

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

WTCS 1/26/2024

LRB Number	23-5443/1	Introduction Number	AB-0929	Estimate Type	Original
Description the age of eligibility for children of veterans eligible to receive state higher education benefits					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Assembly Bill 929 expands the remission for the Wisconsin GI Bill which provides eligible veterans, their spouses and children remission of tuition and fees at Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) districts. The bill reduces the minimum age of eligibility at which the child of a veteran may receive the tuition remission from 17 to 15 years of age.

The Higher Education Aids Board reimburses WTCS districts and University of Wisconsin System (UWS) Institutions for tuition and fees that have been remitted for eligible veterans, spouses and children.

State appropriations have been inadequate to reimburse the colleges for the total tuition and fees that are remitted to students under this program. Due to the lack of funding, WTCS districts are using other resources to pay for the cost of remissions. The chart attached provides the number of recipients over the last five years, the total amount reimbursed by HEAB and the local cost being absorbed by the districts.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

The state currently appropriates \$6.5 million dollars to reimburse both the WTCS and UWS for the Wisconsin GI Bill. If this legislation is enacted, WTCS Districts would see an increase in the number of recipients for the Wisconsin GI Bill. If state funding for the Wisconsin GI Bill remains at its current funding level, WTCS districts would continue to see an increase in costs at the local level.

Wisconsin Technical College System

Attachment for AB-929 (LRB-5443/1)

	Veterans, Spouses and Children	Total Tuition and Fees Remitted	State Reimbursed	Difference/Local Costs
2018	1,789	\$4,149,686.21	\$600,850.74	\$(3,548,835.47)
2019	1,832	\$4,259,997.04	\$593,054.10	\$(3,666,942.94)
2020	1,875	\$4,285,675.02	\$617,085.88	\$(3,668,589.14)
2021	1,566	\$3,622,222.11	\$579,761.97	\$(3,042,460.14)
2022	1,603	\$3,848,183.26	\$625,825.03	\$(3,222,358.23)