



2019

STATE RELATIONS
SESSION SUMMARY

2019 MINNESOTA LEGISLATIVE SESSION



The 2019 Minnesota Legislative Session convened on January 8, 2019, following the 2018 midterm elections. While Republicans maintained their majority in the Senate, the DFL took control of the House by gaining 18 seats. DFLer Tim Walz, the U.S. representative for the 1st Congressional District, was elected Minnesota's 41st governor.

The Minnesota Constitution requires the legislature to pass a balanced, two-year budget in odd-numbered years. In the fall leading up to a budget session, state agencies, including the University of Minnesota, submit their budget requests to the state. This year, the University requested \$87 million in new funding in FY20-21 to support core mission activities.

Governor Walz kicked off the budget process by releasing his recommendations on February 19, as required by state statute. However, when the Budget and Economic Forecast was released on February 28, the projected surplus was reduced to \$1.052 billion in FY20-21, and the governor was forced to revise his recommendations.

Budget negotiations among the legislative leaders and the governor continued until May 19, one day before the constitutionally mandated end of the legislative session. The final agreement provided approximately \$48 billion over



\$43.5+
MILLION

increase to the University's operating and maintenance appropriation

\$22.8
MILLION

in other new funding for the University

5

"Bringing the U to You" events at the Capitol showcasing U of M research

102

U of M faculty, staff, students, and advocates testified at the legislature

150+
PEOPLE

attended Support the U day at the Capitol

the next two years to fund Minnesota's state government, as well as:

- No increase to the gas tax
- Health care provider tax permanently set at 1.8% (no sunset)
- 2% increase to the education formula in both 2020 and 2021
- 0.25% cut to the second-tier income tax bracket

With minutes to spare before adjournment, the legislature passed the higher education omnibus bill, the only budget bill passed during the regular session. On May 24, Governor Walz called the legislature back for a one-day special session, during which it passed the remaining 13 budget bills.



The budget agreement reached by the governor and legislative leaders included a \$500 million capital investment bill. Bonding bills require a supermajority vote, and legislative leaders did not have the votes necessary, so the bill was not considered during the special session. Governor Walz signed all 13 budget bills into law, taking effect on July 1, 2019.

The next legislative session is scheduled to begin on February 11, 2020.



.....
Minnesota is the only state in the country with a divided legislature
.....

LEGISLATURE BY THE NUMBERS

64
women

47
U of M alumni legislators

137
men

75/59
Minnesota House
DFL / GOP

39
new legislators

32/35
Minnesota Senate
DFL/ GOP

21
people of color

LEGISLATIVE SESSION TIMELINE

January

15

President Kaler, faculty, and students testified in support of the University's budget request

to the Senate Higher Education Finance and Policy Committee, then presented an overview of the University system to the House Higher Education Finance and Policy Division.



February

05

President Kaler, faculty, and students testified in support of the U of M's Capital Request

to the House Capital Investment Division and the Senate Higher Education and Policy Committee.



12

President Kaler, faculty, and students testified in support of the University's budget request

to the House Higher Education Finance and Policy Division.



19

Governor Walz announced his budget recommendations, proposing a \$39.2 million budget increase and \$150 million in capital investment for the U of M.

26

Governor Walz announced his bonding recommendations to the legislature. The \$1.27 billion proposal included \$150 million for U of M projects, 60% of the University's request.



28

The state economic and budget forecast projected a \$1.052 billion surplus for the biennium—\$492 million less than the November forecast.

March

22

Governor Walz released revised budget recommendations in response to the budget forecast. Having heard from UMN Advocates, he increased his proposed funding for the U of M by \$11.8 million, to \$51 million.

28

The House DFL majority announced its budget targets, including \$304.9 million for higher education.

April

05

The House passed its higher education bill, 72-57, including \$114 million for the U of M: \$87 million as requested and an additional \$27 million for a tuition freeze.

09

The House Capital Investment Division passed a \$1.5 billion bonding bill, including \$150 million for the U of M.

24

The Senate passed its higher education bill, 38-29, including \$28.5 million for the U of M.

May

19

Governor Walz and legislative leaders announced their budget agreement, including a \$150 million target above base funding for higher education.

20

The higher education conference committee reconciled the bill differences, agreeing to \$43.5 million in new operations and maintenance funding for the U of M. The bill was then passed by the House, 84-49, and the Senate, 62-3. The regular session adjourned.

22

Governor Walz signed the higher education bill into law.

23

Governor Walz issued a proclamation calling for a one-day special session to address remaining budget bills.

24

The Minnesota Legislature convened for a special session.

25

The Minnesota Legislature adjourned the special session sine die after passing the remaining budget bills.

REGULAR SESSION OMNIBUS LEGISLATION



HIGHER EDUCATION BILL

The higher education bill, S.F. 2415 – Chapter 64, appropriates \$1.345 billion to the University of Minnesota for FY20-21, providing a \$43.5 million increase in operations and maintenance funding for the biennium. The bill also includes several policy provisions that impact the University. New and ongoing funding are noted in the provisions below.

Operations and maintenance

ONGOING + NEW FUNDING

The bill provides approximately **\$1.203 billion** to the University of Minnesota in FY20-21 for operations and maintenance. This includes \$43.5 million in new funding and the following new provisions:

- For the 2019-20 academic year, the resident undergraduate tuition rate is requested to not exceed the 2018-19 academic year rate by more than 3%, and for the 2020-21 academic year, the resident undergraduate tuition rate is requested to not exceed the 2019-2020 academic year rate by more than 3%;
- For the 2019-20 and 2020-21 academic years, it is requested that the differential tuition rate and fees for online courses not exceed the 2018-19 academic year rate and fees.

The operations and maintenance appropriation also provides ongoing funding for the following:

- **\$30 million** for the Medical School to increase research capacity and rankings, develop new cures and treatments, provide physician training for rural and underserved communities, and attract and retain top faculty, staff, and students
- **\$15.6 million** for health training restoration
- **\$8 million** for MnDRIVE cancer research
- **\$1 million** for tuition assistance for University of Minnesota Morris

Primary Care Education Initiatives

ONGOING FUNDING

The bill appropriates **\$4.3 million** in FY20-21 from the health care access fund to primary care education initiatives at the University of Minnesota.

Agriculture and Extension services

ONGOING FUNDING

The law appropriates approximately **\$85.8 million** in FY20-21 to the University of Minnesota agricultural and extension services. This includes funding for agricultural advisory groups focused

**\$48.5
BILLION**

total state budget for
FY 20-21



**\$3.4
BILLION**

higher education general
fund budget for FY 20-21

on research and transfer strategies to benefit producers; research and outreach on renewable energy from Minnesota biomass resources; agricultural and food systems projects at the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences; and research on the needs of Minnesota's agricultural community.

Health Sciences

ONGOING FUNDING

The bill appropriates **\$18.4 million** in FY20-21 to health sciences efforts at the University. Of this funding, \$692,000 is dedicated to supporting up to 12 resident physicians in the St. Cloud Hospital family practice residency program, and the remainder is for the Rural Physician Associate Program, the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, health sciences research, dental care, the Biomedical Engineering Center, and the collaborative partnership between the University of Minnesota and the Mayo Clinic for regenerative medicine, research, clinical translation, and commercialization.

College of Science and Engineering

ONGOING FUNDING

The bill provides approximately **\$2.28 million** in FY20-21 to the College of Science and Engineering to fund the Minnesota Geological Survey and the Talented Youth Mathematics Program.

System Special

ONGOING FUNDING

The bill contains a **\$14.3 million** system special appropriation over FY20-21 for general research, the Labor Education Service, the Natural Resources Research Institute, the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs, the Bell Museum of Natural History, and the Humphrey exhibit. The system special appropriation includes \$4 million in FY20-21 in ongoing funding for the Natural Resources Research Institute.

65% of University of Minnesota School of Public Health graduates stay in Minnesota to become our state's hospital administrators, community health workers, health policy experts, research scientists, and more.



SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

University of Minnesota and Mayo Foundation Partnership

ONGOING FUNDING

The law appropriates nearly **\$16 million** in FY20-21 for the partnership between the University and the Mayo Foundation for research in medical genomics and biotechnology, and the partnership must submit an annual report of how the appropriation is used by June 30 of each fiscal year. Of this funding, \$1 million must be awarded for competitive grants to conduct research into the prevention, treatment, causes, and cures of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.

Academic Health Center

ONGOING FUNDING

The bill appropriates the Academic Health Center's share of revenue generated from tobacco taxes. The share is estimated at **\$22.25 million** each year.

