April 16, 2021 - Introduced by Representatives Murphy, Petryk, Armstrong, Cabrál-Guevara, Callahan, Dittrich, Gundrum, Horlacher, Kuglitsch, L. Myers, Moses, Mursau, Oldenburg, Rozar, Tauchen, Tusler, Wichgers, Zimmerman and Thiesfeldt, cosponsored by Senators Jacque, Testin, Feyen, Nass, Stafsholt and L. Taylor. Referred to Committee on Workforce Development.

AN ACT to create 20.235 (1) (kg), 20.292 (1) (fc), 20.505 (8) (hm) 13t., 38.04 (34) and 39.381 of the statutes; relating to: grants to technical college and tribal college students for apprenticeship expenses and making an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill creates grant programs under which the Technical College System Board and Higher Educational Aids Board may award grants of up to $1,500 to technical college students and tribal college students, respectively, who have undertaken an apprenticeship program in conjunction with their course of instruction at the technical college or tribal college. These grants may be awarded only to pay for the students’ actual materials expenses, such as the cost of tools, equipment, and clothing, associated with the apprenticeship program. Among the requirements for a student to be eligible for a grant, the student must be enrolled in the apprenticeship program in the semester in which the grant is made and in the following semester.

For further information see the state and local fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 20.005 (3) (schedule) of the statutes: at the appropriate place, insert the following amounts for the purposes indicated:
20.235 Higher educational aids board
(1) **Student support activities**
(kg) Apprenticeship grants for tribal college students

PR-S A 21,000 21,000

20.292 Technical college system board
(1) **Technical college system**
(fc) Student apprenticeship grants GPR A 100,000 100,000

SECTION 2. 20.235 (1) (kg) of the statutes is created to read:
20.235 (1) (kg) Apprenticeship grants for tribal college students. The amounts in the schedule for grants to tribal college students under s. 39.381. All moneys transferred from the appropriation account under s. 20.505 (8) (hm) 13t. shall be credited to this appropriation account. Notwithstanding s. 20.001 (3) (a), the unencumbered balance on June 30 of each year shall revert to the appropriation account under s. 20.505 (8) (hm).

SECTION 3. 20.292 (1) (fc) of the statutes is created to read:
20.292 (1) (fc) Student apprenticeship grants. The amounts in the schedule for grants to technical college students under s. 38.04 (34).

SECTION 4. 20.505 (8) (hm) 13t. of the statutes is created to read:
20.505 (8) (hm) 13t. The amount transferred to s. 20.235 (1) (kg) shall be the amount in the schedule under s. 20.235 (1) (kg).

SECTION 5. 38.04 (34) of the statutes is created to read:
38.04 (34) Student apprenticeship grants. (a) In this subsection, “apprenticeship program” has the meaning given in s. 106.001 (4).
(b) From the appropriation under s. 20.292 (1) (fc), the board shall award grants to students enrolled in technical colleges who have undertaken an apprenticeship program in conjunction with their course of instruction at the technical college. Grants may be awarded only to pay for the students' actual materials expenses, such as the cost of tools, equipment, and clothing, associated with the apprenticeship program. Grants may not exceed $1,500 per student or the student's actual materials expenses, whichever is less.

(c) The board may not award a grant to a student under this subsection unless the student's application submitted to the board includes all of the following:

1. A recommendation form signed by the student's apprenticeship employer or another person in the trades.

2. A statement of how the award would help the student complete the student's apprenticeship program.

3. A statement signed by the student certifying all of the following:
   a. That the student will be enrolled in the apprenticeship program in the following semester.
   b. That the student will use the grant award to pay for materials expenses, such as the cost of tools, equipment, and clothing, that are directly related to the apprenticeship program.

(d) The board may not award a grant to a student under this subsection unless the board has verified the student's enrollment in the apprenticeship program in the semester in which the grant award is made.

(e) The board may not award grants under this subsection totaling more than $100,000 in any academic year.
(f) The board may structure the grants awarded under this subsection to create incentives for completing apprenticeship programs.

SECTION 6. 39.381 of the statutes is created to read:

39.381 Apprenticeship grants for tribal college students. (1) In this section:

(a) “Apprenticeship program” has the meaning given in s. 106.001 (4).

(b) “Tribal college” has the meaning given in s. 39.382 (1) (d).

(2) From the appropriation under s. 20.235 (1) (kg), the board shall award grants to students enrolled in tribal colleges who have undertaken an apprenticeship program in conjunction with their course of instruction at the tribal college. Grants may be awarded only to pay for the students’ actual materials expenses, such as the cost of tools, equipment, and clothing, associated with the apprenticeship program. Grants may not exceed $1,500 per student or the student’s actual materials expenses, whichever is less.

(3) The board may not award a grant to a student under this section unless the student’s application submitted to the board includes all of the following:

(a) A recommendation form signed by the student’s apprenticeship employer or another person in the trades.

(b) A statement of how the award would help the student complete the student’s apprenticeship program.

(c) A statement signed by the student certifying all of the following:

1. That the student will be enrolled in the apprenticeship program in the following semester.
2. That the student will use the grant award to pay for materials expenses, such as the cost of tools, equipment, and clothing, that are directly related to the apprenticeship program.

(4) The board may not award a grant to a student under this section unless the board has verified the student’s enrollment in the apprenticeship program in the semester in which the grant award is made.

(5) The board may not award grants under this section totaling more than $21,000 in any academic year.

(6) The board may structure the grants awarded under this section to create incentives for completing apprenticeship programs.

(END)