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STATE OF WISCONSIN

Department of Children and Families
Division of Safety and Permanence
201 East Washington Avenue
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Madison WI 53708-8916

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Date: September 16, 2015

DLTC Numbered Memo 2015 – 05
DSP Numbered Memo Series 2015 – 04
Updates Numbered Memo Series DLTC 2014-04
Updates DSP Memo Series 2014-05

To: DCF Area Administrators
Child Placing Agency Directors
Child Welfare Agency Directors
County Departments of Community Programs Directors
County Departments of Human Services Directors
County Departments of Social Services Directors
Group Home Providers
Tribal Social Service/Indian Child Welfare Directors
Private Child Placing Agencies
Residential Care Center Providers
Shelter Care Providers
Tribal Chairpersons
DHS Bureau Directors
DHS Section Chiefs/Licensing Chiefs

From: Brian Shoup, Administrator
Division of Long Term Care
Department of Health Services

Fredi-Ellen Bove, Administrator
Division of Safety and Permanence
Department of Children and Families

Social Services Block Grant – 2016 Eligibility Requirements

PURPOSE

This memo states the eligibility categories and standards for the 2016 Social Services Block Grant. It supersedes Memo Series DLTC 2014 - 04/Action and DSP Memo Series 2014 - 05.

POLICY AND PROCEDURE REQUIREMENTS

Attachment B provides full information on the Social Services Block Grant. The eligibility categories for the 2016 Social Services Block Grant are:

1. Recipients of Medical Assistance.
2. Individuals with income at 75 percent or below the state's median income. The income eligibility standard for all Social Services Block Grant services has been revised (Attachment A) to reflect the 2016 median income for Wisconsin as published in the Federal Register.
3. Recipients of Wisconsin Shares child care program.
4. Counties shall continue to provide services funded by the Social Service Block Grant to "qualified aliens," as defined by Section 402(b) of the "Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act."

eWiSACWIS DOCUMENTATION

There are no changes to eWiSACWIS documentation associated with this policy or procedure.

ACTION SUMMARY

(1) County Departments of Social/Human Services must establish the following written policies:

- a. A list of social services which will be provided by the department;
- b. Eligibility for services (including assets and targeting, if such eligibility policies are used);
- c. A schedule of fees to be charged for social services; and
- d. Procedures to follow if a client wishes to request a fair hearing.

These policies must be kept on file and made available to the public.

(2) Counties will be required to report on services provided and actual expenditures on the Human Services Reporting System (HSRS) through the following reports; F-20942 (total expenses) and the F-22540 Human Services Revenue Report.

REGIONAL OFFICE CONTACT: Area Administrators

CENTRAL OFFICE CONTACT: Pam Rood
Department of Health Services
(608) 266-8399

MEMO WEB SITE: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/dltc/memos/index.htm>
<http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/memos>

Attachments: Attachment A: Wisconsin State Median Income FFY 2016
Attachment B: Social Services Block Grant Information

Attachment A

**Wisconsin State Median Income FFY 2016
(Estimated) 100% Median Income = \$82,053***

Family Size	Income Limit Yearly (75%)	Monthly (75%)
1	\$32,001	\$2,667
2	\$41,847	\$3,487
3	\$51,693	\$4,308
4	\$61,540	\$5,128
5	\$71,386	\$5,949
6	\$81,232	\$6,769
7	\$83,079	\$6,923
8	\$84,925	\$7,077
9	\$86,771	\$7,231
10	\$88,617	\$7,385

*Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services,
Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program

Attachment B

**WISCONSIN STATE PLAN
FOR
ADMINISTRATION OF THE
TITLE XX BLOCK GRANT
TO STATES FOR SOCIAL SERVICES
FFY2016**

**Wisconsin Department of Health Services
1 West Wilson Street
P.O. Box 7850
Madison, WI 53707-7850**

I. State/Federal Fiscal Year for Pre-Expenditure Plan

Wisconsin's Pre-Expenditure Plan for the Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) covers the federal fiscal year 2016 beginning October 1, 2015 and ending September 30, 2016.

II. Transmittal Letter – Attached

III. Public Inspection of Pre-Expenditure Report

The Pre-Expenditure Report for FFY 2016 was posted on the Department of Health Services' external website on July 31, 2015 with a brief explanation of services included in the plan. The notice included information about how to provide comments through three paths – via FAX, regular mail or email. Please refer to the Appendices for a copy of the notice.

In addition, Wisconsin has a county administered human services system. Each of Wisconsin's 72 counties has a County Board which makes decisions about how to allocate federal, state, and local funding for human services, including the Social Services Block Grant. The website also provides information about how to access these local budget documents.

IV. Narrative

A. Administrative Operations

The primary mission of the Department of Health services is to support economic prosperity and quality of life through various programs and strategies focused on protecting and promoting the health and safety of the people of Wisconsin. Toward that end, the Department has adopted a set of guiding principles and 14 performance measures. The guiding principles and measures focus on supporting individuals in leading fulfilling, self-directed, health lives. They also recognize the important role that families, friends and communities play in helping achieve these goals.

The SSBG is administered by county departments of human services. Each county agency works with their county board to allocate these resources to meet identified needs within their communities. In general, county departments manage the following:

- Adoption services
- Counseling services
- Child and adult day care
- Foster care services, adult and child
- Health-related services
- Home-based services
- Information and referral services
- Prevention and intervention
- Child and adult protective services
- Special services for individuals with disabilities
- Transportation

B. Fiscal Operations

1. The SSBG funds are allocated to Wisconsin counties in accordance with a formula developed by the Legislature and the Governor as aids to County governments through the state budget process. These entities are bound under the State and County Contract for Social Services and Community Programs to meet all federal requirements for the SSBG.
2. At the state level, decisions about the allocation of funding are made by the Joint Committee on Finance, based on recommendations of state agencies and the Governor's Office. Notices of the Committee's meetings and agendas are posted in accordance with state statutes and include an opportunity for public comment on specific topics, including funding for social services. The full Legislature approves or modifies the Committee's decisions as part of the final enactment of the state budget.

In addition, Wisconsin's counties seek input from the public on the use of human services funding, including SSBG funds. County Supervisor Board meetings, where decisions about funding allocations are made, are public meetings. Notices of these meetings and agendas must be posted in accordance with the State's Open meetings law.

3. Wisconsin will follow all federal cost allocation requirements under the Department of Health Services' approved federal cost allocation plan. The State has sufficient fiscal control and funding accountability to adequately safeguard the disbursement and accountability for funds awarded.

C. Program Operations

1. Wisconsin will continue to support all five of the SSBG goals.
 - a. Achieving or maintaining economic self-support to prevent, reduce or eliminate dependency;
 - b. Achieving or maintaining self-sufficiency, including reduction or prevention of dependency;
 - c. Preventing or remedying neglect, abuse or exploitation of children and adults unable to protect their own interest, or preserving, rehabilitating or reuniting families;
 - d. Preventing or reducing inappropriate institutional care by providing for community-based care, home-based care or other forms of less intensive care; and
 - e. Securing referral or admission for institutional care when other forms of care are not appropriate or providing services to individuals in institutions.
2. Eligibility for all services provided under the SSBG include:
 - a. Recipients of Medicaid
 - b. Recipients of Supplemental Security Income
 - c. Individuals who declare their income to be at or below 75 percent of the state's median income (see table below)

Wisconsin State Median Income FFY 2016
(Estimated) 100% Median Income = \$82,053*

Family Size	Income Limit Yearly (75%)	Monthly (75%)
1	\$32,001	\$2,667
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*Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services,
 Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program

Counties may choose to provide services to individuals and families whose income exceeds the state minimums noted above. There is no income test for person receiving social services which are court-ordered or protective in nature or for any of the following: crisis intervention, outreach, and information and referral. In addition, counties have waived the income test for specific services, including, but not limited to, crisis and respite child care.

Definitions:

Wis. Statutes s. 48.02(1d) – “Adult” means a person who is 18 years of age or older, except that for purposes of investigating or prosecuting a person who is alleged to have violated any state or federal criminal law or any civil law or municipal ordinance, “adult” means a person who has attained 17 years of age.

Wis. Statutes s. 48.02(2) – “Child” means a person who is less than 18 years of age, except that for purposes of investigating or prosecuting a person who is alleged to have violated a state or federal criminal law or any civil law or municipal ordinance; “child” does not include a person who has attained 17 years of age.

“Family” means one or more parents and children related by blood, marriage or adoption, and residing in the same household; or a parent substitute, such as a related caregiver or legal guardian, who has responsibility for the 24-hour care and supervision of a child.

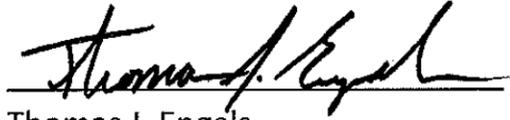
3. The following services are provided by all county departments of human services. The method of service delivery varies across the state (e.g. public, private or a combination of both) depending on decisions of the County Board.

- Adoption services
- Counseling services
- Child and adult day care
- Foster care services, adult and child
- Health-related services
- Home-based services

- Information and referral services
- Prevention and intervention
- Child and adult protective services
- Special services for individuals with disabilities
- Transportation

V. Pre-Expenditure Reporting Form

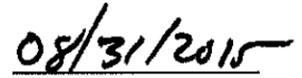
Official Authorized to commit Wisconsin to this agreement:



Thomas J. Engels

Deputy Secretary

WI Department of Health Services



Date

Appendix A – Public Hearing / Public Notice

Wisconsin’s Social Services Block Grant

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services receives federal funding each year to support a wide array of local services for families and individuals with low incomes. This funding is managed by local departments of human services. Local services supported by the Social Services Block Grant (Title XX Block Grant) include the following:

Adoption Assistance	Counseling
Child & Adult Day Care	Health Services
Child & Adult Foster Care Services	Home-Based Services
Information & Referral Services	Prevention & Intervention
Child & Adult Protective Services	Services for the Disabled
Transportation	

For the complete list, please click on the following link *pre-expenditure report*.

Federal law requires DHS to provide the public with an opportunity to review and provide comments on these proposed expenditures for 2015-2016. Comments may be sent by fax, regular mail or by email before 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 31, 2015.

FAX: 608-267-0358
Mail: SSBG
Office of Policy, Initiatives and Budget
P.O. Box 7850
Madison, WI 53707-7850
Email: DHSGrantReview@dhs.wisconsin.gov

In addition, each of Wisconsin’s 72 counties has a County Board which makes decisions about how these federal funds are spent. These local budget documents are available to county department of human services upon request. Comments on these documents should also be sent to the above. For a list of local agencies, go to <http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/forwardhealth/imagency/index.htm>

Appendix B – Certifications – Attached

Appendix C – Proof of Audit

Each year, the Legislative Audit Bureau completes a financial and compliance audit of the State of Wisconsin. This single audit satisfies state agencies’ audit requirements under the federal Single Audit Act of 1984, as amended, and federal Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133. The latest audit covers the period for state fiscal year 2013-14. Highlights from the audit are available at <http://legis.wisconsin.gov/lab/reports/15-2highlights.pdf>. The full audit can be found at <http://legis.wisconsin.gov/lab/reports/15-2full.pdf>.