

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

WTCS 10/19/2007

LRB Number	07-0116/2	Introduction Number	SB-286	Estimate Type	Original
Description Fee remissions for certain University of Wisconsin System and technical college students					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

SB 286 expands current program and material fee remissions available to technical college students whose spouse or parent was killed in the line of duty while working as (or dies from a qualifying disability resulting from working as) an ambulance driver, correctional officer, fire fighter, emergency medical technician, or law enforcement officer. Current law limits the remission to a student whose parent was killed or dies while the student was under age 21 or before the student was born. SB 286 eliminates any age restrictions on technical college student eligibility for program and material fee remission.

Under the current law, \$14,300 in state funds are available to reimburse WTCS colleges for these remissions. WTCS colleges remitted tuition for 6 students for 2006-07, 2 students in 2005-06, and 3 students in 2003-04. No remissions were requested in 2004-05.

Age restrictions on remission eligibility may be a factor in limiting participation to date. Eliminating the current age restriction could increase participation and, therefore the need for additional state funding. It appears unlikely that the WTCS can absorb increases in participation within the current funding/budget level.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

If remission requests increase dramatically, additional state funding will be needed.