

Clearinghouse Rule 25-039

PROPOSED ORDER OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION AMENDING RULES

The scope statement for this rule, SS 108-23, was published in Register No. 816A1, on December 4, 2023, and approved by State Superintendent Jill K. Underly on December 21, 2023.

The State Superintendent of Public Instruction hereby proposes an order to create s. PI 34.001 (18m) and PI 34.023 (3) (d), relating to school settings for practicum experiences.

ANALYSIS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Statute interpreted: ss. 115.28 (7) (a) and 118.19 (1), Wis. Stats.

Statutory authority: s. 115.28 (7) (a), Wis. Stats.

Explanation of agency authority:

Under 118.19 (1), Wis. Stats., any person seeking to teach in a public school, including a charter school, or in a school or institution operated by a county or the state shall first procure a license or permit from the department. Under s. 115.28 (7) (a), Wis. Stats., the superintendent of public instruction shall make rules establishing standards of attainment and procedures for the examination and licensing of teachers within the limits prescribed in ss. 118.19 (2) and (3), 118.191, 118.192, 118.193, 118.194, and 118.195, Wis. Stats.

Related statute or rule:

N/A

Plain language analysis:

The proposed rule change is a correction to ch. PI 34 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code to clarify that for educator preparation programs leading to a pupil services or administrative license, practicum experiences must, among other requirements, occur in school settings. The proposed rule also provides for a definition of “school settings” to include K-12 public school, private school, charter school, virtual charter school, or tribal school educational settings. By establishing this definition, the term “school settings” is intended to apply uniformly across all references within ch. PI 34, Wis. Admin. Code, including those found in ss. PI 34.023 (1) and (2), Wis. Admin. Code.

Summary of, and comparison with, existing or proposed federal regulations:

Because educator preparation in the United States is typically governed by each state and local government, federal regulations are generally silent with respect to the preparation of student teachers. As a result, the requirements for teacher preparation programs vary by state.

Summary of any public comments and feedback on the statement of scope for the proposed rule that the agency received at a preliminary public hearing and comment period held and a description of how and to what extent the agency took those comments into account and drafting the proposed rule:

The Department held a preliminary public hearing and comment period on December 14, 2023, and did not receive any comments on the statement of scope for the proposed rule.

Comparison with rules in adjacent states:

Illinois: Under Ill. Admin. Code tit. 23 § 25.610, a practicum is defined as a type of clinical experience characterized by intensive work with students, in a group or one on one, which is carefully designed as part of an approved program; is supervised by a designated representative of the institution offering the program; and provides evidence that the candidate for the endorsement is able to apply the knowledge and skills relevant to that endorsement area. A clinical experience is supervised practical training in a K-12 classroom with graduated responsibilities.

Iowa: Educator preparation programs in Iowa include supervised clinical experiences in PreK-12 state-approved schools or educational facilities. IAC 79.2(256), IAC 79.16(4)

Michigan: In Michigan, a "school setting" refers to any location on school property, including classrooms and libraries, or any activity sponsored by a school district, even if it takes place off-site. This definition encompasses various educational environments, including public schools, charter schools, magnet schools, private schools, online learning programs and homeschooling. Educator preparation programs in Michigan include practical experience in a classroom setting through internships or practicums.

Minnesota: Under Minn. R. 8705.1010, each teaching candidate's practicum experience must align to the scope and content of the license or endorsement sought and is a minimum of 80 hours with a continuous group of students in classrooms under the guidance of experienced teachers.

Summary of factual data and analytical methodologies:

Chapter PI 34 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code contains the rules governing educator licenses, including the rules around educator preparation. Section PI 34.023 (3) requires that, for educator preparation programs leading to a pupil services or administrative license, the clinical program shall include supervised practicums: 1) are developmental in scope and sequence; 2) results in the student being able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the standards under subch. II of ch. PI 34; and 3) evaluates each student's performance using at least two written evaluations by the school-based supervisor for student-based observations, at least two written evaluations by the program supervisors, and at least two conferences involving the school-based supervisors, the program supervisor, and the student.

Since the rules were written, the department has identified a correction to the rule which clarifies that for educator preparation programs leading to a pupil services or administrative license, the practicum experience must also occur in school settings. The proposed rule change aims to increase clarity in all clinical program requirements for educator preparation programs by establishing a definition of "school setting" applicable to this chapter. Without a rule change, the department will be required to implement ch. PI 34 as the rule currently exists, which may create confusion for educator preparation programs leading to a pupil services or administrative license as well as for students enrolled in educator preparation programs.

Analysis and supporting documents used to determine effect on small business or in preparation of economic impact report:

Anticipated costs incurred by private sector:

Effect on small business:

The proposed rules will have no significant economic impact on small businesses, as defined in s. 227.114 (1) (a), Stats.

Agency contact person: (including email and telephone)

Carl Bryan
Legislative Policy Coordinator
Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
adminrules@dpi.wi.gov
(608) 266-3275

Place where comments are to be submitted and deadline for submission:

Comments should be submitted to Carl Bryan, Department of Public Instruction, at adminrules@dpi.wi.gov. The Department will publish a hearing notice in the *Administrative Register* which will provide information on the deadline for the submission of comments.

RULE TEXT

SECTION 1. PI 34.001 (18m) and PI 34.023 (3) (d) are created to read:

PI 34.001 (18m) “School settings” means the following:

1. Charter schools as defined in s. PI 34.001 (4m) and s. 115.001 (1), Stats.
2. Private schools as defined in s. PI 34.001 (16m) and s. 115.001 (3r), Stats.
3. Public school districts as defined in s. PI 34. 001 (18) and s. 115.01 (3), Stats.
4. Tribal schools as defined in s. 115.001 (15m)

PI 34.023 (3) (d) Occurs in a school setting.

SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE:

The proposed rules contained in this order shall take effect on the first day of the month commencing after the date of publication in the Wisconsin Administrative Register, as provided in s. 227.22 (2) (intro.), Stats.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2025

Jill Underly, PhD
State Superintendent