



students  united™

# 2025 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

FIGHTING FOR A BETTER HIGHER EDUCATION EXPERIENCE FOR ALL  
MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

During this legislative session, Minnesota State students are calling on legislators to address students' basic needs and open pathways to postsecondary education for all of Minnesota's young people.

From access to lifesaving naloxone on college campuses to the expansion of the Hunger Free Campus Grant and Direct Admissions Minnesota, we are committed to removing barriers and ensuring that every student has the support they need to attain a degree at an affordable price and contribute to the success of Minnesota.

## OUR MISSION

Led by Minnesota State University students, Students United is the inclusive voice for all future, current, and former students.

In support of student needs, we advocate at the system, local, state, and federal levels for higher education policies that positively impact our students and communities.

## 2025 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

### Invest in the Hunger-Free Campus Grant

Over a quarter of students across the seven Minnesota State Universities live with the daily burden of food insecurity. The Hunger Free Campus Grant is a necessary investment in students' basic needs. The funds from the Hunger Free Campus Grant go **directly** to campus-wide efforts to ease student hunger through food pantry staffing, equipment upgrades, and food and supply purchasing. **By supporting campus food pantries, we're improving student grades, raising graduation rates, and bettering mental health outcomes for students.**

### Scale the Direct Admissions Minnesota program

Today, some **180 Minnesota high schools** have opted into the Office of Higher Education's Direct Admissions Minnesota program. Direct Admissions Minnesota notifies graduating Minnesota high school seniors that partner colleges and universities will admit them (upon application) based on their academic records and projected graduation date. **With our coalition partners, we are looking to increase the scale of this life-changing program, which preliminary data shows can improve FAFSA completion and matriculation rates, especially among low-income Minnesotans.**

### Improve Naloxone access on campus

Amid an ongoing opioid crisis in the United States, colleges and universities remain a blind spot in the state's harm reduction strategy. **Overdose deaths rose nationally by 34% among young adults between 2018 and 2022.** The ongoing mental health crisis remains a key contributor to opioid abuse.

Despite this, many public higher education institutions choose **not** to carry lifesaving naloxone (also referred to as Narcan) on campuses. **We are calling for colleges and universities to stock naloxone in residential campus buildings and requesting that colleges and universities be added to the existing DHS Standing Order Portal to access naloxone.**

### Support Minnesota State's Budget Request

We believe a robust student support system is the best way to ensure students graduate college. Mental health resources, basic needs investments, and open educational resources are key to creating an accessible, affordable, and attainable education. **We are in full support of the Minnesota State Systems Office Budget Request.**

We look forward to your support,



2024-2025 Students United State Chair



**Sierra Roiger (She/Her)**  
State Chair | 2024 - 2025  
[statechair@studentsunited.org](mailto:statechair@studentsunited.org)



**Casey Metcalfe (He/Him)**  
Government Relations Manager  
[Cmetcalfe@studentsunited.org](mailto:Cmetcalfe@studentsunited.org)



Students United | (651) 224-1518  
413 Wacouta St, Unit 420  
Saint Paul, MN 55101  
[info@studentsunited.org](mailto:info@studentsunited.org)