

1999 Session

Original Updated
 Corrected Supplemental

LRB or Bill No./Adm. Rule No.
 99-3993/1 99-SB0327

FISCAL ESTIMATE

DOA 2048 (R 11/90)

Amendment No. if Applicable

Subject

Grants to certain students enrolled in technical colleges

Fiscal Effect

State: No State Fiscal Effect

Check columns below only if bill makes a direct appropriation
 Or affects a sum sufficient appropriation

- Increase Existing Appropriation Increase Existing Revenues
 Decrease Existing Appropriation Decrease Existing Revenues
 Create New Appropriation

Increase Costs-May be Possible
 to Absorb Within Agency's
 Budget

Yes No

Decrease Costs

Local: No Local Government Costs

1. Increase Costs
 Permissive Mandatory
 2. Decrease Costs
 Permissive Mandatory

3. Increase Revenues
 Permissive Mandatory
 4. Decrease Revenues
 Permissive Mandatory

5. Types of Local Governmental
 Units Affected:

- Towns Villages
 Cities
 Counties
 Others _____
 School Districts
 WTCS Districts

Fund Sources Affected

GPR FED PRO PRS SEG SEG-S

Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations

See Attachment A

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Over the next several years, if the TOP grant program has the desired effect of attracting more recent high school completers or GED recipients to enroll as full-time students in the technical colleges, funding for the program may drop below the level needed to provide TOP grants to all eligible students.

Agency/Prepared by:
 (Name & Phone No.)

WTCSB Janet Washbon (608) 266-2017

Authorized Signature/Telephone No.

Janet Washbon
 (608) 266-2017

Date

01/25/2000

Attachment A

Fiscal Estimate LRB 99-3993/1 99-SB0327

Expansion of Eligibility for Grants to Certain Students Enrolled in Technical Colleges

For the second year of the biennium beginning July 1, 2000, the 1999-2001 Biennial Budget appropriated \$6.6 million for grants to new high school graduates enrolling full-time in technical and occupational programs at a Wisconsin technical college.

As proposed, this bill would amend the statutes pertaining to these technical and occupational program (TOP) grants. Currently, among other requirements, eligibility for the TOP grants is restricted to students graduating from a high school in Wisconsin. The bill would expand eligibility for a TOP grant of \$500 per year to students who, while meeting the other eligibility requirements, did not graduate from high school but received instead a certificate of general educational development from the state superintendent of public instruction.

With funding for the TOP grants commencing in the second year of the biennium, the program has not yet begun operation and the awarding of grants. As a result, the number of students eligible to receive technical college study grants cannot be known with certainty at this time. Approximately 13,300 students ages 18-21 enrolled full or nearly full time in technical and occupational programs in the technical colleges in 1997-98. This group includes high school graduates as well as GED completers. The current TOP grant appropriation would be adequate to fully fund \$500 grants to a similar sized cohort entering the technical college as first year full-time students in Fall 2000 regardless of high school graduation status.

While the current appropriation would be sufficient to fund TOP grants for the expanded pool of first year technical college students created by enactment of this bill, there is no guarantee that this level of funding would be adequate in the future. The goal of the TOP grants is to increase the number of students attending technical college full-time in the first three years after high school completion.