# Department of Workforce Development Secretary's Office

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Tony Evers, Governor Amy Pechacek, Secretary-designee

## **Report From Agency**

**DATE:** July 29, 2025

**TO:** Cyrus Anderson, Senate Chief Clerk

c/o Erin Gillitzer, Assistant Senate Chief Clerk

Room B20 Southeast, State Capitol

PO Box 7882

Madison, WI 53707-7882

Edward A. Blazel, Assembly Chief Clerk

17 West Main Street, Room 401

Madison, WI 53703

**FROM:** Amy Pechacek, Secretary-designee

Department of Workforce Development

**SUBJECT:** Notice and Report for Final Draft Form of Proposed Rule

Clearinghouse Rule 25-046: Technical Education Equipment Grants

Pursuant to s. 227.19 (2), Stats., the Department of Workforce Development is submitting for legislative review the attached proposed rule in final draft form for Clearinghouse Rule 25-046. The governor approved this proposed rule on July 28, 2025. The analysis required under s. 227.14 (2), Stats., is included in the proposed rule. Also attached is the Fiscal Estimate & Economic Impact Analysis and the Rules Clearinghouse report and comments.

#### Basis and Purpose

This proposed rule revises procedures and requirements in ch. DWD 802 for the Department to award technical education equipment grants to school districts in this state. This rule will align ch. DWD 802 with changes to s. 106.275, Stats., that were made in 2023 Wisconsin Act 165. Those changes are described in the proposed rule's plain language analysis. The Department made the same changes in emergency rule EmR2418, with one exception, pertaining to applicants for grants who are school districts eligible for sparsity aid or are consortia that include at least one school district that is so eligible. This proposed rule defines those applicants as "sparsity aid applicants." This proposed rule requires the Department to evaluate and score applications by sparsity aid applicants separately from applications by other applicants. The purpose of this

requirement is to facilitate awarding the statutorily required percentage of grants to sparsity aid applicants as mandated by 2023 Wisconsin Act 165.

## **Public Hearings**

On August 13, 2024, the Department held a preliminary public hearing and comment period on the proposed rule's Statement of Scope, SS 085-24. No comments were received. The Department held a public hearing on the proposed rule on July 9, 2025. No comments were received. The Department received no other comments regarding the proposed rule.

#### Changes to the Analysis or Fiscal Estimate

Except as noted below, the Department revised the analysis as recommended by Rules Clearinghouse. The Department also revised the analysis to indicate the deadline for comments. The Department made no other changes to the analysis or fiscal estimate.

## Responses to Rules Clearinghouse

The Rules Clearinghouse made recommendations and comments related to the following:

Form, Style and Placement in the Administrative Code: The Rules Clearinghouse recommended that the Department consider splitting s. DWD 802.04 (2) (c) into subdivisions for clarity. Although the Department agrees that a revision is necessary for the sake of clarity, the Department achieved that result by dividing the text into two sentences instead of splitting it into subdivisions.

Clarity, Grammar, Punctuation and Use of Plain Language: The Department revised the proposed rule as recommended by the Rules Clearinghouse.

#### Final Regulatory Flexibility Analysis and Response to SBRRB

The proposed rule does not have an effect on small businesses, as defined in s. 227.114 (1), Stats. Therefore, the Department did not submit the proposed rule to the Small Business Regulatory Review Board (SBRRB) and a final regulatory analysis is not required.