

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DCF 5/5/2015

LRB Number	15-1895/1	Introduction Number	AB-0191	Estimate Type	Original
Description Requiring drug testing and treatment for eligibility for certain work experience programs; requiring the Department of Health Services to request a waiver to screen and, if indicated, test and provide treatment to FoodShare employment and training participants for illegal use of a controlled substance; and making an appropriation					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill requires individuals who apply to participate in the Department of Child and Families (DCF) -administered Transform Milwaukee Jobs program, the Transitional Jobs program, W-2 services for non-custodial parents and the Children First program to complete a questionnaire that screens for the abuse of a controlled substance. If, based on the answers to the questionnaire, DCF or the agency administering the program determines there is reasonable suspicion that the person eligible for the program is abusing a controlled substance, the individual must undergo a test for the use of a controlled substance. If the test results are positive and the individual does not have a valid prescription for the controlled substance, the person must participate in substance abuse treatment to remain eligible for the program, with the cost of the treatment paid by DCF. While undergoing treatment, the individual must submit to random drug testing to remain eligible for the program.

It is unknown how many individuals will be subject to the controlled substance testing requirements under the bill and thus how many persons will require treatment in order to participate in the affected programs. However, the Department does not currently pay for drug treatment costs for the affected programs. Although the costs are unknown, DCF believes that the funding appropriated in the bill would be sufficient to cover the costs.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications