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# Wisconsin Legislative Council

## ACT MEMO

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### **2025 Wisconsin Act 20** [2025 Assembly Bill 45]

### **Dietitian Licensure Compact**

## **2025 WISCONSIN ACT 20**

2025 Wisconsin Act 20 ratifies and enters Wisconsin into the Dietitian Licensure Compact, which allows a licensed dietitian in a compact member state to practice in another member state under a “compact privilege,” without obtaining a separate license to practice in the other state. The act applies only to an applicant for a compact privilege and does not affect requirements for Wisconsin licensure.

### **Compact Governance**

The act creates a Dietitian Compact Commission, which administers the compact and includes one member or administrator of the licensure boards of each member state. The commission has various powers and duties granted in the compact, including adopting bylaws, promulgating binding rules for the compact, hiring employees, appointing officers, and establishing and electing an executive committee. The commission may levy on and collect an annual assessment from each member state or impose fees on licensees of participating states when a compact privilege is granted to cover the cost of the operations and activities of the commission and its staff.

The act provides for dispute resolution between member states and between member and nonmember states, including a process for termination of a state’s membership in the compact if the state defaults on its compact obligations. The compact provides that it may be amended upon the enactment of an amendment by all member states. A state may withdraw from the compact by repealing the statute authorizing the compact, but the compact provides that a withdrawal does not take effect until 180 days after the effective date of that repeal.

### **Licensure**

The act creates the ability for a dietitian to obtain a compact privilege, which allows a dietitian to practice dietetics in another compact state (remote state), if the dietitian satisfies certain criteria. Specifically, a dietitian may exercise a compact privilege in a remote state if the dietitian holds an unencumbered dietitian license in their home state, and both pays any fees and meets any jurisprudence requirements that may be imposed by a remote state. A dietitian practicing in a remote state under a compact privilege must adhere to the laws and regulations of that state, and a remote state may, in accordance with that state’s laws, take adverse action against a licensee’s compact privilege within that state. If a dietitian’s license is encumbered, the dietitian loses the compact privilege in all remote states until certain criteria are satisfied. If a dietitian’s compact privilege in any remote state is removed, the dietitian may lose the compact privilege in all other remote states until certain criteria are satisfied.

## Other Provisions

The act also does all of the following:

- Allows member states' licensure boards to conduct joint investigations of licensed individuals and to issue subpoenas that are enforceable in other member states.
- Creates a coordinated database and reporting system containing licensure and disciplinary action information on dietitians. A member state must submit a uniform data set to the data system on all individuals to whom the compact is applicable, as required by the rules of the commission.
- Requires applicants for an initial license or privilege to practice to submit to be fingerprinted, and requires an applicant's fingerprint cards to be submitted to their home state's Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a criminal history background check.

**Effective date:** August 10, 2025

For a full history of the bill, visit the Legislature's [bill history page](#).

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