



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2017 Wisconsin Act 66
[2017 Assembly Bill 151]

**Community Emergency
Medical Services**

2017 Wisconsin Act 66 modifies requirements applicable to an emergency medical services (EMS) practitioner acting upon a delegation from a health care provider, and also creates an approval process for community emergency medical services (CEMS) programs and practitioners.

DELEGATION FROM A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER

The Act specifies that an EMS practitioner who is acting upon a delegation from a health care provider does not violate the actions authorized by the Department of Health Services (DHS) for emergency services when performing actions in accordance with the delegation.

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (CEMS)

The Act creates processes for EMS programs and practitioners to obtain approval from DHS to provide CEMS, as follows:

- An EMS program may obtain approval to provide CEMS as a **CEMS provider**. The program must be licensed as an ambulance service provider or nontransporting EMS provider, and it must establish patient care protocols corresponding to the level of CEMS to be provided. The program must meet other requirements specified by DHS as authorized under the Act.
- An individual licensed as a paramedic may obtain approval to provide CEMS as a **community paramedic**. The individual must successfully complete an approved training program for community paramedics and meet other requirements specified by DHS as authorized under the Act.

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>.

- An individual licensed as an EMS practitioner at any level may obtain approval to provide CEMS as a **CEMS practitioner**. The individual must successfully complete an approved training program for CEMS practitioners and meet other requirements specified by DHS as authorized under the Act

The Act specifies that a community paramedic or CEMS practitioner may be employed by or volunteer for a CEMS provider, and may perform CEMS that are incorporated in the patient care protocol established by the CEMS provider. Otherwise, he or she must be employed by or under contract with a hospital, clinic, or physician, and perform CEMS that are approved under the employment arrangement or contract.

The Act requires a CEMS provider to provide DHS with a list identifying each community paramedic and CEMS practitioner providing CEMS as an employee or volunteer of that CEMS provider.

The Act prohibits a CEMS provider from including in its patient care protocols services that require a credential from any of the following examining boards: medical; physical or occupational therapy; podiatry; nursing; chiropractic; dentistry; optometry; pharmacy; psychology; marriage and family therapy, professional counseling, and social work; or hearing and speech or as an acupuncturist.

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