

Opioid Settlement Funds 2026-27 Plan

Overview

Since 2021, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) has received opioid settlement funds from major pharmaceutical distributors and manufacturers. Based on the terms of the settlements, the State of Wisconsin received \$14.5 million in state fiscal year 2026 and will receive approximately \$16.5 million throughout state fiscal year 2027.

Funding distribution

DHS will use the \$31 million in funding to invest in strategies across the continuum of care including prevention, treatment, and recovery. This includes investments in the following strategies:

- \$9 million Tribal nations
- \$6.5 million Room and board for residential substance use treatment*
- \$3.5 million Overdose and infectious disease prevention
- \$3 million Prevention in K-12, after-school, post-secondary, and community agencies
- \$2 million Law enforcement grants*
- \$2 million Pregnant and parenting women who need substance use treatment
- \$2 million Opioid impacts on infants, toddlers, and families
- \$1 million Provider training on medications for opioid use disorder
- \$1 million Recovery coalitions with a focus on family supports
- \$500,000 Pharmacy training and support
- \$500,000 Family-centered treatment

*DHS has already released \$3 million for room and board funding and \$1 million for law enforcement grants using state fiscal year 2026 funds.

Strategies

This distribution plan prioritizes the ongoing need to sustain past efforts, grow programs demonstrating success, and invest in priority populations across Wisconsin. More information about each of the strategies receiving funding are included in the sections below.

Tribal nations: \$9M

Tribal nations in Wisconsin continue to be impacted by opioid misuse. Tribal nations will use funds during an 18-month contract period to identify strategies across the continuum of care to best meet the needs of their community.

Room and board costs for residential substance use disorder treatment: \$6.5M

Funding will cover room and board costs for Medicaid members who need residential substance use disorder treatment.

Overdose and infectious disease prevention: \$3.5M

Funds will support community partners distributing naloxone and substance test kits to people at risk for an overdose or people likely to witness an overdose. It will also support law enforcement and first responder access to life-saving supplies during an emergency or for distribution in communities.

Prevention in K-12, after-school, post-secondary, and community agencies: \$3M

DHS will invest \$3 million on prevention efforts among K-12 schools, after-school programs, institutes of higher education, and community agencies. This will include \$1 million for the Boys and Girls Club for after-school efforts.

Law enforcement grants: \$2M

Law enforcement agencies will continue to be able to take advantage of grant funding available through opioid settlement funds to provide medications for opioid use disorder in jails and train law enforcement staff on medications for opioid use disorder.

Pregnant and parenting women who need substance use treatment: \$2M

To support services and reduce overdose deaths for pregnant and parenting women with a substance use disorder who experience significant barriers to accessing evidence-based care.

Opioid impacts on infants, toddlers, and families: \$2M

County Birth to 3 programs will use funds for the services they provide to enrolled infants, toddlers, and their families. Funds will support non-covered, evidence-based recovery services for families and caregivers impacted by opioid use disorder. The Wisconsin Birth to 3 Program helps children under the age of 3 who have delays or disabilities. Early intervention is used for the services and supports for babies, young children, and their families.

Provider training on medications for opioid use disorder: \$1M

Funds will support training for primary care providers in community health centers and federally qualified health centers on medications for opioid use disorder. Funding will support existing treatment gaps and workforce barriers such as insufficient training and education on the treatment of opioid use disorder and medications for opioid use disorder.

Recovery coalitions with a focus on family supports: \$1M

To support community recovery coalitions who focus on people already in recovery and their families. These services are led by people with lived experience and provide recovery-focused community education and peer recovery support services with missions including recovery wellness and celebrating diverse pathways of recovery.

Pharmacy training and support: \$0.5M

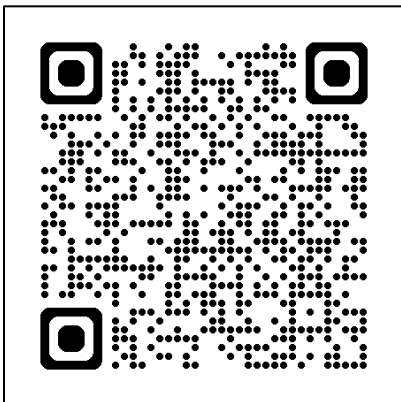
To support pharmacies in their community efforts to adopt evidence-based interventions to deliver medications to people and disseminate educational prevention services. Evidence shows that community pharmacy engagement and delivery of overdose prevention medications and resources can improve treatment and overdose outcomes.

Family-centered treatment: \$0.5M

To support parents and caregivers with opioid use disorder and their children and family members to participate in family-centered treatment. Parents with substance use concerns not yet involved in formal child welfare would participate to preserve and prevent out-of-home placement. For families with children in out-of-home care or child welfare concerns, family-centered treatment – recovery would be used as a mechanism toward reunification, reducing the need for out-of-home placement and/or supporting successful reunification when placement has occurred.

More information

To learn more about opioid settlement funds, visit the DHS website at <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/opioids/settlement-funds.htm> or scan the QR code below with your smartphone.



Anyone needing help finding services and supports for a substance use concern can connect with trained resource specialists at the Wisconsin Addiction Recovery by calling 211 or 833-944-4673, texting a ZIP code to 898211, or chatting at addictionhelpwi.org.