

2025 Legislative Agenda

Increasing student inclusion and attendance; reduction of exclusionary practices

PACER Center believes that school should be a safe and inclusive space for all students and supports initiatives that fully include students regardless of their individual needs. We support practices and policies that address truancy and exclusion for students whose absences are due to unaddressed bullying, lack of services, inadequate mental health treatment, or disability-related issues. Additionally, we support legislation that limits harmful disciplinary practices and will actively work to ensure that Minnesota's strong laws and rules on special education are maintained.

Increasing parental access and empowerment in the education process

PACER Center seeks to promote proposals that increase parent participation in the Individualized Education Program (IEP) and alternative dispute resolution processes, are less expensive, and don't require access to an attorney. We also seek to increase the ability of all parents, including those with disabilities and those who speak a language other than English at home, to access reasonable accommodations that support their full participation in the IEP process. We support legislation that addresses inaccessible dispute resolution processes and provides transparent data on educational outcomes for students with disabilities.

Support educators to meet the needs of all students

PACER Center supports proposals to improve teacher and staff training on ableism, inclusion, literacy, supportive practices, and de-escalation to reduce seclusion, exclusion, and restrictive procedures. We support proposals that seek to address school staff shortages and increase the number of certified teachers and support staff available to work with students with disabilities.

