
1 AN ACT to create 440.094 of the statutes; relating to: practice by health care providers from other states.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

The bill authorizes, in certain situations, health care providers licensed in another state or territory to provide services for which they are licensed or certified. Under the bill, a person who satisfies certain requirements and holds a valid, unexpired credential in another state or territory as any of the following may provide services in this state: 1) a physician, physician assistant, or perfusionist; 2) a nurse; 3) a dentist; 4) a pharmacist; 5) a psychologist; 6) a social worker, marriage and family therapist, professional counselor, or clinical substance abuse counselor; 7) a chiropractor; 8) a physical therapist; 9) a podiatrist; 10) a dietitian; 11) an athletic trainer; 12) an occupational therapist; 13) an optometrist; 14) an acupuncturist; 15) a speech-language pathologist or audiologist; or 16) a massage or bodywork therapist. Generally, these practitioners may practice in this state and the Department of Safety and Professional Services must grant them a temporary credential if they apply for a temporary credential within 30 days of beginning to practice for a health care employer.

The bill also specifies that a health care provider granted a temporary credential under the bill may provide services through telehealth to a patient located in this state.

Current law generally prohibits a person from engaging in certain health care-related practices without holding a required credential.
SENATE BILL 137

For further information see the state fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 440.094 of the statutes is created to read:

440.094 Practice by health care providers from other states; necessity.

1. Definitions. In this section:

(a) “Credential” means a license, permit, certificate, or registration.

(b) “Health care employer” means a system, care clinic, care provider, long-term care facility, or any entity whose employed, contracted, or affiliated staff provide health care service to individuals in this state.

(c) “Health care provider” means an individual who holds a valid, unexpired credential granted by another state or territory that authorizes or qualifies the individual to perform acts that are substantially the same as the acts that any of the following are licensed or certified to perform:

1. A nurse licensed under ch. 441.

2. A chiropractor licensed under ch. 446.

3. A dentist licensed under ch. 447.

4. A physician, physician assistant, perfusionist, or respiratory care practitioner licensed or certified under subch. II of ch. 448.

5. A physical therapist or physical therapist assistant licensed under subch. III of ch. 448 or who holds a compact privilege under subch. IX of ch. 448.

6. A podiatrist licensed under subch. IV of ch. 448.


8. An athletic trainer licensed under subch. VI of ch. 448.
SENATE BILL 137

9. An occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant licensed under subch. VII of ch. 448.

10. An optometrist licensed under ch. 449.

11. A pharmacist licensed under ch. 450.


13. A psychologist licensed under ch. 455.

14. A social worker, marriage and family therapist, or professional counselor certified or licensed under ch. 457 or a clinical substance abuse counselor certified under s. 440.88.

15. A speech-language pathologist or audiologist licensed under subch. II of ch. 459.

16. A massage therapist or bodywork therapist licensed under ch. 460.

(2) Practice by health care providers from other states. (a) Notwithstanding ss. 441.06 (4), 441.15 (2), 441.16, 446.02 (1), 447.03 (1) and (2), 448.03 (1) (a), (b), and (c) and (1m), 448.51 (1), 448.61, 448.76, 448.961 (1) and (2), 449.02 (1), 450.03 (1), 451.04 (1), 455.02 (1m), 457.04 (4), (5), (6), and (7), 459.02 (1), 459.24 (1), and 460.02, a health care provider may provide services within the scope of the credential that the health care provider holds and the department shall grant the health care provider a temporary credential to practice under this section if all of the following apply:

1. The health care provider applies to the department for a temporary credential under this section within 30 days of beginning to provide health care services for a health care employer. The health care provider shall include in the application an attestation of all of the following:
SENATE BILL 137

1. a. The date on which the health care provider first provided health care services in this state under this section.

   b. That the health care provider holds a valid, unexpired, credential granted in another state.

   c. The health care provider is not currently under investigation and no restrictions or limitations are currently placed on the health care provider’s credential by the credentialing state or any other jurisdiction.

   d. The health care provider has applied for a permanent credential granted by the department or an examining board, as applicable, under chs. 440 to 480. This subd. 1. d. does not apply to a health care provider who provides health care services only during the period covered by a national emergency declared by the U.S. president under 50 USC 1621 in response to the 2019 novel coronavirus or during the 30 days immediately after the national emergency ends.

2. If the health care provider provides services other than services provided through telehealth as described in sub. (3), the health care employer of the health care provider attests all of the following to the department within 10 days of the date on which the health care provider begins providing health care services in this state under this section:

   a. The health care employer has confirmed that the health care provider holds a valid, unexpired credential granted by another state.

   b. To the best of the health care employer’s knowledge and with a reasonable degree of certainty, the health care provider is not currently under investigation and no restrictions or limitations are currently placed on the health care provider’s credential by the credentialing state or any other jurisdiction.
(b) A health care provider who practices within the scope of a temporary credential granted under this section has all rights and is subject to all responsibilities, malpractice insurance requirements, limitations on scope of practice, and other provisions that apply under chs. 440 to 480 to the practice of the health care provider.

(c) 1. A temporary credential granted under this section becomes effective on the date identified in the attestation under par. (a) 1. a. that the health care provider first provided health care services in this state under this section.

2. a. Except as provided in subd. 2. b., a temporary credential granted under this section expires on the date that the department, or an examining board in the department, as applicable, grants or denies the application under par. (a) 1. d. for a permanent credential submitted by the health care provider.

b. If a health care provider provides health care services only during the period covered by a national emergency declared by the U.S. president under 50 USC 1621 in response to the 2019 novel coronavirus or during the 30 days immediately after the national emergency ends, a temporary credential granted under this section to the health care provider expires 30 days after the national emergency ends.

(3) **Telehealth.** A health care provider who practices within the scope of a temporary credential granted under this section may provide services through telehealth to a patient located in this state.