

Fiscal Estimate - 2017 Session

Original Updated Corrected Supplemental

LRB Number 17-3477/1		Introduction Number AB-0373		
Description requiring University of Wisconsin System schools to offer degree credit internships for each academic major				
Fiscal Effect				
State:				
<input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate				
<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations	<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues	<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget		
<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations	<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
<input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations		<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs		
Local:				
<input type="checkbox"/> No Local Government Costs				
<input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate				
5. Types of Local Government Units Affected				
1. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs	3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> Towns	<input type="checkbox"/> Village	<input type="checkbox"/> Cities
<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	<input type="checkbox"/> Counties	<input type="checkbox"/> Others	
2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs	4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> School Districts	<input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts	
<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory			
Fund Sources Affected		Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations		
<input type="checkbox"/> GPR <input type="checkbox"/> FED <input type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS				
Agency/Prepared By		Authorized Signature	Date	
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives

UWS 6/18/2017

LRB Number	17-3477/1	Introduction Number	AB-0373	Estimate Type	Original
Description requiring University of Wisconsin System schools to offer degree credit internships for each academic major					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill would require the Board of Regents to ensure that for each academic major offered at a UW System school, there is an offering of an internship course for which at least three credits are awarded toward completion of the academic major.

In order to provide this estimate, data and input was collected from the UW System Office of Academic & Affairs as well as limited input from individual institutions. Without an exact definition, this estimate assumes that the term "internship" is intended to mean all the for-credit forms of workplace experience, including co-ops, teacher practicums, clinical placements, and internships. This estimate also assumes that the internship offering is not a requirement to graduate but instead an option within the course array.

Data collected by the Office of Policy Analysis and Research (OPAR) from the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) shows that 56% of UW students report that they have completed or are in progress with an internship. However, not all of these are three credit internships or academic internships at all.

UW System institutions collectively offer a total of 756 bachelor degrees. While system-wide data is not currently collected on how many internship offerings exist by major, based on institutional input, the current infrastructure for internship offerings varies widely by institution. At some institutions, existing academic internship or clinical degree requirements may be limited to specific academic areas (such as Business, Nursing, Education, Social Work, and Athletic Training at UW-Oshkosh). Other institutions may already have robust internship offerings. For example, for-credit internships are already offered to students in all undergraduate majors at UW-Madison. Some of these existing offerings are one-credit; therefore, there would be a need to expand a large portion of existing offerings to meet the three credit requirement. Overall, 30% of graduates at UW-Madison participate in a for-credit internship or workplace experience, but 63% report in surveys that they have had an internship or college-related work experience.

For academic-credit internships, traditionally the students pay for the credits and the work that goes into administering the credits and programs. These funds provided by students cover the evaluation of the site, experience and student performance, as well as faculty members that help arrange the internships, communicate with students and their supervisors, grade assignments related to the work, and potentially lead classroom discussions that take place alongside the work. Therefore, this bill would require staff at every UW institution by discipline area to coordinate the development of internships and supervise the internships in every discipline. It is important to note that the task of finding, coordinating and supervising meaningful internship sites and experiences is more difficult for those institutions and campuses whose region does not have the capacity to handle the number of students who are looking for internships or for the specific type of internship experiences the students seek.

As UW-Madison already has an internship offering for every academic major, this estimate uses the 30% participation rate in academic credit internships and the 63% total internship participation rate as baselines. Assuming total student-level participation may rise on average in between this range across the System, the work load for internship coordination by campus may come close to doubling. There is an internship coordinator at each campus. Assuming participation in internships potentially doubles, this would require doubling the number of staff. The type of staff that would handle internship coordination can vary by campus (faculty, internship coordinator, etc.) Therefore, taking an average salary across the System, (\$60,057), with a fringe rate of 38.69%, the total cost of one FTE would be \$83,293.05. Institutions vary on how many internship coordination offices exist across campuses as well as the number of staff that might be needed by campus. However, assuming a very conservative average of hiring two additional staff or faculty per institution, the costs for staff alone across the System would begin at \$ 2,165,619.30. There would also be faculty/instructional staff costs to supervise and develop the academic course. Faculty/instructional staff costs would be substantial, but impossible to determine. Additionally, given the

oversight required by the Board of Regents, this bill would require the creation of a System-level accountability mechanism for documenting these offerings across the System, drawing additional System staff time.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications