

# Wisconsin Health Programs

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Health care is essential for working families with children. Below is a quick summary of just some of the Wisconsin programs that can help.

**FoodShare** is Wisconsin's version of the federal Food Stamp Program, which provides a monthly benefit for buying food. FoodShare benefits come on a plastic card, called the Wisconsin QUEST Card, which you can use just like a bank card at most food stores.

FoodShare benefits are issued on a sliding scale based on the size of your household, your income, and your bills. FoodShare does not count your home, your car, or other assets. For more information about FoodShare, visit [dhfs.wisconsin.gov/foodshare](http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/foodshare).

**Medicaid** helps people pay for medical bills, prescription drugs, and nursing home or in-home health care. There are many special types of Medicaid. BadgerCare, for example, is a type of Medicaid for children and their parents. Visit [dhfs.wisconsin.gov/medicaid](http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/medicaid) or call 800-362-3002.

Medicaid's rules depend on the special type of Medicaid you're applying for. In general, someone with limited income and assets will be able to get Medicaid if at least one of the following is true:

- ✓ Age 65 or older
- ✓ Blind or disabled
- ✓ Under age 19
- ✓ Pregnant
- ✓ A parent or other relative who is taking care of a child

In some cases, immigrants can only get Medicaid for emergency services. For more detailed information about Medicaid and long-term care, visit [dhfs.wisconsin.gov/medicaid1/recpubs/eligibility/book\\_b.htm](http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/medicaid1/recpubs/eligibility/book_b.htm).

**SeniorCare** is a prescription drug assistance program for Wisconsin residents who are 65 years of age or older.

To get SeniorCare benefits, you must be 65 or older and a permanent resident of Wisconsin. You will also need to pay an enrollment fee of \$30 each year. Your coverage will depend on the amount of income you have. Assets, such as bank accounts, insurance policies, home property, etc., are not counted. For more detailed information about SeniorCare, visit [dhfs.wisconsin.gov/seniorcare](http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/seniorcare) or call 800-657-2038.

**Caretaker Supplement (CTS)** is a cash benefit for parents who get Supplemental Security Income (SSI). Through CTS, parents get \$250 per month for the first eligible child and \$150 per month for each additional eligible child. For more detailed information about CTS, visit [dhfs.wisconsin.gov/ssi/caretaker.htm](http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/ssi/caretaker.htm).

**For more information regarding Wisconsin Health Programs and to determine your eligibility, call the Recipient Services Hotline at 800-362-3002 or visit [www.access.wisconsin.gov](http://www.access.wisconsin.gov).**

You can also apply to get FoodShare, Medicaid, BadgerCare or Caretaker Supplement benefits at your local county/tribal social or human services agency.

# ACCESS

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ACCESS is a quick and easy way for people in Wisconsin to get answers to questions about available health and nutrition programs.

ACCESS is an online tool that can determine what help is available to you from a variety of Wisconsin health, nutrition or other programs including:

- FoodShare
- Medicaid
- BadgerCare
- SeniorCare and other prescription drug assistance programs
- Free/Reduced-Price School Meals
- Summer Food Service Program
- The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

After you answer several questions, ACCESS will list which programs you may be eligible for. The online questions will take about 15 minutes to answer and will explain how to apply for the programs. Your personal information is not saved after you leave the web site.

## How to use ACCESS in 5 Easy Steps

1. Open a web browser and go to [www.access.wisconsin.gov](http://www.access.wisconsin.gov)
2. Click the "Begin ACCESS" button (you can choose English or Spanish)
3. After reading the Welcome Page, click on "Next" to get started. To learn more about using ACCESS, click the link at the bottom of the Welcome Page.
4. Depending on the household, ACCESS will ask between 6 and 25 questions about the household's income and bills. From start to finish, ACCESS should take about 15 minutes to complete. Users can click on "Help" if they need more information about any question.
5. ACCESS will let users know about health, nutrition and other programs they might be eligible for. It will also explain how to apply for these programs. On the last page, users will be able to print out a summary of all the information ACCESS provides. ACCESS doesn't keep any identifying information after users leave the web site.
6. If you have trouble while using ACCESS, please call the Recipient Services Hotline at 800-362-3002.

# ACCESS

Access to Eligibility Support Services for Health and Nutrition

[www.access.wisconsin.gov](http://www.access.wisconsin.gov)



# 2-1-1 Wisconsin

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2-1-1 is an easy to remember telephone number that, where available, connects people with important community services and volunteer opportunities. The implementation of 2-1-1 is being spearheaded by United Ways and comprehensive and specialized information and referral agencies in states and local communities. United Way of America (UWA) and the Alliance for Information and Referral Systems (AIRS) strongly support federal funding so that every American has access to this essential service.

2-1-1 is an easy to remember telephone number that connects callers to information about critical health and human services available in their community.

As the number of organizations providing specialized services is on the rise, people find it frustrating and confusing to access community services. 2-1-1 provides a one-stop service for vital information.

While services that are offered through 2-1-1 vary from community to community, 2-1-1 provides callers with information about and referrals to human services for every day needs and in times of crisis. For example, 2-1-1 can offer access to the following types of services:

- **Basic Human Needs Resources:** food banks, clothing, shelters, rent assistance, utility assistance.
- **Physical and Mental Health Resources:** medical information lines, crisis intervention services, support groups, counseling, drug and alcohol intervention, rehabilitation, health insurance programs, Medicaid and Medicare, maternal health, children's health insurance programs.
- **Employment Support:** unemployment benefits, financial assistance, job training, transportation assistance, education programs.
- **Support for Older Americans and Persons with Disabilities:** home health care, adult day care, congregate meals, Meals on Wheels, respite care, transportation, and homemaker services.
- **Support for Children, Youth and Families:** Quality childcare, Success by 6, after school programs, Head Start, family resource centers, summer camps and recreation programs, mentoring, tutoring, protective services.
- **Volunteer Opportunities and Donations.**

