

Appropriations to the University of Minnesota in the Health & Human Services Bill

Previous presentations looked at general fund appropriations in the Higher Education Bill between state fiscal years 2020 and 2024. There was a follow up question about whether there have been any direct appropriations in the Health and Human Services (HHS) bill for the University of Minnesota.

Between state fiscal years 2020 and 2024, the University of Minnesota did not receive any direct appropriations in the Health and Human Services budget bills.

The Health and Human Services budget bill does include one rider related to the University of Minnesota. The Ombudsman for Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities appropriation includes a rider for \$100,000 per fiscal year for monitoring the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Minnesota (*Laws 2023, Chapter 61, Article 9, Section 4*).

There are also appropriations related to Health and Human Services, but they are not included in the HHS bill. For example, the University of Minnesota receives a \$2.157 million appropriation from the Health Care Access Fund for primary care education initiatives. Although many of the appropriations from the Health Care Access Fund are included in the HHS budget bill, this appropriation is included in the Higher Education Bill (*Laws 2023, Chapter 41, Article 1, Section 4, Subd. 3*)

The Medical Education and Research Cost (MERC) program is related to the HHS area because the Department of Health (MDH) and Department of Human Services (DHS) play a role in administering it. In SFY 2023, MDH administered \$59 million in grants. Of that amount, \$33 million was for clinical training related University of Minnesota Academic Clinical Affairs ([FY21 FTE FY23 Grants by Sponsoring Institutions \(state.mn.us\)](#)). This is not funding that stays at the University. It is disbursed from the University, as the sponsoring institution, to the training sites. Beginning SFY 2024, this part of the program is now administered through Medical Assistance (MA) rates to hospitals in order to comply with federal requirements.

The University of Minnesota also receives revenue as payments for services rendered under Health and Human Services programs. For example, the University provides services to state agencies that are paid through contracts and grants and receives payments through other programs, like MA, for services provided.