



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
of HEALTH SERVICES

Section 1115 BadgerCare Plus Waiver Extension

2024 BadgerCare Reform Public Forum

December 4, 2024



Agenda

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 - Objectives
 - History and waiver timeline
- BadgerCare Plus Waiver overview
 - Eligible groups
 - Benefits and requirements
 - Removed and pending requirements
- Budget requirement
- Helpful materials





About BadgerCare Plus

The basics, program goals, and timeline



Basics

- BadgerCare Plus is one of a few a Medicaid programs in Wisconsin.
- Medicaid is a joint state and federal program. Wisconsin must get approval from the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to make changes to our Medicaid programs.
- Wisconsin Medicaid's **State Plan** is the agreement with CMS that describes how Medicaid operates.
- BadgerCare Plus is an 1115 waiver program. Wisconsin Medicaid has other types of waivers to cover other benefits and populations, like home and community-based services.

Wisconsin Medicaid must request separate approvals, called **waivers**, from CMS for other changes.





Objectives

Wisconsin is committed to delivering high-quality health care coverage for our citizens by leveraging the state's tradition of:

- Strong health outcomes
- Innovation
- High-quality health care





Goals

- Ensure every Wisconsin resident has access to **affordable** health insurance and lessen the amount of people without health insurance.
- Provide a standard set of **comprehensive** benefits for people with low income that lead to improved health care outcomes.
- Create a **program that lasts**, so Wisconsin's health care safety net is available to those who need it most.



Affordable



Comprehensive



Sustainable



History and timeline

- In 1999, **Wisconsin BadgerCare** was approved by CMS to cover parents and caregivers.
- In 2013, this was replaced by **BadgerCare Plus**, which has been extended twice.
- BadgerCare Plus was extended on October 29, 2024, and will operate until December 31, 2029.





BadgerCare Plus waiver overview

Changes to eligible groups, benefits, and rules



Eligible groups

Childless adults

Adults without children who have family incomes up to 100% of the federal poverty level

Transitional medical assistance

People with incomes over 100% of the federal poverty level who were previously enrolled in BadgerCare Plus or Medicaid

Former foster care youth from another state

People under 26 who:

- Were in foster care in another state or Tribe where they turned 18
- Were enrolled in Medicaid while in foster care
- Are now applying for Medicaid in Wisconsin



Benefits and requirements

- BadgerCare Plus provides many benefits beyond what is in the Wisconsin Medicaid State Plan.
- There are some different benefits and member requirements.

Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Program

The waiver includes an SUD Program that expands to cover short-term residential services in institutions for mental diseases (IMDs) for all Medicaid members.

Nonemergency emergency visit copay

Charges childless adults an \$8 copayment if they go to the emergency room while not having an emergency.



Removed and pending requirements

- As of January 1, 2024, **BadgerCare Plus can no longer:**
 - Charge monthly premium payments.
 - Vary monthly premium payments based on the completion of a health risk assessment.
 - Deny eligibility for not completing a health risk assessment.
 - Deny eligibility and prohibit enrollment for up to six months for failure to pay premiums.
 - Wisconsin Medicaid was required by the legislature to request these rules through 2017 Wis. Act 370.
 - In 2020, Wisconsin requested to add a health savings account for BadgerCare Plus members. This request is still **pending**.
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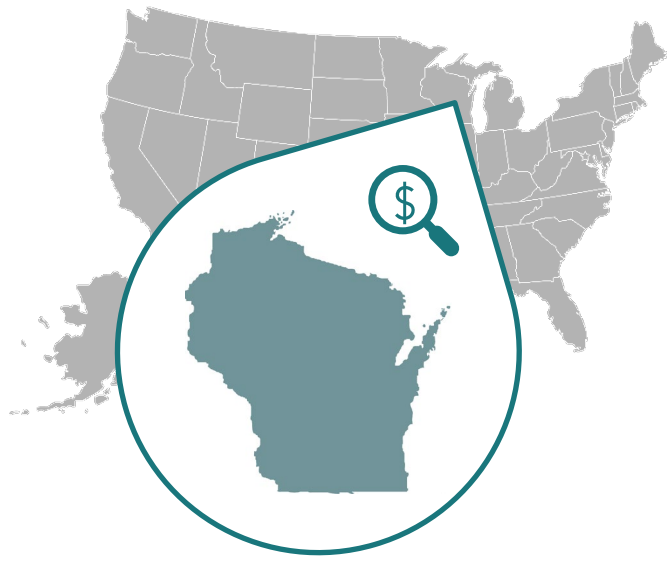


Budget requirement

Federal funding



Federal funding



- Federal policy requires Section 1115 demonstration waivers to be **budget neutral** to the federal government.
- This means there is **no extra funding** provided for the newly eligible groups or new benefits covered by BadgerCare Plus.

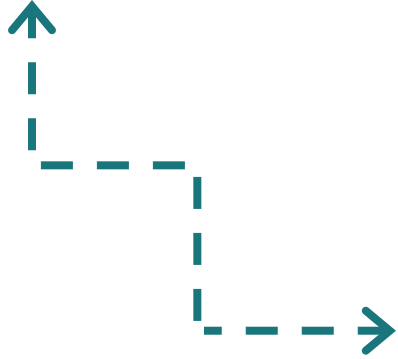


BadgerCare Plus materials

Waiver information and monitoring reports



Resources



- **Waiver materials and annual and quarterly monitoring reports** (in the draft extension application):
dhs.wi.gov/medicaid/waiver-badgercare1115.htm
- **2023 annual monitoring report** of the demonstration by an independent evaluator:
medicaid.gov/medicaid/section-1115-demonstrations/downloads/wi-badgercare-reform-annual-monit-rpt-2023-attachment-a.pdf



Thank you!

Protecting and promoting
the health and safety of
the people of Wisconsin



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