SPECIAL SESSION OMNIBUS LEGISLATION



AGRICULTURE ONGOING FUNDING

The agriculture bill, Chapter 1 – Senate File 1, provides \$18.6 million for the University through the Agricultural Research, Education, Extension, and Technology Transfer program (AGREETT), including:

- **\$1.2 million** for rapid response fund
- **\$4 million** for farm business management
- **\$700,000** for potato breeding
- **\$900,000** for the cultivated wild rice breeding project at the North Central Research and Outreach Center
- Up to **\$2 million** for avian flu research



ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES NEW FUNDING

The Environment and Natural Resources bill, Chapter 4 – Senate File 7, appropriates \$20.47 million from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund for 33 University of Minnesota projects:

- Watershed Funding - **\$300,000**
- Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center - **\$1,020,000**



BILL INTRODUCTIONS



REGULAR SESSION

2,921

bills introduced
by the House

2,925

bills introduced
by the Senate



SPECIAL SESSION

17

bills introduced
by the House

14

bills introduced
by the Senate

- Minnesota Trumpeter Swan Migration Ecology and Conservation - **\$300,000**
- Spruce Grouse as Indicators for Boreal Forest Connectivity - **\$350,000**
- Understanding Brainworm Transmission to Find Solutions for Minnesota Moose Decline - **\$400,000**
- Mapping Habitat Use and Disease of Urban Carnivores - **\$500,000**
- Den Boxes for Fishers and Other Nesting Wildlife - **\$190,000**
- Red-Headed Woodpeckers as Indicators of Oak Savanna Health - **\$171,000**
- Mapping Aquatic Habitats for Moose - **\$199,000**
- County Geologic Atlases - Part A, Mapping Geology - **\$2,000,000**
- Forest and Bioeconomy Research - **\$2,200,000**
- Minerals and Water Research - **\$883,000**
- Diagnostic Test for Chronic Wasting Disease - **\$1,804,000**
- Determining Influence of Insecticides on Algae Blooms - **\$350,000**
- Benign Design: Environmental Studies Leading to Sustainable Pharmaceuticals - **\$415,000**
- Wastewater Nutrient Reduction through Industrial Source Reduction Assistance - **\$200,000**
- Quantifying Microplastics in Minnesota's Inland Lakes - **\$200,000**
- Improving Nitrogen Removal in Greater Minnesota Wastewater Treatment Ponds - **\$325,000**
- Improving Drinking Water for Minnesotans through Pollution Prevention - **\$345,000**
- Protecting Minnesota Waters by Removing Contaminants from Wastewater - **\$250,000**
- Extracting Deicing Salt from Roadside Soils with Plants - **\$360,000**



34%

**amount the U of M
received of ENRTF project
funding in 2020**

- Transformation of Plastic Waste into Valued Resource - **\$225,000**
- Setting Realistic Nitrate Reduction Goals in Southeast Minnesota - **\$350,000**
- Evaluating Locally Sourced Materials for Road Salt Reduction - **\$162,000**
- Degrading Chlorinated Industrial Contaminants with Bacteria - **\$1,000**
- Managed Aquifer Recharge - **\$350,000**

- Building Knowledge and Capacity to Solve AIS Problems - **\$4,000,000**
- Development of Clean Energy Storage Systems for Farms - **\$650,000**
- Sustainable Solar Energy from Agricultural Plant By-Products - **\$185,000**
- Promoting and Restoring Oak Savanna Using Silvopasture - **\$750,000**
- Conserving and Monitoring Minnesota's Rare Arctic Plants - **\$135,000**
- Agricultural Weed Control Using Autonomous Mowers - **\$900,000**

• • • • • • • • • •

The Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF), generated from Minnesota State Lottery revenue, may be used “for the public purpose of protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state’s air, water, land, fish, and other natural resources.”

• • • • • • • • • •



E-12 EDUCATION

The E-12 education bill, Chapter 11 – House File 1, provides one direct appropriation and one indirect appropriation to the University.

Principals Academy

NEW + ONGOING FUNDING

The bill provides \$200,000 in FY20 and \$200,000 in FY21 for the College of Education and Human Development’s Minnesota Principals Academy.

Grow Your Own Programs

ONGOING FUNDING

The bill provides \$1.5 million in each year of the biennium for school districts and Grow Your Own new teacher programs. The grants are for school districts with more than 30 percent minority students for a Board of Teaching-approved nonconventional teacher residency pilot program. The University partners with Minneapolis Public Schools on this program.





HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

The health and human services bill, Chapter 9 – Senate File 12, contains three provisions that indirectly impact the University:

Child Welfare Training Academy Workforce Training

The commissioner of human services shall enter into a partnership with the University of Minnesota to collaborate in the administration of workforce training.

Department of Psychiatry Monitoring

The bill provides \$200,000 for the Ombudsman for Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities to monitor the University’s Department of Psychiatry.

