



Child and Family Services Review

Purpose

A CFSR provides the opportunity to center the Department of Children and Family's (DCF) vision that all **Wisconsin children and youth are safe and loved members of thriving families and communities.**



Wisconsin will identify strengths and areas needing improvement within its agencies and programs to improve child welfare services, promote this vision and achieve the **seven child and family outcomes** (page 3).

Evaluation of **seven systemic factors** will determine whether existing systems promote these positive child safety, permanency and well-being outcomes.

Goals



Ensure conformity with federal child welfare requirements.



Determine **what is happening to children and families** as they are engaged in child welfare services.



Assist states in helping children and families **achieve positive outcomes.**

What is a Child and Family Services Review (CFSR)?

An opportunity for states to work collaboratively with external partners, including those with lived experience, to evaluate data and evidence to identify child welfare system strengths and challenges with the overall focus on system improvement.

After a CFSR is completed, states develop a Program Improvement Plan (PIP) to address areas in their child welfare services that need improvement.

This will be Wisconsin's **4th Round** of the CFSR process.



CFSR Components



Statewide Assessment (SWA)

DCF and external partners across the state gather and analyze existing data to evaluate the WI child welfare system



Case Reviews

Determines strengths and areas needing improvement for child and family outcomes.

- Includes interviews with all key case participants including child welfare professionals, foster parents, parents and children.



External Partner Interviews

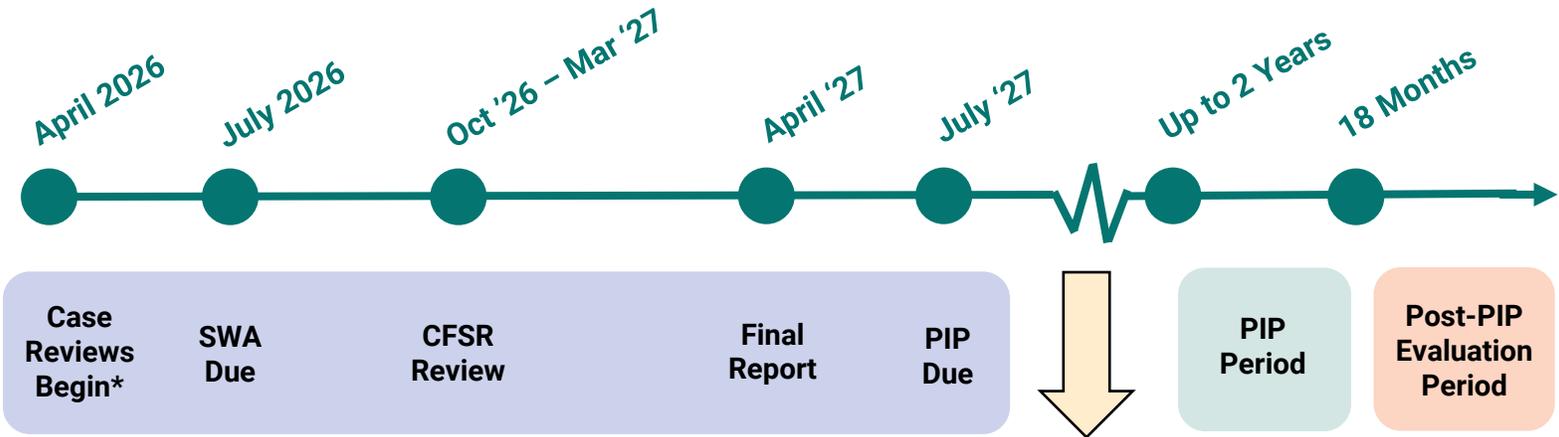
Evaluates whether WI is in conformity with the seven systemic factors.



Program Improvement Plan (PIP)

Addresses areas needing improvement

Wisconsin CFSR Timeline



*Counties with a case selected will be notified the month of the case review.

Time Between PIP Submission and Approval

Key Changes from Round 3

- A **State-Led Review** evaluates statewide case practice (*Round 3 was three sites*).
- Remote case review conducted over **six months** (*Round 3 was one week onsite*).
- **Lived Experience compensation** throughout entire process.



Child and Family Outcomes & Systemic Factors

The goal of the CFSR is to improve child welfare services and achieve seven positive outcomes for families and children. To identify system strengths and areas needing improvement, Wisconsin will evaluate seven system factors that promote this goal.



Outcomes



Safety

- Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect.
- Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate.



Permanency

- Children have permanency and stability in their living situations.
- The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children.



Well-Being

- Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs.
- Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs.
- Children receive adequate services to meet their physical and mental health needs.

Additional Information

Additional information on the CFSR process and Wisconsin's current 5-year Children and Family Services Plan (CFSP) can be found at:

<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cfsr>.

Questions or information requests, i.e. future participation opportunities, can be directed to:

DCFCFSR@wisconsin.gov.

