



**NOTICE OF SUBMITTAL OF PROPOSED RULE OF THE
SERVICE AWARD BOARD
TO WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF**

Rule Submittal Date

On April 14, 2008, the Service Award Board submitted a proposed rule order to amend Chapter VFF-EMT 1 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code to the Wisconsin Legislative Council Rules Clearinghouse.

Analysis

Statutory Authority: ss. 16.004(1), 16.25(2), (3), (4) and (5), Stats.

Statutes Interpreted: ss. 16.004(1), 16.25(2), (3), (4) and (5), Stats.

The program was created by 1999 Wisconsin Act 105 and is governed by an eight-member board appointed by the Governor. The program intent is to assist in the recruitment and training of volunteer fire fighters, first responders and emergency medical technicians. The state will annually match the municipal contributions up to \$2 million. Currently there are 203 volunteer departments participating in the program covering 5,773 fire fighters and emergency medical technicians

Act 142 made changes to various statutes governing the program. They consist of:

- Renaming the Volunteer Fire Fighter and Emergency Medical Technician Service Award Program to the Service Award Program;
- Renaming the Volunteer Fire Fighter and Emergency Medical Technician Service Award Board to the Service Award Board;
- Extending the benefits of the program so first responders are eligible participants;
- Adding that a county may participate under the definition of a municipality;
- Eliminating the requirement that a volunteer have at least 5 years of experience before prior year service can be purchased;
- A volunteer who has not met all of the vesting requirements shall have their account closed, not forfeited;
- Include the provision that the beneficiary of a volunteer who is killed while actively engaged in the rendering of volunteer fire fighting, first responder, or emergency medical technical service be paid the service lump sum; and
- Adds the provision that the volunteer must meet any other program requirements established by the municipality.

Agency Procedure for Promulgation

The Board will conduct a public hearing. The organizational unit responsible for the promulgation of the proposed rule is the Service Award Board.

Contact Information

If you have any questions regarding the proposed rule, please contact:

Terri Lenz
Department of Administration
Telephone: (608) 261-6580
E-Mail: terri.lenz@wisconsin.gov