

NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND (NCLB) ACT

Requirements for Paraprofessionals Title I, Part A

* **ALL paraprofessionals**, regardless of hiring date, in a Title I schoolwide program or in a targeted assistance program who are paid with Title I funds, must have a secondary school diploma or its equivalent. Paraprofessionals with instructional support duties have additional requirements as shown below.

* **Any paraprofessional with instructional support services duties** in a Title I schoolwide program or in a targeted assistance program who is paid with Title I Funds must meet the Paraprofessional Qualification Requirements by the following timelines.

New paraprofessionals with instructional support duties hired **after January 8, 2002**, must meet one of the Paraprofessional Qualification Requirements when hired.

Existing paraprofessionals with instructional support duties hired **before or on January 8, 2002**, must meet one of the Paraprofessional Qualification Requirements no later than January 8, 2006.

Title I Paraprofessional Qualification Requirements

One of the following requirements must be met:

1. An associate's or higher degree,
2. Two years of study at an institution of higher education, **OR**
3. A rigorous standard of quality and be able to demonstrate on a formal state or local academic assessment, knowledge of and the ability to assist in instructing
 - A. Reading/language arts, writing, and mathematics, or as appropriate,
 - B. Reading readiness, writing readiness, and mathematics readiness.

Paraprofessionals may provide instructional support services only when working under the "direct supervision" of a highly qualified teacher.

Under "direct supervision" is met if:

- the teacher plans the paraprofessional's instructional support duties,
- the teacher evaluates the achievement of the students with whom the paraprofessional works, **AND**
- the paraprofessional works in close proximity to the teacher and has frequent contact with the teacher.

Paraprofessionals who work solely in non-instructional roles are not required to meet one of the qualification requirements shown above but must have a secondary school diploma or its equivalent.

Non-instructional roles may include, but are not limited to:

Personal care services
Parental involvement activities
Food service
Playground/cafeteria supervision

Clerical duties
Non-instructional computer assistance
Non-instructional media center/library supervision
Translators (not providing instructional support)