

Fiscal Estimate - 2025 Session

☒ Original ☐ Updated ☐ Corrected ☐ Supplemental

LRB Number **25-1653/1**

Introduction Number **SB-0059**

Description

tuition and fee remission for certain veterans and their dependents enrolled in the University of Wisconsin System or a technical college

Fiscal Effect

State:

- ☐ No State Fiscal Effect
☒ Indeterminate
- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations | <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues | <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations | <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations | | <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs |

Local:

- ☐ No Local Government Costs
☒ Indeterminate
- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs | 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue | 5. Types of Local Government Units Affected
<input type="checkbox"/> Towns <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> Cities
<input type="checkbox"/> Counties <input type="checkbox"/> Others
<input type="checkbox"/> School Districts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mandatory | <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory | |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs | 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory | <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory | |

Fund Sources Affected

Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations

☐ GPR ☐ FED ☐ PRO ☐ PRS ☐ SEG ☐ SEGS

Agency/Prepared By

Authorized Signature

Date

WTCS/ Brandon Trujillo (608) 267-9514

Paul Hammer (608) 266-1739

3/4/2025

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

WTCS 3/4/2025

LRB Number	25-1653/1	Introduction Number	SB-0059	Estimate Type	Original
Description tuition and fee remission for certain veterans and their dependents enrolled in the University of Wisconsin System or a technical college					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Senate Bill 59 eliminates the five-year residency requirement 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. Under the bill, the veteran, spouse and/or dependent would qualify for the Wisconsin GI Bill if the individuals resided in the state immediately before they register at a technical college district.

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 SB-59 (LRB-1653/1)

	Veterans, Spouses and Children	Total Tuition and Fees Remitted	State Reimbursed	Difference/Local Costs
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)
2023	1,549	\$3,716,547.37	\$615,263.88	\$(3,101,283.49)
2024	1,622	\$4,071,658.92	\$621,861.78	\$(3,449,797.14)