



**Job Title:** Pathways to Success - SE Wisconsin

**Department:** Editorial

**Reports To:** Northeast Wisconsin Editor

**FLSA Status:** Exempt

**Revision date:** December 2025

### **Summary of role:**

Wisconsin Watch, a nonprofit news organization that uses journalism to make communities strong, informed and connected, is seeking a Pathways to Success Reporter focused on southeast Wisconsin. This reporter will explore what's needed for residents to build thriving careers in the future economy — and what's standing in the way. That includes expanding coverage of postsecondary education and workforce training, focusing on how education and economic trends impact people's lives. The role centers on solution-oriented journalism that serves the public, strengthens community life, and holds those in power accountable.

This Milwaukee-based reporter will be part of a four-person pathways-focused team that includes an editor, Madison-based statewide reporter and northeast Wisconsin reporter in Green Bay.

### **Essential Duties and Responsibilities**

- Collaborate with the NE Wisconsin and pathways editor and colleagues to frame, report, and write news stories for Wisconsin Watch, Milwaukee Neighborhood News Service (NNS) and partner outlets. These stories will appear on Wisconsin Watch platforms and be distributed to news outlets across Wisconsin and the country.
- Listen to job seekers and employers to identify disconnects in workforce recruitment, development, and training, and report on evidence-based solutions.
- Develop sources in education, workforce development, industry, labor and the general public to uncover system breakdowns, information gaps, and success stories.
- Research high-demand jobs and effective training programs, covering fields from health care to emerging technologies.
- Work with the audience team to ensure reporting reaches those who need it most.
- Cultivate collegial and productive relationships with collaborating news organizations to gather and analyze data, research best practices and maximize impact. This includes [Open Campus](#), a national news network aiming to improve higher education coverage.
- Produce quality journalism with the time and support needed to do the job well.



### **Qualifications**

- Has at least two years of experience researching, reporting and writing original published news stories and/or features on deadline.
- Demonstrates a commitment to nonpartisan journalism ethics and public service, including adherence to [Wisconsin Watch's ethics policies](#).
- Experience working collaboratively within a newsroom and/or with external partners.
- Experience with or ideas about the many ways newsrooms can inform the public – from narrative investigations and features to Q&As and “how-to” explainers or visual stories.
- Proven ability to pitch compelling story ideas to editors.
- Aches to report stories that explore solutions to challenges residents face.
- Lives in the Milwaukee area or is willing to relocate there.

### **Knowledge, Skills and Abilities**

- Strong writing, storytelling, and editing skills for clear, engaging, and accurate news coverage.
- Effective interviewing and source development abilities, with deep listening and empathy.
- Research proficiency, including synthesizing information from diverse sources and analyzing data.
- Understanding of journalism ethics, standards, and best practices.
- Ability to communicate complex issues in accessible, impactful ways for diverse audiences.
- Collaboration and teamwork skills, both within the newsroom and with external partners.
- Adaptability and time management to handle multiple assignments and shifting priorities.
- Commitment to fostering an equitable workplace that reflects, understands and listens to the people we serve.

### **Bonus**

- Ability to analyze and visually present data.
- Familiarity with Wisconsin's history and politics.
- Multimedia skills (photography, audio, video).
- Spanish-language proficiency.