

Chapter PI 26

EDUCATION FOR EMPLOYMENT PLANS AND PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

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PI 26.01 Applicability and purpose. Under s. 121.02 (1) (m), Stats., beginning in the 1988-89 school year, every board shall provide access to an education for employment program approved by the state superintendent. The purpose of education for employment programs is to prepare elementary and secondary pupils for employment, to promote cooperation between business and industry and public schools, and to establish a role for public schools in the economic development of Wisconsin. This chapter defines education for employment programs, describes the process for approval of education for employment plans, and establishes approval criteria for education for employment programs.

History: Cr. Register, November, 1986, No. 371, eff. 9-1-88.

PI 26.02 Definitions. In this chapter:

- (1) "Basic skills" means reading, language arts, mathematics, science and social studies concepts and skills.
- (2) "Board" means the school board in charge of the public schools of the district.
- (3) "Business and education partnerships" means formal cooperative relationships between public schools and school districts and businesses which benefit and involve pupils, professional staff, the school district, businesses, and the community.
- (4) "Career exploration and planning" means the process by which elementary and secondary pupils identify and evaluate life and work choices, explore and plan career goals, and acquire realistic life and work decision-making skills.
- (5) "CESA" means a cooperative educational service agency under ch. 116, Stats.
- (6) "Community field experience" means learning about work and other life roles by studying, observing and performing them, and it involves expanding educational environments to places where these roles occur.
- (7) "Department" means the Wisconsin department of public instruction.
- (8) "Employability skills and attitudes" means the cognitive and affective skills needed by pupils to obtain and retain employment, and which are applicable and transferable to general employment situations.

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(9) "School supervised work experience" means a set of planned educational experiences, supervised by licensed school personnel, designed to enable learners to acquire attitudes, skills and knowledge for work and other life roles by participating in actual or simulated work settings related to in-school instructional programs.

(10) "State superintendent" means the state superintendent of public instruction.

(11) "Study of economics and American economic institutions" means the study of economics including business, industry, labor, and agricultural operations and organizations and their role in a local, state, national and international economy; entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial skills; consumer and household economics; and the role of citizens in a local, state, national, and international economy.

(12) "Vocational education" means instructional programs designed to achieve pupil mastery of the skills set forth in s. 118.01 (2) (b), Stats.

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PI 26.03 General requirements for school board programs for education for employment. Under s. 121.02 (1) (m), Stats., by September 1, 1988, and thereafter, every board shall have an education for employment program for elementary and secondary pupils which has been approved by the state superintendent under s. PI 26.04. To be approved, a program shall meet all of the following requirements:

(1) The board shall appoint a districtwide education for employment council or participate in a CESA education for employment council, or participate in an education for employment council established through a s. 66.30, Stats., agreement among 2 or more boards. At least half the council shall be composed of employers who are representative of a cross section of the district or regional labor market. The remainder shall be composed of teachers, administrators, pupil services personnel, board members, pupils, parents, representatives of organized labor, representatives of job training partnership councils, and representatives of district vocational and technical institutes or colleges. The council shall be representative of the population in the district or region, including females, minorities and disabled persons.

(2) The program shall be operated in accordance with an education for employment plan developed by the council and approved by the board. The program's long range plan shall be defined in incremental steps. The plan shall be based on pupil needs and interests, equality of educational opportunity, labor market information, impact on economic development and job creation, employment needs, periodic follow-up studies of graduates, and an evaluation of current programs and staff development needs. The plan shall be reviewed annually by the education for employment council, and revised, if necessary, at least once every 5 years.

(3) The board shall designate a staff person to coordinate the education for employment program.

(4) All pupils in grades kindergarten through 12 shall have access to an education for employment program which provides for the following:

(a) Instruction which provides for the practical application of basic skills in the general and vocational curricula.

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(b) School-supervised work experience. Work experience may include community field experiences relating to work in grades kindergarten through grade 12, more specific occupational training in grades 7 through 12, and paid work experience in grades 10 through 12.

(c) Career exploration and planning which also addresses sex-role stereotyping in career decision making.

(d) Instruction in employability skills and attitudes.

(e) The study of the practical application of economics and American economic institutions, including entrepreneurship education and the knowledge needed to begin and operate a business.

(5) All pupils in grades 9 through 12 shall have access to vocational education programs which have an appropriate curriculum based on labor market information including follow-up studies of graduates, job placement and employment needs.

(6) The board shall maintain information on pupil participation in the education for employment program by race, sex and disability.

(7) The board shall establish a business and education partnership council to encourage the development of business and education partnerships. The education for employment council established under sub. (1) may serve as the business and education partnership council.

(8) The board shall integrate other educational program requirements into the education for employment program, including those found in the school district standards under s. 121.02 (1), Stats., vocational skills required under s. 118.01 (2) (b), Stats., high school graduation requirements under s. 118.33, Stats., and programs for children at risk under s. 118.153, Stats.

(9) The board shall coordinate the education for employment program with other public school districts; CESAs; vocational technical institutes and colleges; and job training programs.

History: Cr. Register, November, 1986, No. 371, eff. 9-1-88.

PI 26.04 Approval of education for employment programs. (1) The board shall submit the initial education for employment plan to the department for approval by March 1, 1988, and shall submit changes in any approved education for employment plan at least 90 days prior to implementation.

(2) The department shall disapprove a program which does not meet all of the requirements of s. PI 26.03, and shall state the reasons in writing, citing the particular provisions of s. PI 26.03 with which the program does not comply.

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