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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

BILL NUMBER: Senate Bill 106

SHORT TITLE: Graduate Scholarship Act Funding

SPONSOR: Pope

LAST UPDATE: 1/28/2026 **ORIGINAL DATE:** 1/28/2026 **ANALYST:** Jorgensen

APPROPRIATION* (dollars in thousands)

FY26	FY27	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
	\$5,000.0	Recurring	General Fund

*Amounts reflect most recent analysis of this legislation.

Sources of Information

LFC Files

Agency or Agencies Providing Analysis

Higher Education Department

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Senate Bill 106

Senate Bill 106 (SB106) appropriates \$5 million from the general fund to the Higher Education Department (HED) for the purpose of providing student scholarships through the Graduate Scholarship Act.

This bill does not contain an effective date and, as a result, would go into effect 90 days after the Legislature adjourns, which is May 20, 2026.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$5 million contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY27 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The Graduate Scholarship Act allows graduate students, excluding medical doctors, to receive a scholarship of up to 100 percent of the tuition and fees charged provided the student holds a

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cumulative grade point average of a 3.0 and maintains continuous enrollment of at least six credit hours per semester.

HED has \$488 thousand in the recurring operating budget to award scholarships under the Graduate Scholarship Act and reports awarding 52 scholarships in FY26. HED estimates the \$5 million appropriation in SB106 would fund over 1,000 graduate scholarships in addition to those funded under the existing appropriation.

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