



State of Wisconsin  
2015 - 2016 LEGISLATURE

LRBs0367/1  
ARG:amn

**ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 1,  
TO ASSEMBLY BILL 741**

February 16, 2016 - Offered by Representatives HESSELBEIN, WACHS and BARCA.

1 **AN ACT** *to amend* 38.28 (1m) (a) 1.; and *to create* 20.285 (1) (e), 20.292 (1) (e),  
2 36.66 and 38.42 of the statutes; **relating to:** grants to students enrolled in  
3 technical colleges and University of Wisconsin institutions and college  
4 campuses to meet emergency financial need and making an appropriation.

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***Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau***

This substitute amendment creates a program to award grants to students enrolled in technical colleges and University of Wisconsin institutions and college campuses to meet emergency financial need. A student is eligible for a grant to pay the student's expense resulting from a financial emergency if the student's expected family contribution, as determined by the federal Free Application for Federal Student Aid, is less than \$5,000. "Financial emergency" is defined as an unplanned event causing an unanticipated expense that would cause a student to not complete that term if a grant were not available to cover the expense, and includes such expenses as those for medical treatment or vehicle repair but not for textbooks, student fees, or groceries. The amount of the grants awarded to a student may not exceed a total of \$500 per academic year, with a limit of two grants per student per academic year. A student's grant application must include written proof identifying the nature and amount of the expense and the third party to whom this amount is owed. Grant funding is distributed by the Wisconsin Technical College System



1           20.292 (1) (e) *Grants to meet emergency financial need.* As a continuing  
2 appropriation, the amounts in the schedule for distribution to technical college  
3 districts for purposes of making grants under s. 38.42.

4           **SECTION 4.** 36.66 of the statutes is created to read:

5           **36.66 Grants to meet emergency financial need. (1)** In this section:

6           (a) “Eligible student” means a student enrolled in an institution or college  
7 campus whose expected family contribution, as defined in s. 39.437 (3) (a), is less  
8 than \$5,000.

9           (b) “Financial emergency” means an unplanned event causing an  
10 unanticipated expense, such as charges for medical treatment or vehicle repair, that  
11 would cause an eligible student to not complete that term if a grant were not  
12 available to cover the expense, but does not include such expenses as those for  
13 tuition, textbooks, student fees, alcohol or tobacco, groceries, entertainment, legal  
14 services, or fines or forfeitures resulting from legal violations.

15           **(2)** From the appropriation under s. 20.285 (1) (e), no later than September 1,  
16 2016, and by September 1 of each year thereafter, the board shall distribute funds  
17 to the institutions and college campuses for payment of grants under this section.  
18 These funds may not be used by the institutions or college campuses for any other  
19 purpose. The amount distributed by the board to each institution and college campus  
20 shall be determined by the board based on the anticipated need and demand for  
21 grants at each institution and college campus.

22           **(3)** (a) Subject to pars. (b) to (d), each institution and college campus may award  
23 grants to eligible students to pay the student’s expense resulting from a financial  
24 emergency. In evaluating a grant application, the institution or college campus shall,

1 in its discretion and based on its best judgment, determine whether the student has  
2 incurred a legitimate financial emergency.

3 (b) No grant may be awarded to a student unless the student has submitted  
4 with the grant application written proof, such as a bill, identifying the nature and  
5 amount of the expense and the 3rd party to whom this amount is owed.

6 (c) An institution or college campus may not award more than 2 grants under  
7 this section to the same student in any academic year. The total of all grants made  
8 to a student under this section in the same academic year may not exceed \$500.

9 (d) A grant under this section may not be disbursed in cash. The grant funds  
10 shall be disbursed in any of the following ways:

11 1. By check made payable to the student and delivered to the student.

12 2. By check made payable to the 3rd party identified under par. (b) and  
13 delivered to the 3rd party or to the student.

14 3. By electronic fund transfer or other electronic deposit to an account  
15 maintained by the student at a financial institution.

16 (4) Each institution and college campus shall create or adopt a brief application  
17 process and designate an employee with the authority to disburse the grant funds  
18 to eligible students. A decision on a grant application, and disbursement of grant  
19 funds to a student if a grant is awarded, shall be made within 5 business days of the  
20 student's application.

21 (5) If a student applies for a 2nd grant under this section within the same  
22 academic year, an institution or college campus shall require the student to undergo  
23 a financial counseling session with a financial aid professional before the grant may  
24 be awarded.

1           **(6)** (a) Each institution and college campus shall collect, for each academic  
2 year, the following information related to the grant program under this section:

3           1. The number of grants awarded.

4           2. The number of grant requests denied.

5           3. The number of students receiving grants.

6           4. The total amount of grant money awarded.

7           5. The total amount of grant money available but not awarded.

8           6. The number of students who received a grant and completed their degree or  
9 credential.

10          7. The number of students who received a grant and transferred to another  
11 postsecondary institution.

12          8. The number of students who received a grant and did not complete the term  
13 in which the grant was awarded.

14          9. The types of expenses for which students requested grants.

