



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2013 Wisconsin Act 127
[2013 Assembly Bill 452]

**Child Psychiatry
Consultation Program**

2013 Wisconsin Act 127 (the Act) directs the Department of Health Services (DHS) to create and administer a child psychiatry consultation program to assist participating clinicians in providing enhanced care to pediatric patients with mental health care needs, to provide referral support for pediatric patients, and to provide additional services. The Act provides \$500,000 general purpose revenue in each year of the 2013-15 fiscal biennium for the program.

By January 1, 2015, DHS must review proposals submitted by organizations seeking to provide consultation services through the program and designate regional program hubs, in a number determined by DHS, based on the submitted proposals.

Beginning on January 1, 2016, DHS must create any additional regional program hubs in order to provide consultation services statewide.

DHS must select qualified organizations to provide consultation program services through the regional hubs, and each regional hub must make available its own qualified provider or consortium of providers.

To be a qualified provider in the program, an organization must be located within the geographic service area of the proposed regional hub, and every individual providing consulting services must be located in Wisconsin. Consultation services must be available by telephone and may also be provided by teleconference, video conference, voice-over Internet protocol, electronic mail, pager, or in-person conference.

The organization must enter into a contract with DHS in which it agrees to have a psychiatrist, and additional staff, as specified by DHS, operate during normal business hours, and have the capability to provide consultation services as promptly as is practicable. The organization must also report to DHS any information that it requests.

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>.

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The organization must agree to provide all of the following services:

- Support for participating clinicians to assist in the management of children and adolescents with mental health problems and to provide referral support for pediatric patients.
- A triage-level assessment procedure including appropriate referrals to other mental health professionals.
- When medically appropriate, diagnostic, and therapeutic feedback.
- Recruitment of other practices in the regional hub's service territory to the provider's services.

An organization providing consultation services may also provide the following additional services, which are eligible for funding from DHS:

- Second opinion diagnostic and medication management evaluations.
- In-person or Internet site-based educational seminars and refresher courses on child psychiatry.

DHS must conduct interviews and annual surveys of participating clinicians to assess various aspects of the program.

Effective date: February 8, 2014.

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