FAQ: Abortion Access in WI
in the Wake of Roe v. Wade being Overturned

Following changes in national and WI law, these are common questions that survivors & those who support them have about abortion access.

Compiled by End Abuse, August 2022. For more, visit: bit.ly/endabuseRJ

1. Is abortion illegal across the United States?

No, Abortion bans are state-by-state, not national. There are many states where abortion remains legal, safe, and accessible.

2. Is abortion illegal in WI?

It’s more complicated than "yes" or "no." Most importantly, abortion is inaccessible in WI.

In June 2022, the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade. Now, WI’s pre-Roe abortion ban may be enforceable, but it is being challenged by WI’s current administration. Currently, doctors are not providing abortions in WI.

3. Are there exceptions for victims of rape or incest in WI?

No, there are not exceptions for rape or incest in WI.

4. Is emergency contraception, or "Plan B," the same thing as abortion pills?

No, they are not the same. Emergency contraceptive pills work to prevent a pregnancy, while abortion pills end a pregnancy. Emergency contraceptive pills like Plan B One-Step remain legal in WI.

5. Is abortion legal in the states bordering WI?

Abortion is legal in Illinois and Minnesota, and unlikely to become illegal. Abortion is legal in Iowa and Michigan, but legal challenges to abortion access are increasing.

6. Where can someone obtain information about accessing reproductive healthcare from home or from outside of WI?

Many people access reproductive healthcare from home and in the states surrounding WI. The best way to access reproductive healthcare from home or outside of WI is through Planned Parenthood of WI and Pregnancy Options WI.

7. Who can talk through options for both pregnancy continuation (care during pregnancy, birth, adoption), miscarriage support, and abortion options?

For those wanting to explore options, help is available. Contact Planned Parenthood of WI and Pregnancy Options WI to confidentially discuss options, without judgement or expectation.

8. Is it legal to drive people across state lines for an abortion, to purchase medical abortion (abortion pills), or to otherwise help a pregnant person access healthcare?

Yes, it is legal.

Under WI’s abortion ban statute, only the person “other than the mother” who “intentionally destroys the life of an unborn child” (i.e., the abortion provider) is criminally responsible.
9. Where can people access information about reproductive healthcare – including abortion – in languages other than English?

Both Pregnancy Options WI and Planned Parenthood of WI offer a website in both English and Spanish, as well as a translation line for phone calls.

10. Will things like citizenship and immigration status, age (e.g., people under age 18), race, gender and sexual identity, or health insurance impact someone’s ability to access services?

Both Pregnancy Options WI and Planned Parenthood of WI serve anyone who contacts them, regardless of identity.

11. What if someone needs financial assistance or doesn’t have health insurance?

Supports like the Women’s Medical Fund (www.wiabortionfund.org) can help folks access the care they need. Sliding scale options are also often available. Experts at Pregnancy Options WI and Planned Parenthood of WI can help all people access care, regardless of finances or health insurance status.

12. What are Crisis Pregnancy Centers (CPC’s)?

Crisis pregnancy centers (also called CPCs or fake clinics) look like health centers, but they don’t provide abortion or offer a full range of health care, and they don’t provide honest facts about sexual health and pregnancy options. Identify CPC’s using a CPC map such as crisispregnancycentermap.com, or contact Pregnancy Options WI or Planned Parenthood of WI to connect to legitimate, comprehensive care.

13. Where can someone access legal assistance if they are facing criminal legal system involvement as a result of an abortion?

In WI, only the person, “other than the mother, who intentionally destroys the life of an unborn child” can be held criminally responsible. Still, some legal resources are:

- Repro Legal Helpline: www.reprolegalhelpline.org
- Repro Legal Defense: reprolegaldefensefund.org

Reproductive healthcare includes prenatal care, cancer screening, sexually transmitted infection screening, and contraception access. Abortion – the termination of a pregnancy – is one component of reproductive healthcare. In June 2022, the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade. Now, WI’s pre-Roe abortion ban may be enforceable. Access to reproductive healthcare – including abortion – is important for survivors due to the link between reproductive coercion (including forced pregnancy) and domestic abuse.

To access the most up to date information about reproductive healthcare, including options for pregnant people and abortion access, contact reproductive healthcare experts for free at:

Planned Parenthood of WI | www.plannedparenthood.org/planned-parenthood-wisconsin 1-800-230-7526

Planned Parenthood Health Centers offer affordable, confidential, and accurate pregnancy testing and counseling, STD testing and treatment, HIV testing and education, birth control, midlife care, and other quality prevention health care to all youth and adults in health centers throughout WI.


A WI-based group of volunteer doctors, midwives, doulas, educators, & activists who support pregnant people with safe, accurate information and connect folks to resources. Their website offers resources by region, including population-specific resources for Black folks, Latinx folks, and the LGBTQ community.