

Report From Agency

**FINAL REPORT
CLEARINGHOUSE RULE 16-003
CHAPTER PI 34
CHANGES TO ACCREDITATION AND THE DEFINITION OF HIGHER LEARNING AS A RESULT OF
2015 WISCONSIN ACT 55**

Analysis by the Department of Public Instruction

Statutory authority: ss. 115.28 (7) (a) and 227.11 (2) (a), Stats.

Statute interpreted: ss. 118.19 (3) (a) and 118.19 (17), Stats.

The proposed rule will make changes to PI34 as a result of 2015 Wisconsin Act 55 with respect to accreditation provided under s. 118.19 (3) (a) and the definition of institution of higher education provided under s. 118.19 (17), Stats.

The hearing notice was published in the February 1, 2016 edition of the Wisconsin Administrative Register. A public hearing was held on February 17, 2016.

No persons provided oral testimony at the February 17 hearing on this rule and no persons submitted written testimony.

Changes to the analysis or the fiscal estimate:

- No changes were made.

Responses to Clearinghouse Report:

1. Statutory Authority:

- The Department is not aware of any programmatic accrediting organizations that accredit teacher preparation programs outside of those recognized by DOE. The proposed rule simply recognizes that the Department accepts accreditation of any teacher preparation program by a programmatic accrediting organization that is recognized by DOE. As a result, there was no need to define programmatic accrediting organizations.

2. Form, Style and Placement in Administrative Code:

- Corrected the style errors in ss. PI 34.241 (1m) (a) 1. and 34.242 (1) and (a).

5. Clarity, Grammar, Punctuation and Plainness:

- Because the rule was drafted with the intent to satisfy both conditions in this section, i.e. that the out-of-state institution is accredited and the approved program meets comparable requirements provided in this chapter, the Department does not believe the suggested clarification is necessary.