

To: Assembly Education Committee Members
From: Jennifer Kammerud, Policy Initiatives Advisor
Date: February 9, 2017
Re: **PI 16 Four-year-old Kindergarten Grants**
PI 32 Grants for Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Programs
PI 38 Grants for Peer Review and Mentoring
PI 39 Grants for Tribal Language Revitalization
PI 44 Grants for Alternative Education Programs

This memo provides a short overview of the rules under review in the committee and outlines proposals related to those rules.

Proposals

1. *Combine and streamline administrative rules related to grant programs administered by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) by combining PI 16, PI 32, PI 38, and PI 39.*

The DPI would like to consolidate its current rules on grants into a single rule that governs all grants issued by the department. This will create a “one stop” place for rules on grants, thus making the rules more accessible to the public. A single consolidated rule will also reduce the need for future rulemaking whenever the Legislature creates, modifies, or eliminates a grant program.

Examples of components in a single rule chapter on grants:

- Definitions.
- Procedures for submitting an application to the DPI. For example, this may include submission deadlines and information on where to obtain application forms.
- Procedures and timelines for the DPI to act on a grant application. This may include, for example, criteria that the DPI uses to evaluate grant applications.
- Procedures for appealing a decision by the DPI (if required by state or federal law).
- Specific procedures for individual grant programs (if necessary).

This proposal could be accomplished via a bill or the normal rulemaking process if initiated by the department.

2. *Repeal PI 44 and the associated statutory language under Wis. Stats. 115.366.*

The alternative education grant program was created under 1999 Act 9 (1999-01 biennial budget) and funding for grants was first provided in FY01. While the language has not been modified since creation of the program, funding for the program was reduced under 2009 Act 28 and then eliminated under 2011 Act 32. The department would like to repeal this rule chapter, but cannot do so until the overriding statutory language is repealed.

This proposal requires a statutory change.

Description of Grant Programs Referenced

1. *PI 16 Four-year-old Kindergarten Grants*

Reference: Wis. Stats. 115.445

This grant program is designed to provide grants to support school districts implementing a new 4k program in their district. This grant was created to assist with the start-up costs of implementing a new 4k program, until the 4k pupils are fully reflected in revenue limit membership and in the general aid formula.¹

2. *PI 32 Grants for Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Programs*

Reference: Wis. Stats. 115.36

This grant program is designed to encourage public and private schools to develop comprehensive K-12 programs to prevent alcohol and other drug abuse among minors. The Department is required to fund school district projects designed to assist minors experiencing problems resulting from alcohol and other drug use or to prevent alcohol and drug abuse by minors. A school district may also apply a student mini grants for an AODA education and related youth risk behaviors education, prevention and intervention activities program designed by the pupils enrolled in the school district. Student mini grants may not exceed \$1000.

3. *PI 38 Peer Review and Mentoring Grants*

Reference: Wis. Stats. 115.405

This grant program is designed to provide grants for peer review and mentoring. The annual grants are to allow a participating CESA, consortium of school districts or a combination thereof to provide assistance and training for teachers who are licensed or have been issued a permit under s. 115.28(7) and 115.192, Stats., to implement peer review and mentoring programs.

4. *PI 39 Tribal Language Revitalization*

Reference: Wis. Stats. 115.745

This grant program is designed to improve academic engagement and achievement while preserving American Indian language traditions. The Department issues grants on a competitive, annual basis to school districts or CESAs who partner with a tribal government or to a consortium of one or more school districts and one or more tribal governments to support innovative, effective instruction in one or more American Indian languages. These grants capitalize on the language foundation American Indian students can develop as they are exposed to native languages at home and in their communities.

¹ Revenue limits are based on a three-year rolling average of membership (current plus two prior years); thus, it takes three years for new 4k pupils to be fully reflected in a district's revenue limit membership. Further, because school district general aid is based on prior year membership and shared costs, 4k pupils (and associated new shared costs) are not counted in the formula for distributing general aid in that first year of implementation.