

PHARMACIST PROVIDER STATUS

MEMBERSHIP BRIEFING

What is Medicaid Provider Status in Wisconsin, enabled by 2021 Wisconsin Act 98, and how is it different from Federal Provider Status?

2021 Wisconsin Act 98 (i.e., Act 98) adds pharmacists to the list of recognized healthcare providers in Wisconsin whose services must be reimbursed by Wisconsin Medicaid. Act 98 does not affect Medicare. The federal government has jurisdiction to determine covered entities for Medicare, while the state government has partial jurisdiction over state-funded payors (Medicaid) and private insurers.



Does Act 98 apply to services covered under a patient's medical benefit or prescription benefit?

Act 98 applies to medical services that a pharmacist renders. The services must either be in the pharmacist's scope of practice ([Wisconsin Statute 450.01\(16\)](#)) or delegated to a pharmacist by a physician via CPA ([Wisconsin Statute 450.033](#)). Dispensing practices will remain under the prescription benefit.

What is the difference between Provider Status and prescriber status (prescriptive authority)?

Provider Status is achieved when a healthcare professional is added to the list of covered healthcare providers who can seek reimbursement for covered services. Act 98 adds pharmacists to the list of recognized healthcare providers in Wisconsin whose services must be reimbursed by Wisconsin Medicaid. Prescriber status is the authorization of a healthcare professional to write or order the use of medical prescriptions (prescriptive authority). Act 98 did not add prescriptive authority to the scope of pharmacy practice.



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Pharmacist Provider Status

Why was reimbursement (not scope) targeted in Act 98?

Currently, reimbursement for pharmacist-provided services is limited. Providing reimbursement for pharmacist-provided services would eliminate barriers and allow for pharmacist role expansion, increasing patient access. The current scope of Wisconsin pharmacists is extensive and the ability to enter into collaborative practice agreements (CPAs) allows for the expansion of pharmacy services offered.



**Pharmacy Society
of Wisconsin**