

The Western Wisconsin Technology Zone Program

The Western Wisconsin Technology Zone was designated by the State of Wisconsin on June 25, 2002, to support the development of high technology businesses. The seven counties that make up the Western Wisconsin Technology Zone are: Crawford, Jackson, Juneau, La Crosse, Monroe, Trempealeau, and Vernon. The State has granted \$5 million in state tax credits to this seven county zone for use by expanding high technology businesses.

Eligibility Requirements To Apply for Technology Zone Tax Credits:

Businesses will be certified for tax credits based on their ability to create jobs and investment and attract related businesses. Eligibility criteria includes:

1. The business is located in and its expansion or investment is occurring in one of the seven counties that make up the Western Wisconsin Technology Zone.
2. The business is making an investment of at least \$50,000 involving any of the following: expansion of existing facilities; construction of new facilities; purchase of new equipment; or creating two or more jobs.
3. The wage rate of the new jobs being created pay an average hourly wage of \$13.00 an hour.
4. The business is primarily engaged in manufacturing, communications, computer programming, data processing, software development, medical or dental laboratory services, research and development services and testing services. For a detailed list of eligible businesses download the Resource Guide and application below.
5. A business must provide satisfactory evidence in their application that they utilize advanced technology production processes, systems or equipment, or provide knowledge-based services. Knowledge-based businesses possess some, if not all the following attributes: highly skilled/highly educated workforce, high level of research and development activities, strong export orientation, high percentage of intangible assets, and products/materials with short life expectations and high gross margins. In addition, knowledge-based businesses are considered more likely to use and/or develop advanced technologies and be innovative in their products, services or processes.
6. The business completes the Western Wisconsin Technology Zone application.