



State of Wisconsin
Department of Health Services

Tony Evers, Governor
Kirsten L. Johnson, Secretary

June 30, 2025

Cyrus Anderson
Senate Chief Clerk
PO Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707

Edward Blazel
Assembly Chief Clerk
PO Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Mr. Anderson and Mr. Blazel:

The Department of Health Services is pleased to submit the 2025 report on crisis urgent care and observation facilities pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 51.036(2)(e).

Sincerely,

Kirsten L. Johnson
Secretary- designee

Enclosure

Crisis Urgent Care and Observation Facilities

2025 Report to the Legislature

Wisconsin Stat. [§ 51.036\(2\)\(e\)](#) requires the Department of Health Services to submit a report to the Legislature each year by June 30 regarding crisis urgent care and observation facilities.

In order to effectuate Wis. Stat. § 51.036, the Department is required to promulgate rules to implement the statute, and those rules must include the 13 specific requirements under [sub. \(4\)](#). A statement of scope to create permanent and emergency rules for crisis urgent care and observation facilities, numbered [SS 070-24](#) was submitted to the Governor on June 13, 2024, approved by the Governor on June 27, 2024, and published in the Administrative Register on July 8, 2024. A preliminary public hearing on the scope statement was held on July 16, 2024, and formal rulemaking commenced on July 22, 2024. Since that date, the Department drafted the proposed rule, convened an advisory committee under Wis. Stat. § 227.13 and held seven advisory committee meetings between August and December 2024, revised the rule text following internal legal review, and publicly posted a draft of the permanent rule on April 21, 2025 to solicit public comment and advice on the economic impact of the proposed rule. An emergency rule was submitted to the Governor for approval under Wis. Stat. § 227.24(1)(e)1g. on May 22, 2025, and it was approved on June 5, 2025. The emergency rule, numbered [EmR 2507](#), was published in the Wisconsin State Journal on June 16, 2025, and the emergency and fiscal estimate were published in the Administrative Register on the same date. The permanent rule order is projected to be published early 2026.

As explained above, the Department is working quickly to comply with the requirements of Wis. Stat. ch. 227 to create rules to effectuate Wis. Stat. § 51.036. The emergency rule has been in effect for less than a month, and the Department's primary intent in promulgating the emergency rule is to commence the certification and grant application process in accordance with Wis. Stat. § 51.036(2) and (4)(a). Accordingly, there are currently no crisis urgent care and observation facilities certified in Wisconsin. Once the permanent rule is promulgated in early 2026, certification of crisis urgent care and observation facilities will commence, and services will be rendered once those facilities are operational.

In light of the above, the Department does not currently possess the data points outlined under Wis. Stat. § 51.036(2)(e)1. to 18.