



MINNESOTA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

# STOP DISCRIMINATION AGAINST NONPUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS



## The Problem

The Governor's proposed budget, released in January 2025, **defunds students by eliminating nonpublic pupil aid** that supports each student with funding for testing, textbooks, counseling, nursing, and busing.

The Governor is backing away from the state's **commitment to fund essential services for all students**, increasing costs for nonpublic school students and families.

## The Solution

Protect these investments in nonpublic pupil aid and nonpublic transportation aid from harmful cuts.



**Tell your state legislators to protect our students by opposing the governor's proposed cuts!**

### **Minn. Statue 123B.40**

*It is the intent of the legislature to provide for distribution of educational aids such as textbooks, standardized tests and pupil support services so that every school pupil in the state will share equitably in education benefits and therefore further assure all Minnesota pupils and their parents freedom of choice in education.*

## Potential Impact of Cuts to Nonpublic Pupil Aid

- The governor's budget proposal **completely eliminates** nonpublic pupil aid and nonpublic transportation aid, **cutting more than \$50 million** dollars per year.
- The proposed cuts equal roughly **\$540 per student in lost assistance for nonpublic pupil instructional, nursing, and counseling aid** (based on July 2024 estimates). AND roughly \$540 per student in lost assistance for nonpublic busing aid (based on FY2023 reporting).
- These proposed cuts would increase the costs of nonpublic education and therefore **raises costs for families**, including likely tuition increases, potentially putting their school of choice out of reach.

# Support Nonpublic School Students

Honor the choices of parents, save the state money in the long-term, and protect investments in nonpublic pupil aid and nonpublic transportation aid.



## What is Nonpublic Pupil Aid + Nonpublic Transportation Aid?

Minnesota law requires the state to provide educational resources—such as textbooks, standardized tests, and student support services—to ensure all students have equal access to quality education, regardless of their school choice.

Nonpublic pupil aid helps fund essential services, including mental health support, healthcare, guidance and counseling, and instructional materials like textbooks and standardized tests.

**Don't go back on the decades-long commitment of supporting nonpublic students.**

Nonpublic pupil transportation aid ensures students have reliable transportation to school that they may not have otherwise. It also provides transportation for health and counseling services and ensures that students with disabilities can access special education facilities.

## Why is Nonpublic Pupil Aid Critical?

- **Equal Access for All Students:** Nonpublic pupil aid ensures that every student has access to the tools they need to thrive, regardless of their school.
- **Support for Families:** Nonpublic pupil aid helps families afford the best education option for their children, ensuring they can choose a school that aligns with their values and meets their unique needs.
- **Cost Savings for Taxpayers:** Nonpublic schools save the state nearly \$500 million annually by educating students outside the public school system. Cutting aid undermines this cost-effective partnership.

**Bottom line: Many nonpublic schools are ministries that serve low-income families. Each dollar helps families afford nonpublic school.**

**To learn more about the impact of cuts to nonpublic school children:**

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