

# STATEMENT OF SCOPE

## DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

### Rule No.

Section DWD 295.25

### Relating to

Apprenticeship completion awards under 2013 Wisconsin Act 57.

### Rule Type

Permanent.

The Department of Workforce Development (DWD) gives notice pursuant to s. 227.135, Stats., that it proposes to create new rules in Chapter DWD 295 to implement the program of apprenticeship completion awards enacted by 2013 Wisconsin Act 57.

### Detailed Description of the Objective of the Proposed Rule

In 2013 Wisconsin Act 57, the Governor and Legislature have enacted s. 106.05, Wis. Stats., which provides that DWD shall administer an apprenticeship completion award program to partially reimburse tuition costs incurred by an apprentice or the sponsor of an apprentice. The amount of reimbursement is 25% of the cost of tuition or \$1,000, whichever is less. The statute also provides that a first payment of no more than \$250 shall be made upon completion of the first year of an apprentice's apprentice contract. The statute requires that DWD promulgate rules to implement the program. DWD expects the rules to cover issues such as the definition of "tuition" and other terms, the requirements of the application process, reimbursement rates, deadlines, the possible need for pro rate limitations on awards, the ending of the program in the absence of future funding, and related topics.

### Description of Existing Policies Relevant to the Rule, New Policies Proposed to be Included in the Rule, and an Analysis of Policy Alternatives

There is no existing program or policy for the payment of apprenticeship completion awards. The new statute provides that, from the appropriation provided, DWD shall provide to the apprentice or to the apprentice's sponsor a completion award equal to 25% of the cost of tuition incurred by the apprentice or sponsor, or \$1,000, whichever amount is less. DWD will develop rules that provide a definition of "tuition" and specify how the cost of tuition will be calculated so that this information can be provided in the required application. The rules will specify whether the application is to be on paper or electronic, or if both or other options will be allowed. Policies will need to be developed to specify reimbursement rates, deadlines, determinations on the necessity of pro rata

funding, sunset of the program in the absence of continued appropriations, and the application procedure for an apprentice with child support obligations.

**Detailed Explanation of Statutory Authority for the Rule (Including the Statutory Citation and Language)**

Sec. 106.05(4), Wis. Stats., provides as follows:

"The department shall promulgate rules to implement this section."

**Estimate of Amount of Time that State Employees Will Spend Developing the Rule and of Other Resources Necessary to Develop the Rule**

The estimated time is 80 hours.

**List with Description of All Entities that May Be Affected by the Proposed Rule**

Apprentices and the sponsors of apprentices will be affected by this rule.

**Summary and Preliminary Comparison with Any Existing or Proposed Federal Regulation that is Intended to Address the Activities to be Regulated by the Proposed Rule**

There is no federal regulation that is equivalent to this program.

**Anticipated Economic Impact of Implementing the Rule (Note if the Rule is Likely to Have a Significant Economic Impact on Small Businesses)**

The rule will not have a negative economic impact, and is likely to have a small positive economic impact, on individuals and businesses that employ apprentices, including small businesses.

**Contact Person**

For program questions:

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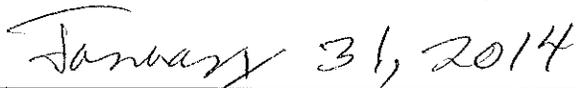
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**Approval by signature of the agency head or authorized individual**



**Howard Bernstein Chief Legal Counsel  
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**Date Submitted**