



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2013 Wisconsin Act 258
[2013 Senate Bill 598]

**Educator Effectiveness System
and Initial Charter School
Principal License**

2013 Wisconsin Act 258 relates to the educator effectiveness system to evaluate the effectiveness of teachers and principals.

Current Law

Under current law, the Department of Public Instruction must develop an educator effectiveness evaluation system (state system) and develop, by rule, an equivalency process aligned with the state system (equivalency process) to assist school districts in the evaluation of the performance of teachers and principals in the district.

Each school district and independent charter school (i.e., a charter school established or contracted for by an entity other than a school board) must begin evaluating teachers and principals using either the state system or the equivalency process in the 2014-15 school year. Current law provides that teachers and principals evaluated under both the state system and the equivalency process must be placed in one of multiple performance categories.

Under current law, a charter school that is authorized by a school district may be an instrumentality of the school district, or may not. If a charter school is an instrumentality of the school district, the school board must employ all of the charter school's personnel. If it is not an instrumentality of the district, the school board may not employ the personnel of the charter school.

Act 258

Act 258 specifies that a charter school that is under contract with a school board and that is not an instrumentality of the school district may use an equivalency process to evaluate educators.

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>.

The Act also requires the State Superintendent to grant an initial charter school principal license to any person who is licensed, or otherwise credentialed, to be a school principal in another state if the person: (a) holds the license or other credential in good standing; (b) has completed at least three years of full-time classroom teaching; and (c) is not ineligible for licensure due to his or her criminal background. Such a license is valid for five years and is renewable for five-year periods.

Effective date: Act 258 takes effect on April 10, 2014.

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