

**LAWS OF WISCONSIN RELATING TO  
COMMON SCHOOLS, FREE HIGH SCHOOLS,  
INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS, COUNTY TRAINING  
SCHOOLS, COUNTY AGRICULTURAL  
SCHOOLS, STATE GRADED  
SCHOOLS, NORMAL SCHOOLS, THE STATE  
UNIVERSITY, PP. 242-425**

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# **VARIOUS**

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STATE UNIVERSITY, PP. 242-425**



LAWS OF WISCONSIN

RELATING TO

COMMON SCHOOLS

Free High Schools  
Industrial Schools  
County Training Schools  
County Agricultural Schools  
State Graded Schools  
Normal Schools  
The State University

AND

County and City Superintendents,  
Teachers' Institutes,  
Textbooks, Etc.

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**Normal regents' meetings public.** SECTION 396a. The meetings of the board of regents of the normal schools shall be open to the public and the press and all records of such meetings and of all proceedings of such board shall be open to inspection by the public and the press at any reasonable hours thereafter; provided, that said board may hold executive sessions, the findings of said executive sessions to be made a part of the records of the proceedings of said board. [1913 c. 200]

**Removal of regents; disqualification of officers, etc.** SECTION 397. Any regent may be removed from office for cause upon reasonable notice by a vote of two-thirds of all the regents. No regent or officer, trustee or person appointed or employed in any position or capacity connected with normal schools or normal institutes shall at any time act as agent of any author or publisher of or dealer in schoolbooks, maps or charts, or school library books, or school furniture or apparatus, or become interested directly or indirectly in the publication, manufacture or sale of any such as agent or otherwise, except solely as author or inventor, and for a violation hereof any regent shall be expelled from the board by a majority vote of the regents; provided, that the purchase and use of books and appliances written or invented by persons connected with any of the schools shall not be deemed to be prohibited. [1866 c. 116 s. 6; 1867 c. 30 s. 3; 1869 c. 151 s. 25, 30, 42; 1876 c. 13 s. 2; R. S. 1878 s. 397; Ann. Stats. 1889 s. 397; Stats. 1898 s. 397]

SECTION 398. [Repealed by 1913 c. 758 s. 2]

**Other normal schools; alteration, etc., of buildings.** SECTION 399. In addition to those heretofore established, the said board of regents may establish other state normal schools at such places as they may designate, upon sites selected by them; and when, in their opinion, the educational interests of the state require it, they may proceed to erect suitable buildings upon the sites so selected, and they may enlarge, alter or repair any normal school buildings. Whenever any such site shall be donated, then as soon as the title thereto shall be vested in them in fee in trust as aforesaid, and when money is donated, then as soon as such money is paid into the state treasury, subject to be paid out only on the warrant of the secretary of state, as provided in the next section, or secured to be paid by the deposit with the state treasurer of United States or Wisconsin state bonds in amount equal in value to the sums of money so donated, said board may procure suitable plans and specifications for such buildings, alterations or repairs thereof, and employ persons to superintend the construction of the same; and they may advertise for proposals to erect, repair or enlarge any normal school building, reserving the right to reject any and all proposals made in pursuance of such advertisements and the expense of such advertising and procuring plans and specifications shall be paid from the normal school fund income. [1859 c. 94 s. 15; 1866 c. 116 s. 4, 5; 1869 c. 151 s. 28, 29; 1875 c. 5 s. 1; R. S. 1878 s. 399; Ann. Stats. 1889 s. 399; Stats. 1898 s. 399]

**Donations, collection and application of.** SECTION 400. The said board shall demand and receive the sums of money donated and subscribed by any persons to aid in the erection of the necessary buildings for normal schools in such manner as said board may prescribe, and apply the same in the erection and completion of said buildings, the purchase of the necessary books, apparatus, furniture and fixtures, and for various other incidental expenses to be incurred by said board in pursuance of the provisions of these statutes, and if any surplus shall remain, apply the same to the expenses of conducting said normal schools; and any deficit which may arise in the erection and completion of said buildings and purchases aforesaid shall be paid out of the normal school fund income. [1869 c. 151 s. 27; 1875 c. 5 s. 1; R. S. 1878 s. 400; Ann. Stats. 1889 s. 400; 1897 c. 19; Stats. 1898 s. 400]

**Auditing accounts.** SECTION 401. All payments for the erection, repairs or enlargement of any normal school buildings, or for fixtures or furniture therefor, and all disbursements from the normal school fund income, including the expenses of boards of visitors of normal schools and of teachers' institutes shall be made by the treasurer of said board on the warrant of the secretary of state drawn in accordance with the certificate of the president and secretary of the board, after being audited and allowed pursuant to its rules and regulations, and not otherwise; and in case of a donation no such warrant shall be issued for any part thereof until the sums donated and subscribed shall have been paid into the state treasury, nor in any case until the work shall be done, the services rendered, buildings erected or fixtures or furniture purchased under the direction of said board, and pursuant to a contract made with it. All claims and accounts, before being certified to the secretary of state by the aforesaid officers of such board, shall be verified and approved in the same manner as claims against the state university are required to be verified and approved. [1869 c. 151 s. 27; 1875 c. 5 s. 1; R. S. 1878 s. 401; 1879 c. 98; Ann.

*Stats. 1889 s. 401; 1895 c. 296; Stats. 1898 s. 401; 1905 c. 168 s. 4; Supl. 1906 s. 401; 1907 c. 118]*

**Normal schools' accounts; biennial examination.** SECTION 401m. 1. The board of regents of the state normal schools shall cause all of the financial transactions and accounts of or relating to the several state normal schools under their supervision at the close of each biennial period to be fully and thoroughly examined by an audit company of recognized business standing and reliability, and approved of by the governor and in no way connected with any such schools or with any of their activities. The cost of such audit shall be paid from and charged against the proper appropriation for the board of normal school regents.

**When made.** 2. Such examination shall be commenced immediately after the close of said period and be completed as soon as practicable.

**Report.** 3. Upon the completion of such examination a full and detailed report thereof shall be made by such audit company to the governor, and a printed copy of such report shall be furnished to each member of the next legislature not later than thirty days prior to the beginning of the next regular session. [1909 c. 495; 1911 c. 663 s. 18; 1913 c. 758 s. 2, 3]

**Objects of schools.** SECTION 402. The exclusive purposes and objects of each normal school shall be the instruction and training of persons, both male and female, in the theory and art of teaching, and in all the various branches that pertain to a good common school education, and in all subjects needful to qualify for teaching in the public schools; also to give instruction in the fundamental laws of the United States and of this state in what regards the rights and duties of citizens. [1875 c. 5 s. 2; R. S. 1878 s. 402; Ann. Stats. 1889 s. 402; Stats. 1898 s. 402]

**Model schools.** SECTION 403. Said board shall also establish a model school or schools for practice in connection with each state normal school, and shall make all the regulations necessary to govern and support the same; and they may in their discretion admit pupils to such model schools free of charge of tuition. [1866 c. 116 s. 7; 1869 c. 151 s. 31; R. S. 1878 s. 403; Ann. Stats. 1889 s. 403; Stats. 1898 s. 403]

**Powers of board as to schools.** SECTION 404. The said board shall have the government and control of all the normal schools, and shall have power therefor:

(1) To make rules, regulations and by-laws for the good government and management of the same and each department thereof.

(2) To appoint a principal and assistants and such other teachers and officers and to employ such persons as may be required for each of said schools; and to prescribe their several duties.

(3) To remove at pleasure any principal, assistant or other officer or person from any office or employment in connection with any such school.

(4) To purchase within the amount appropriated for such purposes any needful and proper apparatus, books or articles to assist in instruction, and to provide for all necessary fuel and supplies for the conduct of such schools.

(5) To prescribe the courses of study and the various books to be used in such schools. But when any state normal school shall offer a course for the express purpose of training teachers for country schools, the completion of which shall entitle one to the certificate mentioned in section 405, as amended by this act, the course of study shall be the full and fair equivalent of the course of study prescribed for the county training schools by the state superintendent.

(6) To cause notice to be given of the opening of such schools and the several terms thereof.

(7) To prescribe rules and regulations for the admission of students; but every applicant for admission shall undergo an examination to be prescribed by the board, and shall be rejected if it shall appear that he is not of good moral character, or if applying as a free pupil will not make an apt or good teacher.

