

STATEMENT OF SCOPE

Department of Workforce Development

Rule No:

DWD 801 (Revised)

Relating to:

Wisconsin Fast Forward Workforce Training Grants

Rule Type

Permanent

Detailed Description of the Objective of the Proposed Rule

The objective of the proposed rule is to review and update Chapter DWD 801 as necessary to clarify requirements for administering grants that were authorized under legislation which was enacted after the Department adopted Chapter DWD 801.

Description of Existing Policies Relevant to the Rule, New Policies Proposed to be Included in the Rule, and an Analysis of Policy Alternatives

2013 Wisconsin Act 9 created s.106.27, Stats., known as the Wisconsin Fast Forward program, which requires the Department to award grants to public and private organizations to develop and implement workforce training programs. Organizations that receive grants are allowed to use the funds for training unemployed and underemployed workers and incumbent employees of businesses in this state. The Department adopted Chapter DWD 801 to establish procedures and criteria for awarding the grants. After the Department adopted Chapter DWD, the following legislation was enacted to amend s. 106.27, Stats., and to authorize additional grants: 2013 Wisconsin Act 139, 2015 Wisconsin Act 283, 2017 Wisconsin Act 59, and 2019 Wisconsin Act 9. The grant programs created by this subsequent legislation are part of what is commonly referred to as the expanded Wisconsin Fast Forward program. The new rule would update as necessary the procedures and criteria for administering the additional grants, including requirements for grant recipients to make reports to the Department.

If the Department does not revise the rule, the Department would continue to operate under a rule that does not adequately address the expanded program. The Legislative Audit Bureau conducted an audit of the Fast Forward program in November 2019 (Report 19-24) and suggested that DWD modify its rules to apply to the expanded program grants under s. 106.27.

Detailed explanation of statutory authority for the rule, including the statutory citation and language

Section 106.27 (2g) (a) 1. and 3., Stats. require the Department to do all of the following:

"1. Promulgate rules prescribing procedures and criteria for awarding grants under sub. (1) and the information with respect to those grants that must be contained in the reports required under subd. 3.

3. Require reports from grant recipients describing how the grant moneys received by a grant recipient were expended and the outcomes achieved as a result of the training program, waiting-list reduction activities, certification program, or employment enhancement activities implemented by the grant recipient."

Estimate of amount of time that state employees will spend developing the rule and other resources necessary to develop the rule

The total amount of staff time is estimated to be approximately 150 hours.

List with description of all entities that may be affected by the proposed rule

The proposed rule will primarily affect employers or organizations that are interested or involved in providing workforce training programs, including Workforce Development Boards, Wisconsin Technical Colleges, school districts, non-profit organizations, and other potential Fast Forward grant applicants. This rule will also indirectly affect individuals who are seeking training to improve their prospects for obtaining employment and receiving higher wages, as well as associations that are interested in a trained workforce. As required by s. 106.27 (2m), Stats., the Department will consult with the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation and the Technical College System Board in implementing s. 106.27, Stats.

Summary and preliminary comparison with any existing or proposed federal regulation that is intended to address the activities to be regulated by the proposed rule

Similar to 20 CFR 652 relating to the establishment and functioning of state employment service, the basic purpose is to improve the functioning of the nation's labor markets by bringing together individuals who are seeking employment and employers who are seeking workers.

Anticipated economic impact of implementing the rule (note if the rule is likely to have an economic impact on small businesses)

The proposed rule is not likely to have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small businesses.

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Approval by signature of the agency head or authorized individual

Pamela McGillivray, Chief Legal Counsel
Authorized Signature

Date Submitted