



State of Wisconsin
2023 - 2024 LEGISLATURE

LRB-4684/1
ARG:cjs&amn

2023 ASSEMBLY BILL 549

October 20, 2023 - Introduced by Representatives MICHALSKI, DITTRICH, MAXEY, MURPHY, NEDWESKI, O'CONNOR, PENTERMAN, PETRYK and EDMING, cosponsored by Senator STAFSHOLT. Referred to Committee on Workforce Development and Economic Opportunities.

AUTHORS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

1 **AN ACT to repeal** 20.292 (1) (fh); **to amend** 38.28 (1m) (a) 1.; and **to create**
2 20.292 (1) (fg), 20.292 (1) (fh) and 38.35 of the statutes; **relating to:** grants
3 related to technical college manufacturing and truck driving programs and
4 making an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires the Technical College System Board to award grants in the 2023-25 fiscal biennium to technical colleges to support the recruitment and retention of instructors in manufacturing, advanced manufacturing, and truck driving programs. The bill requires the TCS Board to award grants to pay hiring bonuses to such instructors. A grant of up to \$5,000 per instructor may fund a hiring bonus if 1) the instructor is hired into a position that is at least half-time to teach courses in manufacturing or advanced manufacturing or preparatory to issuance or upgrade of a commercial driver license; 2) the technical college provides at least an equal amount of matching funding for the bonus; and 3) the instructor agrees in writing to continue employment with the technical college for at least three years in a similar capacity. With exceptions, an instructor who fails to maintain employment for the three-year period must repay the bonus on a pro rata basis according to the actual duration of employment. If an instructor who received a hiring bonus remains employed with the technical college in a similar capacity five years later, the technical college must pay the instructor, from its own funds, a retention bonus of \$5,000. A technical college that receives a grant award must report certain information related to the results of its instructor bonuses.

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The bill also requires the TCS Board to award one-time grants of up to \$1,000,000 to technical colleges to purchase manufacturing or advanced manufacturing equipment or to enhance facilities for advanced manufacturing instruction. A grant may be awarded only if the technical college provides at least an equal amount of matching funding. A technical college awarded a grant must submit a report that includes information related to the grant and use of the grant proceeds.

For further information see the state and local fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

1 **SECTION 1.** 20.005 (3) (schedule) of the statutes: at the appropriate place, insert
2 the following amounts for the purposes indicated:

			2023-24	2024-25
20.292 Technical college system board				
(1) TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM				
(fg) Instructor recruitment and retention grants	GPR	B	500,000	500,000
(fh) Manufacturing capital improvement grants	GPR	B	16,000,000	-0-

9 **SECTION 2.** 20.292 (1) (fg) of the statutes is created to read:
10 20.292 (1) (fg) *Instructor recruitment and retention grants.* Biennially, the
11 amounts in the schedule for grants to technical college district boards under s. 38.35.
12 No moneys may be encumbered or expended under this paragraph after June 30,
13 2025.

14 **SECTION 3.** 20.292 (1) (fh) of the statutes is created to read:

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1 20.292 (1) (fh) *Manufacturing capital improvement grants*. Biennially, the
2 amounts in the schedule for grants to technical college district boards under 2023
3 Wisconsin Act (this act), section 8 (1).

4 **SECTION 4.** 20.292 (1) (fh) of the statutes, as created by 2023 Wisconsin Act
5 (this act), is repealed.

6 **SECTION 5.** 38.28 (1m) (a) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

7 38.28 (1m) (a) 1. “District aidable cost” means the annual cost of operating a
8 technical college district, including debt service charges for district bonds and
9 promissory notes for building programs or capital equipment, but excluding all
10 expenditures relating to auxiliary enterprises and community service programs, all
11 expenditures funded by or reimbursed with federal revenues, all receipts under ss.
12 38.12 (9) and (14), 38.14 (3) and (9), and 118.15 (2) (a), all receipts from grants
13 awarded under ss. 38.04 (8), (28), and (31), 38.14 (11), 38.26, 38.27, 38.31, 38.33,
14 38.35, 38.38, and 38.42 and 2023 Wisconsin Act (this act), section 8 (1), all fees
15 collected under s. 38.24, and driver education and chauffeur training aids.

16 **SECTION 6.** 38.28 (1m) (a) 1. of the statutes, as affected by 2023 Wisconsin Act
17 (this act), is amended to read:

18 38.28 (1m) (a) 1. “District aidable cost” means the annual cost of operating a
19 technical college district, including debt service charges for district bonds and
20 promissory notes for building programs or capital equipment, but excluding all
21 expenditures relating to auxiliary enterprises and community service programs, all
22 expenditures funded by or reimbursed with federal revenues, all receipts under ss.
23 38.12 (9) and (14), 38.14 (3) and (9), and 118.15 (2) (a), all receipts from grants
24 awarded under ss. 38.04 (8), (28), and (31), 38.14 (11), 38.26, 38.27, 38.31, 38.33,

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1 38.35, 38.38, and 38.42 and 2023 Wisconsin Act (this act), section 8 (1), all fees
2 collected under s. 38.24, and driver education and chauffeur training aids.

3 **SECTION 7.** 38.35 of the statutes is created to read:

4 **38.35 Instructor recruitment and retention grants.** (1) To support
5 technical colleges in the recruitment and retention of instructors in manufacturing,
6 advanced manufacturing, and commercial driver license programs, the board shall
7 award grants to district boards in the 2023-25 fiscal biennium to pay instructor
8 bonuses as provided in sub. (2).