(8) To require any applicant for admission, other than such as shall, prior to admission, sign and file with said board a declaration of intention to follow the business of teaching common schools in this state, to pay or to secure to be paid such fees for tuition as the board may deem proper and reasonable.

(9) To cause lectures on any art, science or branch of literature to be delivered in any such schools on such terms and conditions as they may prescribe.

(10) To confer by by-laws upon the principals of the several normal schools the power to suspend or expel pupils for misconduct or other cause prescribed in such by-laws. [1869 c. 151 s. 30, 32, 33, 37, 39; R. S. 1878 s. 404; Ann. Stats. 1889 s. 404; Stats. 1898 s. 404; 1909 c. 204; 1913 c. 758 s. 3]

**Diplomas; certificates.** SECTION 405. Said board may grant diplomas in testimony of scholarship and ability to teach, but no such diploma shall be granted until such graduate shall have passed a thorough and satisfactory examination in the course of study prescribed by the board. When any such graduate has, after receiving such diploma, taught a public school in this state one year, the state superintendent may, after such examination as to moral character, learning and ability to teach as to him may seem proper, issue to such teacher an unlimited state certificate, and thereafter such unlimited certificate shall be evidence of his qualification to teach in any common school. The said board may also, on such conditions as they may determine, grant a certificate of attendance certifying that the holder has completed the elementary course in a normal school and is qualified to teach a common school; and the said superintendent may, upon conditions above prescribed respecting diplomas, issue a limited state certificate, and thereafter such certificate shall be evidence of his qualification to teach in any common school of the state.

The said board of regents may also on such conditions as they may determine, grant a certificate, certifying that the holder has completed the course for teachers of country schools in a normal school and is qualified to teach in a country school. Such certificate shall have the same force and effect in all respects as the certificate of a county training school, as defined in section 411—6, and any acts amendatory of the same. [1869 c. 151 s. 38, 39; 1875 c. 96; R. S. 1878 s. 405; 1885 c. 186; Ann. Stats. 1889 s. 405, 458d; Stats. 1898 s. 405, 4972 sub. 14, 15; 1909 c. 204]

SECTION 406. [Repealed by 1913 c. 758 s. 2]

**Mill-tax appropriation.** SECTION 406a. 1. There shall be levied and collected annually a state tax of one-sixth of one mill for each dollar of the assessed valuation of the taxable general property of the state as ascertained and fixed by the state board of assessment for apportionment of the state tax to the several counties, which amount when so levied and collected, shall be added to the normal school fund income, to be used for current and administration expenditures and for the increase and improvement of the facilities of the normal schools of the state and shall be expended only at such times and in such amounts as the legislature shall direct.

2. There is annually appropriated for the period of three years from July 1, 1911, the sum of one hundred fifty thousand dollars to the normal school fund income from the general fund of the state out of any money not otherwise appropriated, to be used for the construction and equipment in the order of the greatest need therefor of such additional buildings and the enlargements and repairs of buildings, equipment thereof, and the purchase of additional grounds, as in the judgment of the board of normal school regents shall be absolutely required, and can be completed within the appropriation herein made.

3. All appropriations made by law to the board of normal regents for the construction of new buildings, shall be expended in accordance with the following conditions:

(1) Construction shall, unless otherwise directed by law, be in order of the greatest need therefor as determined by the regents.

(2) No plan or plans shall be finally adopted, and no contract or contracts shall be entered into by the regents for the construction of any building until such plans and contracts, with complete estimates of the total cost thereof, shall have been submitted to, and in writing approved by the governor, who shall withhold such approval until he shall satisfy himself by a personal examination or by such other means as he may in his discretion adopt, that such building is required for the purpose proposed, and that it can and will be erected and fully completed according to such plans or contracts for the sum proposed for the same by the regents out of the appropriation made for such purposes.

4. The board of regents of normal schools is authorized to improve the grounds selected for a site for a normal school in the city of Eau Claire and donated to the state for that purpose, by grading and planting trees, and otherwise, if necessary, and shall cause to be prepared full plans and specifications and estimates for building and equipment necessary to properly establish and organize such school, and shall submit the same to the legislature at the beginning of the session of 1913.

