

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

UWS 1/22/2018

LRB Number	17-3990/1	Introduction Number	AB-0804	Estimate Type	Corrected
Description merit scholarships for certain University of Wisconsin System students and making an appropriation					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

The bill changes the allocation of funds appropriated from the income and interest in the normal school fund. In addition to the current funding requirements of providing annual need-based grants totaling \$100,000 to students at the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies and providing scholarships totaling \$100,000 to students enrolled in the sustainable management degree program through the UW Extension, the proposed bill would also award a set amount of \$300,000 annually (this figure fluctuates under current law based on the balance remaining in the fund after awarding the programs described above) to the UW Stevens Point for environmental programs. Once these funds are distributed, the Board of Regents would be required to distribute the remaining balance to award merit-based scholarships in the amount of \$5,000 called "Wisconsin Merit Scholarships".

This proposed legislation would have no fiscal impact on the University of Wisconsin System. The University of Wisconsin System already has structure in place for distributing funds to UW-Stevens Point, and the change in amounts would not impact costs. To provide the Wisconsin Merit Scholarship, there may be time and staff resources needed to review the scholarship applications. However, these are functions that could be established with existing resources and would require no additional cost. Additionally, since the funding for these scholarships is based on the appropriation received, there also would be no additional costs to fund these programs/scholarships.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications