PROPOSED ORDER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS ADOPTING RULES

The Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs hereby proposes an order to amend VA 2.03 (2) (g) and to create VA 2.03 (i), (j), and (k), relating to the veterans retraining grant program.

ANALYSIS PREPARED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Statutory authority: ss. 45.03 (2) and 45.21 (3), Stats.

Statute interpreted: sec. 45.21, Stats.

The creation of the proposed language will limit the amount of a grant per grant period, establish a lifetime limit on the amount a veteran may receive under the program, impose a course completion verification requirement, and require that a veteran use alternative available sources for payment of the retraining grant program.

There is no current or pending federal regulation that addresses this initiative. There are no similar rules in adjacent states. This rule has no regulatory aspect to it, has no effect upon small businesses, nor any significant fiscal impact upon the private sector.

TEXT OF RULE

SECTION 1. VA 2.03 (2) (g) is amended to read:

VA 2.03 (2) (g) *Grant payments*. The department may make partial grant payments to assure that the veteran continues to pursue an approved course of instruction or engage in an approved structured on –the-job training program during the grant period. <u>The department may require</u> written verification from the school or the employer that the veteran is making satisfactory progress towards completion of the course of instruction or the structured on-the-job training program. If the veteran is unable to verify satisfactory progress towards completion or

discontinues pursuit of the course of education or engagement in the structured on-the-job-training program, the department may cancel any unpaid portion of the grant.

SECTION 2. VA 2.03 (2) (i) is created to read:

VA 2.03 (2) (i) *Grant limit*. The maximum grant payable under this section for each grant period is \$3,000.

SECTION 3. VA 2.03 (2) (j) is created to read:

VA 2.03 (2) (j) *Lifetime limit*. The total cumulative amount that a veteran may receive under this section is \$6,000.

SECTION 4. VA 2.03 (2) (k) is created to read:

VA 2.03 (2) (k) *Other available assistance*. The department may not provide a grant payment under this section if other assistance is available to meet the veteran's needs.

The amendment of the rule contained in this order shall take effect on the first day of the month following publication in the Wisconsin administrative register as provided in s. 227.22 (2) (intro.), Stats.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, October 21, 2005.

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

JOHN A. SCOCOS, SECRETARY