15          (b) By June 30, 2017, and by June 30 of each year thereafter, each institution  
16 and college campus shall report to the board the information collected under par. (a),  
17 for the academic year ending in that calendar year, and the board shall submit a  
18 report of this information to the chief clerk of each house of the legislature, for  
19 distribution to the appropriate standing committees under s. 13.172 (3) having  
20 jurisdiction over matters relating to colleges and universities.

21           **SECTION 5.** 38.28 (1m) (a) 1. of the statutes, as affected by 2015 Wisconsin Act  
22 55, is amended to read:

23           38.28 **(1m)** (a) 1. "District aidable cost" means the annual cost of operating a  
24 technical college district, including debt service charges for district bonds and  
25 promissory notes for building programs or capital equipment, but excluding all

1 expenditures relating to auxiliary enterprises and community service programs, all  
2 expenditures funded by or reimbursed with federal revenues, all receipts under ss.  
3 38.12 (9), 38.14 (3) and (9), 118.15 (2) (a), and 118.55 (7r), all receipts from grants  
4 awarded under ss. 38.04 (8), (28), and (31), 38.14 (11), 38.26, 38.27, 38.31, 38.33, and  
5 38.38, and 38.42, all fees collected under s. 38.24, and driver education and chauffeur  
6 training aids.

7 **SECTION 6.** 38.42 of the statutes is created to read:

8 **38.42 Grants to meet emergency financial need. (1)** In this section:

9 (a) “Eligible student” means a student enrolled in a technical college whose  
10 expected family contribution, as defined in s. 39.437 (3) (a), is less than \$5,000.

11 (b) “Financial emergency” means an unplanned event causing an  
12 unanticipated expense, such as charges for medical treatment or vehicle repair, that  
13 would cause an eligible student to not complete that term if a grant were not  
14 available to cover the expense, but does not include such expenses as those for  
15 tuition, textbooks, student fees, alcohol or tobacco, groceries, entertainment, legal  
16 services, or fines or forfeitures resulting from legal violations.

17 **(2)** From the appropriation under s. 20.292 (1) (e), no later than September 1,  
18 2016, and by September 1 of each year thereafter, the board shall distribute funds  
19 to the districts for payment of grants under this section. These funds may not be used  
20 by the districts for any other purpose. The amount distributed by the board to each  
21 district shall be determined by the board based on the anticipated need and demand  
22 for grants at each technical college.

23 **(3)** (a) Subject to pars. (b) to (d), each technical college may award grants to  
24 eligible students to pay the student’s expense resulting from a financial emergency.  
25 In evaluating a grant application, the technical college shall, in its discretion and

1 based on its best judgment, determine whether the student has incurred a legitimate  
2 financial emergency.

3 (b) No grant may be awarded to a student unless the student has submitted  
4 with the grant application written proof, such as a bill, identifying the nature and  
5 amount of the expense and the 3rd party to whom this amount is owed.

6 (c) A technical college may not award more than 2 grants under this section to  
7 the same student in any academic year. The total of all grants made to a student  
8 under this section in the same academic year may not exceed \$500.

9 (d) A grant under this section may not be disbursed in cash. The grant funds  
10 shall be disbursed in any of the following ways:

11 1. By check made payable to the student and delivered to the student.

12 2. By check made payable to the 3rd party identified under par. (b) and  
13 delivered to the 3rd party or to the student.

14 3. By electronic fund transfer or other electronic deposit to an account  
15 maintained by the student at a financial institution.

16 (4) Each technical college shall create or adopt a brief application process and  
17 designate an employee with the authority to disburse the grant funds to eligible  
18 students. A decision on a grant application, and disbursement of grant funds to a  
19 student if a grant is awarded, shall be made within 5 business days of the student's  
20 application.

21 (5) If a student applies for a 2nd grant under this section within the same  
22 academic year, a technical college shall require the student to undergo a financial  
23 counseling session with a financial aid professional before the grant may be awarded.

24 (6) (a) Each technical college shall collect, for each academic year, the following  
25 information related to the grant program under this section:

- 1           1. The number of grants awarded.
- 2           2. The number of grant requests denied.
- 3           3. The number of students receiving grants.
- 4           4. The total amount of grant money awarded.
- 5           5. The total amount of grant money available but not awarded.
- 6           6. The number of students who received a grant and completed their degree or
- 7           credential.
- 8           7. The number of students who received a grant and transferred to another
- 9           postsecondary institution.
- 10          8. The number of students who received a grant and did not complete the term
- 11          in which the grant was awarded.
- 12          9. The types of expenses for which students requested grants.
- 13          (b) By June 30, 2017, and by June 30 of each year thereafter, each district shall
- 14          report to the board the information collected under par. (a), for the academic year
- 15          ending in that calendar year, and the board shall submit a report of this information
- 16          to the chief clerk of each house of the legislature, for distribution to the appropriate
- 17          standing committees under s. 13.172 (3) having jurisdiction over matters relating to
- 18          colleges and universities.

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(END)