Federal Medicaid Work* Requirement: What new applicants need to know

This goes into effect for any application submitted on or after January 1, 2027.

*Other activities may count, too, like having an internship, volunteering, going to school, or getting more than a certain amount of income.

Do I need to meet the work requirement?

If you are applying for health care coverage through BadgerCare Plus, you may need to meet the work requirement if ALL of the following apply to you, unless you have an exemption*:

- You are between 19 and 64 years old.
- You are not pregnant.
- You are not the parent or guardian of a dependent child under 19 who lives with you at least 40% of the time.

*Exemptions are reasons the law gives that you don't need to meet the work requirement, like if you have a disability or serious medical condition, or are a Tribal member.

When do I need to meet the work requirement?

Starting January 1, 2027, if you're applying for health care coverage through BadgerCare Plus and you're subject to the work requirement, you'll need to show that you met the work requirement **in the month before you apply**. For example, if you apply on February 17, 2027, you'll need to show that you met the work requirement in January 2027.

When you apply, you'll answer questions that will tell us if you met the work requirement or have an exemption. We'll send you a letter if we need more information.

More information

For more information about the work requirement and who needs to meet it, visit dhs.wi.gov/medicaid/work.htm or scan the QR code with your phone.

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT of HEALTH SERVICES

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