

**Report 13-14  
September 2013**

# **Governor's Read to Lead Development Fund**

STATE OF WISCONSIN



Legislative Audit Bureau ■

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22 East Mifflin Street, Suite 500  
Madison, Wisconsin 53703  
(608) 266-2818  
Fax (608) 267-0410

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Toll-free hotline: 1-877-FRAUD-17

Joe Chrisman  
State Auditor

September 27, 2013

Senator Robert Cowles and  
Representative Samantha Kerkman, Co-chairpersons  
Joint Legislative Audit Committee  
State Capitol  
Madison, Wisconsin 53702

Dear Senator Cowles and Representative Kerkman:

As required by s. 13.94(1)(dL), Wis. Stats., we have completed a financial review of the Governor's Read to Lead Development Fund for fiscal year (FY) 2011-12 and FY 2012-13. The Fund was created by 2011 Wisconsin Act 166 to provide grants to school boards and other persons in support of literacy and early childhood development programs.

No expenditures have been incurred nor any commitments made since the establishment of the Fund. At the end of FY 2012-13, the Fund had a balance of \$400,449.

We appreciate the courtesy and cooperation extended to us by the staff of the Office of the Governor and the Department of Public Instruction during our review.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joe Chrisman".

Joe Chrisman  
State Auditor

JC/CS/ss



## **Governor's Read to Lead Development Fund**

2011 Wisconsin Act 166, which was enacted in April 2012, created the "Governor's Read to Lead Development Fund" to provide grants to school boards and other persons in support of literacy and early childhood development programs. The Act also created the Read to Lead Development Council within the Office of the Governor to make recommendations to the Governor and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction regarding potential recipients of grants from the Fund. Statutes specify the membership of the Read to Lead Development Council, which is to include:

- the Governor, or designee, to serve as chair;
- the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, or designee, to serve as vice-chair;
- the chairs of the committees in the Senate and the Assembly whose subject matter is elementary and secondary education, or members of those committees designated by those chairs;
- the ranking minority members of the committees in the Senate and the Assembly whose subject matter is elementary and secondary education, or members of those committees designated by the ranking minority members;
- 3 practicing educators; and
- 13 members representing the philanthropic community, the business community, and literacy and other organizations.

Except for the Governor, State Superintendent, and legislators, Council members are to be appointed by the Governor for staggered three-year terms. As of August 31, 2013, no appointments were made to the Council. However, staff in the Office of the Governor anticipate membership of the Council will be finalized in fall 2013.

Financial activity in the Fund has been limited to a required transfer and interest earnings. At the end of FY 2011-12, the Department of Administration transferred \$400,000 to the Fund from the General Fund, as required by Act 166. During FY 2012-13, the Read to Lead Development Fund earned interest of \$449. No expenditures have been incurred nor any commitments made since the establishment of the Fund. As shown in the table, the Fund had an undesignated fund balance of \$400,449 at the end of FY 2012-13.

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**Governor's Read to Lead Development Fund Activity**  
FY 2011-12 and FY 2012-13

	FY 2011-12 <sup>1</sup>	FY 2012-13
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 0	\$400,000
Transfer from the General Fund	400,000	0
Interest Earnings	0	449
Expenditures <sup>2</sup>	0	0
<b>Undesignated Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$400,000</b>	<b>\$ 400,449</b>

<sup>1</sup> The Fund was created in April 2012.

<sup>2</sup> No expenditures have been incurred nor any commitments made since establishment of the Fund.

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