

# State of Wisconsin



2021 Assembly Bill 720

Date of enactment:  
Date of publication\*:

## 2021 WISCONSIN ACT

AN ACT *to amend* 441.06 (4) and 448.61; and *to create* 440.077, 448.03 (2) (bm) and 448.40 (1m) of the statutes; **relating to:** practice of certain skilled health services by military medical personnel, extending the time limit for emergency rule procedures, providing an exemption from emergency rule procedures, and granting rule-making authority.

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

**SECTION 1.** 440.077 of the statutes is created to read:  
**440.077 Military medical personnel program. (1)**

In this section:

(a) "Advanced practice nurse prescriber" means an advanced practice nurse prescriber certified under s. 441.16 (2).

(am) "Community-based residential facility" has the meaning given in s. 50.01 (1g).

(b) "Disease" means any pain, injury, deformity, physical or mental illness, or departure from complete health or the proper condition of the human body or any of its parts.

(c) "Inpatient health care facility" has the meaning given in s. 50.135 (1).

(d) "Military medical personnel" means a person who has served as an army medic, a navy or coast guard corpsman, or an air force aerospace medical technician in the U.S. armed forces and who was discharged or released from such service in the previous 12 months under honorable or general conditions.

(e) "Physician assistant" has the meaning given in s. 448.971 (2).

(f) "Podiatrist" has the meaning given in s. 448.60 (3).

(g) "Registered professional nurse" means a registered nurse who is licensed under ch. 441 or who holds a multistate license, as defined in s. 441.51 (2) (h), issued in a party state, as defined in s. 441.51 (2) (k).

(gm) "Residential care apartment complex" has the meaning given in s. 50.01 (6d).

(h) 1. "Skilled health services" means any of the following:

a. To examine into the fact, condition, or cause of human health or disease, or to treat, operate, prescribe, or advise for the same, by any means or instrumentality.

b. To apply principles or techniques of medical sciences in the diagnosis or prevention of any of the conditions in subd. 1. a. and par. (b).

c. To penetrate, pierce, or sever the tissues of a human being.

d. To offer, undertake, attempt, or hold oneself out in any manner as able to do any of the acts described in this paragraph.

2. "Skilled health services" does not include surgical procedures or issuing prescription orders.

\* Section 991.11, WISCONSIN STATUTES: Effective date of acts. "Every act and every portion of an act enacted by the legislature over the governor's partial veto which does not expressly prescribe the time when it takes effect shall take effect on the day after its date of publication."

(2) (a) The department, in collaboration with the department of veterans affairs, the medical examining board, and the board of nursing, shall establish a program in which military medical personnel may temporarily perform certain skilled health services while supervised in an inpatient health care facility, outpatient health care facility, community-based residential facility, or a residential care apartment complex without having to obtain a license under s. 441.06, 441.10, 448.04, 448.61, or 448.974.

(b) Under the program under par. (a), the services that a military medical personnel may provide shall reflect the level of training and experience of the military medical personnel. Before performing any services under the program under par. (a), the military medical personnel shall complete and sign a memorandum of understanding on a form prescribed by the medical examining board and shall submit the memorandum of understanding to their employer. The memorandum of understanding shall detail the military medical personnel's scope of practice.

(c) Under the program under par. (a), a participating military medical personnel shall be supervised by a physician, physician assistant, podiatrist, registered professional nurse, or advanced practice nurse prescriber. The supervising physician, physician assistant, podiatrist, registered professional nurse, or advanced practice nurse prescriber shall retain responsibility for the care of the patient.

(3) (a) In order to participate in the program under sub. (2) (a), a military medical personnel shall establish a reasonable timeline with his or her employer that describes the actions the military medical personnel intends to take to acquire a license under s. 441.06, 441.10, 448.04, 448.61, or 448.974 including the date by which the military medical personnel agrees to acquire the license. The military medical personnel shall submit the timeline to the department on a form provided by the department.

