

Fiscal Estimate - 2021 Session

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 21-5119/1	Introduction Number SB-782
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Description
 community school start-up grants, funding for the University of Wisconsin System, and making an appropriation

Fiscal Effect

State:

<input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect	<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget
<input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate	<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations		<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs
<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations		
<input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations		

Local:

<input type="checkbox"/> No Local Government Costs	5. Types of Local Government Units Affected	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate	<input type="checkbox"/> Towns <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> Cities <input type="checkbox"/> Counties <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> School Districts <input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts	
1. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs	3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue	
<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	
2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs	4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue	
<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	

Fund Sources Affected	Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GPR <input type="checkbox"/> FED <input type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS	20.255 (2) (cv) [NEW]

Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DPI 12/28/2021

LRB Number	21-5119/1	Introduction Number	SB-782	Estimate Type	Original
Description community school start-up grants, funding for the University of Wisconsin System, and making an appropriation					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill requires the Department of Public Instruction to create a community school start-up grant program under which DPI awards competitive grants to school boards to plan and implement community schools. The bill defines a "community school" as a public school that focuses on improving pupil learning, strengthening families, developing healthier communities, working with community partners to provide additional services to the surrounding community, and providing wraparound support services to pupils and their families. "Community school" does not include independent charter schools or charter schools that are not an instrumentality of a school district.

The bill requires that, under the community school start-up grant program, DPI must allocate portions of the program funding to establishing community schools in rural school districts, to establishing community schools in high-poverty school districts, and to transforming low-performing schools into community schools. The bill also requires an applicant for a community school start-up grant to demonstrate that the applicant has secured matching funds for the grant and to identify a school resource coordinator who will coordinate school programming. An applicant for a community school start-up grant must also describe the types of programming the school will provide to improve pupil learning, strengthen families, and develop a healthier community. A community school start-up grant is for a five-year term and may be renewed for additional five-year periods.

The bill also requires a recipient of a community school start-up grant to provide an annual report to DPI.

The bill also provides additional funding for the University of Wisconsin System under its general program operations for purposes of maintaining compliance with maintenance of effort requirements of the federal Consolidated Appropriations Act and the federal American Rescue Plan Act.

State:

The bill appropriates \$15,000,000 GPR annually for the purpose of requiring the DPI to develop and implement a program that provides one or more grants to school districts on a competitive basis on behalf of individual schools located in the school district for the purpose of planning and implementing community schools. The bill specifies that, in developing the program, the DPI shall allocate an unspecified portion of the amount appropriated for planning and implementing community schools in rural school districts, which is not defined in the bill; high-poverty school districts, which is defined in the bill as a school district in which at least 50 percent of the school district's enrollment on the 3rd Friday of September in the immediately preceding even-numbered year, as rounded to the nearest whole percentage point, was eligible for a free or reduced-price lunch in the federal school lunch program under 42 USC 1758 (b); and school districts for the purpose of transforming low-performing schools into community schools. Under the bill, a "low-performing school" is defined as a school that was in the lowest 5 percent of all public schools in the state in the previous school year or that was placed in the lowest performance category in the most recent school and school district accountability report under s. 115.385, Stats.

In addition, the bill specifies that the DPI shall establish a maximum grant award in each community school; require that an applicant for a grant to demonstrate that the applicant has secured matching funds equal to the amount of the grant, which may be in the form of money, in-kind goods or services, or both; and require that an applicant identify a school resource coordinator who is designated to coordinate programming for the community school program.

While the bill appropriates funds to accomplish this purpose, the bill does not appropriate resources to the DPI for the administration of this program. It is assumed that any changes to department functions as a result of the bill would be absorbed within existing resources.

Finally, the bill provides funding for the University of Wisconsin System under its general program operations

for purposes of maintaining compliance with maintenance of effort requirements of the federal Consolidated Appropriations Act and the federal American Rescue Plan Act. These changes do not directly impact the DPI, so DPI is not in a position to estimate the impact of these changes.

Local:

The bill creates a new, competitive grant program to be awarded to school boards of rural school districts, low-income school districts, or school districts in which low-performing schools are located for the purpose of establishing community schools. The bill defines "community school" as a public school that focuses on improving pupil learning, strengthening families, developing healthier communities, working with community partners to provide additional services to the surrounding community, and providing wraparound support services to pupils and their families. Community schools do not include independent charter schools or charter schools that are not an instrumentality of a school district.

The bill also provides that a school board applying for a grant under the bill on behalf of a school in a school district shall include in the school board's application a description of the programming the school will provide to improve pupil learning, strengthen families, and develop a healthier community and how the school resource coordinator will coordinate the described programming. To qualify for a grant, the school board shall include in the programming described in the school board's application at least 3 of the following activities: 1) high-quality child care or early childhood education programming; 2) academic support and enrichment activities, including expanded learning; 3) time and summer or after-school enrichment and learning experiences; 4) home visitation services by teachers or other professionals; 5) programs that promote parental involvement and family literacy, including parent leadership development activities and parenting education activities; 6) job training, internship opportunities, career counseling services, and community service and service-learning opportunities; 7) health services, including primary health, school nursing, and dental care, mental health counseling services, and nutrition services; 8) adult education, including instruction in English as a 2nd language; 9) juvenile crime prevention and rehabilitation programs; 10) homeless prevention services; and 11) professional development for school administrators, teachers, and educational support professionals in culturally responsive teaching and practices that promote enhanced understanding, respect, and relationships among staff, pupils, families, and the community. Further, the applicant is required to demonstrate that it has secured matching funds equal to the amount of the grant, which may be in the form of money, in-kind goods or services, or both.

A grant awarded under the bill is for a 5-year term and is renewable for additional 5-year periods. Finally, the recipient of a grant under the bill shall submit to the DPI a report describing the recipient's efforts to integrate community school programming at the school and the impact of the programming on participating children and adults.

Because the bill specifies that the DPI shall establish a maximum grant award in each community school, it is not possible to estimate the true fiscal impact of the bill on individual public school districts. However, it can be assumed that participating schools would expect an increase in revenue for the purpose of accomplishing the intent behind the bill. The local fiscal impact is therefore indeterminate.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications