

Legislative Updates

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Wisconsin awarded 5-year federal grant to bolster special education workforce

Wisconsin has been awarded a five-year, \$10.5 million federal grant to strengthen the state's special education workforce through recruitment, preparation, and retention efforts. The initiative, STAIRS-WI, will expand “earn while you learn” apprenticeship opportunities and provide mentoring, coaching, professional learning, and leadership support for special educators. The need is significant, as only 43% of special education teachers remain in Wisconsin public schools through their eighth year, making these efforts critical to building a stronger and more sustainable workforce.