



State of Wisconsin
2025 - 2026 LEGISLATURE

LRB-3589/1

KMS:amn

2025 SENATE BILL 346

June 27, 2025 - Introduced by Senators L. JOHNSON, DRAKE, HESSELBEIN, KEYESKI, LARSON, RATCLIFF, SMITH and WIRCH, cosponsored by Representatives VINING, HONG, MOORE OMOKUNDE, ROE, DeSANTO, ANDERSON, ARNEY, BARE, BROWN, CLANCY, DESMIDT, EMERSON, FITZGERALD, GOODWIN, HAYWOOD, JOERS, JOHNSON, MADISON, MIRESE, NEUBAUER, PALMERI, PRADO, RIVERA-WAGNER, SINICKI, STROUD, STUBBS, TENORIO and UDELL. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 **AN ACT** *to create* 20.255 (3) (cm) and 115.429 of the statutes; **relating to:**
2 grants for prospective school social workers, granting rule-making authority,
3 and making an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under this bill, the Department of Public Instruction must establish and administer a grant program to award grants for the costs of obtaining the education required for a school social worker license issued by DPI. The grants may be awarded only to an individual who is a member of a racial minority group and who is either an employee of a school board or enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program leading to licensure as a school social worker.

For further information see the state 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:

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

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SECTION 1

1	2025-26	2026-27
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2 **20.255 Public instruction, department of**

3 (3) AIDS TO LIBRARIES, INDIVIDUALS AND

4 ORGANIZATIONS

5 (cm) Grants for prospective school

6	social workers	GPR	A	5,000,000	5,000,000
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7 **SECTION 2.** 20.255 (3) (cm) of the statutes is created to read:

8 20.255 (3) (cm) *Grants for prospective school social workers.* The amounts in
9 the schedule for the grants under s. 115.429 to prospective school social workers.

10 **SECTION 3.** 115.429 of the statutes is created to read:

11 **115.429 Grants for prospective school social workers.** (1) In this
12 section, “member of a racial minority group” means an individual who is any of the
13 following:

14 (a) A Black American.

15 (b) An American Indian or Alaskan native.

16 (c) A Hispanic, as defined in s. 16.287 (1) (d).

17 (d) An individual of Asian or Pacific Island origin.

18 (e) An individual whose ancestry includes 2 or more races.

19 **(2)** The department shall establish and administer a grant program to award
20 to individuals who meet the eligibility requirements under sub. (3) grants for the
21 costs of acquiring education needed for licensure as a school social worker.

22 (3) Grants may be awarded under this section only to an individual who is a

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1 member of a racial minority group and who meets one of the following
2 requirements:

3 (a) The individual is an employee of a school board.

4 (b) The individual is enrolled in an institution of higher education or an
5 accredited graduate school in a program of study leading to licensure as a school
6 social worker.

7 (4) The department may promulgate rules to implement this section.

8 **SECTION 4. Effective date.**

9 (1) This act takes effect on the day after publication, or on the 2nd day after
10 publication of the 2025 biennial budget act, whichever is later.

11 (END)