

ADMINISTRATIVE RULES
Fiscal Estimate & Economic Impact Analysis
ATTACHMENT A

1. Summary of Rule's Economic and Fiscal Impact on Small Businesses (Separately for each Small Business Sector, Include Implementation and Compliance Costs Expected to be Incurred)

An analysis conducted by the department indicates that the proposed rule may impact small businesses in the state. Pursuant to s. 227.114, Stats., a small business means a business entity, including its affiliates, which is independently owned and operated and not dominant in its field, and which employs 25 or fewer full-time employees or which has gross annual sales of less than \$5,000,000. Because the rule does not seek to regulate or impose compliance costs on those entities, the department does not estimate any compliance costs will be incurred by the proposed rule. Further, the department is unable to speculate on the net positive or negative impacts on small businesses as a result of the rule, because the actual impact on small businesses largely depends on local and individual behavior.

Local economic considerations remain an important factor that should be considered by school boards when shaping school calendar decisions, as these may impact small businesses. While the proposed rule does not specifically target or regulate small businesses, the extent of this impact is difficult to estimate and may vary depending on factors such as local tourism patterns and individual spending behaviors. Therefore, while the department acknowledges the potential implications for small businesses, the overall effect remains indeterminate due to the complex interplay of various economic factors and individual choices.

2. Summary of the data sources used to measure the Rule's impact on Small Businesses

The department held a preliminary public hearing and comment period on the scope statement for the proposed rule. As provided in the hearing notice, any comment received during the preliminary public hearing and comment period would be considered in determining the rule's effect on small businesses and in preparation of the economic impact analysis. The preliminary comment received, and the subsequent analysis conducted by the department during rulemaking, suggests that there may be an impact on small businesses and the state's economy due to the proposed rule. The information received from these sources informed decision-making during rule development and preparation of the economic impact analysis for this proposed rule.

3. Did the agency consider the following methods to reduce the impact of the Rule on Small Businesses?

- Less Stringent Compliance or Reporting Requirements
- Less Stringent Schedules or Deadlines for Compliance or Reporting
- Consolidation or Simplification of Reporting Requirements
- Establishment of performance standards in lieu of Design or Operational Standards
- Exemption of Small Businesses from some or all requirements
- Other, describe:

While the rule does not seek to regulate or impose compliance costs on small businesses, the department estimates that the impact of the proposed rule may affect small businesses in the state. The extent of this impact remains uncertain as this impact is dependent on a number of local, economic, and individual factors that cannot be estimated. However, the department believes these considerations remain an important factor that should be considered by school boards when shaping school calendar decisions in response to the changes offered in the proposed rule, as these changes may impact small businesses.

4. Describe the methods incorporated into the Rule that will reduce its impact on Small Businesses

The proposed rule responds to concerns from external stakeholders, such as school districts, who have indicated a desire for greater flexibility in the rules governing the commencement of the school term. While there are no compliance costs associated with the proposed rule, the actual impact on small businesses remains uncertain as they depend on local and individual behavior which makes it difficult for the department to predict. However, in response to the comments received from stakeholders during the preliminary public hearing and comment period, the proposed rule was drafted to include a transparent and specific enumeration of the types of extraordinary reasons by

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which school boards could submit a request for a school commencement date to take place prior to September 1. As in current rule, the department will still be required to report information concerning the request for waivers to the commencement of the school term to the assembly committee having jurisdiction over tourism and the senate committee having jurisdiction over education, which remains unchanged by the proposed rule.

5. Describe the Rule's Enforcement Provisions

The rule does not regulate or impose compliance costs on small businesses, and the rule contains no such enforcement provisions. However, s. 118.045, Wis. Stats., contains the statutes governing the commencement of the school term and ch. PI 27, Wis. Admin. Code, contains the procedures for school boards to follow in submitting a written request to the department that a school term commence prior to September 1.

6. Did the Agency prepare a Cost Benefit Analysis (if Yes, attach to form)

Yes No
