

Highly Qualified Staff

Become a Qualified Paraprofessional

Educational Requirements under *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001*

- (1) All Title I paraprofessionals must have a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent.
- (2) Additionally, except as noted below, all paraprofessionals working in a program supported with Title I, Part A funds must have:
 - Completed two years of study at an institution of higher education; or
 - Obtained an associate's (or higher) degree; or
 - Met a rigorous standard of quality and be able to demonstrate, through a formal State or local academic assessment, knowledge of and the ability to assist in instructing, reading, writing, and mathematics (or, as appropriate, reading readiness, writing readiness, and mathematics readiness).

Paraprofessionals who only serve as translators or who only conduct parental involvement activities must have a secondary school diploma or its equivalent but do not have to meet the additional requirements. [*Section 1119(e)*]

The following links provide more information about regulations governing paraprofessionals.

- Paraprofessional non-regulatory guidance at <http://www.ed.gov/policy/elsec/guid/paraguidance.pdf>
- Commonly asked questions <http://www.ed.gov/admins/tchrqual/qual/paraprofessional.html>