

**PLANNING AHEAD FOR
YOUR HEALTH CARE
NEEDS**

*When your foster care placement ends at age 18 or older your healthcare coverage ends after three months. You will only be eligible for medical services if you sign up for a special program called **BadgerCare Plus.***

Look inside to learn more about the benefits and how to

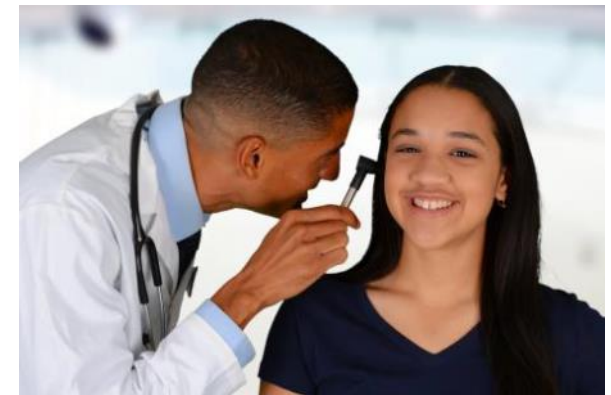


The Department of Children and Families is an equal opportunity employer and service provider. If you have a disability and need to access this information in an alternate format, or need it translated to another language, please contact (608) 266-3400 or the Wisconsin Relay Service (WRS) – 711. For civil rights questions, call (608) 422-6889 or the Wisconsin Relay Service (WRS) – 711.

DCF-P-5205 (N. 08/2017)

BADGERCARE+

**Medical Coverage
and Enrollment**



***What Former Foster Youth
Need to Know About
Access to Health Care***

BADGERCARE+



Who's Eligible?

Former Foster Youth who:

- Are between the ages of 18 and 26;
- Were in a court-ordered out-of-home placement including: foster care, subsidized guardianship, kinship care, group home, or residential care center when you reached age of 18; and
- Are no longer in an out-of-home care placement.

Why Enroll?

- To get medicine, health check-ups, hospital care, emergency care, counseling, tests and more;
- To receive help paying for medical services.

How Do I Enroll?

You can apply in person at your local agency which can be found here: dhs.wisconsin.gov/forwardhealth/imagency/index.htm, by mail, or online at: access.wisconsin.gov.

When you apply, you will be notified of the paperwork you will be required to submit which can be mailed, or provided in-person at your local agency. Once you are found eligible for BadgerCare Plus, an enrollment packet will be sent to you to select a health maintenance organization (HMO). An HMO is a group of doctors, clinics, and hospitals that work together to provide health care services.

Once enrolled, you will receive a ForwardHealth card to present to health care providers when requesting health services.

To remain enrolled in the program, you must reapply every 12 months. You can renew in person, by mail, or online.

To remain enrolled in the program, you must update your address every year.

Power of Attorney for Healthcare

When you turn 18, you no longer have a guardian to make health care decisions for you. You make all of your decisions.

However, you may want to consider authorizing someone to make important health care decisions for you if you are too sick to make them yourself. This person is called a **Power of Attorney for Health Care**.

You are able to decide what kind of decisions your Power of Attorney for Health Care is allowed to make. Some examples of decisions include:

- Medical treatment
- Surgical treatment
- Psychiatric treatment
- Hospitalization
- Organ donation
- Use of life support

Power of Attorney for Healthcare Form

Forms are available at the Department of Health Services website at:

dhs.wisconsin.gov/forms/advdirectives

Give copies of the form to your doctor and your Power of Attorney, and be sure to keep a copy for yourself.



Choosing your Power of Attorney for Healthcare

Your advocate should be over age 18 and someone you trust to make health care decisions for you. Ask them in advance. If they say yes, but change their mind later, that is okay. You can change your mind, too, and complete another form.

For More Information

Your Regional Independent Living Coordinator/ Specialist can assist you in signing up for BadgerCare Plus, as well as answer any questions you may have about the Power of Attorney form.

To find out who your Independent Living Contact is, go to:

<http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/map/il-r>