



State of Wisconsin
2023 - 2024 LEGISLATURE

LRB-0570/P3
EAW:amn&wlj

PRELIMINARY DRAFT - NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

1 **AN ACT** *to create* 20.255 (2) (ef) and 115.457 of the statutes; **relating to:**
2 reimbursements to school districts and cooperative educational service
3 agencies for the cost of writing federal and state grant applications and making
4 an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill is explained in the NOTES provided by the Joint Legislative Council in the bill.

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:

JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PREFATORY NOTE: This bill was prepared for the Joint Legislative Council's Study Committee on Shared School District Services.

Current law does not specifically provide state aid to reimburse school districts and cooperative educational service agencies (CESAs) for the costs of applying for federal and state grants. Under many grant programs, particularly those for federal grants, an applicant may not include the cost of grant writing in its proposed grant budget. Therefore, if a school district or CESA receives a grant, it generally cannot use the grant moneys to recover its costs of writing the grant.

The bill creates a categorical aid program administered by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) to reimburse school districts and CESAs for costs associated

with writing federal and state grant applications, regardless of whether a grant application is successful. Under the bill, reimbursement provided to each eligible school district or CESA in each school year for the cost of writing grant applications may not exceed \$12,000. The bill creates an annual sum certain appropriation of \$2,600,000 in fiscal years 2023-24 and 2024-25 for this program. The amounts must be prorated if total eligibility exceeds the appropriated amount. Finally, the bill takes effect on the day after publication, or the 2nd day after publication of the 2023 biennial budget act, whichever is later.

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
3 20.255 Public instruction, department of				
4 (2) AID FOR LOCAL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING				
5 (e) Reimbursement for grant writ-				
6 ing costs	GPR A	2,600,000		2,600,000

7 **SECTION 2.** 20.255 (2) (ef) of the statutes is created to read:
8 20.255 (2) (ef) *Reimbursement for grant writing costs.* The amounts in the
9 schedule for reimbursements to school districts or cooperative educational service
10 agencies under s. 115.457.

11 **SECTION 3.** 115.457 of the statutes is created to read:
12 **115.457 Reimbursements for grant writing.** (1) From the appropriation
13 under s. 20.255 (2) (ef), the department shall reimburse a school district or a
14 cooperative educational service agency for costs associated with writing federal and
15 state grant applications. School districts and cooperative educational service
16 agencies are eligible for reimbursement under this section regardless of whether the
17 grant application was successful.
18 (2) Reimbursement provided to a school district or to a cooperative educational
19 service agency in each school year under this section may not exceed \$12,000.

