

## Healthy Opportunity

Recent changes in the health care system will provide many people the opportunity to have health insurance for the first time.

Health insurance is available through the government, or through the health insurance exchange, a resource to compare plans and purchase coverage.

Health Insurance is still legally required in 2018 for most people in the U.S. Exceptions include the incarcerated, illegal immigrants, and those whose income is too low to require filing a federal tax return.

This pamphlet will briefly explain the differences between BadgerCare Plus and plans purchased on the exchange, eligibility requirements, your responsibilities, and some additional details about health care.

Don't rely on this pamphlet as your single source of information. Contact your county staff member or the health insurance exchange to establish health insurance for yourself and your family today.



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## County Income Maintenance (IM) Consortia Regions and Contact Phone Numbers



-  Bay Lake 888-794-5747
-  Capital 888-794-5556
-  Central 888-445-1621
-  East Central 888-256-4563
-  Great Rivers 888-283-0012
-  Moraine Lakes 888-446-1293
-  Northern 888-794-5722
-  Southern 888-794-5780
-  WKRK 888-794-5820
-  Western 888-627-0430
-  Milwaukee 888-947-6583
-  Menominee (Opt Out) (715) 799-5137

DHS allows inmates to submit Medicaid applications prior to release from prison. The application can be submitted over the telephone on or after the 20th of the month before the month of release.

Each DOC facility will have different procedures for how these calls are placed. For more information, consult facility staff. For more information on BadgerCare eligibility, see the inside of this pamphlet.

# Wisconsin Department of Corrections

Protect, Provide, Promote, and Partner



## Health Insurance Options: A Guide for Offenders and Staff



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To find your county point of contact for BadgerCare Plus applications:

- Call 1 (800) 362-3002
- Use the included map to find your agency number
- Visit [dhs.wisconsin.gov/badgercareplus/index.htm](http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/badgercareplus/index.htm)

To sign up for health insurance on the health care exchange:

- Call 1 (800) 318-2596
- Visit [healthcare.gov](http://healthcare.gov)



## What am I eligible for?

First, if you have insurance through an employer, the Veteran's Administration, or another source, you are generally considered covered by the government and will not be required to purchase additional insurance. If a family member in your household already has insurance, you may just need to be added to the plan.

### Health Insurance Marketplace Eligibility

If you do not have health insurance and are unsure about whether you qualify for purchases on the health care exchange, you can call 1 (800) 318-2596 or visit [healthcare.gov](http://healthcare.gov) online.

To be eligible for the health insurance marketplace, you:

- must live in the United States
- must be a U.S. citizen or national (or be lawfully present)
- can't be currently incarcerated (releasing offenders will qualify for a 60-day special enrollment period after release).

Eligibility and premium subsidies are based on the number of people in your household and the income of the household. If you are the only person in your household and you will make more than \$12,140 this calendar year, you are likely to qualify for the health insurance exchange. A family of four making more than \$25,100 per year will likely qualify for purchases on the exchange.

### To Apply

Gathering these documents before calling will be helpful:

- Social Security Numbers or document numbers
- Employer and income information for every member of your household who needs coverage
- Policy numbers for any current health insurance plans covering members of your household
- A completed Employer Coverage Tool for every job-based plan you or someone in your household is eligible for, even if not enrolled in the plan.

Premium subsidies are available based on household income and may significantly reduce monthly costs.

## What if I don't qualify for the marketplace?

### Wisconsin's Medicaid Program

BadgerCare Plus provides health insurance coverage to low income households, including single adults making less than the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). A household of one with income lower than approximately \$1011 per month or \$12,140 per year may qualify for BadgerCare Plus. A household of four making less than \$25,100 per year may also qualify. Wisconsin's Medicaid program may also cover pregnant women, children under the age of 19, the disabled, and the elderly at higher income levels. If you or someone in your household meets these criteria, it will be helpful to speak with a county Income Maintenance (IM) or tribal staff member or DHS member services.

You have to be in the United States legally and be a Wisconsin resident to apply for these programs.

### Information You May Need to Verify

- Identification (one of the following): U.S. Passport, Certificate of U.S. Citizenship, or Certification of U.S. Naturalization.
- If you do not have any of the documents above, you may need one document from each of the groups listed on the application. Most commonly, a U.S. birth certificate and a state driver's license or a government-issued ID card, including a DOC-issued ID, would meet the requirement if the IM agency requests it.
- Job Income and Wages: All adult family members who have a job may be required to give proof of income. This information can be provided on the Employer Verification of Earnings form (EVF-E) or you can use paycheck stubs received in the last 30 days. If you would like a form, call your agency.
- Other Income: You may be required to provide proof of any other income your family gets (for example, pensions, disability pay, unemployment from another state, etc.).
- Other Documentation: You may be asked to provide additional documentation.

## How do I apply for BadgerCare?

### Apply for BadgerCare Plus

You can apply for BadgerCare:

- Online at [ACCESS.wi.gov](http://ACCESS.wi.gov)
- In person at your county or tribal agency. To locate an address or a phone number, contact the consortia phone number in your area listed under the Wisconsin map on the back of this brochure or call **1-800-362-3002**
- Visit [dhs.wi.gov/em/customerhelp](http://dhs.wi.gov/em/customerhelp) online
- By mail. If you live in Milwaukee County, mail applications to MDPU, P.O. Box 05676, Milwaukee, WI 53205. If you do not live in Milwaukee County, mail applications to CDPU, P.O. Box 5234, Janesville, WI 53547-5234.
- The application is available online at [www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/forms/F1/F10182.pdf](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/forms/F1/F10182.pdf) or from your local county or tribal IM agency.

### Your Responsibilities for BadgerCare

You have the responsibility to provide truthful and complete information on the application, attachments or any other form(s) needed for enrollment. You will also be required to report, within 10 days if:

- You move to a new address or out of state,
- Anyone moves in or out of your home, someone becomes pregnant, or gives birth
- Your living arrangement changes (example: you go into a nursing home or other institution)
- Anyone has a change in health insurance
- If you get married or divorced
- Anyone has a change in expected tax filing status, or tax dependents, or no longer has a tax deduction that was included on the application

### Important Note

Health insurance can provide access to vital health care you need to improve your quality of life. Your quality of life is worth the effort to submit the application. Get an expert involved in determining what plan you are eligible for based on your income and household size.