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JOINT COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

MEMORANDUM

To: Members
Joint Committee on Finance

From: Senator Alberta Darling
Representative John Nygren

Date: July 19, 2017

Re: WTCS Report to JFC

Attached is an annual report regarding Grants to District Boards from the Wisconsin Technical College System, pursuant to s. 38.04(32)(b), Stats.

This report is being provided for your information only. No action by the Committee is required. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Attachments

AD:JN:jm

WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM
we are futuremakers

Morna K. Foy, President

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July 18, 2017

JUL 19 2017
Jt. Finance

Senator Alberta Darling and
Representative John Nygren, Co-Chairpersons
Joint Committee on Finance
State Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

Dear Senator Darling and Representative Nygren:

I am pleased to share with you the attached report in compliance with section 38.04 (32) (b) of the Wisconsin Statutes. This provision requires the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) to submit an annual report regarding Grants to District Boards. The report is to be submitted to the Department of Administration, Joint Committee on Finance and the appropriate standing committees of the legislature (Senate-Universities and Technical Colleges/Assembly-Colleges and Universities).

If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Kathleen Cullen, Provost and Vice President at 608-266-9399.

Sincerely,

Morna K. Foy
President

Cc: Joe Malkasian, JFC Committee Clerk
Bob Lang, Legislative Fiscal Bureau

Date: July 18, 2017
Prepared By: WTCS Office of Student Success

For FY2016-17, the Wisconsin Technical College System Board (WTCSB) awarded and administered $21.9 million of Grants to District Boards (State Categorical Aid).

State Grant Funds
The Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) invites Wisconsin technical colleges and other eligible agencies, where applicable, to apply for state funds to support projects during the program year. State funds provide support for targeted programs within the Wisconsin technical colleges. The Wisconsin Technical College System, the Legislature and the Governor identify programs as priorities for state support.

- ***Apprentice-Related Instruction* - $500,000**
  The purpose of this grant category is to respond to cyclical industry demands with current occupational curriculum, provide skilled workers for rapidly developing industries and ensure the continuity of apprenticeship training during periods of temporary labor demand shortages.

- ***Career Pathways* - $4,000,000**
  The purpose of this grant category is to create, expand and/or support career pathways, which includes providing instructional and supportive services for students. These pathways are designed to help students engaged in a career pathway achieve educational attainment and credentials, which prepare them for family sustaining employment and/or other career goals.

- ***Core Industry* - $6,000,000**
  The purpose of this grant category is to help assure that WTCS programs, in core industry areas, provide industry-relevant training using rigorous curricula, current technology and related services. Grant projects may also expand programming in core industry areas within the district. Priority is given to grant projects that reflect inter-district collaboration on aligned curriculum or consortia programming that enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of educational programming.

- ***Developing Markets* - $1,500,000**
  The purpose of this grant category is to support development of a program new to the district and approved by the System Board. Funds support development of curriculum and related instructional materials, technology and software, the purchase of major/minor equipment, staff development and the delivery of instruction.

- ***Professional Development*** **- $1,000,000**
  The purpose of this grant category is to support professional development activities for faculty and staff in the Wisconsin Technical College System.

- ***Student Support*** **- $3,000,000**
  The purpose of this grant category is to create, expand and/or implement innovative methods that provide direct services to students enrolled in courses, programs and for services that transition students through career pathways. The goal is to support students through specific completion points: course completion, completion of subsequent semesters and completion of programs or Wisconsin Technical College System Pathway Certificates.

- ***Workforce Advancement Training (WAT)*** **- $4,000,000**
  The purpose of this grant category is to promote increased investment in the development of incumbent workers, improve Wisconsin businesses' productivity and competitiveness, augment the state's economic base, support career pathways and expand technical college training services to businesses and industry. Grants are awarded to upgrade the skills and productivity of employees of established businesses operating in Wisconsin, with the additional objective of supporting regional workforce and economic development efforts. Training under these grants focuses on occupational skills, but can include a combination of occupational, academic and employability topics or courses.

- ***Systemwide Leadership*** **- $1,900,000**
  The purpose of this grant category is to provide technical colleges an opportunity to improve student achievement and attainment in order to expand the implementation of, and investment in, innovative practices that are demonstrated to have an impact on improving student achievement, increasing persistence rates and/or increasing college enrollment and completion rates.

Grant Reporting

The WTCS Board requires district boards to engage in a variety of evaluation and monitoring activities. All grant recipients are required to identify evaluation methods for all activities within the grant. Recipients are also required to submit triannual reports. These reports include information about the progress of activities as well as the audience being served. These reports serve as a reflection opportunity for colleges and a snapshot in time for the WTCS staff to better understand the overall effectiveness of the grant project(s).