

Navigating the education system can sometimes feel confusing, overwhelming, and frustrating. This can be especially true for families caring for a child who needs additional supports and services. At times, it may even be difficult to know what questions to ask or where to begin. Fortunately, there are organizations throughout Wisconsin that are dedicated to helping families navigate complex educational systems.

1



## Wisconsin Statewide Parent Educator Initiative (WSPEI)

<https://wspsei.org/>

The Wisconsin Statewide Parent Educator Initiative helps families and schools build positive working relationships and promote shared decision-making. They assist families in navigating the special education and IEP process.

2



## Wisconsin Family Assistance Center for Education, Training, & Support (WI FACETS)

<https://wifacets.org>

The Wisconsin Family Assistance Center for Education, Training & Support (WI FACETS) is a statewide resource organization that assists families with children with disabilities. WiFACETS offers training, resources, and support to help families better understand educational services and systems.

3



## Special Education Resources for Parents and Families (DPI Page)

[https://www.wvs.wisconsin.gov/wsped/families\\_material](https://www.wvs.wisconsin.gov/wsped/families_material)

Wisconsin's Department of Public Instruction (DPI) has a webpage dedicated to providing special education resources and information for parents and families.

4



## Wisconsin Special Education Mediation System (WSEMS)

<https://wsems.us/>

The Wisconsin Special Education Mediation System helps families and schools work collaboratively to resolve special education disputes.

5



## Wisconsin Wayfinder

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/wiscway/index.htm>

Wisconsin Wayfinder supports families of children with delays, disabilities, special health care needs, and mental health conditions. They do this by connecting families and providing them with the resources they need. This assists families in finding supports and services through the Children's Resource Network.

6



## Disability Rights Wisconsin

<https://disabilityrightswi.org/>

Disability Rights Wisconsin is a private non-profit organization. They work to assist people in gaining access to services and opportunities through the organization's advocacy and legal expertise.

7



## Autism United of Wisconsin

<https://autism-united.org/>

Autism United of Wisconsin is the state's largest Autism Spectrum service organization. They provide programs and events, resources, and support.

Supporting a child with complex learning, developmental, behavioral, or health needs takes time and teamwork. Exploring the education system first overwhelming, but you are never to do it alone.