

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

UWS 9/14/2023

LRB Number	23-3996/1	Introduction Number	SB-0403	Estimate Type	Original
Description prorated University of Wisconsin System housing and meal plan contracts					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill prohibits the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System and UWS institutions from entering into a housing or meal plan contract with a student unless the contract is prorated to return to the student any value of the contract that the student cannot access for more than seven days because the student is not permitted to be present on campus or to reap the benefits of such contract for any reason that is outside of the student's control and that is imposed by the state or by an institution.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

The fiscal impact is indeterminate due to the multitude of scenarios that could result in a student not being able to access their housing or meal plan, and the various room and board rates throughout the System.

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, in the Spring of 2020 UW System institutions refunded \$62 million in housing and dining dollars to students that chose to leave campus. While this did not impact every student with a housing or meal plan contract as some students chose to stay on campus, it does provide a gauge for what the costs may be for approximately half a semester for all UW System institutions.