



GROWTH AGENDA FOR WISCONSIN

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UW-Platteville: Engineering Education Initiative

UW-Platteville requests funding for the third phase of its collaborative efforts with UW Colleges to increase engineering degree options available to students throughout the state.

What is the Engineering Education Initiative?

Phase I provides a mechanical engineering degree in cooperation with UW-Fox Valley, along with some courses in electrical engineering. It is fully operational and there are presently 170 students in this program. More recently, Phase II has begun providing an electrical engineering degree at UW-Rock County. Still in its startup phase, it has approximately 50 students at this time but is anticipated to grow in a manner similar to Phase I. Both programs cater to nontraditional students, working adults who are place-bound.

What are the benefits of the Engineering Education Initiative?

This request would fund Phase III, which will add a mechanical engineering professor in Rock County and use alternative delivery methods, such as streaming video technology to expand course offerings in electrical engineering in the Fox Valley and mechanical engineering in Rock County. As a result, both full degree programs will be offered at each site. The alternative delivery methods will permit the UW-Platteville courses to be transmitted to other UW Colleges throughout the state, as interest permits. Traveling laboratories will be developed for those campuses requiring additional laboratory resources.

What would the Engineering Education Initiative mean for Wisconsin?

This initiative will provide added undergraduate engineering degree programs and meet ongoing workforce development needs, without large investment in additional facilities. The initiative will add 200 students at UW-Fox Valley and UW-Rock County and as many as 300 additional students at other UW Colleges campuses. As a result, such education can be made available throughout the state and, specifically, to regions with relatively smaller population bases. Since the courses provided are those delivered at UW-Platteville, accreditation would automatically apply to the distance education programs.

Estimated ongoing cost: \$568,000 (\$369,500 GPR / \$199,000 Fees)

For more information: Contact Chancellor David Markee, 608-342-1234