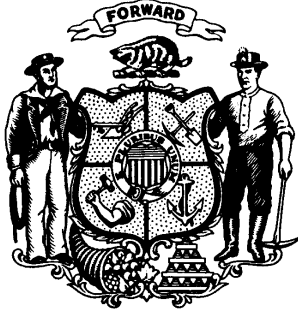


State of Wisconsin



2025 Senate Bill 158

Date of enactment:
Date of publication*:

2025 WISCONSIN ACT

AN ACT *to renumber and amend* 28.11 (5m) (a); *to create* 28.11 (5m) (a) 1. of the statutes; **relating to:** county forest administration grant eligibility.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 28.11 (5m) (a) of the statutes is renumbered 28.11 (5m) (a) 2. and amended to read:

28.11 **(5m)** (a) 2. The department may make grants, from the appropriation under s. 20.370 (5) (bw), to counties having lands entered under sub. (4) to fund all of the following for one ~~professional forester in the position of~~ county forest administrator ~~or assistant county forest administrator~~:

a. Up to 50 percent of the ~~forester's~~ county forest administrator's salary.

b. Up to 50 percent of the ~~forester's~~ county forest administrator's fringe benefits, except that the fringe benefits may not exceed 40 percent of the ~~forester's~~ county forest administrator's salary.

SECTION 2. 28.11 (5m) (a) 1. of the statutes is created to read:

28.11 **(5m)** (a) 1. In this paragraph, "county forest administrator" means an individual who is employed to manage a county forest program under s. 28.10 and this

section and who has any of the following qualifications, except that it does not include an individual who is employed by the department:

a. A bachelor's or higher degree in forestry from a school of forestry with a curriculum accredited by the Society of American Foresters or an equivalent degree, as determined by the chief state forester.

b. A bachelor's or higher degree in natural resources, conservation, or wildlife and 3 or more years of experience managing a county forest program under s. 28.10 and this section.

c. An associate degree in forestry and 3 or more years of experience managing a county forest program under s. 28.10 and this section.

SECTION 3. Initial applicability.

(1) This act first applies to an application for a grant under s. 28.11 (5m) (a) 2. submitted on the effective date of this subsection.

SECTION 4. Effective date.

(1) This act takes effect retroactive to January 1, 2025.

* Section 991.11, WISCONSIN STATUTES: Effective date of acts. "Every act and every portion of an act enacted by the legislature over the governor's partial veto which does not expressly prescribe the time when it takes effect shall take effect on the day after its date of publication."