



PRESS RELEASE—Contact DPS Newsroom at dpsnewsroom@wisconsin.gov

September 23, 2025
DSPS Communications
608-220-1553

Wisconsin DPS Highlights Service Opportunities

Agency engaging with Rotary groups about Board service

Madison, Wis. – Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (DPS) Deputy Secretary Jennifer Garrett spoke with the Sun Prairie Rotary Club this morning about volunteer service opportunities.

It marked the first of several planned stops through the end of the year to engage Rotary groups about serving on an occupational licensing board or council.

“It’s a great opportunity to help shape practice in a profession by credentialing qualified individuals, enforcing professional standards, and promulgating rules that establish board policy,” Deputy Secretary Garrett said. “Rotarians are a great fit because they value service and integrity, two great characteristics for board membership.”

Wisconsin DPS is responsible for licensing and regulating more than 200 occupational license types in Wisconsin, from doctors and nurses, to architects, cosmetologists, and accountants. As part of that work, the department provides administrative support to dozens of regulatory boards.

These boards have played a key role in recent years as Wisconsin has explored and entered license compacts with other states, opening the door for more health professionals to serve Wisconsin patients. Other recent examples of vital board work include the following:

- The Medical Examining Board completed rulemaking to launch new provisional licenses for physicians with foreign training
- The Board of Nursing revised a rule that made it easier for school nurses to train other staff to provide healthcare support to students

“It’s a great way to contribute to good government, whether you are a professional in one of these regulated fields or just a member of the public. Most boards have public members who provide valuable input,” Garrett explained. “We’re visiting these groups to let them know more

about these service opportunities and asking them to consider applying to serve or sharing a recommendation.”

Board members work with DSPS but are appointed by the governor. Not all boards have current vacancies, but applications are accepted at all times and kept on file for when open board seats come open.

Learn more about [board service options here](#). Applications can be [submitted here](#).

DSPS plans to visit more Rotary clubs in the coming months, including those in Janesville, Fort Atkinson, and Fond du Lac.

About DSPS

DSPS issues more than 240 unique licenses, administers dozens of boards and councils that regulate professions, enforces state building codes, runs the state fire prevention program, and maintains the award-winning 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.