 Timeline

February 9: Request for Applications (RFA) released

February 12 Technical Assistance Session

February 17: Technical Assistance Session

February 27: Deadline for Sponsor Application

March 6: Review of Applications

March 10: Notification to Approved Program Sponsors

March 23: Technical Assistance Webinar - Demo of Program Approval and Student Application Process

# 2026 Timeline

March 23: Program Applications Opens

April 3: Program Application Update Deadline

April 6: Program Applications Approved or Denied

April 13: Student Applications Open

April 27: Student Applications Due for Awarding

April 28: Student Awards Begin

TBD: Reawarding of Reserved Funds

# Questions?



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