Primary care residency expansion grants

The bill expands the eligibility of residency programs to receive training grants administered through the Minnesota Department of Health. Four-year residency programs like the University’s psychiatry program are now eligible for these grants.



LEGACY NEW FUNDING

The legacy bill, Chapter 2 – Senate File 3, appropriates a total of \$2.1 million for the following University of Minnesota projects:

- Developing County Geologic Atlases - **\$500,000**
- Evaluating Performance and Technology Transfer for Storm Water Management Practices - **\$1,500,000**
- Bell Museum - **\$100,000** for access to people with disabilities and to expand access to culturally and linguistically diverse communities

The legacy bill also appropriates a total of **\$4.8 million** from the Clean Water Fund to other agencies for University of Minnesota grants or contracts:

- Regional Irrigation Water Quality Specialist - **\$300,000** through the Department of Agriculture
- Forever Green Agriculture Initiative grants - **\$3,800,000** through the Department of Agriculture
- Soil Erosion Data Collection grants or contracts - **\$700,000** through the Board of Water and Soil Resources

2019

first year since 1978 that governor did not exercise veto power



78

bills passed, sent to the governor, and signed into law



29

new laws relevant to the University: z.umn.edu/legislation

ADVOCACY



UMN Advocates stepped up efforts again this year with more high-level interactions than ever before. Advocates made phone calls, attended face-to-face meetings, and told lawmakers why the University of Minnesota is important in their everyday lives. These actions were both ongoing and effective in helping legislators connect to the U of M.



#UMNAdvocates has the class of #UMN19's fingerprints all over it. We're so grateful! We're a national leader because students dove in and helped the University succeed.



100+

PHONE CALLS

to Governor Walz in support of UMN

150+

PERSONAL STORIES

by UMN Advocates sent to legislators and Governor Walz

200+

MEETINGS

with legislators

1,036

TWEETS

including #strongUstrongMN

150+

ADVOCATES

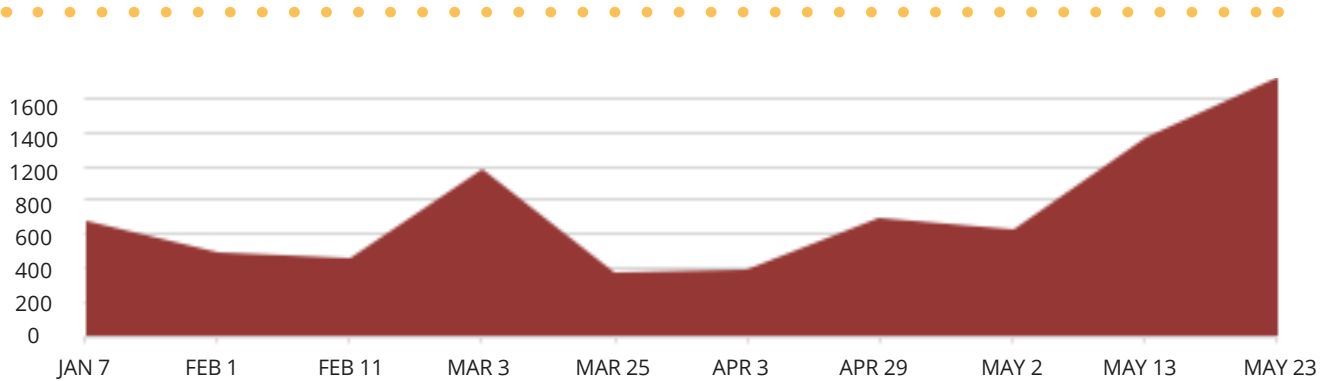
attended Support the U Day at the Capitol

400+

ATTENDEES

at Legislative Kickoff Breakfasts across the system

UMN ADVOCATES EMAIL, TWEETS, AND PHONE CALLS



Annie @annie_counihan · Mar 15



As a student studying environmental sustainability, I love nature. #UMN's commitment to sustainability allows for students like me to have the appropriate resources for research! #StrongUStrongMN



RachaelN @rnunemacher · Mar 31



I was a member of 4H; now I am a #UMD student studying Music and I wouldn't be the person I am today without the positive experience of being a Bulldog! I want to continue to see the UMN system being supported by our government. @GovTimWalz #StrongUStrongMN



Susan Garcia Hagen @SuzeMSP · Jan 14



#UMNproud be a #UMNadvocate. Not only am I a proud alum and employee, I'm also grateful for the #UMNresearch advancing potential solutions for people like me who are dealing with blinding diseases like #retinitispigmentosa. #mnleg —> #strongUstrongMN!



