

Summary of Wisconsin Municipalities' Fair Housing Ordinances

City Name	2019 Population	HUD Grantee	Enforcement Body	Recent Meetings?	Notes	Good Model For
Appleton	75,096	CDBG	Safety and Licensing Committee	Unknown	Ordinance is very general and does not offer much detail for practical application.	
Beloit	36,526	CDBG	Equal Opportunities Commission	Met approx. 3x in 2019 (no hearings; developing FH goals)	Appoints mediators; contemplates budgetary needs for mediators.	See Fair Housing Goals and Strategies
Eau Claire	69,950	CDBG / HOME	Unknown	Unknown	City Ordinance adopts State law; very vague on application and enforcement.	
Fond du Lac	42,975	CDBG	Unknown (DWD)	Unknown	City Ordinance adopts State law; City officials and employees assist residents in filing complaints with the DWD.	Adopting State law; referral to DWD
Green Bay	105,163	CDBG / HOME	None	None	No Fair Housing Ordinance exists.	
Janesville	64,585	CDBG / HOME	Fair Housing Officer / Hearing Examiner / Mediator / City Attorney	Unknown	Appoints a hearing officer to determine probable cause and conduct hearings; appoints a mediator to attempt to resolve case prior to prosecution; 90 day SOL.	Use of hearing examiner and mediator; SOL
Kenosha	99,487	CDBG / HOME	Department of Community Development	Unknown	Ordinance is administered by staff (as opposed to an appointed or elected body); Ordinance contains a provision for requesting assistance from outside non-profit agencies to investigate complaints.	Requesting assistance from outside non-profit agencies
La Crosse	51,659	CDBG / HOME	Human Rights Commission	Monthly - FH complaints reviewed in 2019	Commission is allowed to appoint mediators; agreements can be made with state agencies and local groups to investigate; once a case is initiated in circuit court via a private right of action clause in the ordinance, the city is removed from the matter.	
Madison	264,365	CDBG / ESG / HOME	Equal Opportunities Commission	Monthly - active engagement in FH concerns (no hearings in 2019)	Ordinance expands definition of protected classes; in Feb 2019, new mediation procedures were approved.	Mediation procedures
Milwaukee	581,949	CDBG / ESG / HOME / HOPWA	Equal Rights Commission	Monthly (no hearings in 2019)	Commission only investigates / enforces allegations of Ordinance violations--not State or Federal law violations.	Limiting jurisdiction to ord. violations
Oshkosh	66,378	CDBG	Per Ord.: Fair Housing Commission; Per Web: Equal Opportunity in Housing Commission	None	City assists State in investigations but refers cases to State for resolution and enforcement; City delegates a third party administrator to investigate and assist in resolving complaints	Referral of cases
Racine	77,211	CDBG / ESG / HOME	Affirmative Action and Human Rights Commission	Meets regularly (no FH hearings)	Complicated Ordinance modeled after State law; procedures set forth would be difficult and duplicative to apply in practice.	
Sheboygan	48,245	CDBG	City Plan Commission	Meets regularly (no FH hearings)	Appoints a hearing examiner to conduct hearings; contemplates budgetary issues.	
Waukesha	72,348	None	Equal Opportunities Commission	None	Commission appoints a mediator and requires mediation prior to hearings; 90 day SOL.	Mediation; SOL
Wauwatosa	48,983	CDBG	City Attorney	None	Ordinance is very vague.	
West Allis	58,695	CDBG	Fair Housing Board	1x in 2018 and 1x in 2019 (no hearings)	Ordinance contemplates costs of compensating witnesses and other details such as enforcement of subpoenas; specifies that City Attorney represents the Board; allows for cooperation with / utilization of State and Federal agencies; 180 day SOL.	Allowing for costs and other practical details