

WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2013 Wisconsin Act 9 [2013 Assembly Bill 14]

Workforce Training Program

2013 Wisconsin Act 9 creates a workforce development program in the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) for the development and implementation of workforce training programs. It provides for grants to be used for the training of unemployed and underemployed workers in this state or for the training of incumbent employees of businesses in this state. The Act permits DWD to require a grantee to provide matching funds at a percentage to be determined by DWD. The Act also requires DWD to consult with the Wisconsin Technical College System Board (WTCSB) and the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) in the implementation of this workforce training program.

The Act requires DWD, from the administrative appropriation provided, to develop and maintain a Labor Market Information System to collect, analyze, and disseminate information on employment opportunities in this state and other appropriate information relating to labor market dynamics, and to make the information available to educational institutions and the public. The Act also allows DWD, subject to review by the Joint Committee on Finance, to transfer money from this administration account to be used for workforce training grants.

The Act mandates that grantees report to DWD regarding how grant money was used and the outcomes achieved, and requires DWD to promulgate rules prescribing the information to be contained in these reports. It also requires DWD to create grant application forms, procedures, and criteria, and permits DWD to audit and inspect the records of grantees.

The Act requires DWD to submit annual reports to the Governor and the Joint Committee on Finance providing an account of DWD's activities and expenditures under this program during the preceding fiscal year, including specified statistical information.

The Act appropriates \$7,500,000 in general purpose revenue funding each year of the 2013-2015 fiscal biennium for grants to public and private organizations. The Act appropriates \$180,000 in fiscal year (FY) 2012-13, \$1,660,000 in FY 2013-14, and \$3,160,000 in FY 2014-15, and creates four full-time equivalent positions in DWD, for administration of this grant program.

This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information,

consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <u>http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov</u>.

Effective date: Act 9 took effect March 28, 2013, except that appropriations for the 2013-2015 biennium do not take effect until the second day after publication of the 2013-15 Biennial Budget Act.

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April 22, 2013

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