



Sick Leave Credit Escrow Application

Wis. Stat. § 40.05 (4) (b)

Wisconsin Department
of Employee Trust Funds
PO Box 7931
Madison WI 53707-7931
1-877-533-5020 (toll free)
Fax 608-267-4549
etf.wi.gov

To **escrow** means to preserve or bank your sick leave credits for use at a later date. See the next page for additional important information and application deadlines. Make a copy for your records and return the original to ETF. Please fill out this form completely, blank fields could result in the denial of your application.

1. Information About You

Your Name (first, middle, last, former/maiden)	ETF Member ID or SSN
Mailing Address (Street or P.O. box, city, state, ZIP code) <input type="checkbox"/> Check the box if this is a change of address	Birth date (MM/DD/YYYY)

2. Certification of Comparable Coverage **(Required)**

You must have comparable non-state health insurance coverage continuously throughout the escrow period and provide the policy information. Comparable coverage means a plan with hospital, medical and prescription drug benefits substantially equivalent to the state's It's Your Choice (IYC) Access Plan or IYC Access Medicare Plus plan. See below for a list of documents needed to verify comparable coverage. If you don't have your subscriber or group number when submitting this form, please send that information to ETF as soon as possible.

☐ Check here if your sick leave credits are already escrowed or you are thinking of escrowing your credits and you would like ETF to review your outside coverage to determine if it is comparable.

Please select the type of insurance that you have and send the appropriate documentation to ETF if required.

Check one: ☐ 1. My health insurance is through an employer.

Required documentation:

- You must submit the Schedule of Benefits and/or Summary of Benefits and Coverage from your current health insurance provider; it should include information about your plan's deductibles, coinsurance amounts, out-of-pocket limits, and pharmacy benefits.
- If your employer or spouse's employer funds a Health Savings Account (HSA) or Health Reimbursement Account (HRA), attach documentation showing the amount they contribute to that account and any requirements (e.g., wellness participation) on the contribution.

☐ 2. I have purchased health insurance myself.

Required documentation: You must submit the Schedule of Benefits and/or Summary of Benefits and Coverage from your current health insurance provider; it should include information about its deductibles, coinsurance amounts, out-of-pocket limits and pharmacy benefits.

☐ 3. I have VA benefits.

Required documentation: You must submit proof of your coverage, either your eligibility letter or your insurance card.

☐ 4. I have Tricare. No additional documentation is required.

☐ 5. I live outside the U.S. in a country with universal health care. Country: _____
No additional documentation is required.

☐ 6. I am a dependent on my spouse's ETF Health Insurance coverage.

State or Participating Local Employer name: _____

No additional documentation is required.

Comparable Coverage Insurance Provider	Subscriber (Policy) No.	Group No.	Coverage Begin Date
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3. Authorization

By signing this application, I attest that I have reviewed and understand the information provided on both pages of this form. I understand that Wis. Stat. § 943.395 provides criminal penalties for knowingly making false or fraudulent claims on this form. Accordingly, I hereby certify that the above information is true and correct, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature (Required)	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Daytime phone, including area code
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Note: Failure to notify ETF when you lose comparable coverage will result in forfeiture of your sick leave credits.

Escrow Eligibility Requirements

You must have been covered by the state group health insurance program on the day you terminated state employment either as the subscriber or as a covered dependent *and* be eligible to convert sick leave credits to pay state health insurance premiums. See the *Sick Leave Conversion Credit Program* (ET-4132) brochure for more information on eligibility in the Accumulated Sick Leave Conversion Credit Program and examples of comparable coverage.

Application Submission Timeline

- **Retiring state employees:** You must submit this application to ETF *within 60 days of your termination date*.
- **Retired state employees:** ETF must receive your escrow application at least 30 days before you wish to cancel your state health insurance coverage. Your sick leave credits will be escrowed at the beginning of the month after ETF receives your signed escrow form if the application was received after the escrow date you specified on the form.
- **Survivors of deceased active or retired state employees at the time of the employee's death:** In order to immediately escrow the deceased employee's sick leave credits and not have them used for the payment of your state health insurance premiums at this time, *ETF must receive this escrow application within 90 days after the date of death, or within 30 days of notification by ETF, whichever is later.*

Escrow Effective Date

No health insurance premiums are deducted from your sick leave account while it is escrowed. Comparable coverage must be in effect the entire time your coverage is escrowed.

