Memorandum

Date: April 9, 2020

To: Health Care Providers

From: Dawn B. Crim, Secretary-designee

RE: Health Care Workforce Expansion Efforts, Including Emergency Order 20 (Updating EO 16)

Expanding and mobilizing the health care workforce has been a priority for Wisconsin since Governor Evers Executive Order 72 declaring the COVID-19 crisis a public health emergency. Since then, the administration and the Department of Safety and Professional Services have taken steps to better position the health care workforce to respond.

On Friday, April 3, 2020, Governor Tony Evers and Department of Health Services Secretary-designee Andrea Palm issued **Emergency Order 20**. This order alters certain provisions of Emergency Order 16, which was issued to help the state quickly and effectively mobilize its health care workforce in response to the COVID-19 crisis.

EO 20 **expanded the list of eligible health care professions** to include audiologists and speech pathologists, as well as massage therapists working in clinical settings. Please see Wis. Stat. 146.81 (1)(a)–(hp), for full list of professions included in EO 16 and EO 20.

Notification requirements for professionals coming from other states and for the employers who hire them have been extended. Out-of-state providers now have 30 days, instead of 10, to apply for a temporary or permanent Wisconsin license using this form. Employers now have 10 days, instead of 5, to notify the department that they have hired an out-of-state provider. Employers must use this form to notify the Department of Safety and Professional Services of out-of-state hires related to EO 16 and EO 20.

Also, EO 20 orders that **all temporary or permanent health care provider licenses covered under EO 16 and EO 20 that were active upon issue of the public health emergency declaration on March 12, 2020, shall remain active through the duration of the public health emergency and for thirty days after**.

Forms and additional information, including this FAQ document (which has been updated to include EO 20) are available on the DSPS homepage.