



## Legislative Fiscal Bureau

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Joint Committee on Finance

Paper #573

### After-School and Out-Of-School-Time Program Grants (DPI -- Categorical Aids)

[LFB 2019-21 Budget Summary: Page 326, #12]

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#### CURRENT LAW

No provision.

#### GOVERNOR

Provide \$10,000,000 GPR annually in a biennial appropriation for a new grant program to support high-quality after-school programs and out-of-school-time programs to organizations that provide services to school-age children. Provide that DPI could promulgate rules to implement and administer the program. Additionally, allow DPI to promulgate emergency rules to implement and administer the program that would remain in effect until July 1, 2020, or the date on which permanent rules take effect, whichever is sooner.

#### DISCUSSION POINTS

1. A number of positive outcomes have been attributed to participation in after-school programs. For example, research cited by the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) in a March, 2018, report suggests that pupils who participate in after-school programming show improvements in their grades and test scores, behavior, and attendance, and reductions in drop-out rates and participation in risky behaviors.

2. Currently, the primary source of funding for after-school programming in Wisconsin is federal 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Center grants under Title IV, Part B of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). These grants are intended to support community learning centers that provide educational

enrichment activities for pupils outside of school hours, with preference given to centers that serve pupils who attend low-performing schools or schools at which 40% or more of pupils qualify for free or reduced-price lunch. The community learning centers funded through the grant program are typically located in schools or other similar facilities, and provide services such as tutoring and mentoring, homework help, and academic and arts enrichment programs, in addition to supervising pupils while their parents are working. Grant awards are made for five consecutive years, contingent upon satisfactory performance. Eligible grantees include public schools, private schools, charter schools, community organizations, institutions of higher education, or city or county government agencies. In 2018-19, \$4.35 million in grant funding was awarded to 37 Wisconsin centers under the program. Applications were received from 142 centers, requesting a total of \$17 million in funding.

3. DPI indicates that 77,000 Wisconsin pupils participate in after-school and out-of-school time (including before-school and summer) programming each year. Approximately 31,000 pupils are served by 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Center grant recipients. Other sources of funding for these programs may include fees charged to parents, other local or private funding, or Wisconsin Shares childcare subsidy dollars for programs structured as child care centers.

4. Other states provide funding for after-school programming in a variety of ways. In Minnesota, school districts can receive community education revenue equal to \$5.42 multiplied by the population of the district or 1,355, whichever is greater, through a combination of state aid and additional levying authority. Community service revenue can be used for educational programming for district residents, including summer and after-school programming for K-12 pupils. Districts that offer youth after-school enrichment programs can increase their levy by an additional \$1.85 multiplied by the population of the district or 1,355. In Illinois, the Teen REACH program provides grant program totaling \$12.5 million in 2017-18 for after-school programming for pupils ages six to 17 with certain risk factors such as academic difficulties, a history of truancy or behavior issues, or homelessness or other poverty indicators. In New York, school districts and non-profit community-based organizations can apply through a competitive request-for-proposal process for Empire State After-School Program grant funding of \$1,600 multiplied by the number of participating pupils, with total funding in 2018-19 equal to \$45 million.

5. Under the bill, DPI could promulgate rules to implement and administer the program. In its agency budget request, DPI indicated that under the program, renewable multi-year grants would be awarded ranging from \$50,000 to \$100,000 each. Additional funds could be provided for transportation, and for programs operating during the summer. Priority would be given to programs in areas with fewer community resources, such as rural areas. Grant recipients would be required to submit annual reports to allow for program evaluation.

6. Given the timeline for creating and implementing a new grant program, the Committee may wish to delay the creation of the new program until 2020-21. That would allow DPI and school districts to spend the 2019-20 school year planning for the following year. [Alternative 2]

## **ALTERNATIVES**

1. Approve the Governor's recommendation to provide \$10,000,000 annually in a biennial

appropriation for a new grant program to support high-quality after-school programs and out-of-school-time programs.

<b>ALT 1</b>	<b>Change to</b>	
	<b>Base</b>	<b>Bill</b>
GPR	\$20,000,000	\$0

2. Approve the Governor's recommendation, but delay the start of the program until 2020-21.

<b>ALT 2</b>	<b>Change to</b>	
	<b>Base</b>	<b>Bill</b>
GPR	\$10,000,000	- \$10,000,000

3. Take no action.

<b>ALT 3</b>	<b>Change to</b>	
	<b>Base</b>	<b>Bill</b>
GPR	\$0	- \$20,000,000

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