



A SNAPSHOT OF WISCONSIN'S KEY ABORTION LAWS

- For years, abortion has been illegal in Wisconsin after viability. Recently, Wisconsin made abortion illegal after the unborn child has reached 20 weeks gestation, unless the woman is undergoing a medical emergency.
- A minor (under 18) must have the written consent of one adult family member or legal guardian over age 25.
- Generally, Wisconsin law requires a woman to obtain informed consent about her procedure at least 24 hours prior to the procedure, except in the case of reported sexual assault.
- Public funds, employees or facilities cannot be used to perform or assist in an abortion that is not deemed necessary to save a mother's life.
- Physicians performing the abortion are required to verbally provide information on the gestational age of the unborn child, the details and risks of the procedure, the physical characteristics of the unborn child, the mother's right to refuse abortion at any time, and her right to receive and review various printed materials.
(<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p4/p40074.pdf>)
- An ultrasound is required before an abortion is performed, and the technician is required to describe orally what he/she is observing and to also let the woman view the ultrasound if she desires.
- The father of the baby is liable for financial assistance in the support of the woman's unborn child, even if he offered to pay for the abortion.
- Hospitals and medical personnel may refuse to provide abortions on conscience grounds.
- Abortion numbers and complications must be reported to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.
- The use of telemedicine to administer medication abortions is prohibited.

*Wisconsin has many laws involving abortion. This list is not intended to be exhaustive but rather to give a general summary of some of Wisconsin's key laws regarding abortion. For more information on Wisconsin laws regarding abortion, Anchor of Hope recommends you check with a member of the state legislature or an attorney.