9 (2) (a) The board may award grants to district boards to pay newly-hired
10 instructors a hiring bonus in the 2023-25 fiscal biennium. The amount of the board's
11 grant to a district board to fund the hiring bonus may not exceed \$5,000 per
12 instructor. The district board may use the grant funds to pay a hiring bonus to an
13 instructor only if all of the following apply:

14 1. The instructor is hired into a position that is at least a 0.5 full-time
15 equivalent position.

16 2. The instructor's work responsibilities require the instructor to devote an
17 amount of time at least equal to a 0.5 full-time equivalent position teaching courses
18 in manufacturing or advanced manufacturing or preparatory to issuance or upgrade
19 of a commercial driver license.

20 3. The district board provides matching funding for the bonus in an amount
21 equal to or greater than the grant amount.

22 4. The instructor agrees in writing to continue employment with the district
23 board for at least 3 years in a position that satisfies the requirements in subds. 1. and
24 2.

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1 5. The district board commits to pay the retention bonus under sub. (3), from
2 funds other than the grant awarded under this section, if the conditions in sub. (3)
3 are satisfied.

4 (b) 1. The agreement under par. (a) 4. shall specify that, except as provided in
5 subds. 2. to 4., if the instructor discontinues employment with the district board less
6 than 3 years after the instructor's first day of employment, the instructor is required
7 to repay the hiring bonus as follows:

8 a. All of the bonus if the term of employment was less than one year.

9 b. Two-thirds of the bonus if the term of employment was at least one year but
10 less than 2 years.

11 c. One-third of the bonus if the term of employment was at least 2 years but
12 less than 3 years.

13 2. If the instructor discontinues employment with the district board to begin
14 employment with a different district board, in a position that is at least a 0.5
15 full-time equivalent position, as an instructor in a manufacturing, advanced
16 manufacturing, or commercial driver license program, the repayment requirement
17 under subd. 1. does not apply and the 3-year period under par. (a) 4. continues in
18 effect from the instructor's first day of employment with the district board that paid
19 the hiring bonus.

20 3. If a district board pays an instructor a hiring bonus under par. (a) and the
21 instructor is terminated for cause less than 3 years after the instructor's first day of
22 employment, the instructor is required to repay all of the bonus.

23 4. If a district board pays an instructor a hiring bonus under par. (a) and the
24 instructor is terminated for a reason other than cause, including as a result of

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1 budgetary constraints or program changes, the instructor is not required to repay the
2 bonus.

3 (c) An instructor who is simultaneously employed by 2 district boards may not
4 receive more than one bonus under this subsection.

5 (3) The district board shall pay to an instructor who receives a hiring bonus
6 under sub. (2) a retention bonus in the amount of \$5,000 if, 5 years after the date the
7 bonus under sub. (2) was paid, the instructor remains employed by the district board
8 in a position that meets the requirements under sub. (2) (a) 1. and 2.

9 (4) (a) A district board that receives a grant under this section shall annually
10 report to the board all of the following with respect to hiring bonuses paid under sub.
11 (2) and retention bonuses paid under sub. (3), with the information categorized by
12 type of bonus:

13 1. How many bonuses the district board paid to instructors.

14 2. Whether the instructor who received the bonus remains employed by the
15 district board.

16 3. If the instructor who received the bonus does not remain employed by the
17 district board, how long after receiving the bonus the instructor's employment
18 terminated and, if applicable, whether the instructor left employment with the
19 district board to become employed by a different district board.

20 (b) The board shall annually submit to the chief clerk of each house of the
21 legislature for distribution to the appropriate standing committees under s. 13.172
22 (3) a report summarizing the information received by the board under par. (a).

23 (c) No report under this subsection is required after July 1, 2030.

24 (5) The board shall award grants under this section from the appropriation
25 under s. 20.292 (1) (fg).

ASSEMBLY BILL 549**1 SECTION 8. Nonstatutory provisions.**

2 (1) MANUFACTURING AND ADVANCED MANUFACTURING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT
3 GRANTS.

4 (a) In this section:

5 1. "Board" has the meaning given in s. 38.01 (2).

6 2. "District board" has the meaning given in s. 38.01 (6).

7 (b) From the appropriation under s. 20.292 (1) (fh), in the 2023-25 fiscal
8 biennium, the board shall award grants not exceeding \$1,000,000 to district boards
9 to purchase manufacturing or advanced manufacturing equipment or to enhance
10 facilities for advanced manufacturing instruction. No grant may be made under this
11 paragraph unless the district board provides matching funding for the equipment
12 purchase or facility enhancement in an amount equal to or greater than the grant
13 amount.

14 (c) A district board awarded a grant under par. (b) shall submit to the board,
15 no later than 6 months after the grant is awarded, a report that includes all of the
16 following information:

17 1. The amount of the grant received, the amount of matching funds provided
18 by the district board, and the total project cost.

19 2. A detailed description of all equipment purchases and facility enhancements
20 funded with grant proceeds.

21 (d) The board shall submit to the chief clerk of each house of the legislature for
22 distribution to the appropriate standing committees in the manner provided under
23 s. 13.172 (3), no later than February 1, 2026, a report summarizing the information
24 received by the board under par. (c).

