

# Wisconsin Protects Its Health Care Workforce

Combining plentiful natural resources, a **rich tapestry** of urban and rural lifestyles, **world-class** higher education institutions, a comparatively **low cost of living** and celebrated sports and culinary **traditions**, Wisconsin is renowned for the **quality of life** it affords its residents and visitors seeking to make the most of our state's recreational offerings.

Less well-known are the advantages of pursuing one's professional ambitions in Wisconsin, **particularly for those in health care fields**.



**Wisconsin**  
regularly appears  
near the top of  
**National Rankings**  
of the  
**best states**  
for health  
care workers



Wisconsin values the outstanding talent and effort of the health care workers serving **patients, families and communities** throughout the state. Wisconsin also recognizes the unique challenges related to health care work, and has enacted several laws advanced by the **Wisconsin Hospital Association** and its members to address key concerns of the state's health care workforce.

## Proactively Addressing Key Health Care Worker Concerns

### *Wisconsin law protects its health care workers from violence and threats.*

In 2022, Wisconsin enacted the most comprehensive criminal prohibition against battery and threats of violence against health care workers and their families in the nation, including penalties of up to six years in prison.

### *Wisconsin law protects its health care workers from efforts to criminalize medical errors.*

Wisconsin's Quality Improvement Act prevents prosecutors from bringing criminal charges for good-faith medical mistakes.

### *Wisconsin law protects error and incident reports from being used against a health care worker in a malpractice suit.*

Wisconsin's Quality Improvement Act embraces the idea that patient safety isn't improved through courtroom subpoenas and depositions, but is advanced through quality improvement processes that rely on honest reporting of incidents and errors.

### *Wisconsin's balanced medical malpractice system protects both professionals and patients.*

Wisconsin's comprehensive and unique medical liability system caps non-economic damages at \$750,000, while ensuring that patients receive 100% of their economic losses for medical expenses and lost earnings. This system has kept medical liability insurance costs in Wisconsin among the lowest in the nation.

In addition to the **practice-friendly environment** Wisconsin health care professionals enjoy, hospitals and health systems throughout the state add **vitality** to the communities they serve through **employment, investment and involvement**, while also taking great care to create workplaces that allow their people to excel, both **professionally and personally**.



The Wisconsin Hospital Association (WHA) advocates on behalf of its 130-plus member hospitals and health systems to enable the delivery of high-quality, high-value care to the citizens of Wisconsin. Learn more at [wha.org](http://wha.org).