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# Wisconsin Legislative Council

## ACT MEMO

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### 2021 Wisconsin Act 158 2021 Assembly Bill 720

### Veteran Health Services Practice While Obtaining Credential

2021 Wisconsin Act 158 allows a person who has recently served as military medical personnel<sup>1</sup> to perform skilled health services, with supervision, at certain health care and residential facilities<sup>2</sup> while in the process of obtaining a health care credential. The person must have been discharged or released from service under honorable or general conditions in the 12 months prior to participating in the program.

The person must enter into a memorandum of understanding with the employer that details the person's scope of practice, and services that may be provided, reflecting the person's level of training and experience. A physician, physician assistant, podiatrist, registered professional nurse, or advanced practice nurse prescriber must supervise the person and retains responsibility for the care of the patient. The person may not perform surgical procedures or issue prescription orders.

The person must submit a reasonable timeline to the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS) for obtaining a credential, describing the specific actions that will be taken to obtain it. A credential may be obtained as a registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, physician, podiatrist, or physician assistant.

The act authorizes DSPS to promulgate any rules necessary for the administration of the program, and authorizes the Medical Examining Board to promulgate rules to establish minimum standards for military medical personnel who are supervised under the program. DSPS must collaborate with the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Medical Examining Board, and the Board of Nursing to establish the program.

**Effective date:** April 2, 2022

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<sup>1</sup> "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.

<sup>2</sup> The healthcare and residential facilities specified in the act are inpatient health care facilities, outpatient health care facilities, community-based residential facilities, or residential care apartment complexes.