

COALITION FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

2019 State Legislative Priorities

Autism Society
of Minnesota
ausm.org
(651) 647-1083

Epilepsy Foundation
of Minnesota
efmn.org
(651) 287-2300

Minnesota
Brain Injury
Alliance
braininjurymn.org
(612) 378-2742

PACER Center, Inc.
PACER.org
(952) 838-9000

Prader-Willi
Syndrome
Association of
Minnesota
pwsa-usa.org/MN
(763) 242-9074

Proof Alliance
proofalliance.org
(651) 917-2370

The Arc Minnesota
arcmn.org
(952) 920-0855

Secure Adequate Funding for Special Education

Minnesota's funding commitment to educate students with disabilities has historically been strong. However, schools continue to rely on part of their local operating budgets to cover all special education costs. The Coalition seeks increased state funding for special education to ensure all Minnesota children receive the quality of education they need.

Increase Mental Health Supports Provided In Schools

The Coalition seeks ways to increase mental health services and supports to students in preschool to grade 12. This could include funding for school-linked mental health programs, more student support staff, and professional development related to trauma-informed care. The Coalition strongly believes that improved mental health services will benefit the entire school community.

Support Training Time for Paraprofessionals

The Coalition supports providing professional development and training time for paraprofessionals across the State. Paraprofessionals play an important role in supporting students with disabilities and mental health challenges. This training time will allow paraprofessionals to better understand the unique needs of the students they work with and learn strategies to improve student success.

Reduce the Use of Exclusionary Disciplinary Practices for All Students

The Coalition strongly supports legislation that promotes increased use of positive behavior interventions and supports. Exclusionary practices such as suspension, expulsion, and seclusion limit students' ability to learn by removing them from the classroom. The Coalition also supports requiring schools to notify parents immediately if police become involved or a student is taken to a police station.

