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# Wisconsin Legislative Council

## AMENDMENT MEMO

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### 2025 Assembly Bill 198

### Assembly Amendment 1

## 2025 ASSEMBLY BILL 198

Assembly Bill 198 includes three major components: (1) a requirement that the Technical College System Board (board) provide grants to technical colleges that provide emergency medical services (EMS) courses; (2) a reimbursement program run by the Higher Educational Aids Board (HEAB) to pay for tuition and materials at technical colleges for training of certain EMS providers; and (3) a pilot program run by the Department of Military Affairs to establish Live 911 programs.

As described in more detail below, Assembly Amendment 1 makes changes to both the technical college grant requirement and HEAB EMS provider tuition and materials reimbursement program, but does not affect the bill's provisions that relate to the Live 911 pilot.

## ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1

### Grants to Technical Colleges

**The bill** requires that the board provide grants to technical colleges that provide EMS courses that train and prepare individuals for initial certification or initial licensure as an emergency medical responder or EMS practitioner. However, the bill also specifies that the board may not provide a grant to a technical college for use in any year in which, in regards to an EMS course described above, the technical college's district board or the technical college gives admission priority to residents based on the district in which the resident lives.

**The amendment** removes the requirement that the board may not provide a grant to a technical college that gives resident priority in regard to EMS course admission, and replaces it with a requirement that, if there was a student enrollment waiting list for an EMS program at a technical college in the academic year preceding the board's provision of a grant to the technical college, the technical college, or district board of the technical college, must prioritize use of the grant toward one of the following: (1) the technical college's expansion of student enrollment access to the EMS program; or (2) the district board of the technical college entering into a contract for services for the expansion of student enrollment access to the EMS program. The amendment also requires the board to develop and make available to district boards for use or modification a standard contract template for a contract for services as described above.

**The amendment** also makes a technical change to modify the term "emergency medical services courses" to "emergency medical services program."

### HEAB Tuition and Material Reimbursement for EMS Provider Training

**The bill** requires HEAB to develop a program to reimburse certain persons for the tuition and materials costs incurred in completing a course at a state technical college as necessary to qualify for

initial licensure or initial certification for certain EMS provider professions. Specifically, the program must reimburse the following persons as follows:

1. An individual who is applying for an initial license as an EMS practitioner, if the individual has personally paid the tuition or materials costs for the course. In order to be eligible for reimbursement, such an individual must have also satisfactorily completed a required course of instruction and training, passed any required examination, met all additional qualifications for licensure as may be required by the Department of Health Services (DHS), and have received an initial license from DHS as an EMS practitioner.
2. An individual who is applying for initial certification as an emergency medical responder, if the individual has personally paid the tuition or materials costs for the course. In order to be eligible for reimbursement, such an individual must have also satisfactorily completed a required course of instruction and have received certification from DHS as an emergency medical responder.
3. The employer of an individual listed above, if the employer has paid for the applicant's cost of tuition or materials for the course and the applicant satisfies one of the two paths, described above, for reimbursement eligibility.

As it relates to this component of the bill, **the amendment** makes a technical change to modify all descriptions of a technical college "course" to a "program."

## BILL HISTORY

Representative Kurtz offered Assembly Amendment 1 on May 27, 2025. On June 4, 2025, the Assembly Committee on State Affairs voted to recommend adoption of the amendment, and passage of the bill, as amended, on votes of Ayes, 10; Noes, 0.

For a full history of the bill, visit the Legislature's [bill history page](#).

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