

Employment

In Wisconsin, you cannot legally be fired, demoted, denied a job, harassed, or otherwise treated unequally in your workplace because of your sexual orientation. Generally, you have 300-days from the date of a discriminatory act to file a complaint. Learn more:

Equal Rights Division

<https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/er/>

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission www.eeoc.gov

Education

A student has the right to be “out” at school, to dress and express themselves as the gender they identify with, to form a Gay-Straight Alliance, to take a same-sex date to the prom, and to voice their opinions about LGBT issues.

LGBTQ students have the right to go to school and not be harassed, bullied, or discriminated against because of their sexual orientation.

Transgender Rights

While WI does not have a state law explicitly prohibiting discrimination against transgender individuals; the EEOC and ERD accept and investigate claims of employment discrimination and harassment based on gender identity or transgender status. Further, Dane, Milwaukee, and Winnebago County, the cities of Appleton, Cudahy, Madison, Milwaukee, and the Village of Shorewood Hills all ban various discrimination based on gender identity. Check with your local gov’t. agency to learn more.



Know Your LGBT Rights

Wisconsin



Public Accommodation

It is illegal to be kicked out of, denied services from, or otherwise treated differently by a place of public accommodation because of your sexual orientation. Wisconsin law considers public accommodations to include places of business or recreation, lodging establishments, credit/financial services, restaurants, taverns, nursing homes, clinics, hospitals, and any other place where accommodations, amusement, goods, or services are available to the general public.

Private, nonprofit organizations that provide accommodations, amusement, and goods and services only to their members and members' guests (for example, country clubs) are not considered public accommodations under state law.

The law also forbids anti-gay harassment in public accommodations, so long as the employees or owners have some degree of control over the harassment.

Housing

It is illegal to be evicted, threatened or intimidated, denied the ability to rent, buy, construct, or finance a home or otherwise be treated unequally in housing because of your sexual orientation. This applies to management companies, landlords, real estate agents, and subsidized housing. This does not apply to roommates in units in which five or fewer people live.

THIS INFORMATION IS NOT INTENDED AS LEGAL ADVICE

If you believe your rights have been violated, please consult with an attorney.

FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:



CITY.MILWAUKEE.GOV/ERC



LGBT
Bar Association
of Wisconsin

LGBTBARWIS.ORG