5. The board of normal school regents may extend the course of instruction in any normal school so that any course, the admission to which is based upon graduation from an accredited high school or its equivalent may include the substantial equivalent of the instruction given in the first two years of a college course. Such course of instruction shall not be extended further than the substantial equivalent of the instruction given in the first two years of such college course without the consent of the legislature. [1885 c. 364; Ann. Stats. 1889 s. 406a; Stats. 1898 s. 406a; 1899 c. 170 s. 2; 1901 c. 370 s. 1; 1903 c. 135; Supl. 1906 s. 406a; 1907 c. 118; 1909 c. 319; 1911 c. 631 s. 3; 1913 c. 753 s. 3; 1913 c. 760 s. 6]



## TEACHERS' INSTITUTES.

**How held and conducted.** SECTION 407. Institutes for the instruction of teachers shall be held in each year in such counties as may be designated by the state superintendent, with the advice and concurrence of said board, preference being given to such counties as receive the least direct benefits from the normal schools. The state superintendent, by and with the advice and consent of said board, may make such rules and regulations as they shall deem proper for organizing and conducting such institutes, and may, by and with the like advice and consent, employ an agent or agents to perform such work in connection therewith as by such rules and regulations may be prescribed. Each of said institutes shall be held under the direction of such agent or agents, assisted by the county superintendent. The course of study pursued in such institutes shall, as far as practicable, be uniform, and be prescribed by the state superintendent with the assistance of such agents, but subject to revision by said board. [1869 c. 151 s. 40-42, 44, 45; 1871 c. 18 s. 1-3; 1876 c. 203; R. S. 1878 s. 407; Ann. Stats. 1889 s. 407; Stats. 1898 s. 407]

SECTION 408. [Repealed by 1913 c. 758 s. 2]

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**Normal school fund income.** SECTION 409. The normal school fund income shall, under the direction and management of the said board, be applied to the establishment and support of the state normal schools and the purposes directed in this chapter, but moneys from the said fund shall be available only as expressly appropriated therefrom by the legislature. [1869 c. 151 s. 5, 30; 1870 c. 29; R. S. 1878 s. 409; 1879 c. 98; Ann. Stats. 1889 s. 401, 409; Stats. 1898 s. 1898; 1913 c. 758 s. 3]

**Regents' report.** SECTION 410. The president of said board shall make to the governor a biennial report, bearing date the thirty-first day of August of the year in which the biennial fiscal term closes, which shall contain a full and detailed account of the doings of the said board, and of all their expenditures and of all moneys received, and the prospect, progress and condition of said normal schools; and such report, together with the reports of the different boards of visitors, shall be transmitted to the legislature by the governor. [1869 c. 51 s. 35; R. S. 1878 s. 410; Ann. Stats. 1889 s. 410; Stats. 1898 s. 410]

**Reports of academies.** SECTION 411. It shall be the duty of the president of the board of trustees of every organized academy, seminary and literary or collegiate institution heretofore incorporated or that shall be hereafter incorporated, to cause to be made out by the principal instructor or other proper officer, and forwarded to the state superintendent on or before the tenth day of October in each even-numbered year, a report for the term terminating with the thirty-first day of August of the second preceding year, setting forth the amount and estimated value of real estate owned by the corporation; the amount of other funds and endowment and the biennial income from all sources; the number of instructors and their respective salaries; the number of students in the different classes and the rates of tuition; the studies pursued and the books used; the course of instruction and such matters as shall be specially requested by said superintendent, or as shall be deemed proper by the president or principal of such academies or institutions to enable the state superintendent to lay before the legislature in his report a fair and full statement of the affairs and condition of such institutions. [1866 c. 27 s. 1; R. S. 1878 s. 411; Ann. Stats. 1889 s. 411; Stats. 1898 s. 411]

**Inspection of cadets.** SECTION 411a. The president or other principal officer of any incorporated college or school of this state which shall be under military discipline or maintain a regular military department, and have enrolled, uniformed and armed not less than one hundred cadets, may apply in writing to the governor to have the corps of cadets of such college or school inspected by the adjutant general or other officer appointed by the governor for that purpose. Such inspection shall be made during April, May or June of each year, upon fifteen days' notice by mail to such applicant by the inspecting officer, and shall be held in the manner and form prescribed for troops in the service of the United States. [1897 c. 260; Stats. 1898 s. 411a]

**Officer's report.** SECTION 411b. The inspecting officer shall report to the governor:

(1) The number of officers, noncommissioned officers and privates paraded and inspected by him in uniform.

