



## Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DCF 4/15/2021

LRB Number	<b>21-2406/1</b>	Introduction Number	<b>SB-294</b>	Estimate Type	<b>Original</b>
<b>Description</b> pre-adoption training formats					

### Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

DCF contracts with the Wisconsin Child Welfare Professional Development System (WCWPDS) to provide trainings to pre-adoptive parents. This change will allow children and families to reach adoption finalization more quickly and without taking unnecessary COVID-19 risks. Under this bill, pre-adoptive parents will still receive the same interactive training that is face-to-face via a virtual platform as they would in-person, without the COVID-19 exposure risks of a classroom training.

Adoptions have been delayed since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic; many specifically due to in-person training requirements. Stakeholders and contracted agencies have requested that this requirement be changed to be in line with foster care training requirements, which have the flexibility to conduct live, interactive, virtual trainings.

The state fiscal effects of this bill may lead to a temporary reduction in state-paid training costs incurred by WCWPDS due to the absence of classroom style training costs – such as room rentals at hotels/conference centers, physical training supplies, printing, travel, etc. – however the exact offset amounts of moving to a virtual face-to-face setting is indeterminate. Long-term cost impacts are negligible. Once COVID-19 concerns are adequately mitigated, both virtual and in-person trainings may be offered.

There are no local government fiscal effects. The pre-adoption trainings are paid through DCF's contract with WCWPDS.

### Long-Range Fiscal Implications