

Fiscal Estimate - 2025 Session

☒ Original
 ☐ Updated
 ☐ Corrected
 ☐ Supplemental

LRB Number 25-0974/1	Introduction Number AB-0279
Description talent recruitment grants	
Fiscal Effect <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> State: <input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues </div> </div> </div> <div style="width: 50%;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No </div> <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs </div> </div>	

Local:
☐ No Local Government Costs
☐ Indeterminate

1. ☐ Increase Costs
☐ Permissive ☐ Mandatory
 2. ☐ Decrease Costs
☐ Permissive ☐ Mandatory

3. ☐ Increase Revenue
☐ Permissive ☐ Mandatory
 4. ☐ Decrease Revenue
☐ Permissive ☐ Mandatory

5. Types of Local Government Units Affected

☐ Towns
☐ Counties
☐ School Districts

☐ Village
☐ Others
☐ WTCS Districts

☐ Cities

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

WEDC 6/6/2025

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Description talent recruitment grants					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

SB-0285/AB-0279 directs WEDC to establish and administer a talent recruitment grant program for the state of Wisconsin. The purpose of the talent recruitment grants is to incentivize households outside of Wisconsin to relocate to municipalities within Wisconsin.

Applicants eligible for a talent recruitment grant would include cities, villages, towns, counties, American Indian tribes or bands within Wisconsin, or nonprofits with a mission dedicated to economic/community/workforce/talent development. A single applicant can apply for a maximum of \$500,000 in grant funds in a single fiscal year. The applicant must provide at least 20% in matching funds for the program, which can include local investments and in-kind contributions. Previous awardees are allowed to reapply in other fiscal years as long as they have met their stated 'household goal'.

The applicant must provide the Corporation with a talent recruitment plan that details the program's design, administration, marketing, and relocation incentive initiatives. The plan must include a 'household goal' that describes the number of households it looks to relocate to the state under their program, and also an estimated total pass-through grant amount per household. The plan must also detail the proposed program's estimated state and local tax impact and total economic impact.

The Corporation is only allowed to disburse the first 50% of their award once entering into a contract with the Corporation, and then can disburse the remaining 50% of their award once the awardee meets at least half of their 'household goal'. The Corporation is not allowed to disburse the remaining half if the awardee reports it has not met at least half of its 'household goal'.

Awardees may only award pass-through grants to households outside Wisconsin at the time of application and with a household income of at least \$55,000. Awardees must also provide semiannual reports on the program detailing: total number of household applications, total number of approved households, cost per approved household, annual incomes and occupations of approved households, and the economic impact of the talent recruitment program (including state and local tax revenue and new consumer spending).

The proposal does not detail any appropriation to finance the cost of the program and would place an unfunded mandate upon the Corporation. The WEDC does not have funding available to finance the costs of the proposal, so the costs are not absorbable by the Corporation. Consequently, the proposal would take away significant resources from the Corporation's other programs and activities.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications