

Direct Admissions Minnesota

What is the type of admissions redesign?

Informed Admissions: High school students are proactively notified by a state postsecondary agency or system that they will be admitted to at least one two- or four-year institution based on academic criteria (e.g., GPA), but are required to complete a traditional application process.

In which state is it based?

Minnesota

What state postsecondary agency or system sponsors the program?

Minnesota Office of Higher Education

When was the program first started?




The Office of Higher Education implemented [Direct Admissions Minnesota](#) during the 2022-2023 academic year, and the first group of seniors received letters in the fall of 2022.ⁱ

Does the student or state agency/system initiate the admissions process?

Minnesota Office of Higher Education (OHE)

What are the central characteristics of the program?

The program notifies graduating seniors from over 260 Minnesota public high schools of the participating private and state colleges and universities that have proactively admitted them based on their academic records and projected graduation date. High schools communicate with students about their direct admissions acceptance in a variety of ways, including agency-funded print materials, digital media, and email etc.

 <p>Program Scope</p>	Does the program include all high school districts or only a portion ? Is opt-in required?	In Minnesota, a portion of high schools (about a third) have chosen to participate in the program; the schools are responsible for notifying families about the program and allowing them to opt-in or opt-out if they choose.
	Does the program support admission to four-year institutions, two-year institutions, or both ?	Both four-year and two-year institutions are included
	Which institutions are participating in the program?	Over 50 Minnesota colleges and universities participate in the program, including community, technical, tribal, public, and private institutions.
 <p>Eligibility Criteria and Application</p>	What are the academic eligibility criteria for students?	Colleges selected one of five academic tiers for Direct Admissions. The tiers consist of unweighted cumulative GPA bands on a 4.0 scale, and a counselor review of academic rigor/grade-level appropriateness of courses through the end of a student's junior year.
	Are students still required to apply to postsecondary institutions?	Yes, students must complete an application for each of the colleges or universities they are interested in attending.
	Is the application fee waived ?	Yes, the application is free
 <p>Data and Policy</p>	What is the data source for the program?	Minnesota does not have a centralized data system, so OHE works with multiple student information system vendors to facilitate the connection between individual school district records and the centralized program at OHE. This current cohort has a homegrown "program tool", and the agency is exploring the addition of DA program data into our SLEDS database.
	Did the state or system adopt policy related to the program, and if so what does the policy include?	<u>Yes</u> , outlining authorization, implementation and reporting requirements, as well as allocating funds for the pilot program. Further, during the 2023 legislative session, the program secured \$1.3 million in funding to continue to expand the initiative over the 2024-25 biennium. ⁱⁱ

Information above is up to date as of December 2025

ⁱ<https://www.ohe.state.mn.us/mPg.cfm?pagelD=2613>

ⁱⁱChapter 2 - MN Laws