

Wisconsin Legislative Council

ACT MEMO



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2019 Wisconsin Act 116

[2019 Assembly Bill 531]

Suicide Contact Info on Student ID Cards

2019 WISCONSIN ACT 116

Act 116 requires that contact information for suicide prevention hotlines be included on certain student identification cards (student IDs). The act applies to ID cards issued to students by public schools, independent charter schools, Wisconsin Technical Colleges, or by institutions or college campuses within the University of Wisconsin System.

Act 116 requires these schools and institutions to include certain contact information on student IDs, and allows them to include other information. A student ID must include the telephone number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline or one of its affiliate crisis centers, or if it ceases operations, another national network of local crisis centers that provides free and confidential emotional support to individuals in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day and seven days a week. A student ID may also include the following:

- A statement that the text-based emotional support service of the Crisis Text Line may be accessed by texting HOPELINE to 741741 or by specifying any successor method.
- Instructions for contacting another text-based state or national organization that provides free support to individuals in crisis 24 hours a day and seven days a week.
- The telephone number for a local suicide prevention hotline.

A school or institution may comply by printing the contact information directly on the student ID, or by affixing a sticker containing the information.

Act 116 imposes requirements on students IDs if a school or institution chooses to issue them, but does not require issuance of student IDs. Further, if a school or institution has a supply of unissued and noncompliant student IDs on the act's effective date, the school or institution may continue issuing the IDs until the supply is depleted.

Effective date: July 1, 2020. The requirements first apply to a student ID card issued on July 1, 2020.

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