

Medicaid Work Requirements Waiver Information Sheet – Wisconsin

What are Medicaid work requirements?

Section 1115 Medicaid demonstration waivers provide states the ability to test new approaches in Medicaid that differ from federal program rules. In January 2018, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released a State Medicaid Director Letter (SMDL) which provided guidance to states on making work/community engagement (CE) requirements a condition of obtaining Medicaid eligibility under Section 1115 demonstration waivers.

What is the status of Wisconsin's waiver request?

It was **approved** on October 31, 2018 and is pending implementation. The state is having issues getting final approval for CMS for their community engagement requirements.

Who is affected by Wisconsin's waiver request?

The waiver request affects non-exempt, non-pregnant, non-disabled, non-elderly childless adults between the age of 19 and 49.

There are exemptions and they include people who are:

- Mentally or physically unfit for employment.
- Receiving temporary or permanent disability benefits.
- Verified as unable to work by a health care professional.
- Experiencing chronic homelessness.
- Applied for or receiving unemployment compensation and is meeting those work requirements.
- Exempt from SNAP work requirements.
- Enrolled in an institution of higher learning or high school at least half-time.
- Participating in SUD treatment.

How can people satisfy this requirement?

This requirement may be satisfied in the following ways:

- Working in exchange for money
- Working in exchange for goods or services
- Unpaid work (volunteer, community service)
- Self-Employment
- Taking part in an allowable work, job training, or job search program.

National Indian Health Board



How are AI/AN people affected?

The state has provided that participating in a tribal work program would satisfy the work requirement.

Has Wisconsin applied for an AI/AN waiver?

No.

The waiver does outline however that AI/ANs are exempt from the premiums imposed by the waiver.

**For additional information, please contact:
Chris Chavis, Policy Analyst, at NIHB: cchavis@nihb.org**