

## **Report From Agency**

### **WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION**

In the matter of rulemaking to update the Wisconsin Administrative Code  
Chapter PI 34 for EDUCATOR LICENSES

**Clearinghouse Rule No. 25-042: Recognizing national certification for school counselor and school social worker licensure**

### **REPORT TO LEGISLATURE**

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#### **I. Basis and Purpose of the Proposed Rule**

The objective of the proposed rule will be to recognize national school counseling and school social work certification for the licensing of school counselors and school social workers under ch. PI 34, Wis. Admin. Code. Specifically, it recognizes certifications from national organizations such as the School Social Work Association of America, the National Association of Social Workers for school social workers, and the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, the National Board for Certified Counselors, and the American School Counselor Association for school counselors as eligible to receive Tier II licensure.

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#### **II. Public Hearing Summary**

The hearing notice was published in the May 27, 2025, edition of the Wisconsin Administrative Register. A public hearing was held on June 18, 2025. No persons testified at the hearing or provided written testimony.

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#### **III. Summary of Public Comments to the Proposed Rule and the Agency's Response to those Comments**

No comments were received.

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#### **IV. Changes to the Rule Summary or Fiscal Estimate/Economic Impact Analysis**

No changes were made.

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#### **V. Department Response to Legislative Council Rules Clearinghouse Report:**

##### ***4. Adequacy of References to Related Statutes, Rules and Forms:***

The change was accepted.

##### ***5. Clarity, Grammar, Punctuation and Plainness:***

- a. The change was accepted.
- b. The change was accepted.
- c. The department acknowledges the Legislative Council's observation regarding Tier II licensure. It was not the department's intent to incorporate the new licensure pathway into ss. PI 34.059 and PI 34.062, Wis. Admin. Code, respectively, which describe how a Tier II license is obtained through completion of an approved program. Section PI 34.040, Wis. Admin. Code, outlines all valid routes by which an applicant may obtain a Tier II license, including but not limited to the completion of an approved program. Accordingly, the newly created pathways to a Tier II license, which are entirely distinct from the approved program pathway addressed in ss. PI 34.059 and 34.062, Wis. Admin. Code., was incorporated into s. PI 34.040, Wis. Admin. Code., under the proposed rule. To reduce confusion, the new pathways were renumbered as ss. PI 34.040 (2) (Lg) and (Lr), Wis. Admin. Code, to align them with existing pathways for other pupil services professionals, such as school psychologists and school nurses.