Fiscal Estimate - 2025 Session						
🛛 Original 🔲 Updated	Corrected Supplem	ental				
LRB Number 25-2612/1	Introduction Number AB-016	6				
Description academic and career planning services provided to pupils and requiring the reporting of certain data on college student costs and outcomes						
Fiscal Effect						
Appropriations Reve	ease Existing enues ease Existing enues Denues Decrease Costs - May be absorb within agency's bu Decrease Costs					
Local: No Local Government Costs Indeterminate 1. Increase Costs Permissive Mandatory Permissive Mandatory						
Fund Sources Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations GPR FED PRO PRS SEG SEG SEGS SEGS SEGS						
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date				
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives

WTCS 4/15/2025

LRB Number	25-2612/1	Introduction Number	AB-0166	Estimate Type	Original	
Description academic and career planning services provided to pupils and requiring the reporting of certain data on						
college student costs and outcomes						

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Assembly Bill 166 requires University of Wisconsin System institutions, technical colleges, and private nonprofit colleges to collect and report cost and student outcome data. This data is reported to the Higher Educational Aids Board (HEAB) and ultimately made available to high school juniors and seniors. This fiscal estimate reflects costs to technical colleges and the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) Board.

The bill requires technical colleges to collect and annually report to HEAB all of the following information relating to their undergraduate degree programs: 1) the average salary of the institution's graduates six months and, every fifth year, five years after graduation; 2) the average debt of the college's students upon graduation or discontinuation of studies; 3) the college's graduation rate; 4) the college's annual total cost of attendance and average net cost; 5) financial aid available to students; and 6) the 10 most popular degree programs offered by the college. Many of these data points are required to be reported in the aggregate and broken down by major.

The bill creates data collection and reporting requirements to HEAB and it is not yet known what form and format of reporting will be required by HEAB to collect the required information. Given the unknowns, the fiscal impacts on technical colleges and the WTCS Board cannot be determined.

The WTCS currently produces several comprehensive reports on costs and outcomes, including (but not limited to) an annual Graduate Outcomes report that surveys graduates 6 months following graduation and a 5-Year Graduate Follow-Up report that surveys graduates five years following their graduation based on a 4-year longitudinal survey. Assuming that the current WTCS report methodologies will not need to be adjusted under the bill, WTCS colleges will be required to expand their data reporting deliverables beyond salary information already reported, resulting in increased administrative costs to the colleges. Based on current estimates and assumptions, administrative costs for technical colleges are expected to be low.

In addition to the costs to technical colleges, the WTCS Board will incur administrative costs associated with staff and IT resources. Assuming that the current WTCS report methodologies will not need to be adjusted under the bill, WTCS staff will support the colleges in collecting additional data points as required under the bill, upgrade data systems to accommodate data changes, and collaborate and provide technical assistance to review and standardize data reported to HEAB. Approximately 60 additional WTCS staff hours will be needed to support this work. Costs to the WTCS Board cannot be absorbed into the current base agency budget. The WTCS 2025-27 biennial budget request, if approved would allow WTCS to absorb these costs.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications