

CR 83-122

CERTIFICATE

STATE OF WISCONSIN)
) SS
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES)

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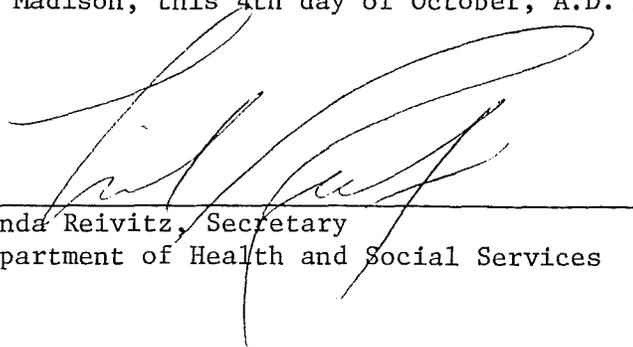
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Division of Statutes
Bureau

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETINGS:

I, Linda Reivitz, Secretary of the Department of Health and Social Services and custodian of the official records of said Department, do hereby certify that the annexed rules relating to the qualifications of health officers and other public health professionals employed by local government were duly approved and adopted by this Department on October 4, 1984.

I further certify that this copy has been compared by me with the original on file in this Department and that the same is a true copy thereof, and of the whole of such original.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the Department at the State Office Building, 1 W. Wilson Street, in the city of Madison, this 4th day of October, A.D. 1984.



SEAL:

Linda Reivitz, Secretary
Department of Health and Social Services

12-1-84

ORDER OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
REPEALING AND ADOPTING RULES

To repeal H 106 and HSS 155 and to create HSS 139, relating to the qualifications of health officers and other public health professionals employed by local government.

Analysis Prepared By The Department Of Health And Social Services

General

For many years the Department of Health and Social Services has shared responsibility with local health agencies for the protection of the health of Wisconsin citizens. In cooperation with local agencies and as required by ch. 141, Stats., the Department established by rule training and experience requirements for local health officers and qualifications of public health nurses serving local health agencies. These requirements and qualifications are found in chs. H 106 and HSS 155, Wis. Adm. Code. Recently, ch. 291 of the Laws of 1981 updated ch. 141, Stats., and directed the Department to establish by rule the qualifications of additional public health professionals serving local agencies particularly in the area of communicable disease control.

These renumbered, updated, clarified and expanded rules are intended to encourage the provision of locally sponsored primary and preventive public health services directed toward developing and enhancing the health capabilities of people--individuals, groups and communities. They are renumbered to bring them into the HSS series in the Wisconsin Administrative Code where all rules of the Department are being consolidated. They are updated, clarified and expanded to define what is meant by a qualified public health professional and to add qualifications for directors of public health nursing programs.

Health Officers

The rules establishing training and experience requirements for health officers cover qualifications of those persons appointed as county, city, city-county, multi-county, town or village health officers under boards of health.

Public Health Professionals Serving As Local Health Officers
For The Purpose Of Communicable Disease Control

Qualifications of public health professionals serving as local health officers for purposes of communicable disease control were added as a result of the recent amendments to ch. 141, Stats. The new rules allow the appointment of a public health nurse, a registered sanitarian, or other public health professional who has at least a baccalaureate degree and three years experience in a communicable disease prevention and control program, as health officer for the purpose of communicable disease control.

Public Health Professionals Who Direct
Environmental Health Programs

Section 141.01 (3) (a), Stats., now states in part that "...the commission shall...designate a qualified public health professional, as specified by the department by rule, for the purposes of environmental sanitation...".

These rules require that appointees other than incumbents be registered sanitarians or other health professionals with a bachelor's degree in public health, environmental health, or the physical or biological sciences and experience in the field of environmental health. Special consideration is given to current public agency employees responsible for the private sewage system regulatory program under s. 145.20, Stats.

Public Health Nurses

Chapter 29, Laws of 1977, effective July 1, 1982, repealed two subsections of s. 141.045, Stats., (Public Health Nurses), related to department certification of the qualifications of public health nurses. Accordingly, the rules have been revised to delineate current qualification requirements for public health nurses, as directed under s. 141.045 (1), Stats., and to delete outdated references to certification.

Directors of Public Health Nursing Programs

Nurses represent the most numerous of the professional workers in the public health field with nursing services implementing or supporting virtually all Wisconsin preventive health programs directed toward a total community or population group.

Qualified nursing leadership characterized by preparation and experience is an important component in the effective organization and delivery of public health nursing services so that these services will have the most positive effects on community health.

New rules specify the educational and experience qualifications for nurses with responsibility for the conduct of public health nursing programs.

