



DOA Local Government Report

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Helping Local and Tribal Governments Save Money and Resources

Local and Tribal governments can save money and resources by utilizing Governor Jim Doyle's ACE (Accountability, Consolidation, and Efficiency) Initiative. ACE uses the full weight of the state's purchasing power to reduce costs, eliminate inefficiencies, and create a sustainable source of savings for state and local governments. By combining the purchasing power of all our state agencies and universities, ACE will cut costs on the everyday items used by state and local government, ranging from pens and pencils to paper and copiers.

"ACE is a common-sense approach to making government operate more efficiently," Governor Doyle said. "Every dollar we save on the cost of goods and services used by state agencies and universities is a dollar we can put into our priorities."

Local and tribal governments are eligible to participate in most of the state's cost saving initiatives.

The state offers many other programs and services to local governments as well. Some of these services include such things as the Length of Service Award Program (LOSA). LOSA is a pension program to benefit volunteer firefighters and emergency medical technicians. The state also offers federal and state grant assistance, loans and technical assistance.

DOA will be launching outreach efforts to help local governments learn about the ACE Initiative, LOSA and other various programs and services the state has to offer. These outreach efforts will include informational presentations at conferences, articles in association newsletters, speeches with various groups, etc. For more information on how local and tribal governments can participate in Governor Doyle's ACE Initiative and how to arrange for your government to access information about these programs, please log on to www.wisconsinpartnership.wi.gov or contact Dawn Vick, dawn.vick@doa.state.wi.us or (608)266-7043.

Governor Jim Doyle Appoints Steve Bablitch as DOA Secretary



In September, Governor Doyle announced that Steve Bablitch would succeed Marc Marotta as Secretary of the Department of Administration. Secretary Bablitch's first day was October 3.

"Steve Bablitch is a person of great integrity, with a strong commitment to public service," Governor Doyle said. "From his role as Secretary of Corrections, to CEO of the Cobalt Corporation, Steve is respected by people in both parties – both inside and outside of government. And he has a track record of getting things done. Steve is a great Wisconsin success story and he has devoted his life to making our state a better place to live, work, and raise a family."

Governor Doyle thanked Department of Administration Secretary Marc Marotta for his great service and leadership. Secretary Bablitch said he looks forward to continuing the department's work with local and tribal governments.

DOA Procurement Rates for Phone Service Available to Local Governments

To help local governments control their own costs, Governor Doyle has directed that the State of Wisconsin's purchasing contracts be extended to local governments. To that end, DOA has established a process through which local governments have the option of accessing SBC contracted Centrex rates not to exceed \$14.75 per month plus fees and usage. Separately negotiated contracts are required. Centrex for most CenturyTel locations are not to exceed \$16.95 per month plus fees and usage. Other CenturyTel locations are not to exceed \$21.50 per month plus fees and usage. Separately negotiated contracts are required. Verizon Centrex is \$18.59 per month plus fees and usage (includes SLC) and uses the State contract.

DOA is currently evaluating responses to a procurement for Centrex, Managed and Hosted VoIP, Long Distance and Voice Processing. The results of the new contract(s) will be available in the next few months and will include local government rates.

If you have any questions, please contact Mike Kessenich, mike.kessenich@doa.state.wi.us or 608-264-9406, the State's Local Services Manager.

Similarly, local governments, through the State, can access State contracted cellular rates. The rates are as follows:

- *U.S. Cellular*: \$4.75 monthly access, \$.09 per minute, \$.00 intrastate roaming (excluding St. Croix County), \$.75 interstate roaming (St. Croix County and outside Wisconsin) and \$.00 long distance.
- *Alltel Communications*: \$4.75 monthly access, \$.09 per minute, \$.00 intrastate roaming, \$.79 interstate roaming, \$.15 long distance calls that originate in Wisconsin and terminate outside Wisconsin and \$.40 long distance calls that originate outside Wisconsin.
- *CellularOne*: \$9.75 monthly access (includes 30 minutes), \$.12 per minute \$.00 intrastate roaming, \$.59 interstate roaming and \$.00 long distance.

If you have any questions, please contact Beth Ascher, beth.ascher@doa.state.wi.us or 608-266-1032, the State's Cellular Contract Administrator.

Grants Available for Comprehensive Planning Projects

The Comprehensive Planning Grants Program will award \$2 million dollars in grants to help communities around the state develop their comprehensive plans. Funding for the grants was restored to the state budget by Governor Doyle.

"Comprehensive planning is exactly the type of program the state should be supporting because it encourages local cooperation and local control," Governor Doyle said. "I am pleased that I was able to restore the planning law and grant program so Wisconsin's communities can continue to plan for their futures."

More than 740 communities have received grants since 2000. The Comprehensive Planning Grant program is administered by the Department of Administration and provides matching grants to counties, villages, cities, towns and tribes to help them develop plans to guide the future growth of each community, preserve their quality of life, address long range community needs, and assist economic development.

Wisconsin's planning laws are designed to encourage intergovernmental cooperation and to involve the public in developing the comprehensive plans.

This year's application deadline is November 1, 2005. Additional information about the program can be found by visiting the Department of Administration's Division of Intergovernmental Relations Web site at <http://www.doa.state.wi.us/dir>.

Coastal Management Grants Available

The Wisconsin Coastal Management Program (WCMP) is currently seeking project proposals for its 2005 grant cycle. The Program is dedicated to preserving and improving access to the natural and historic resources of Wisconsin's Great Lakes Coasts.

This year \$1.5 million in grant funds are available for projects in counties adjacent to Lakes Superior and Michigan. The grants are awarded on a competitive basis on a variety of projects related to Coastal Land Acquisition, Coastal Wetland Protection and Habitat Restoration, Nonpoint Source Pollution Control, Coastal Resources and Community Planning, Great Lakes Education, and Public Access and Historic Preservation. Eligible applicants include local and tribal governments, nonprofits, academic institutions and state agencies.

The program works cooperatively with state, local and tribal governments, along with non-profit groups, to manage the ecological, economic and aesthetic assets of the Great Lakes and their coastal areas. "The Great Lakes are big part of what makes life in our state so great," Governor Doyle said. "Lake Michigan and Lake Superior provide recreational and commercial opportunities to our residents, and it is critical that we protect their coasts to ensure that our children and grandchildren can enjoy the same natural beauty and resources that we do today." Local communities and groups can receive funding to help enhance, preserve, protect and restore their coastlines by applying for a WCMP grant.

Application materials and details about the grant workshops are available at <http://coastal.wisconsin.gov>. Applications are due November 4, 2005. Applicants are encouraged to contact WCMP staff early to discuss ideas for project proposals and application requirements. Coastal program manager Michael Friis can be reached at michael.friis@doa.state.wi.us or 608-267-7982.

State Funding Opportunities in the Wisconsin Catalog of Community Assistance

A comprehensive catalog of state grants and assistance programs is available on the internet for local and tribal governments. The Wisconsin Catalog of Community Assistance (WCCA) is available online at <http://doa.wi.gov/dhir/wcca.asp> as a resource for local governments to find state funding opportunities. The WCCA provides information such as program description, funding availability, key dates and contact information.

Examples of Grants in the WCCA include economic development assistance, housing programs, environmental programs, agricultural programs, justice and law enforcement programs, as well as transportation and other infrastructure funding.

In order to make it easier to find specific funding opportunities, the database is searchable by keyword; one can also list all programs by agency or function. Currently, more than 91 grants from 15 agencies or boards are included on the WCCA.

If you have any questions, please contact Christopher Connor in the Department of Administration's Division of Intergovernmental Relations, christopher.connor@doa.state.wi.us or 608-267-2704.

Wisconsin Employees' Virtual University (WEVU)

Local and tribal government employees can take on-line courses through the state's eLearning program that is sponsored by the Division of Enterprise Technology. The Wisconsin Employees' Virtual University (WEVU) features a wide range of interactive, multimedia courses and services to support personal and professional development through a 385 course e-Learning curriculum. These courses are affordable and are available to employees 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. It features a range of courses on IT, computer desktop, management, administrative support, management and business and professional development topics. WEVU courses are grouped into "bundles," which help to specialize course selection. The pricing ranges from \$25 to \$100 per "bundle" which breaks down to an average of less than \$2.00 per course. Bundles include:

2000, XP (2002), 2003 Desktop	50 Courses
Administrative Support	25 Courses
Customer Service and Professional Development	49 Courses
IT	109 Courses
Mainframe	25 Courses
Network	42 Courses
Project Management	22 Courses
Management	50 Courses
Safety	15 Courses

For more information or to register for WEVU please access <http://training.state.wi.us>. Questions may be referred to Maggie Hart at Maggie.hart@doa.state.wi.us or (608) 261-0608

DOA Local Government Report is published biannually by the Wisconsin Department of Administration, 101 East Wilson Street, Madison, WI 53702. Please direct general questions or comments to Jordy Jordahl, DOA Division of Intergovernmental Relations, (608) 261-7520 or harald.jordahl@doa.state.wi.us.