

## Paraprofessional Requirements

### Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

Section 1111(g)(2)(J) the State educational agency will ensure that all teachers and paraprofessionals working in a program supported with funds under this part meet applicable State certification and licensure requirements, including any requirements for certification obtained through alternative routes to certification;

### Idaho Administrative Rule:

**Paraprofessional.** *A noncertificated individual who is employed by a school district or charter school to support educational programming. Paraprofessionals must work under the direct supervision of a properly certificated staff member for the areas they are providing support. Paraprofessionals cannot serve as the teacher of record and may not provide direct instruction to a student unless the paraprofessional is working under the direct supervision of a teacher.*

- a.** *To qualify as a paraprofessional the individual must have a high school diploma or general equivalency diploma (GED) and:*
- i. Demonstrate through a state approved academic assessment knowledge of and the ability to assist in instructing or preparing students to be instructed as applicable to the academic areas they are providing support in; or*
  - ii. Have completed at least two (2) years of study at an accredited postsecondary educational institution; or*
  - iii. Obtained an associate degree or higher level degree; demonstrate through a state approved academic assessment knowledge of and the ability to assist in instructing or preparing students to be instructed as applicable to the academic areas they are providing support in.*
- b.** *Individuals who do not meet these requirements will be considered school or classroom aides.*
- c.** *Duties of a paraprofessional include, but are not limited to, one-on-one tutoring; assisting in classroom management; assisting in computer instruction; conducting parent involvement activities; providing instructional support in a library or media center; acting as a translator in instructional matters; and providing instructional support services. Non-instructional duties such as providing technical support for computers, personal care services, and clerical duties are generally performed by classroom or school aides, however, this does not preclude paraprofessionals from also assisting in these non-instructional areas.*
- (3-29-17)

### Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

Section 1111(g)(2)(M) the State has professional standards for paraprofessionals working in a program supported with funds under this part, including qualifications that were in place on the day before the date of enactment of the Every Student Succeeds Act;

Paraprofessional Standards – May be used by LEAs as guidance for teachers and paraprofessionals.

- #1 The paraprofessional has a basic knowledge of the subject areas being taught; the paraprofessional supports the teacher/provider in creating meaningful learning experiences.
- #2 The paraprofessional has a basic knowledge of how students learn and develop, which supports students' intellectual, social, and emotional development.
- #3 The paraprofessional is knowledgeable regarding how students differ in their approaches to learning, and are able to adapt to students' diverse needs.
- #4 The paraprofessional utilizes a variety of instructional strategies to assist the teacher/provider in meeting students' needs.
- #5 The paraprofessional understands the importance of and assists in creating a positive educational environment.
- #6 The paraprofessional uses various communication techniques to effectively meet students' needs.
- #7 The paraprofessional delivers teacher/provider designed instructional plans effectively based upon knowledge of the students, subject areas, community, and curriculum goals.
- #8 The paraprofessional supports the teacher/provider in observing and collecting data related to the student.
- #9 The paraprofessional engages in meaningful professional development on a regular basis.
- #10 The paraprofessional interacts in a professional manner with colleagues, parents, and other members of the community.

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