

Information About Caretaker Supplement (CTS)

Wisconsin's Caretaker Supplement (CTS) is a cash benefit available to parents who are eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments. CTS is not a Medicaid benefit; it pays cash only to eligible parents. CTS benefits are \$250 per month for the first eligible child and \$150 per month for each additional eligible child.

Who should apply for CTS?

Parents who receive SSI who are living with and caring for their minor children who have limited income and assets.

Where do I apply for CTS?

Apply for CTS at your local human services or social services agency. If you are already receiving food stamps, Medicaid or child care benefits for your children, you should contact your worker to apply for CTS. You cannot apply for CTS at your local Social Security Office.

What are the eligibility requirements for CTS?

You must be receiving a Wisconsin SSI payment and your children must meet income and asset requirements for the benefit. Your household must also meet certain non-financial criteria, such as Wisconsin residency. You cannot receive CTS benefits for any of your children who are also receiving SSI. In some cases, 18-year-old children who are still in high school may qualify for CTS benefits. If your children have two parents in the household, both parents must be receiving SSI for the children to be considered for CTS eligibility. If your SSI benefits end, your CTS benefits will also end. Any parent who receives CTS benefits must cooperate with the county child support agency to ensure that any absent parent is paying child support.

Does CTS eligibility affect my other benefits?

You may be eligible for CTS even though your children are not receiving Medicaid. Eligibility for each type of assistance is determined separately by your local agency. CTS benefits may affect the amount of benefits you receive from other assistance programs. Report any changes in your income, assets or household to your worker.

How are CTS benefits paid?

CTS benefits are paid to SSI members as part of their monthly state SSI benefit. This is not an emergency funding program. Any SSI member who has chosen electronic funds transfer (EFT) for their SSI benefit will have their CTS paid to them through EFT.