



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2013 Wisconsin Act 240
[2013 Senate Bill 579]

Physician Licensure Changes

2013 Wisconsin Act 240 makes the following changes to licensure of physicians in Wisconsin:

- Creates an administrative physician license. To be eligible, the physician must comply with s. 448.05 (2) (a) and (b), Stats., which are the general physician licensure requirements, subject to any waiver granted by the Medical Examining Board (MEB), other than any MEB rule that requires active practice.
- Repeals temporary licenses for foreign medical graduates.
- Repeals visiting professor temporary licenses and creates a visiting physician restricted license for those who meet the following criteria:
 - Graduated from an MEB-approved medical or osteopathic college.
 - Is licensed to practice outside the state.
 - Provides proof that the applicant practices or teaches medicine or does medical research outside the state.
 - Provides documentation that the applicant will teach, practice, or do research at a medical education research or college in Wisconsin.
- Requires the MEB to use only the examinations of national examining agencies.
- Changes the postgraduate training requirements for licensure to 24 months, rather than the 12 months required under prior law. Trainees currently enrolled in postgraduate training that have completed 12 months of a 24-month program fulfill the requirements.

This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov>.

One East Main Street, Suite 401 • P.O. Box 2536 • Madison, WI 53701-2536
(608) 266-1304 • Fax: (608) 266-3830 • Email: leg.council@legis.wisconsin.gov
<http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc>

(OVER)

- Repeals provisions for granting a temporary educational permit to a person who meets the requirements for a license to practice medicine and surgery, other than required examinations, and replaces them with provisions allowing the MEB to grant a resident educational license (REL). An applicant must, under the Act, satisfy the following requirements in order to be granted an REL:
 - Provide proof that he or she has been accepted into a postgraduate training program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, the American Osteopathic Association, or a successor organization.
 - Provide written confirmation from the institution sponsoring the postgraduate training program into which he or she has been accepted confirming the appointment to the program.
- Changes foreign medical graduate training requirements to require:
 - Certification by the Educational Council of Foreign Medical Graduates.
 - Passage of the U.S. medical licensing exam.
 - Completion of 24 months postgraduate training, with the last 12 months in a single program.
 - Satisfaction of any additional requirements established by the MEB.

Existing license holders are grandfathered in so they do not need to meet these new additional requirements.

Effective date: April 1, 2015, except the following provisions take effect on April 1, 2017:

- The repeal of the temporary educational permit provisions.
- The repeal of the visiting professor license provisions.

Prepared by: Laura Rose, Deputy Director

May 19, 2014

LR:jb;ksm