(b) A military medical personnel becomes ineligible to participate in the program under sub. (2) (a) beginning on the day after the date that the military medical personnel agreed to acquire a license under par. (a).

(c) The timeline to acquire a license under par. (a) may not be longer than is reasonably necessary considering the license the military medical personnel intends to acquire, his or her education and experience, and any other relevant factors.

(d) The medical examining board may extend the timeline under par. (a) if it appears that, because of unforeseen circumstances, the applicant requires more time to receive a license under s. 441.06, 441.10, 448.04, 448.61, or 448.974.

(4) The medical examining board shall oversee the operations of the program under sub. (2) (a).

(5) The department may promulgate any rules necessary for the administration of this section.

**SECTION 2.** 441.06 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

441.06 (4) Except as provided in ~~s. ss. 257.03 and 440.077~~, no person may practice or attempt to practice professional nursing, nor use the title, letters, or anything else to indicate that he or she is a registered or professional nurse unless he or she is licensed under this section. Except as provided in ~~s. ss. 257.03 and 440.077~~, no person not so licensed may use in connection with his or her nursing employment or vocation any title or anything else to indicate that he or she is a trained, certified or graduate nurse. This subsection does not apply to any registered nurse who holds a multistate license, as defined in s. 441.51 (2) (h), issued by a jurisdiction, other than this state, that has adopted the enhanced nurse licensure compact under s. 441.51.

**SECTION 3.** 448.03 (2) (bm) of the statutes is created to read:

448.03 (2) (bm) The activities of military medical personnel, as defined in s. 440.077 (1) (d), while supervised under s. 440.077.

**SECTION 4.** 448.40 (1m) of the statutes is created to read:

448.40 (1m) The board may promulgate rules to establish minimum standards for military medical personnel, as defined in s. 440.077 (1) (d), who perform skilled health services, as defined in s. 440.077 (1) (g), that are supervised under s. 440.077.

**SECTION 5.** 448.61 of the statutes is amended to read:

**448.61 License required.** Except as provided in ss. 257.03, ~~440.077~~, and 448.62, no person may practice podiatry, designate himself or herself as a podiatrist, use or assume the title "doctor of surgical chiropody", "doctor of podiatry" or "doctor of podiatric medicine", or append to the person's name the words or letters "doctor", "Dr.", "D.S.C.", "D.P.M.", "foot doctor", "foot specialist" or any other title, letters or designation which represents or may tend to represent the person as a podiatrist unless the person is licensed under this subchapter.

**SECTION 6. Nonstatutory provisions.**

(1) The department of safety and professional services may promulgate emergency rules under s. 227.24 to implement s. 440.077 (5). Notwithstanding s. 227.24 (1) (c) and (2), emergency rules promulgated under this subsection remain in effect until December 1, 2023, or the date on which permanent rules take effect, whichever is sooner. Notwithstanding s. 227.24 (1) (a) and (3), the department of safety and professional services is not required to provide evidence that promulgating a rule under this subsection as emergency rules is necessary for the preservation of public peace, health, safety, or welfare and is not required to provide a finding of emergency for a rule promulgated under this subsection.

(2) The medical examining board may promulgate emergency rules under s. 227.24 to establish minimum standards for military medical personnel under s. 448.40

(1m). Notwithstanding s. 227.24 (1) (c) and (2), emergency rules promulgated under this subsection remain in effect until December 1, 2023, or the date on which permanent rules take effect, whichever is sooner. Notwithstanding s. 227.24 (1) (a) and (3), the medical examining board is not required to provide evidence that promulgating a rule under this subsection as emergency rules is necessary for the preservation of public peace, health, safety,

or welfare and is not required to provide a finding of emergency for a rule promulgated under this subsection.

**SECTION 7. Effective dates.** This act takes effect on April 2, 2022, or on the day after publication, whichever is later, except as follows:

(1) SECTION 6 of this act takes effect on the day after publication.

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