

In January 2002, the federal law that governs public education was re-authorized and named the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). This law brings major reforms to public schools and is designed to increase accountability and improve student achievement. The law aims to ensure that students in these schools receive the best possible education from well-trained qualified staff.

For more information, contact:

Title I Department
742-4496 or 742-4494

Training & Professional Development
742-3844 or 742-3866

TOTEM Association
562-1183

“In times of drastic change, it is the learners who inherit the future. The learned usually find themselves equipped to live in a world that no longer exists.”



Anchorage School District
Educating All Students for Success in Life

Anchorage School District
**Success for
Every Child**

Paraprofessional
Training
and the
No Child
Left Behind
Act



How does NCLB affect me?

If you are a classroom aide, tutor or teacher assistant working in a school that receives Title I federal funding, you are directly affected by this law. NCLB requires that paraprofessionals like you be “highly qualified” to work with students. In order to meet the standards outlined by the law, you may need to get additional education or pass a rigorous exam.

If you are not certain whether your school receives Title I funding or whether your position is affected, contact the Anchorage School District Title I department at 742-4496.

What does “highly qualified” mean?

In terms of this law, there are three ways a paraprofessional can meet the “highly qualified” standard: 1) have an associates degree; 2) have two years of higher education (48 credits); or 3) pass a test designed by the State of Alaska.

How can I meet these standards?

Will the district help?

Many paraprofessionals in Title I schools already meet the requirements. If you are unsure, you should contact the Title I department, 742-4496, for clarification.

If you do not yet have the coursework needed to meet the requirements or pass the exam, the school district will help you. An Anchorage School District para-professional committee has been meeting to discuss ways to support your efforts to meet the requirements. There is funding available for the following three programs:

Associate of Arts Degree Pursuit

Qualifying Programs	Reimbursement Level	Requirements
University of Alaska-Anchorage (UAA) associate’s degree leading to a bachelor of arts in early childhood education	\$150/credit up to \$1,350 per semester	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• grade C or higher• submit paperwork to Title I after completing the course• electives do not qualify for reimbursement• no reimbursement after completion of the AA degree or 60 credit hours
Alaska Pacific University (APU) associate’s degree leading to a bachelor of arts in elementary education	\$150/credit up to \$1,350 per semester	same as above
University of Alaska-Southeast (UAS) Paraprofessional Associate of Arts-distance delivered/web based program	\$150/credit up to \$1,350 per semester	same as above

Credit Pursuit

Qualifying Programs	Reimbursement Level	Requirements
Any courses in the approved UAA/UAS/APU programs (courses listed at www.asdk12.org/depts/staff-dev/)	\$150/credit up to \$1,350 per semester	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• grade C or higher• submit paperwork to Title I after completing the course• electives do not qualify for reimbursement• no reimbursement after completion of the AA degree or 60 credit hours
Any approved course, initialized by schools and approved by Title I, listed on the Training and Professional Development website (www.asdk12.org/dept/staff-dev/) Courses will focus on reading, writing, math and pedagogy.	up to \$100/credit no more than \$900 per semester	same as above

Test Preparation Workshops—Associate of Arts Degree Pursuit

Qualifying Programs	Reimbursement Level	Requirements
Test preparation workshops centered on math, reading, writing and pedagogy.	offered at no cost to qualifying paraprofessionals	workshop completion