
Wisconsin Legislative Council

ACT MEMO



Prepared by: Katie Bender-Olson, Senior Staff Attorney

December 9, 2019

2019 Wisconsin Act 43 [2019 Assembly Bill 195]

Teaching License Based on Reciprocity

2019 Wisconsin Act 43 creates an alternative method for meeting one requirement for receiving a Department of Public Instruction (DPI) teaching license based on having an out-of-state license, referred to as a license based on reciprocity. Under prior law, DPI was required to issue an initial teaching license based on reciprocity to a person who: (1) held a teaching license from another state; (2) was in good standing in that state; and (3) had taught for at least one year under the out-of-state license.

Act 43 allows a person to receive a teaching license based on reciprocity if the person taught for two semesters under a DPI license or permit or for two semesters in a private school in Wisconsin while the person held a DPI license or permit, as an alternative to teaching for one year under the out-of-state license. To meet this qualification, the school district, cooperative educational service agency, charter school, or private school that employed the person must notify DPI that he or she successfully completed two semesters of teaching experience.

Act 43 also provides that the DPI license based on reciprocity is a three-year provisional license, rather than a one-year initial license. The act requires DPI to issue a lifetime license to an individual who obtains the provisional license if the individual successfully completes six semesters of teaching experience. Act 43 further requires DPI to issue a provisional teaching license based on reciprocity to any person who holds a current and valid initial teaching license based on reciprocity as of November 23, 2019.

Effective date: November 23, 2019

KBO:mca;ty