Pursuant to authority vested in the Department of Health and Social Services by ss. 140.05 (3), 141.01 (3) (a) and 141.045 (1), Stats., the Department of Health and Social Services hereby repeals and adopts rules interpreting ss. 140.05 (1), 140.09 (4), 141.01 (3) (a) and (10), 141.015 (13), 141.02 (2) and 141.045, Stats., as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter H 106 is repealed.

SECTION 2. Chapter HSS 139 is created to read:

Chapter HSS 139

QUALIFICATIONS OF PUBLIC HEALTH PROFESSIONALS
EMPLOYED BY LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCIES

- HSS 139.01 Authority
- HSS 139.02 Purpose and Scope
- HSS 139.03 Definitions
- HSS 139.04 General Requirement
- HSS 139.05 Health Officers
- HSS 139.06 Public Health Professionals Serving as Health Officers for the
Purpose of Communicable Disease Control
- HSS 139.07 Public Health Professionals Who Direct Environmental Health
Programs
- HSS 139.08 Public Health Nurses
- HSS 139.09 Directors of Public Health Nursing Programs

HSS 139.01 AUTHORITY. This chapter is promulgated under the authority of ss. 140.05 (3), 141.01 (3) (a) and 141.045 (1), Stats.

HSS 139.02 PURPOSE AND SCOPE. This chapter prescribes qualifications for county, city, and village health officers, public health professionals serving as local health officers for communicable disease control under county health committees or commissions, health officers appointed by town boards of health, public health professionals who direct the environmental health programs, public health nurses, and directors of general public health nursing programs.

HSS 139.03 DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Department" means the Wisconsin department of health and social services.

(2) "Director of public health nursing program" means the person in charge of planning, directing, supervising and evaluating the general public health nursing services program for a county or municipality.

(3) "Health officer" means the person with authority in a county or municipality for public health law enforcement and the implementation of public health program activities.

(4) "Municipality" means any city, town or village.

(5) "Public health nurse" means a person employed to work in a public health agency providing public health nursing services who holds a certificate of registration as a registered professional nurse under ch. 441, Stats., and who possesses the qualifications delineated in s. HSS 139.08.

(6) "Public health professional" means a health officer, the director of a public health nursing program, a public health nurse, or any other person who possesses the training and experience qualifications delineated in this chapter.

HSS 139.04 GENERAL REQUIREMENT. No person may be employed or may continue to be employed by a county or municipality to perform the duties of a health officer, public health nurse, director of public health nursing programs, or other public health professional unless he or she meets the qualifications set forth in this chapter. The department may, on its own initiative or upon request, review the qualifications of persons applying for or functioning in positions described in s. HSS 139.02, and may advise the employing unit whether it considers a person to be qualified or not under this chapter.

HSS 139.05 HEALTH OFFICERS. A health officer shall have one of the following:

(1) A master's degree in public health, public administration, health administration, or a similar field, and 3 years of full-time experience in an administrative position in either a public health agency or in public health work;

(2) A bachelor's degree and 16 graduate semester credits towards a master's degree in public health, public administration, health administration, or a similar field and 5 years of full-time experience in an administrative position in either a public health agency or in public health work;

(3) A license to practice medicine under ch. 448, Stats., and one year of full-time experience in an administrative position either in a public health agency or in public health work, eligibility for certification by the American board of preventive medicine in public health or general preventive medicine, or a master's degree in public health, public administration, health administration, or a similar field; or

(4) Employment as a health officer on the effective date of this chapter, with all requirements under sub. (1), (2) or (3) being met within 5 years after the effective date of this chapter.

HSS 139.06 PUBLIC HEALTH PROFESSIONALS SERVING AS HEALTH OFFICERS FOR THE PURPOSE OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL. A public health professional serving as a health officer for the purpose of communicable disease control shall have one of the following:

(1) A bachelor's or higher degree from a nursing program accredited by the national professional nursing accrediting organization and at least 3 years of full-time employment with a public health agency, including responsibility for a communicable disease prevention and control program preferably in a supervisory or other administrative position. The nursing program from which the degree is earned shall include preparation in public health nursing;

(2) Public health nursing certification by the department prior to the effective date of this chapter and at least 3 years of full-time employment with a public health agency, including responsibility for a communicable disease prevention and control program preferably in a supervisory or other administrative position;

(3) A bachelor's or higher degree in public health, environmental health, the physical or biological sciences or a similar field and 3 years of full-time employment with a public health agency, including responsibility for a communicable disease prevention and control program preferably in a supervisory or other administrative position; or

(4) Employment as a health officer for the purpose of communicable disease control on the effective date of this chapter, with all educational and experience requirements under sub. (1), (2) or (3) being met within 5 years after the effective date of this chapter.

HSS 139.07 PUBLIC HEALTH PROFESSIONALS WHO DIRECT ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS. A public health professional who directs the environmental health program shall have one of the following:

(1) A bachelor's or higher degree in public health, environmental health, the physical or biological sciences or a similar field, be registered as a sanitarian under s. 140.45, Stats., and ch. HSS 160, and have at least 3 years of satisfactory work experience in an environmental health program, preferably in a supervisory or other administrative capacity;

(2) Employment on the effective date of this chapter in a local government agency as the administrator of the private sewage systems program under s. 145.20, Stats., and be registered as a sanitarian under s. 140.45, Stats., and ch. HSS 160 or meet that requirement upon appointment as a public health professional who directs the environmental health program; or

(3) Employment on the effective date of this chapter as a public health professional who directs the environmental health program, with all educational and experience requirements under sub. (1) being met within 5 years after the effective date of this chapter.

HSS 139.08 PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES. A public health nurse, in addition to holding a certificate of registration as a registered professional nurse under ch. 441, Stats., shall have one of the following:

(1) A bachelor's degree from a nursing program accredited by the national professional nursing accrediting organization. The program shall include preparation in public health nursing;

(2) A master's degree from a nursing program accredited by the national professional nursing accrediting organization. The program shall include preparation in public health nursing;

(3) A bachelor's degree from a nonaccredited nursing program and preparation in public health nursing in a program accredited by the national professional nursing accrediting organization;

(4) A public health nurse certificate issued by the department prior to the effective date of this chapter; or

(5) Employment on the effective date of this chapter as a public health nurse, with all educational requirements under sub. (1), (2) or (3) being met within 5 years after the effective date of this chapter.

HSS 139.09 DIRECTORS OF PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING PROGRAMS. The director of a public health nursing program shall be:

(1) A public health nurse who meets the requirements in s. HSS 139.08 (1), (2) or (3) and who has 3 or more years of progressively responsible full-time experience in a general public health nursing program in a public health agency;

(2) A public health nurse who meets the requirements in s. HSS 139.08 (1), (2) or (3) with a master's degree in nursing, public health, public administration, health administration, or a similar field, and who has 2 or more years of full-time experience in public health nursing in a public health agency; or

(3) Employed on the effective date of this chapter as the director of a public health nursing program, with all educational and experience requirements under sub. (1) or (2) being met within 5 years after the effective date of this chapter.

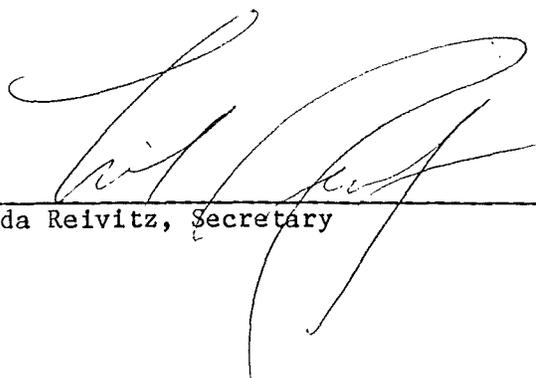
SECTION 3. Chapter HSS 155 is repealed.

The repeals and rules contained in this order shall take effect on the first day of the month following publication in the Wisconsin Administrative Register, as provided in s. 227.026(1), Stats.

Department of Health and Social Services

Dated: 10-4-84

By


Linda Reivitz, Secretary

SEAL:

JY:vs:7-150-179
9/28/84



State of Wisconsin

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

1 West Wilson Street, Madison, Wisconsin 53702

Anthony S. Earl
Governor

Linda Reivitz
Secretary

October 4, 1984

Mailing Address:
Post Office Box 7850
Madison, WI 53707

Mr. Orlan Prestegard
Revisor of Statutes
411 West, State Capitol
Madison, Wisconsin 53702

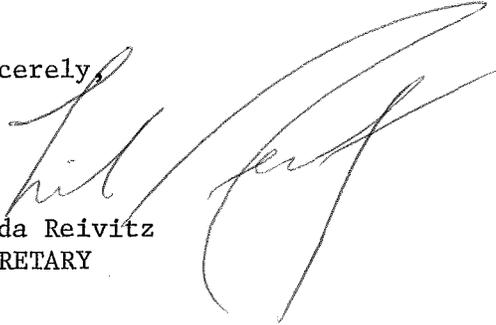
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Dear Mr. Prestegard:

As provided in s. 227.023, Stats., there is hereby submitted a certified copy of HSS 139, administrative rules relating to the qualifications of health officers and other public health professionals employed by local government.

These rules are also being submitted to the Secretary of State as required by s. 227.023, Stats.

Sincerely,


Linda Reivitz
SECRETARY

Enclosure