



Categorical Eligibility

Wisconsin

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Definition of Minor Child

To be eligible for TANF cash assistance, families must include a minor child, defined as:

Child under age 18; child age 18 who is a full-time student and will graduate by age 19

Minor Children in the Assistance Unit

All minor children who live in the home and who are full or half siblings are required to be included in the assistance unit, with the following exceptions:

-- Foster child

An individual who acts as a caretaker of children, some of whom are neither full nor half siblings (for example, the caretaker's own children and a nephew, niece, or grandchild), is:

Ineligible to receive W-2 for a child who is not his/her birth or adoptive child.
The child may be eligible to receive a Kinship Care payment.

Temporary Absence of Minor from Home

A family can continue to receive assistance for a child who is absent from the home for a period not to exceed: Three months

There are no circumstances under which the allowable period can be extended.

Non-Parent Caretakers

(Circumstances under which non-parent caretakers can receive benefits on behalf of a child)

Only families in which the caretaker is a parent are eligible for W-2 cash assistance.

Eligibility of Pregnant Women

A pregnant woman with no other children is not eligible for assistance.

Eligibility of Two-Parent Families

All two-parent families are eligible for assistance based on the same eligibility criteria as single parent families.

Treatment of Parents of Minor Parents

The grandparent of a child of a minor parent is required to be in the same assistance unit with the minor parent and child if the grandparent resides in the same home and receives assistance.

Other Adults in the Assistance Unit

(e.g., step-parents, spouses of non-parent caretakers, or single parents' partners)

Adults other than parents or non-parent caretakers are required to be included in the assistance unit as follows:

A "W-2 group" includes an individual who is a custodial parent and all her/his dependent children and the children's dependent children and any nonmarital co-parent or spouse of the individual who resides in the same household, as well as her/his dependent children.

Other adults who are not parents or non-parent caretakers are not allowed to be in the assistance unit.