

POLICY OPTIONS to INCREASE COLLEGE AFFORDABILITY

Reform how Minnesota students and families pay for higher education.

Encourage donation to college scholarships

- Create a new enhanced tax credit to encourage donations to scholarships by individuals who typically do not list any deductions on their tax returns.
- Create a tax credit, administered by higher education institutions, to contributors who increase their scholarship donations.

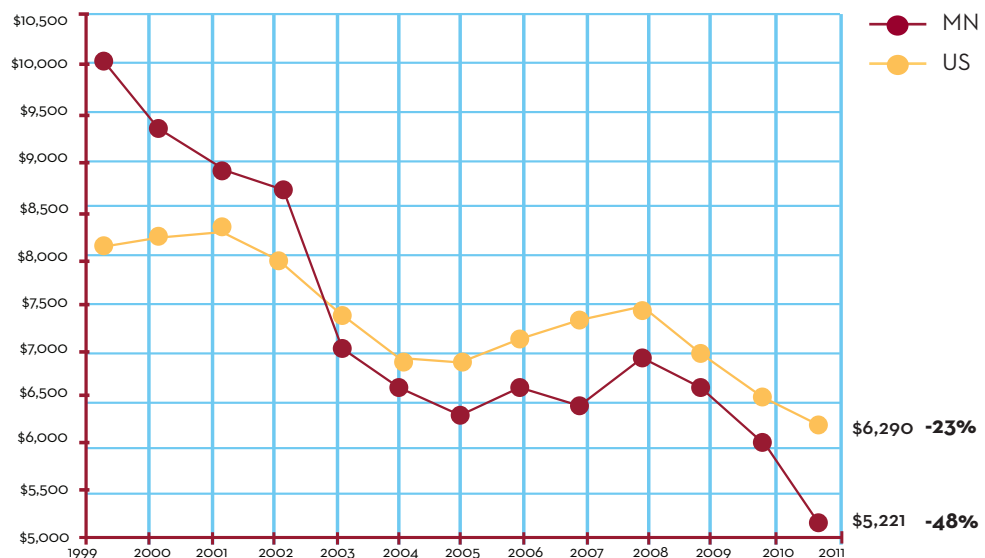
Reduce college costs for students and families

- Create tax credits, administered by higher education institutions, for qualifying middle-income students or parents that would be directly applied towards tuition for the next academic year.
- Stop taxing scholarships dollars above the cost of tuition and required fees.

Reduce student debt and retain talent

- Encourage graduates to continue to live and work in Minnesota by creating tax credits to offset a portion of their student loan.

MINNESOTA HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING
State Higher Education Appropriations Per Public FTE



Source: 2012 State Higher Education Officers (SHEEO)—State Education Finance FY2011

STATE CUTS
SIGNIFICANTLY
DEEPER
than the
NATIONAL
AVERAGE