



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2015 Wisconsin Act 385
[2015 Senate Bill 419]

**Veterans Employment and
Entrepreneurship Grant Program**

2015 Wisconsin Act 385 eliminates a veteran employment grant program and creates a veterans employment and entrepreneurship grant program.

The Act eliminates a program under which the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) may grant certain amounts to employers for each veteran or disabled veteran the employers hire, subject to specific limitations. Instead, the Act creates a program under which DVA may, beginning in the 2016-17 fiscal year, award up to \$500,000 annually in grants to veterans, employers, and nonprofit organizations to improve employment outcomes for veterans in Wisconsin. Specifically, the Act authorizes DVA to award grants for the following purposes:

- To assist veteran entrepreneurs.
- To give employers in Wisconsin incentives to hire veterans, especially disabled veterans.
- To help fund employment training for veterans, especially disabled veterans.
- Other programs or purposes as determined by the department by rule.

The Act requires DVA to promulgate rules implementing this grant program. The rules must include rules establishing the specific goals grant recipients must meet and requiring those goals to be met before any grant moneys are disbursed.

Effective date: July 1, 2016

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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: <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov>.