

What is the “Long-Term Care Functional Screen” and How Is It Used?

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The functional screen is used by staff to determine your eligibility for many of Wisconsin’s Long Term Care programs. It used to gather information about whether you need help, and to what extent, in doing the activities of your everyday life.

What sort of “activities” does the tool gather information about?

The long-term care functional screen looks at many of the common activities of daily life such as bathing, getting dressed, brushing your teeth and hair, using the bathroom, walking, and eating.

It also looks at activities that you may or may not be able to do for yourself such as meal preparation, managing your medications, managing your money, and using the telephone. In addition, the screen includes questions about behavior, physical diagnoses, medically-oriented tasks, transportation needs, and employment. Information is also gathered about mental health concerns and substance abuse and other conditions that might impact your need for help.

How will the information I share be used?

The functional screen has multiple purposes. First, the functional screen was designed to be an objective way to determine the long-term care needs of elders and people with physical or developmental disabilities. This is important, because the functional screen is used to determine whether the type of help you need qualifies you for long-term care services. The long-term care functional screen also calculates the monthly budget allocation for all persons who choose the IRIS option.

Who administers the screen?

Only experienced professionals who have taken a training course and have passed a certification exam can administer the screen.

Will my information be kept confidential?

Yes. Any information collected for the screen or during the screening process is confidential.

Am I required to have a long-term care functional screen?

The functional screen is voluntary, but it is required in order to enroll in one of Wisconsin's long-term care program since the screen is used to make sure you are eligible.

If I do not like the results of the screen what can I do?

If you have reason to believe that an error has occurred in your functional eligibility determination, you have a right to appeal. The appeals and grievance processes will be shared by your local ADRC at the time the functional screen is done.