

Hello. Can this be brought up again for the 2024 coverage? Thank you for your time.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 6, 2022 1:07 PM
To: Drewry, Karen - ETF <Karen2.Drewry@etf.wi.gov>
Subject: RE: Other

Thank you for your time. I sincerely hope the Board further reviews this for 2024. I do believe the benefits of adding couples/marriage counseling far outweigh the minimal increase to medical payments.

From: Drewry, Karen - ETF
Sent: Thursday, October 6, 2022 12:48 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Other

Thank you for your email regarding coverage of couples and marriage counseling coverage in the Group Health Insurance Program (GHIP).

Below is the response I received regarding your request for added coverage to health insurance for counseling:

We understand the difficulties that surround couples and marriages with divorces can have a big impact on families in the Group Health Insurance Program. The Group Insurance Board (Board) carefully considers the coverage provided by the GHIP each year in an effort to provide the most comprehensive benefits while keeping premium costs low for members. We have finished our review of services for the coming 2023 plan year and presented our findings to the Board in May, this included a discussion of coverage for marriage or couples counseling. ETF is limited under Wisconsin state law to only adding services when other benefit reductions are made, if the service itself will save money, or if we are legally required to add coverage. Based on this, the Board determined that we cannot add marriage or couples counseling coverage at this time.

State employees have access to the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) which offers a variety of resources and services including marriage or couples counseling designed to help employees and family members resolve a wide range of issues to restore both personal and professional effectiveness. EAP services are free, confidential, and available to your household family members. Please reach out to your Human Resource department for further information.

Thank you again for taking the time to write to us with your concern.



Karen Drewry

Benefits Specialist

Member Communication Center

Wisconsin Department of Employee Trust Funds | etf.wi.gov

608 266-3285 | 877 533-5020



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From: ETF SMB Member Call Center

Sent: Thursday, October 6, 2022 8:45 AM

To: [REDACTED]


Subject: FW: Other

Thank you for contacting the Wisconsin Department of Employee Trust Funds (ETF).

I have forwarded your email to the Office of Strategic Health Policy (OSHP) for review. Thank you for your input.

If you are interested in learning more about our programs, our [Member Education](#) has online presentations about many Wisconsin Retirement System benefits.

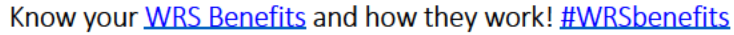
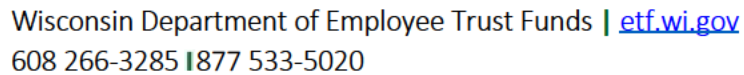
If you have further questions, please feel free to contact this Department toll free at 877-533-5020, or in Madison at 608-266-3285. You may also visit us on the web at etf.wi.gov. To subscribe to

automatic ETF E-mail Updates, just click on the red envelope  or click here: [Receive ETF E-Mail Updates](#).

Karen Drewry

Benefits Specialist

Member Communication Center



-----Original Message-----

The following feedback was submitted to ETF on 10/06/2022 at 07:02:55 AM CDT

Message: Hello and thank you for your time. I have a suggestion for something to be added while open enrollment is currently ongoing. I have recently found out that couples/marriage counseling is not covered in our medical coverage. Coverage for our spouses and ourselves is though. I humbly ask that staff looks into adding this since divorce rates are high with our jobs. I am a peer supporter and a large number of the discussions I have involve trouble at homes with significant others. I believe the state has a golden opportunity to help retain staff and help reduce mental anguish. Please forgive me if you are not the correct contact for this topic. I ask that you please help point me in the right direction if you are not.

From: [ETF SMB Board Feedback](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Bcc: [Walk, Renee - ETF](#)
Subject: [Send Secure] RE: please consider adding couples / marriage counseling for state employee benefits
Date: Thursday, September 26, 2024 4:15:00 PM
Attachments: [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email regarding coverage of couples and marriage counseling in the Group Health Insurance Program (GHIP). ETF will consider your request when evaluating benefit changes for 2026.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 26, 2024 1:11 PM
To: ETF SMB Board Feedback <ETF SMBBoardFeedback@etf.wi.gov>
Subject: please consider adding couples / marriage counseling for state employee benefits

Thank you for your time. I sincerely hope the Board further reviews this for 2026. I do believe the benefits of adding couples/marriage counseling far outweigh the minimal increase to medical payments.

From: Drewry, Karen - ETF <Karen2.Drewry@etf.wi.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2023 7:38 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Other

Please email Group Insurance Board directly at: BoardFeedback@etf.wi.gov

Thank you,



Karen Drewry

Benefits Specialist

Member Communication Center

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, March 18, 2023 8:40 AM
To: Drewry, Karen - ETF <Karen2.Drewry@etf.wi.gov>
Subject: RE: Other

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From: ETF SMB Member Call Center

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-----Original Message-----

From: ETF Secure Email System <noreply@etfmailer.state.wi.us>

Sent: Thursday, October 6, 2022 7:03 AM

To: ETF SMB Member Call Center <ETFSMBMemberCallCenter@etf.wi.gov>

Subject: Other

The following feedback was submitted to ETF on 10/06/2022 at 07:02:55 AM CDT

[REDACTED]

Message: Hello and thank you for your time. I have a suggestion for something to be added while open enrollment is currently ongoing. I have recently found out that couples/marriage counseling is not covered in our medical coverage. Coverage for our spouses and ourselves is though. I humbly ask that staff looks into adding this since divorce rates are high with our jobs. I am a peer supporter and a large number of the discussions I have involve trouble at homes with significant others. I believe the state has a golden opportunity to help retain staff and help reduce mental anguish. Please forgive me if you are not the correct contact for this topic. I ask that you please help point me in the right direction if you are not.

[REDACTED]