



Wisconsin
Department of Health Services

National Family Caregiver Support Program

The **National Family Caregiver Support Program (NFCSP)** offers respite, information, support, and other resources to family caregivers.

How Does the Program Work?

Caregiver support services are available to all families caring for a person aged 60 or older or someone with dementia. Grandparents and older relatives caring for minor children or an adult with a disability may also qualify for the program.

What Can the Program Provide?

Limited short-term respite care may be provided in the home, a day program or a temporarily overnight in a residential facility. Respite services for caregivers including:

- Chore services, such as yard work, snow shoveling or heavy housework
- Personal care, such as dressing, bathing or toileting
- Daily homemaking tasks, such as meal preparation, shopping or light housework
- Companionship and general supervision for safety purposes.

Services and items that complement the care given by caregivers including:

- Transportation, including assisted transportation
- Assistive devices (weighted silverware, adaptive clothing, door locks, bed alarms, etc.)
- Minor home modifications (wheelchair ramps, grab bars, etc.)
- Supplies (incontinent supplies, etc.)
- Safety Equipment (emergency response system, Safe Return, etc.).

Who is Eligible?

- Any caregiver who provides unpaid care to a person age 60 or older, or to a person of any age who has Alzheimer's disease or related dementia.
- Grandparents or relatives age 55 and older who are the primary caregivers for a child under age 19.
- Relative caregivers age 55 and older who care for a person age 19 to 59 who has a long-term disability
- Note: The older adult receiving care must need assistance with daily living.
- NFCSP services are not available to persons who are enrolled in Family Care, Partnership, AFCSP, IRIS, or other Medicaid Waiver programs.

How Do I Apply?

There are no fees or income requirements to enroll in this program. Contact your county or tribal aging office or Aging & Disability Resource Center for more information about how to enroll, or call 866-843-9810.

Dane County AAA
Ph: 608-232-3400

Milwaukee County AAA
Ph: 414-289-6874

GWAAR AAA
Ph: 608-243-5670

Tribal Technical Assistance Center
Ph: 800-472-7207



AFCSP vs. NFCSP

It is important to check with the AFCSP Coordinator before applying for NFCSP or other programs to avoid eligibility conflicts and to coordinate services.

Fund Dispersal	The maximum allocation for each family is determined using DHS eligibility worksheets. Payments are made using invoices and receipts. May pay a service agency directly, or reimburse program participants or the primary caregiver/ representative for approved expenses.	Services must be approved by the administrative agency in advance in order for goods and services to be purchased using NFCSP funds. Payments to service providers are usually made monthly, but other timeframes are allowed.
How to Refer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anyone may refer: ADRC staff, caseworker, medical staff, family member, friend.... • The AFCSP Coordinator will assess eligibility, complete paperwork, and work cooperatively with case managers from other programs and dementia care specialists 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anyone may refer: ADRC staff, caseworker, medical staff, family member, friend.... • The AFCSP and NFCSP coordinators should meet regularly to determine the appropriate program for enrollment and maximize the number of families served by each program.
Details to note	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If all funding is allocated in a given year, a waiting list may be created to serve families if funding becomes available in the future. • Once enrolled in AFCSP, a person remains in the program until officially disenrolled by the AFCSP Coordinator (for reasons such as death, facility placement, switch to COP, Family Care, NFCSP, ineligible income, etc.) • The AFCSP Coordinator may apply for NFCSP on behalf of clients who have needs that surpass their maximum program allowance under AFCSP. (assuming there are sufficient NFCSP funds remaining) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respite care is limited to 112 hours per calendar year. (Jan.-Dec.) • Before requesting NFCSP funds for a person with dementia, case managers should check with the AFCSP Coordinator to see if there are funds available through AFCSP, and if so, whether the person is eligible for AFCSP. • Best practice is to enroll a person with dementia in AFCSP first rather than NFCSP. If a family is eligible for AFCSP but funds are unavailable, they may enroll in NFCSP but should also be added to the AFCSP waiting list.
Other Resources	<p>Alzheimer's & Dementia Alliance of Wisconsin and Alzheimer's Association</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free family consults/ planning, etc. • Home visits • Caregiver support groups • Information & referral • Caregiver training • Workshops & support group for persons in early stage of AD or memory loss • Professional training • 24-hour toll-free helpline • Resource library of books & videos • Website/ newsletter 	<p>GWAAR, DHS, and other websites</p> <p>Information about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caregiver support groups and trainings • Caregiver resource libraries • Caregiver newsletters • Caregiver recognition & support events • GWAAR Website http://www.gwaar.org/for-professionals/family-caregiver-support-for-professionals.html • DHS Website http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/aging/index.htm • Wisconsin Caregiver http://www.wisconsincaregiver.org/

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	AFCSP Alzheimer's Family & Caregiver Support Program	NFCSP National Family Caregiver Support
Funding Source	State of Wisconsin GPR State and GWAAR distribute funds to counties	Federal AOA Program- State distributes funds to each Area Agency on Aging (AAA). GWAAR distributes funds to counties in its service area
Maximum Annual Allocation Per Applicant	\$4,000, but agencies may set a lower maximum service level in order to serve more families. <i>Actual service payment</i> is based on care needs.	None in federal policy, but local agencies often set their own limits. Participants are limited to 112 hours of respite per calendar year.
Eligibility Requirements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Diagnosis of probable irreversible dementia: Alzheimer's, vascular dementia, Lewy body dementia, Parkinson's with dementia, Pick's disease, mixed or undetermined dementia, etc. 2. In-home, or can be used to provide caregiver respite and supplemental services for people living in a CBRF, RCAC or Independent Living arrangement. (Not for room & board) 3. \$48,000 max gross income of person & spouse 4. Not simultaneously enrolled in NFCSP or receiving caregiver respite through COP /Waiver, or Family Care 5. No asset test 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has significant cognitive or mental impairment or requires help with two or more activities of daily living 2. Resides in home setting (not facility) 3. Care recipient is age 60 or older – or has Alzheimer's or other dementia, <i>any age</i> 4. No income or asset test 5. Priority is given to low-income individuals and those with a diagnosis of dementia 6. Available to caregivers of all older adults aged 60+, even if the care recipient is enrolled in Family Care or another LTC program. Caregiver is the program recipient.
Use of Funds	<p>Authorized by DHS Chapter 68 (For more detail http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin_code/dhs/68. Some things included are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case management or service coordination • Intake and assessment • In-home respite/companionship • Adult day care/ Adult family home • Advocacy and legal assistance • Supportive home care - Help with personal care, bathing, medication monitoring/ chores • Safety improvements/ equipment • Caregiver training, including personal cares • Overnight respite in a facility • Specialized transportation and escort • Caregiver counseling and therapeutic resources • Housing and energy assistance • Community outreach and education • Crisis intervention • Protective payment or guardianship • Any other goods and services necessary to maintain the person with Alzheimer's at home 	<p>Authorized by Older Americans Act, Title IIIIE http://www.aoa.gov/AoA_programs/HCLTC/Caregiver/index.aspx</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information and assistance to caregivers about available services • In-home respite/companionship (112/hrs/yr.) • Adult day care • Help with personal care, bathing, medication monitoring and chores • Home safety improvements/equipment • Caregiver training: incl. personal cares • Overnight respite in a facility • Transportation • Costs to attend or provide support groups • Other services as agreed by caregivers and the agency • Community outreach and education <p><i>Limits</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supplemental services cannot exceed 20% of the grant expenditures. • No more than 10% of the NFCSP allocation can be spent on Grandparents Raising Grandchildren – Check your policy manual.