

# Public School Incentive Grants for Health Professions, EMS, & Fire



The state of Wisconsin provides funding to public school districts for students to obtain recognized credentials in certain industries with workforce shortages. These grants, in place since 2014, provide up to \$1,000 to schools for every student who earns such a credential while in high school.



Each year, the Department of Workforce Development publishes a list of certifications eligible for the program. There are a variety of opportunities listed related to health professions. The program as a whole has an allocation of \$3.5 million. If more than 3,500 students are part of the program, the amount disbursed becomes prorated based on the total number of student applications.



Recently, a specialized program began for high school students to receive training in emergency medical services or firefighting. [Schools will receive \\$1,000 for every student who receives an industry certification to become an EMR, EMT, Firefighter 1 or Firefighter 2, or Fire Inspector](#), regardless of the number of students who participate in the program. Students will also receive \$500 following successful completion of the program.



Schools will only receive the full \$1,000 per student if the student has completed their coursework *and* has passed their industry certification test. For EMS and EMR, the industry certification test is the National Registry. For Firefighters 1 and 2, that test is the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress. If the student does not pass the industry certification test but has received a state-approved embedded technical diploma, the school can still make the claim, but are not eligible for the full \$1,000 and the \$500 student allotment.



While students who are not seniors may participate, the school may only submit claims for that year's graduating class. Schools start the process by submitting a claim to the Department of Public Instruction. Only public schools qualify for this program.



Funding for this program is provided for by Wisconsin State Statute [106.273](#), Career and technical education incentive grants and completion awards. A general FAQ can be found [here](#). More information specific to EMS and Fire can be found [here](#).