

Tony Evers, Governor Dan Hereth, Secretary

PRESS RELEASE—Contact DSPS Newsroom at dspsnewsroom@wisconsin.gov

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Wisconsin DSPS Streamlining License Verification for Employers

New tool offers real-time access to certain state licensing information

Madison, Wis. – Wisconsin employers who need to verify a worker's license status can now do so in real time.

Wisconsin's safety agency, the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS), is offering a secure interface where employers can gain fixed access to DSPS licensing information inside the department's online licensing platform, LicensE.

"License verification is important for large employers, particularly in the health industry," explained DSPS Secretary Dan Hereth. "They have a large number of positions that require professional credentials. So, they need this access to ensure their employees remain licensed in good standing to avoid any disruptions in care or unlicensed practice."

This license verification interface removes any need for hospital staff to manually check the licensing status of employees or use software that extracts public information from the DSPS website. Instead, they can efficiently confirm licensing data through this secure interface with DSPS that ensures they have the most accurate, up-to-date licensing information.

Through the interface, employers will gain real-time access to non-confidential data, including credential holder name, license type and any specialties or sub-specialties, license status, and license expiration date.

"Since Gov. Evers appointed me as Secretary of DSPS, this administration has made a commitment to working with state industry leaders on projects that prioritize efficiency and innovation, and this is the latest example," said Sec. Hereth. "But we have also placed an emphasis on safety, and a tool that helps verify professionals serving Wisconsin customers are appropriately licensed is important to public safety."

DSPS is currently working with interested employers to provide access to the data.

This license verification interface is the latest modernization project for DSPS, which recently announced it is the first multi-occupation licensing agency to <u>offer a digital license option</u> that allows credential holders to download a copy of their license to their phone's wallet so they can carry it wherever they go.

Additionally, DSPS has:

- Moved all licensing and renewal services to a self-service, online platform.
- <u>Streamlined data sharing</u> with other governmental agencies to help get new clinicians to work and seeing patients more quickly
- <u>Created an online portal</u> that allows educational institutions to become a partner in supporting the efficient licensure of students graduating from their health care programs.

About DSPS: DSPS issues more than 240 unique licenses, administers dozens of boards and councils that regulate professions, enforces state building codes, and maintains the Wisconsin Enhanced Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, which is a key tool in the multi-faceted public health campaign to stem excessive opioid prescribing. A fee-based agency, DSPS is self-sustaining and receives no general fund tax dollars for its day-to-day operations. With five offices and 250 employees throughout Wisconsin, DSPS collaborates with constituents and stakeholders across a wide range of industries to promote safety and advance the economy.