



Regulatory Relief

2021-23 Biennial Budget Initiative

Issue

The Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) is Wisconsin's talent pipeline. Several statutory changes are proposed to eliminate outdated and duplicated reporting requirements to ensure that Wisconsin's technical colleges can remain focused on providing Wisconsin's essential workforce as well as help re-start Wisconsin's economy.

Background

The 16 colleges of the WTCS and the System Board are statutorily required to produce over 20 mission-specific state reports. This does not include reporting required under federal law, nor the reporting that the System Board must perform as an independent state agency. WTCS requests the elimination or modification of the frequency of seven statutorily required reports. Reducing the number and/or frequency of these reports will provide cost savings and free up staff resources.

WTCS is requesting the elimination of three existing reports because the majority of the information in these reports can be found elsewhere:

- **High School Enrollments at Wisconsin Technical Colleges**, Wis. Stat. 38.04(21) – Start College Now (formerly Youth Options), transcribed credit, youth apprenticeship and 38.14 contracts enrollments and credits are all reported annually in the WTCS Factbook publication.
- **Assessment of Economic Development Programs**, Wis. Stat. 38.04(10m)(b) – This report of statewide economic development programs from the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation contains information on a single WTCS program, Workforce Advancement Grants (WAT). Information on WAT grants is already contained in the WTCS' Grants to District Boards report.
- **Applied Technology Centers**, Wis. Stat. 38.04(10)(d)(2) – Student wage and degree attainment information is already part of the annual WTCS Graduate Outcomes publication.

Second, WTCS is requesting the removal of the statutory references to two reports in which the reporting requirements have been met (i.e., sunset):

- **Veterans Success**, Wis. Stat. 38.31(3) – This one-time report due September 1, 2017 is available in the Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau's Digital Collection.
- **Student Discrimination**, Wis. Stat. 38.23(3) – These reports were required to be prepared annually from 1991-1994. The U.S. Department of Education maintains a

searchable, publicly available database on its web site of discrimination cases currently under the investigation by its Office for Civil Rights in the areas of race, national origin, sex, disability and age.

Lastly, WTCS is requesting to change the frequency of two reports that are currently prepared annually to biennially and incorporate them into the WTCS biennial report under

Wis. Stat. 15.04(1)(d):

- **Emergency Assistance Grants**, Wis. Stat. 38.42(6)(b)
- **Grants to District Boards**, Wis. Stat. 38.04(32)(b)

Request

Repeal the following reports:

- High School Enrollments at Wisconsin Technical Colleges - Wis. Stat. 38.04(21)
- Assessment of Economic Development Programs - Wis. Stat. 38.04(10m)(b)
- Applied Technology Centers - Wis. Stat. 38.04(10)(d)(2);
- Veterans Success - Wis. Stat. 38.31(3);
- Student Discrimination - Wis. Stat. 38.23(3).

Change the reporting frequency from annual to biennial for two reports and include in the WTCS' statutorily required biennial report at Wis. Stat. 15.04(1)(d):

- Emergency Assistance Grants - Wis. Stat. 38.42(6)(b)
- Grants to District Boards - Wis. Stat. 38.04(32)(b)