



2025-27 Biennial Budget Overview

Governor Evers' 2025-2027 biennial budget centers recommendations from children, parents, caregivers, community members and organizations, and DCF workforce partners in family and economic security, child welfare, and child care. The budget proposals are designed to be efficient, consistent, and connected—they direct funding to DCF programs and services that benefit the whole family; provide funding for necessary services that reach people in the communities where they live across the state; and foster economic security, independence, and sustainability for families and the workforce that serves them.

Helping Families Improve Their Economic Mobility

Putting families in the center of successful child support and good-paying jobs programs.

- Modernize the child support program and related automated systems
- Remove the requirement to collect child support from families with children in out-of-home care (OHC) to assist in family reunification
- Expand the Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) program to additional schools



Putting Child Well-Being and Families First in Wisconsin's Child Welfare System

Keeping children connected with people they trust and who know and love them, setting youth up for success, and supporting the economic well-being of families.

- Ensure a child has access to their Social Security income following their exit from OHC
- Increase county and tribal funding and flexibility for Tribal Family Services, Children and Family Aids, and Youth Aids
- Expand eligibility and funding for independent living services and programs that support runaway and homeless youth
- Extend kinship care and subsidized guardianship to include children involved in youth justice
- Provide rate increases for foster parents and rate parity for like-kin caregivers

Providing Families with Access to Quality Early Care and Education Opportunities

Reducing child care tuition for working families while supporting the child care workforce to set up our state's youngest residents and child care system for a more prosperous future.

- Sustain and increase child care programs and slots by investing in 4K and Child Care Counts
- Increase Wisconsin Shares subsidy rates to maintain the legislatively-required 75th percentile
- Cap Wisconsin Shares co-payments at 7% of a family's household income
- Expand access to Wisconsin Shares, including presumptive eligibility for families in transition
- Support aspiring child care staff and Child Care Foundational Trainings