



Employment First Summary

There are many people in Wisconsin making less than minimum wage and not working in the community. This is not the best thing for people with disabilities or the community. Wisconsin can do better!

- ✓ 49 out of the 50 states in the USA are working on Employment First.
- ✓ 34 states have policies that support Employment First.
- ✓ This means that 34 states are actively working toward helping all people with disabilities get jobs. Wisconsin is one of 14 with Employment First legislation!

Employment First is about:

- ✓ Believing that everyone can work in the community for regular pay – even people with significant disabilities, and
- ✓ Having support to work in the community

Wisconsin passed an Employment First bill in March 2018! This law requires...

- ✓ Work in the community for regular pay to be the priority for state agencies
- ✓ State agencies to work together to increase the number of people with disabilities working in the community for regular pay. These state agencies are the Department of Workforce Development, Department of Health Services, Depart. of Public Instruction

Wisconsin has passed Employment First policies, but there is still a lot to do! You can make a difference by:

- ✓ Sharing your employment story
- ✓ Letting people know about Employment First
- ✓ Telling people why integrated employment is important to people with disabilities

Common Employment First Words

Employment First – a national movement to help all people with disabilities get jobs in the community

Integrated Employment – work for minimum wage or more in the community with people who do not have disabilities

Policy/Policies – rules made by government agencies and schools about the services people receive