Sick leave credits will be escrowed (banked) as follows:

- **State employees in the process of retiring:** On the first of the month following the last month your employer paid coverage ended.
- **Survivors of deceased active and retired state employees at the time of the employee's death:** On the first of the month following the date of death.
- **Retired state employees and survivors of deceased active and retired state employees with state coverage:** On the first of the month following the date the escrow application is received by ETF or a later date if specified.

Comparable Coverage

To escrow your sick leave credits, you must have coverage that is comparable to the State of Wisconsin's IYC Access Health or IYC Medicare Plus plan. To determine this, ETF will review the Summary of Benefits and Coverage (SBC) from your new insurance provider. Along with this application, you should submit an SBC that includes all of the following information:

- Deductibles
- Copayments
- Coinsurance rates
- Maximum out of pocket limits
- Pharmacy benefits

Changing Plans

If you change health plans while your sick leave is escrowed, you must submit a new application and Summary of Benefits and Coverage (SBC) to show that you have comparable coverage continuously in force. A break in continuous comparable coverage will result in the forfeiture of your sick leave credits.

Re-enrollment

You may escrow your sick leave credits at any time during the year, but you can only re-enroll for state health insurance coverage during the annual health benefits open enrollment period unless you have an involuntary loss of your comparable non-state coverage. (See *Involuntary Loss of Coverage*.) You must also have continuously maintained comparable non-state health insurance coverage while your sick leave credits were in escrow.

ETF annually notifies annuitants, surviving spouses and dependents with escrowed sick leave credits of the fall open enrollment period so that application materials can be obtained. If you do not receive notice and wish to re-enroll, contact ETF in early October. Application materials must be postmarked no later than the last day of the It's Your Choice open enrollment period.

You can re-enroll for coverage to be effective the first of any month in the following year. You can elect single or family coverage and choose any plan in the State Group Health Insurance Program without waiting periods or exclusions for pre-existing conditions. You must be re-enrolled before your comparable non-state coverage ceases.

Failure to re-enroll before your comparable non-state coverage ceases will result in forfeiture of your sick leave credits. Once you have re-enrolled, you may escrow your credits again in the future if comparable non-state coverage becomes available to you.

Involuntary Loss of Coverage

If your eligibility for your non-state comparable coverage is lost, you may re-enroll at that time in any plan in the state group health insurance program. If your coverage was lost as the result of an event such as loss of employment or divorce, or your employer's contribution toward your premium ceases, ETF coverage will be effective on the date your lost coverage terminated. Involuntary loss of coverage *does not* include voluntary cancellation or coverage lost due to fraud, misrepresentation or delinquent premium payments.

Your re-enrollment application **must be received within 30 days of the date your non-state coverage ends**. You must also send a letter from the employer or organization providing the health insurance coverage. ETF requires documentation including the following items on letterhead from the previous insurer and/or the former employer where at least the insurer's document is dated and issued after termination of coverage. You may also submit a COBRA notice received from your former employer.

The loss of coverage letter must include:

- Name of organization formerly providing coverage
- Name of the insurance group
- Date coverage terminated,
- Reason eligibility for coverage was terminated
- and*
- Subscriber name/number and a list of who was covered under the policy

Important Medicare Information

Upon re-enrolling, **you and/or your insured dependents must be enrolled for both portions of Medicare** (Hospital Part A and Medical Part B), **when first eligible**. This is required by state statute, as the program is designed to integrate with, rather than duplicate, Medicare benefits.

If your Medicare Parts A and B coverage are not effective on or before the first of the month in which you are required to be enrolled in Medicare, you may be liable for the claims that Medicare would have paid.

It is your responsibility to notify us when other family members covered under your policy become eligible for Medicare or become covered under an employer group health plan as a result of active employment and that policy is the primary payer for Parts A and B charges. This will ensure that your coverage and premium amount remain correct.

You may contact ETF at 1-877-533-5020 to speak with a specialist regarding your retirement benefits.