

## ADMINISTRATIVE RULES Fiscal Estimate & Economic Impact Analysis

<p>1. Type of Estimate and Analysis <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original   <input type="checkbox"/> Updated   <input type="checkbox"/> Corrected</p>	<p>2. Date May 14, 2024</p>
<p>3. Administrative Rule Chapter, Title and Number (and Clearinghouse Number if applicable) Wis. Admin. Code ch. EL 12, Certification and Training of Municipal Clerks</p>	
<p>4. Subject Certification and Training of Municipal Clerks</p>	
<p>5. Fund Sources Affected <input type="checkbox"/> GPR   <input type="checkbox"/> FED   <input type="checkbox"/> PRO   <input type="checkbox"/> PRS   <input type="checkbox"/> SEG   <input type="checkbox"/> SEG-S</p>	<p>6. Chapter 20, Stats. Appropriations Affected Wis. Stat. 20.510 Elections Commission</p>
<p>7. Fiscal Effect of Implementing the Rule <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Fiscal Effect   <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues   <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs   <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs <input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate   <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues   <input type="checkbox"/> Could Absorb Within Agency's Budget</p>	
<p>8. The Rule Will Impact the Following (Check All That Apply) <input type="checkbox"/> State's Economy   <input type="checkbox"/> Specific Businesses/Sectors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Government Units   <input type="checkbox"/> Public Utility Rate Payers <input type="checkbox"/> Small Businesses <b>(if checked, complete Attachment A)</b></p>	
<p>9. Estimate of Implementation and Compliance to Businesses, Local Governmental Units and Individuals, per s. 227.137(3)(b)(1). \$0</p>	
<p>10. Would Implementation and Compliance Costs Businesses, Local Governmental Units and Individuals Be \$10 Million or more Over Any 2-year Period, per s. 227.137(3)(b)(2)? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
<p>11. Policy Problem Addressed by the Rule In October 2021, the Legislative Audit Bureau (LAB) published a report, 21-19, based on its evaluation of election administration containing recommendations for the Commission to consider. On pages 9 and 10, the LAB recommended updating Wis. Admin Code Ch. EL 12 to reflect statutory changes made to municipal clerk training terms, to update the administrative rule to include the name of the statewide voter registration system, "WisVote," and to specify how municipalities will be notified when clerk training requirements are not met. These proposed rule amendments are meant to conform with the recommendations from the LAB and update EL 12 to show current statutory and terminological information.</p>	
<p>12. Summary of the Businesses, Business Sectors, Associations Representing Business, Local Governmental Units, and Individuals that may be Affected by the Proposed Rule that were Contacted for Comments. All Wisconsin municipal clerks were contacted via a clerk communication on the Commission's website and newsletter to solicit comments on the proposed rule.</p>	
<p>13. Identify the Local Governmental Units that Participated in the Development of this EIA. N/A</p>	
<p>14. Summary of Rule's Economic and Fiscal Impact on Specific Businesses, Business Sectors, Public Utility Rate Payers, Local Governmental Units and the State's Economy as a Whole (Include Implementation and Compliance Costs Expected to be Incurred) The effect of the proposed rule amendments, and subsequent processes, will have no impact on small businesses. The administrative rule amendments pertaining to training cycles will simply bring the code into compliance with the training cycles that have already been implemented, thus having no impact upon clerks and elections inspectors, as well as local businesses or secondary parties. There are no increased commitments in time or training. The proposed rule amendment pertaining to the definition of the Statewide Voter Registration System will also serve to make existing code clearer, thus reducing the risk that any party trying to interpret the provision will find it difficult and/or contact Commission staff seeking clarification. The remaining changes will be implemented to ensure clerks are up to date in their training responsibilities.</p>	

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### 15. Benefits of Implementing the Rule and Alternative(s) to Implementing the Rule

The benefits of implementing the proposed rule amendments are conformity with LAB recommendations and statutory changes made to municipal clerk training terms, public clarity as to the name of the statewide voter registration system, and improved communication regarding the training of municipal clerks. The alternative to implementing the proposed rule amendments would be maintaining the status quo in which EL 12 does not reflect the correct election cycle date, the name of the statewide voter registration system is not defined and there is no communication process for when municipal clerks fail to meet training standards.

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### 16. Long Range Implications of Implementing the Rule

The election cycle and the name of the statewide voter registration system would be as amended as such until a new change to either was presented by the WEC. Municipalities would need to provide email addresses and receive communications from the WEC regarding municipal clerks failing to meet training standards. This would be a permanent change though relatively burdenless on municipalities.

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### 17. Compare With Approaches Being Used by Federal Government

In the United States the election cycle is the day after the last general election to the day of the next general election. The general election is the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of even years. The election cycle in Wisconsin is from January 1 of even years to December 31 of the following odd year. The other two proposed rule amendments have no comparison to any federal process.

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### 18. Compare With Approaches Being Used by Neighboring States (Illinois, Iowa, Michigan and Minnesota)

**Illinois:** The election cycle is defined as January 1 after a general election to the day of the next general primary or the day after a general primary to December 31 after the general election. The general election is the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November in even years. Illinois gives rules for a particular statewide voter registration system but does not specifically define or name their statewide voter registration system. County clerks are required to have a training course for election judges in Illinois, upon completion a certificate is granted. One judge from each major political party in each precinct must be certified, if this is not the case all judges in the precinct must be notified of this and the uncertified judges must undergo the training to be appointed. If they do not undergo training, they are subject to removal from their position.

**Michigan:** The election cycle is the first day after the last general election to the next general election. The general election is the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in an even numbered year, odd year general elections are held on the same day in odd years. Michigan defines their statewide voter registration system as the “uniform voting system.” The director of elections must conduct election training schools for clerks in each county, if a clerk fails to have these school in their county the director of elections must conduct them in that county.

**Minnesota:** The election cycle is January 1 following a general election to December 31 of the next year. The general election is the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in even years in some counties and in odd years in other counties. Minnesota defines their statewide voter registrations system as, “statewide registration system.” A municipal clerk must successfully complete election administration training during each election cycle, the clerk must provide proof to the county auditor of completion of this training in order to be certified.

**Iowa:** The general election is the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of even years. Iowa law mentions a statewide voter registration system but does not give a specific name or definition to it. Commissioners are required to provide training courses for all election personnel and at least two personnel members must attend. Within 20 days following the general election the commissioner must file a document certifying that the training requirements were met.

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### 19. Contact Name

Brandon Hunzicker, Staff Attorney

### 20. Contact Phone Number

(608) 267-0714

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**ATTACHMENT A**

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1. Summary of Rule's Economic and Fiscal Impact on Small Businesses (Separately for each Small Business Sector, Include Implementation and Compliance Costs Expected to be Incurred)

There will be no economic or fiscal impact on small businesses from the implementation of this proposed rule.

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2. Summary of the data sources used to measure the Rule's impact on Small Businesses

N/A

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3. Did the agency consider the following methods to reduce the impact of the Rule on Small Businesses?

- Less Stringent Compliance or Reporting Requirements
- Less Stringent Schedules or Deadlines for Compliance or Reporting
- Consolidation or Simplification of Reporting Requirements
- Establishment of performance standards in lieu of Design or Operational Standards
- Exemption of Small Businesses from some or all requirements
- Other, describe:

N/A

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4. Describe the methods incorporated into the Rule that will reduce its impact on Small Businesses

N/A

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5. Describe the Rule's Enforcement Provisions

N/A

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6. Did the Agency prepare a Cost Benefit Analysis (if Yes, attach to form)

- Yes    No
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