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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Wisconsin Department of Revenue Announces Launch of Innovation Grants Program

Madison, WI – The Wisconsin Department of Revenue (DOR) opened the application period for the Innovation Grant program on Wednesday, Sept. 17, 2025. This initiative, created under 2023 Wisconsin Act 12 and modified by 2025 Wisconsin Act 15, is designed to support local governments and tribal nations in transferring certain services and duties to another eligible entity.

Program Overview and Eligibility

The Innovation Grant provides funding to a county, municipality or tribe (transferor) that enters into an agreement to transfer an allowable service or duty to another county, municipality, tribe, non-profit organization or private entity (transferee).

Allowable services and duties include a wide range of essential functions, such as:

- Public safety, law enforcement and emergency services
- Fire protection
- Courts and jails
- Public works and information technology
- Administration, including staffing and payroll
- Economic development and tourism
- Public health
- Housing, planning and zoning
- Parks and recreation
- Training and communications

Application and Grant Details

Applications for the Innovation Grant will be available on Sept. 17 via DOR's online portal, [MyDORGov](#). Applicants must submit a signed contract or agreement that meets the grant program requirements.

Grant awards are equal to 25% of the transferor's total costs for providing the service in the year preceding the transfer. DOR may distribute a maximum of five annual payments, with the total statewide funding for the program capped at \$300 million. Each county, municipality or tribe can receive up to \$10 million annually.

Additional information can be found on DOR's [Innovation Grants](#) webpage. For any questions regarding the Innovation Grant program, please contact the Wisconsin DOR at lgs@wisconsin.gov.

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