



Requirements for Instructional Paraprofessionals in Title I Schools

Paraprofessionals who provide instructional support in programs funded by Title I, Part A must meet requirements other noncertified personnel do not [ESEA § 1111(g)(2)(J)&(M)]. This includes those paraprofessionals paid with Title I, Part A funds working in a Targeted building and all paraprofessionals working in a Title I, Part A Schoolwide building who do the following:

- Provide one-on-one or small group tutoring.
- Assist with classroom management, such as organizing instructional and other materials.
- Provide instructional assistance in a computer laboratory.
- Provide instructional support in a library or media center.
- Provide instructional support services under the direct supervision of a teacher.

Paraprofessionals working in a Title I, Part A program must be under the meaningful direction and supervision of a certified classroom teacher or school librarian and may not be given full responsibility for instruction or assessment of students. For more information about the requirements for supervision of noncertified personnel, refer to the [Utilization of Noncertified Personnel guidance document](#).

Individuals who work in food services, cafeteria or playground supervisors, personal care services, non-instructional computer assistance, and similar positions do not need to meet the additional qualification requirements but must meet minimum requirements set forth by MDE or the employer.

Please refer to the qualification guidance on Page 2, which outlines the multiple options instructional paraprofessionals working in Title I schools to meet requirements.

For more information on paraprofessionals and the requirements, contact the Office of Educational Supports at 517-241-5388.

Paraprofessionals hired after January 2, 2002, who work in schools supported with Title I, Part A funds must meet one of the following three requirements:

Option 1: Complete at least two years of study at an accredited institution of higher education (equal to 60 semester hours); or

Option 2: Obtain an associate degree (or higher) from an accredited institution; or

Option 3: Meet a rigorous standard of quality and demonstrate, through passage of an approved formal state academic assessment in the following areas:

- Knowledge of, and the ability to assist in instructing reading, writing, and mathematics; or
- Knowledge of, and the ability to assist in instructing reading readiness, writing readiness, and mathematics readiness, as appropriate.

Current State Board of Education Approved Assessments

- College Board's SAT – Must score at least a 480 on evidence-based reading and writing and a 530 on math
- ETS Parapro Assessment – A passing score of 460 is required

Prior Approved Assessments

- Michigan Test for Teacher Certification (MTTC) Basic Skills Test
- MTTC Professional Readiness Examination
- WorkKeys® - Minimum Scores:
 - Reading for Information – 4
 - Applied Math – 4
 - Writing – 3
- ACT (taken between 1/1/1989 - 10/1/2017) - Minimum Scores:
 - Reading – 22
 - Combined English and Writing – 22
 - Math – 22
- Michigan Merit Examination (MME) (taken between 1/1/2007 and 1/31/2015) - Minimum Scores:
 - Reading – 1108
 - Writing – 1129
 - Mathematics - 1116