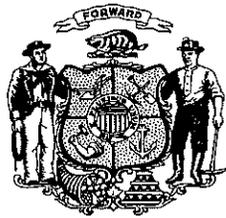


STATE OF WISCONSIN

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JOINT COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

MEMORANDUM

To: Members
Joint Committee on Finance

From: Senator Alberta Darling
Representative John Nygren

Date: August 19, 2016

Re: WTCS Report to JFC

Attached is an annual report regarding grants to district boards from the Wisconsin Technical College System, pursuant to s. 38.04(32)(b), Stats.

This report is being provided for your information only. No action by the Committee is required. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Attachments

AD:JN:jm



Morna K. Foy, President

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August 15, 2016

AUG 19 2016
St. Finance

Senator Alberta Darling and
Representative John Nygren, Co-Chairpersons
Joint Committee on Finance
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

Dear Senator Darling and Representative Nygren:

I am pleased to share with you the attached report in compliance with section 38.04 (32) (b) of the Wisconsin statutes. This provision requires the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) to submit an annual report regarding Grants to District Boards. The report is to be submitted to the Department of Administration, Joint Committee on Finance and the appropriate standing committees of the legislature (Senate-Universities and Technical Colleges/Assembly-Colleges and Universities). The reporting requirement was established in the 2013-15 Biennial Budget.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Kathleen Cullen, Provost and Vice President at 608-266-9399.

Sincerely,

Morna K. Foy
President

cc: Joe Malkasian, JFC Committee Clerk
Bob Lang, Legislative Fiscal Bureau



June 1, 2016

Prepared By: The Office of Student Success

For FY2015-16 the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) awards and administers \$21.9 million of Grants to District Boards (state Categorical Aid). State General Purpose Revenue (GPR) funds provide support for targeted programs within the technical colleges that have been identified by the WTCS, the Legislature, and the Governor as priorities for state support.

Grant Categories

The appropriation provides the WTCS Board flexibility to enhance workforce training and expand training in program areas with a high-demand. The WTCS Board implemented a process for determining funding priorities, evaluating, awarding, and monitoring grants to district boards. In preparation for the WTCS Board's action, an ad-hoc work group advised System Office staff in its development of recommendations for consideration by the WTCS Board. Subsequently, the WTCS Board maintained the following GPR grant categories.

- ***Apprentice-Related Instruction - \$500,000***

To respond to cyclical industry demands, with current occupational curriculum, to provide a supply of skilled workers for rapidly developing industries, and ensure the continuity of apprenticeship training during periods of temporary labor demand shortages.

- ***Career Pathways - \$4,000,000***

To create, expand and/or implement career pathways – including providing instructional and supportive services for students in these pathways – to help students, who are engaged in a career pathway, achieve educational attainment and credentials, which prepare them for family sustaining employment and/or other career goals.

- ***Core Industry - \$6,000,000***

To help assure that WTCS programs, in core industry areas, provide industry relevant training using rigorous curricula current technology and related services. Grants may also expand programming in core industry areas within the district. Priority is given to grant projects that reflect inter-district collaboration on aligned curriculum or consortia programming that enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of educational programming.

- ***Developing Markets - \$1,500,000***

To support programs new to the district to include: development of a program new to the district and approved by the System Board; development of curriculum and related instructional materials, technology and software, the purchase of major/minor equipment; staff development; and the delivery of instruction.

- ***Professional Development - \$1,000,000***

To support professional development activities in the Wisconsin Technical College System.



- ***Student Support - \$3,000,000***

To create, expand and/or implement innovative methods that provide direct services to students enrolled in courses and programs and for services that transition students through career pathways. The goal is to support students through specific completion points - course completion, completion of subsequent semesters and completion of programs or Wisconsin Technical College System Pathway Certificates.

- ***Workforce Advancement Training - \$4,000,000***

To promote increased investment in the development of incumbent workers, improve Wisconsin businesses' productivity and competitiveness, augment the state's economic base, support career pathways, and expand technical college training services to businesses and industry. Grants are awarded to upgrade the skills and productivity of employees of established businesses operating in Wisconsin, with the additional objective of supporting regional workforce and economic development efforts. Training under these grants focus on occupational skills but can include a combination of occupational, academic, and employability topics or courses.

- ***Systemwide Leadership - \$1,900,000***

Incentive grants to WTCS districts for the purpose of the development of projects with a system-wide impact.

Grant Reporting

The System Office placed emphasis on the triannual grant reporting process and forms. A triannual grant reporting training webinar provided colleges/grant recipients with an overview of grant activity reporting. In preparation of the webinar, System Office staff received input from a sample of colleges on the implementation of the forms. Data collection and reporting requirements resulted in adjusted triannual reporting dates which applied to all categories except for Workforce Advancement Training grants.