
WISCONSIN MEDICAID UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 2, 1997

UPDATE 97-28

TO:

All Providers

County Tribal Aging Units

County Departments of:

Community Programs

Human Services

Public Health

Social Services

HMOs and other Managed Care

Programs

W-2 Agencies

Wisconsin Medicaid Remains Intact with Welfare Reform

W-2 and Wisconsin Medicaid are different

Wisconsin Works (W-2) and Wisconsin Medicaid are two separate programs with different eligibility standards. W-2 is a new program that will replace Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) in Wisconsin beginning September 1997.

Under federal welfare reform legislation, eligibility for Wisconsin Medicaid remains an entitlement based on each state's AFDC standards as of July 16, 1996. This means that recipients have a right to get Medicaid if they are eligible.

Low-income children, pregnant women, and families may be eligible for Wisconsin Medicaid (including Healthy Start) even if they elect not to participate in W-2 work or child care programs. The chart on the next page outlines Medicaid eligibility requirements ("Medicaid Monthly Income and Assets Guide").

Please inform potential Medicaid recipients about these programs

Please inform potential Medicaid recipients about these programs and see the box at the right for information on how to apply for Wisconsin Medicaid, including Healthy Start. We appreciate your help in reaching individuals who may be eligible for coverage.



For more information . . .

Providers may contact:

- Your county department of social/human services, tribal agency, or W-2 agency for Medicaid eligibility requirements, including Healthy Start.
- For recipient eligibility status, call (608) 221-9254.
- For recipient eligibility status through the Voice Response System, call (800) 947-3544 or (608) 221-4247.
- EDS contract monitor at (800) 760-0001 for Medicaid managed care.

Recipients (and persons interested in applying for Medicaid including Healthy Start) may contact:

- Their county department of social/human services, tribal agency, or W-2 agency to apply for Medicaid, including Healthy Start.
- Medicaid Enrollment Specialist at (800) 291-2002 for Medicaid managed care enrollment.
- Recipient Services at (800) 362-3002 for questions on Medicaid health care coverage from current Medicaid recipients.

Facts about Wisconsin Medicaid and W-2

- Wisconsin Works (W-2) and Wisconsin Medicaid are different programs with different eligibility standards. (Wisconsin Medicaid is also known as Title 19, T19, Medical Assistance, or MA.) W-2 is a work program and Wisconsin Medicaid provides health benefits.
- Medicaid eligibility is based on the July 1996 AFDC standards.
- Recipients have a right to get Wisconsin Medicaid if they are eligible.

- If recipients are eligible for W-2, they are probably also eligible for Wisconsin Medicaid, but it's not automatic.
- Wisconsin Medicaid does not have a five-year time limit on benefits.
- Wisconsin Medicaid does not have a 60-day residency requirement for coverage.

Beginning September 1, 1997, pregnant women and families with children should apply at their local W-2 office. The counties that will have private W-2 agencies separate from the county or tribal agency are: Forest, Juneau, Kewaunee, Milwaukee, Oneida, Shawano, Vilas, Walworth, and Waukesha.

Medicaid Monthly Income and Assets Guide						
Maximum Monthly Income/Maximum Total Assets (Effective for 1997. Income limits change yearly.)						
Group Size*	Healthy Start		AFDC-Medicaid			
	Children Under Age 6 and Pregnant Women Income	Children Ages 6-14 Income	Children Ages 14-18 Income	Assets	Head of Household with Children Income	Assets
1	\$1,216.38	\$657.50	\$567.78	\$2,000.00	\$311.00	\$1,000.00
2	\$1,635.71	\$885.17	\$591.67	\$3,000.00	\$550.00	for all group sizes
3	\$2,055.04	\$1,110.83	\$689.33	Add \$300 for each additional person	\$647.00	
4	\$2,474.38	\$1,337.50	\$822.67		\$772.00	
There are no asset limits for Healthy Start recipients.						
*Pregnant woman counts as group size 2.						

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