



January 8, 2024

**VIA EMAIL ONLY**

Mr. Edward A. Blazel  
Assembly Chief Clerk  
17 West Main Street, Suite 401  
Madison, WI 53703

Mr. Richard Champagne  
Acting Senate Chief Clerk  
B20 Southeast, State Capitol  
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Mr. Blazel and Mr. Champagne,

Sections 48.685(5g) and 48.686(5g) of the Wisconsin Statutes direct the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to submit an annual report to the Wisconsin Legislature that specifies the number of persons in the previous year who have requested to demonstrate that they have been rehabilitated under § 48.685(5)(a) or 48.686(5)(a), the number of persons who successfully demonstrated that they have been rehabilitated under § 48.685(5)(a) or 48.686(5)(a), and the reasons for the success or failure of a person who has attempted to demonstrate that he or she has been rehabilitated. The attached report reflects the rehabilitation review applications processed by DCF in 2023.

Questions about this report may be referred to Rehabilitation Review Lead Panel Member Jill Mueller at (608) 422-7046.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Emilie Amundson".

Emilie Amundson  
Secretary

# 2023 Annual Report on Rehabilitation Review Requests

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## REQUESTS RECEIVED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

23	Pending requests at start of 2023	91	Approvals with standard conditions
149	Requests received in 2023	17	Approvals with additional specific conditions
172	Total requests	15	Denials (including 9 for not following through with process)
		10	Rehabilitation reviews not required (including 6 due to permanent barred offense)
		2	Premature request (applied prior to barred offense expiration)
		2	Decision deferred pending additional information
		5	Applicants withdrew request
		2	Approval and Denial (applicants had multiple requests)
		2	No DCF jurisdiction; referred to proper reviewing agency
		26	Requests awaiting requested missing information or awaiting scheduled panel meetings

## REASONS FOR DCF APPROVAL

The applicant demonstrated sufficient evidence of rehabilitation in the areas of position related offense factors and the applicant’s personal development and progress. Where applicable, standard conditions include: no (further) criminal law violations, no (further) acts or threats of violence toward others, no use of illegal drugs, no offenses that lead to arrest, conviction or findings by a government agency of misconduct, and the applicant must share a copy of the decision letter with any entity or agency that they may be licensed by, employed with, or reside at.

Additional conditions that may apply to more than one approval include:

- No use of physical discipline/corporal punishment.
- Approval for employment in supervised positions only (when in direct contact with children).
- Approval for a limited number and/or specific foster child(ren).
- Applicant may not be responsible for billing subsidy and other financial matters.
- Approval for employment in certain positions only.
- Applicant given conditions regarding alcohol use.
- Applicant may not have any law enforcement contacts besides traffic law violations.

# 2023 Annual Report on Rehabilitation Review Requests

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## **REASONS FOR DCF DENIAL**

- Applicant denied basic facts that were clearly indicated in the documented findings and reports.
- Applicant failed to take responsibility for the offense(s) and minimized the seriousness of the offense(s).
- Applicant did not provide adequate documentation to support rehabilitation.
- Applicant displayed questionable veracity.
- Panel questioned applicant's protective capacity and ability to provide a safe environment for young, vulnerable children.
- Panel had concerns regarding applicant's alcohol and drug use.
- Panel had concerns regarding applicant's ability to provide ongoing daily care to children.

# 2023 Annual Report on Rehabilitation Review Requests

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## **REQUESTS RECEIVED BY COUNTY DEPARTMENTS AND REPORTED TO DCF**

15 Approvals with standard conditions

## **REQUESTS RECEIVED BY CHILD PLACING AGENCIES AND REPORTED TO DCF**

8 Approvals with standard conditions

2 Approval with additional conditions

## **REQUESTS RECEIVED BY SCHOOL BOARDS AND TRIBES REPORTED TO DCF**

None were reported