Marcus Bradt @msbradt · Apr 3



I am Minnesota's future skilled workforce! Help keep college affordable and accessible for all Minnesota students by supporting #UMN's core needs #strongUstrongMN #mnleg @GovTimWalz

ADVOCACY EVENTS

December

- 06 Duluth Legislative Kickoff Breakfast:** About 100 community members, legislators, students, staff, and faculty met to focus on the University of Minnesota's 2019 legislative request. Speakers stressed the importance of Duluth to our state, urging attendees to be involved in the entire process.



January

- 05 Bringing the U to You - Sleeping Beauty, Sleeping Giant:** University of Minnesota professor Perry Hackett presented to legislators his research on how an element originally found in salmon became a breakthrough treatment in the fight against cancer.



- 09 Crookston Legislative Kickoff Breakfast** – For the second year, UMC invited supporters to a breakfast designed to educate attendees on the specifics of the University's request.

- 14 Twin Cities Legislative Kickoff Breakfast.** Over 300 people listened to President Kaler discuss the session in his final Legislative Kickoff Breakfast. A panel with generations of leaders demonstrated when to use different methods of communication.



- 17 Rochester Legislative Kickoff:** Rochester's kickoff event had three times the attendance of the previous year. It featured a healthy discussion of the role advocacy plays throughout session.

- 21 Morris Legislative Kickoff:** Representative Bud Nornes joined the Morris community, answering important questions about the legislative process and their role.



February

11

U of M Alumni Association Intern and Alumni

Breakfast: Legislators and legislative staff who attended the University networked with current students interning at the State Capitol. Approximately 40 alumni and students attended.

13

Bringing the U to You - 3D Printing and Surgery: U of M researcher Michael McAlpine presented on developments he and his colleagues have made in inventing ways to print 3D replicas of organs to help surgeons prepare for surgery, treat spinal cord injuries, and develop a bionic eye.

March

06

Bell Museum Day at Capitol: Scientists, educators, and students showcased hands-on Bell Museum science experiences in the Capitol Rotunda. Experiments included a robot rover, a high-powered telescope, and meteorite fragments.



Thank you to the many #mnleg
reps and senators who have
taken time to speak with #UMN
students from across Minnesota
about Support the U Day. I'm
#UMNproud of the students for
sharing their stories today!

 ERIC W. KALER



April

03 **Support the U Day:** More than 150 UMN Advocates from all five campuses rallied on the Capitol steps, followed by meetings with elected officials. There was also an ice cream social, leading into the State of the State.



OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

MEDIA

President Kaler, administrators, faculty, students, and alumni advocated for the University's legislative request in interviews with the *Star Tribune*, *MinnPost*, WCCO Radio, KSTP-TV, and the *Minnesota Daily*, among others. Students, alumni, and members of the Board of Regents engaged the public in Greater Minnesota through op-eds in the *Rochester Post-Bulletin*, *Brainerd Dispatch*, *Mankato Free Press*, *Red Wing Republican Eagle*, *Duluth News Tribune*, *Pioneer Press*, *St. Cloud Times*, and others.

MANDATED REPORTS

The legislature requires one-time, annual, and biennial reports, often tied to state appropriations.

FISCAL NOTES

Fiscal notes are requested by legislators to help them understand the fiscal implications of legislation. A fiscal note estimates the expenditures and revenue that will result from the implementation of proposed legislation.

REGENT ELECTION

This year, the Minnesota Legislature elected four new University of Minnesota Regents in a joint convention on May 7: Janie Mayeron for the 5th Congressional District, Mike Kenyanya for the student at-large seat, and Kao Ly Ilean Her and Mary Davenport for two statewide at-large seats.

8

op-eds and letters to the editor in 10 different newspapers



22

fiscal notes requested this session



10

mandated reports submitted this year

GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS



J.D. Burton

Chief Government Relations Officer

jdburton@umn.edu

612-625-1445



State Relations

Kelly Hansen

Director of State Relations

hansenkm@umn.edu

612-626-7372



Community and Local Government Relations

Erick Garcia Luna

Director of Community and Local Government Relations

Garci128@umn.edu

612-624-8318



Federal Relations

Sarah Neimeyer

Director of Federal Relations

neimeyer@umn.edu

202-624-3590



UMN Advocates

Mike Miller

Advocacy Coordinator

Mill1231@umn.edu

612-626-4596



Keya Steel

Program Manager

keeya@umn.edu

612-625-5512



Janet Kendra

Executive Assistant

kendr008@umn.edu

612-624-7324