

Report From Agency

STATE OF WISCONSIN
Department of Veterans Affairs

Report from Agency

RULEMAKING REPORT TO LEGISLATURE

Clearinghouse Rule 17-024

I. THE PROPOSED RULE:

The proposed rule, including the analysis and text, is attached.

II. REFERENCE TO APPLICABLE FORMS:

N/A

III. FISCAL ESTIMATE AND EIA:

The Fiscal Estimate and EIA is attached.

IV. DETAILED STATEMENT EXPLAINING THE BASIS AND PURPOSE OF THE PROPOSED RULE, INCLUDING HOW THE PROPOSED RULE ADVANCES RELEVANT STATUTORY GOALS OR PURPOSES:

The purpose of the proposed rules is to expand eligibility of the current registered nurse education stipend program to encompass other related healthcare professions. Further, the proposed rule creates an application and approval process for the stipend program, and creates a repayment strategy for those who do not complete the program. The proposed rule allows those qualified and interested to obtain an education assistance stipend towards becoming an LPN or RN for employment at a Veterans Home. The program will operate on an as needed basis determined by the Department and be titled the *Educational Assistance Program*.

The Legislative Audit Bureau (Report II-3) recommended the Department develop and promulgate rules for: 1) The Licensed Practical Nurse Stipend Program that are similar to rules in Ch. VA 18, which govern the Registered Nurse Education Stipend Program; and 2) Include application procedures, eligibility criteria, maximum stipend amounts, and repayment requirements for participants who do not fulfill their commitments.

The proposed rules incorporate the LAB's recommendations. Additional rule modifications were made to correct outdated references, and improve clarity, consistency, and format in accordance with rulemaking standards.

V. SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENTS AND THE DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSES, EXPLANATION OF MODIFICATIONS TO PROPOSED RULES PROMPTED BY PUBLIC COMMENTS:

The Department of Veterans Affairs held a public hearing on April 27, 2017. No public comments were received.

The Board of Veterans Affairs reviewed the proposed rules and offered no comments.

VI. RESPONSE TO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

All recommendations in the Clearinghouse Report were accepted and incorporated into the proposed rules.

VII. REPORT FROM THE SBRRB AND FINAL REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS:

N/A