

How is my parental cost share collected?

Your county Birth to 3 Program is responsible for determining how parental cost share payments will be collected. The Birth to 3 Program staff will discuss payment options with you to determine what will work best for your family.



What funds support Birth to 3 Program services?

Birth to 3 Program services are funded through county, state, and federal funds; insurance payments; and the parental cost share. If your child is potentially eligible for Wisconsin Medicaid through programs such as Badger Care Plus, SSI, or Katie Beckett, you may be asked to apply for benefits under those programs. You will also be asked for consent to bill any insurance you may have.

Questions?

If you have questions about the Parental Cost Share System, please contact your local county Birth to 3 Program at:



Wisconsin
Department of Health Services

BIRTH TO 3 PROGRAM

1 West Wilson Street • P.O. Box 7851

Madison, WI 53707-7851

Phone: 608-267-5150

<http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/birthto3/index.htm>



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AN INTRODUCTION TO PARENTAL COST SHARE

WISCONSIN'S BIRTH TO 3 PROGRAM



BIRTH TO 3

What is the Parental Cost Share System?

The Parental Cost Share System is the process of determining a parent's financial share toward the cost of early intervention (Birth to 3 Program) services. The Parental Cost Share System is based on a partnership between the family and the Birth to 3 Program. Funds collected from families will contribute toward the cost of early intervention services for your child.

What information do parents provide?

You will be asked to provide current and accurate information about your income and the number of family members in your home, including the number of children in the Birth to 3 Program and the number of children who have a disability and are under the age of 19. If you refuse to provide this information, you may be responsible for the maximum annual cost share.

How is my annual parental cost share determined?

The county Birth to 3 Program uses the following procedures to calculate your annual parental cost share:

- Calculate the total income of the parents by using the most recent federal tax return or other sources.
- Determine adjusted annual income by giving parents:
 - ⇒ Credit for each family member participating in the Birth to 3 Program.
 - ⇒ Credit for each additional child in the family under the age of 19 with a disability.



- Compare your adjusted annual income and family size to the federal poverty guidelines.

Based on this information, your annual parental cost share will be determined by using the parental cost share tables provided to your county by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

How much is my parental cost share and can it change?

The annual parental cost share ranges from \$0-\$1800 for one year of your child's current Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP). Your parental cost share is reviewed and recalculated annually.

Your parental cost share will not exceed the cost of your child's plan. When the county Birth to 3 Program staff calculates the cost of your child's plan, not included in the calculation are costs related to:

- Evaluation and assessment
- Development of the IFSP
- Service coordination

Your parental cost share is then applied to the remaining costs on your child's plan. Reductions in your child's plan costs include considerations of:

- Insurance payments
- Medicaid payments

Major family changes?

The parental cost share may change whenever there are major changes for your family such as an increase or decrease in income, the birth of a child or older child turning 18. Talk to your Birth to 3 Program staff about any major changes in your family to determine whether it affects your parental cost share.