(2) What such uniform is and the condition thereof.

(3) The discipline and state of instruction.

(4) The number and amounts of arms, accoutrements, stores and military property exhibited to him.

(5) The true condition of the same.

(6) If a cavalry company or battery of artillery be maintained, what number of horses were exhibited and their condition.

(7) Whether such corps has complied with these provisions and the orders and regulations of the governor.

(8) Such other matters as may be required.

The inspecting officer shall receive no pay for services, but may be allowed ten cents per mile, to be paid by each of the schools so inspected. [1897 c. 260; Stats. 1898 s. 411b]

**Suspension from inspection.** SECTION 411c. If such inspecting officer shall report that such corps numbers less than one hundred enrolled, uniformed and armed, or that its condition and military proficiency are not such as, in his judgment, to entitle it to the benefits of section 411d, the governor may notify the president or other principal officer of such college or school that it is suspended from the benefits hereby given, and in such case no application for an inspection as herein provided shall be granted for a period of two years. [1897 c. 260; Stats. 1898 s. 411c]

**Graduates; rank of.** SECTION 411d. In all cases where a satisfactory report is made by such inspecting officer the students of such college or school, residents of this state, graduating during the year within which such report is made and receiving full diploma or certificate from such college or school, shall be entitled to the honorary rank of second lieutenant in the unorganized militia of the state; provided, that nothing herein shall be construed to give such graduates any right to wear the uniform of the Wisconsin national guard. [1897 c. 260; Stats. 1898 s. 411d]

#### COUNTY TRAINING SCHOOLS.

**What counties may establish schools.** SECTION 411-1. The county board of any county within which a state normal school is not located, is hereby authorized to appropriate money for the organization, equipment and maintenance of a county training school for teachers of the common schools. [1899 c. 268 s. 1; 1901 c. 373 s. 1; 1903 c. 338 s. 1; Supl. 1906 s. 411-1; 1907 c. 118]

**Board for; appointments; vacancies; bond; organization.** SECTION 411-2. A board to be known as the county training school board, is hereby created, who shall have charge and control of all matters pertaining to the organization, equipment and maintenance of such school, except as otherwise provided by law. Said board shall consist of three members, one of whom shall be the county superintendent of schools of the county or district in which the school is located. The other members of the board shall be elected by the county board, for the term of three years from the date of their election. Vacancies existing in the board, from whatever cause, except in the case of the county superintendent, shall be filled by appointment made by the chairman of the county board, if the county board is not in session when such vacancy occurs. If the county board is in session, vacancies shall be filled by election by said board for the unexpired term. Appointments made by the chairman of the county board, as hereinbefore specified, shall be for the time to elapse until the next regular meeting of the county board. Each person appointed or created a member of the county training school board shall within ten days after the notice of such appointment, take and subscribe an oath, to support the constitution of the United States and the constitution of Wisconsin, and honestly, faithfully and impartially to discharge his duties as a member of said board, to the best of his ability, which oath shall be filed in the office of the county clerk. He shall also, within the same time, file a bond in such sum as may be fixed by the county board, which bond shall be filed in the office of the county clerk. Within fifteen days after the appointment of said board, the members thereof shall meet and organize by electing one of their number as president and one as treasurer; the county superintendent of schools shall be ex officio secretary of the said board. The said board shall prescribe the duties of the several officers, except as fixed by law. [1899 c. 268 s. 2; 1901 c. 373 s. 2; 1903 c. 338 s. 2; Supl. 1906 s. 411-2; 1907 c. 118]

**Moneys for, how paid.** SECTION 411-3. All moneys appropriated and expended under the provisions of this act shall be expended by the county training school board, and shall be paid by the county treasurer on orders issued by said board. [1899 c. 268 s. 3; 1901 c. 373 s. 3; 1903 c. 338 s. 3; Supl. 1906 s. 411-3; 1907 c. 118]

