

## HOUSE BILL NO. HB0287

Wyoming internship grant program.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Zwonitzer, Hammons and  
Warren

## A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to the Wyoming internship grant program;  
2 providing for grants to support internships for workforce  
3 development; granting rulemaking authority; providing an  
4 appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

5

6 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

7

8 **Section 1.** W.S. 9-2-2901 through 9-2-2905 are created  
9 to read:

10

11

## ARTICLE 29

12

## WYOMING INTERNSHIP GRANT PROGRAM

13

14 **9-2-2901. Definitions.**

15

16 (a) As used in this act:

1

2 (i) "Board" means the state workforce  
3 development council;

4

5 (ii) "Eligible employer" means a governmental  
6 entity as defined in W.S. 1-39-103;

7

8 (iii) "Eligible applicant" means a Wyoming  
9 resident at least eighteen (18) years of age;

10

11 (iv) "This act" means W.S. 9-2-2901 through  
12 9-2-2905.

13

14 **9-2-2902. State workforce council; duties and**  
15 **responsibilities.**

16

17 (a) The state workforce council shall:

18

19 (i) Review grant proposals for eligible  
20 participants to work for eligible employers in Wyoming;

21

22 (ii) Consult with the department of workforce  
23 services in developing criteria for grant categories and  
24 grant applications through rules and regulations

1 promulgated by the department of workforce services to meet  
2 the following public purposes:

3

4 (A) To meet the demands of Wyoming's  
5 governmental community to hire qualified interns;

6

7 (B) To enhance opportunities for Wyoming  
8 residents to remain within the state of Wyoming both before  
9 and after graduation;

10

11 (C) To provide opportunities for Wyoming  
12 residents to gain work experience in Wyoming; and

13

14 (D) To supplement and enhance existing  
15 programs providing opportunities for Wyoming governmental  
16 entities to connect with eligible employees in the state.

17

18 (iii) Review and monitor the expenditure of  
19 monies awarded under W.S. 9-2-2904; and

20

21 (iv) Consider other necessary matters.

22

23 (b) In fulfilling its duties under subsection (a) of  
24 this section, the board shall consider and may accept

1 federal grants and other contributions, grants, gifts,  
2 bequests and donations from any source.

3

4 **9-2-2903. Department of workforce services; duties.**

5

6 (a) The department of workforce services shall:

7

8 (i) Maintain, manage and be responsible for the  
9 distribution of the funds appropriated for distribution  
10 under W.S. 9-2-2904;

11

12 (ii) Disburse the funds appropriated in  
13 accordance with awards made by the board pursuant to W.S.  
14 9-2-2904;

15

16 (iii) Promulgate rules and regulations necessary  
17 to administer the Wyoming internship grant program and  
18 implement the provisions of W.S. 9-2-2901 through 9-2-2905.

19

20 **9-2-2904. Disbursement of grants.**

21

22 (a) There is created the Wyoming internship grant  
23 account. From the funds available for distribution, the  
24 board may award grants to eligible employers throughout the

1 state to support the purposes specified in W.S. 9-2-2902.  
2 The department of workforce services shall disburse the  
3 funds in accordance with awards made by the board under  
4 this section.

5  
6 (b) Pursuant to W.S. 9-4-207, unobligated or  
7 unencumbered funds retained by the department of workforce  
8 services under this section shall lapse at the end of March  
9 2007 and shall not remain available for distribution as  
10 provided in this section.

11  
12 (c) The department of workforce services, in  
13 consultation with the state workforce council, shall by  
14 rule and regulation establish a formula for distribution of  
15 funds available for distribution under this section as  
16 follows:

17  
18 (i) Each eligible applicant shall apply for a  
19 grant and may receive a basic grant reimbursing an eligible  
20 employer for salaries paid under an internship to the  
21 eligible student of twelve dollars (\$12.00) per hour worked  
22 by the eligible student, for a maximum of nine hundred  
23 sixty (960) hours per year;

24

1           (ii) Grants shall be awarded and approved by the  
2 board prior to the beginning of any work under the  
3 internship approved;

4  
5           (iii) Grant funds will be paid to the eligible  
6 employer and passed through to the eligible applicant.  
7 Eligible employers shall be responsible for all payroll and  
8 other taxes, all benefits, and all costs associated with  
9 the internship;

10

11           (iv) Eligible employers shall be required to  
12 submit a report describing the work done by the eligible  
13 applicant at the end of the internship, along with a  
14 detailed description of the hours for which reimbursement  
15 is sought under the grant;

16

17           (v) The board shall establish criteria for  
18 awarding grants on a competitive basis.

19

20           **9-2-2905. Report by board.**

21

22 By January 15, 2007, the board shall report to the  
23 department of workforce services, the governor and the  
24 minerals, business and economic development committees with

1 respect to the grants awarded, and how those grants have  
2 benefited the purposes of this act.

3

4 **Section 2.**

5

6 (a) There is appropriated one million two hundred  
7 thousand dollars (\$1,200,000.00) from the general fund to  
8 the Wyoming internship grant account created by this act,  
9 effective July 1, 2005.

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11 (b) No more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00)  
12 from the Wyoming internship grant account may be used to  
13 promote the availability and purposes of the Wyoming  
14 internship grant program.

15

16 **Section 3.** This act is effective immediately upon  
17 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law  
18 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming  
19 Constitution.

20

21 (END)