

Wisconsin Services for Children with Disabilities Administered through the Department of Health and Family Service

Birth to 3 Program (B-3): <http://www.dhfs.wisconsin.gov/bdds/birthto3/>

Children ages birth to 3 years, with developmental delays and disabilities are eligible for the Wisconsin B-3 program. B-3 provides services and supports to enhance a child's development within the family's typical routines and activities.

Family Support Program (FSP): <http://www.dhfs.wisconsin.gov/bdds/fsp.htm>

Families whose children have severe¹ disabilities and live at home are eligible for family support services. County FSPs provide preventative and supportive services to families such as: information and help in finding supports and services; limited funding to buy needed services and goods; help in linking families with other families.

Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Program (CYSHCN):

http://www.dhfs.wisconsin.gov/DPH_BFCH/cshcn/

Five Regional CYSHCN Centers in Wisconsin provide free and confidential assistance to providers and families who have children and youth with special health care needs and disabilities. Staff is available to answer questions and provide information and referrals. Centers provide training and technical assistance to each region on topics related to CYSHCN.

Medicaid Card Health Services: <http://www.dhfs.wisconsin.gov/medicaid/>

Medicaid coverage for health services is available to children whose families meet the financial eligibility criteria set for the program, or whose child's disability is severe enough to warrant their enrollment via the Katie Beckett (TEFRA) Medicaid Eligibility Program. Wisconsin has children eligible through Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), Healthy Start, and BadgerCare.

Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waivers: The HCBS waiver program recognizes that many individuals at risk of being placed in institutions, hospitals, nursing facilities or intermediate care facilities for persons with disabilities can be supported in their homes and communities, preserving their independence and ties to family and friends at a cost no higher than that of institutional care.

Examples include:

Children's Long-Term Support (CLTS) Waivers: <http://www.dhfs.wisconsin.gov/bdds/clts/index.htm>

The CLTS Waivers serve children with mental health, physical or developmental disabilities and are designed specifically to meet the needs of children and their families. The waivers offer greater flexibility in the use of Medicaid funds than that offered using card services only as long as costs do not exceed those for institutional care.

Community Options Program (COP) and COP Waiver: http://www.dhfs.wisconsin.gov/LTC_COP/COP.HTM

COP serves people who need long term support, regardless of age or type of disability, who need the same levels of physical or mental health care as nursing home residents do. Elderly people and people with serious long-term disabilities receive funds and assistance to find and access services they are not able to get through other programs.

The Community Integration Programs (CIP) 1A and 1B: <http://www.dhfs.state.wi.us/bdds/cip/index.htm>

CIP 1A supports people with developmental disabilities relocated from the three State Centers for the Developmentally Disabled to their home communities. CIP 1B supports individuals relocated or diverted from nursing homes and intermediate care facilities.

Community Support Program (Wraparound) and Comprehensive Community Services (CCS):

http://www.dhfs.state.wi.us/mh_bcmh/CSP/STATESUM.HTM

CPS is a coordinated care and treatment program for persons with severe and persistent mental illness which provides a range of treatment, rehabilitation, and support services through an identified treatment program and staff to ensure ongoing, therapeutic involvement, individualized treatment, rehabilitation, and support services in their community. CCS provides a flexible array of community based psycho-social rehabilitation services authorized by a mental health professional.

County Services: http://www.danecountyhumanservices.org/dd_child.htm

Wisconsin has a county-based system for long-term support and family support programs. Counties operate the programs noted on this page, with the exception of the Katie Beckett Program and Medicaid Card covered services, which are administered at the state level, and the CYSHCN Centers administered within the five DHFS regions. In addition, some Counties fund a variety of county-based programs for children with disabilities.

¹A severe disability is defined as a physical, mental or emotional impairment which seriously limits the child's ability to carry out basic daily living activities; self-care, learning, communication, mobility and self-direction.