**Duty of state superintendent.** SECTION 411-4. The state superintendent shall give such information and assistance as may seem necessary in organizing and maintaining

such training schools. He shall prescribe the course of study to be pursued; shall have the general supervision of all schools established under this section; shall from time to time inspect the same, make such recommendations relating to their management as he may deem necessary, and make such reports thereon as shall give full information concerning their number, character and efficiency; provided, that he shall not place upon the said list more than thirty-three schools. [1899 c. 268 s. 4; 1901 c. 373 s. 4; 1903 c. 338 s. 4; *Supl.* 1906 s. 411—4; 1907 c. 118, 601; 1907 c. 676 s. 19; 1909 c. 264; 1911 c. 455; 1911 c. 664 s. 84; 1913 c. 259]

**Accredited list; report; state aid; certificate warrant.** SECTION 411—5. 1. Any school established under the provisions of sections 411—1 to 411—11, inclusive, whose courses of study and the qualifications of whose teachers have been approved by the state superintendent, may, upon application, be placed upon an approved list of county training schools for teachers. A school once entered upon such list may remain listed and be entitled to state aid so long as the scope and character of its work are maintained in such manner as to meet the approval of the state superintendent; provided, that he shall not place upon said list more than thirty schools. On the first day of July in each year the secretary of each county training school board maintaining a school on the approved list shall report to the state superintendent, setting forth the facts relating to the cost of maintaining the school, the character of the work done, the number and the names of teachers employed and such other matters as may be required.

2. Upon the receipt of such report, if it shall appear that the school has been maintained in a satisfactory manner for a period of not less than nine months during the year closing on the thirtieth day of the preceding June, the said superintendent shall make a certificate to that effect and file it with the secretary of state. Upon receiving such certificate, the secretary of state shall draw his warrant, payable to the treasurer of the county maintaining such school, or in case such school is maintained by two or more counties such warrant shall be payable to the treasurer of such school for an amount equal to the sum expended for the wages of duly approved and qualified teachers employed in the school for at least nine months during the school year, provided that a school employing two teachers shall not receive to exceed three thousand dollars, and a school employing three or more teachers shall not receive to exceed four thousand dollars for said nine months. Any county training school for teachers which maintains its school for more than nine months during any school year shall receive for such additional time a sum of money from the state which shall be in the same proportion to the sum received from the state for nine months as the additional time for which the school is conducted over the nine months is to the nine months. Payments made under this section shall be charged to the appropriation provided in section 172—59.

3. Any school established under the provisions of sections 411—1 to 411—11, inclusive, that will adopt a course of study in domestic science and employ a qualified teacher approved by the state superintendent, shall be entitled to receive, in addition to the state aid mentioned in subsection 2 of section 411—5, two hundred fifty dollars annually, to be paid in the same manner as other state aid is paid to schools, established under sections 411—1 to 411—11, inclusive, of the statutes. [1899 c. 268 s. 5; 1901 c. 373 s. 5; 1903 c. 338 s. 5; 1905 c. 509; *Supl.* 1906 s. 411—5; 1907 c. 118, 601; 1907 c. 676 s. 19; 1909 c. 264; 1911 c. 455; 1911 c. 664 s. 84; 1913 c. 495; 1915 c. 292, 448]

**Certificates to graduates; effect of.** SECTION 411—6. 1. Any person who shall complete in a satisfactory manner the course of study prescribed for any county training school, and who shall be of good moral character, shall receive a certificate signed by the principal of the school and by the members of the county training school board. Said certificate shall certify that the person named herein has satisfactorily completed the course of study prescribed for the county training school, and is of good moral character; it shall also contain a list of the standings secured by the person on the completion of each of the studies pursued in the school.

2. Such certificates shall qualify the holder to teach in any common school in the county under the jurisdiction of the county superintendent of schools in which the county training school is located for a term of three years from the date of its issuance; provided, that in case the holder of the certificate shall not have had at least one year of successful experience he shall not be qualified to act as principal of a second class state graded school, nor shall he be eligible to teach in any position for which a state certificate shall be required by law; provided, that in case the holder thereof has never taught, or cannot furnish satisfactory evidence of having successfully taught for at least one school year (seven months) in the public schools of this state, said certificate shall be of full force and effect for one year only from its date of issue.

3. When satisfactory evidence of successful teaching for at least one year (seven months) upon said training school certificate shall be furnished to the county or district