



## Anchorage School District

### Support with Meeting NCLB Paraprofessional Requirements

In an effort to ensure that students who need the most help receive instructional support only from qualified paraprofessionals, the No Child Left Behind Act requires that Title I paraprofessionals meet high standards of qualification. NCLB paraprofessional requirements apply **only** to paraprofessionals who provide instructional support in Title I funded schools and programs.

Under NCLB, a Title I paraprofessional must meet the following requirements:

1. Must have a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent; **and either**
  - a. Completed at least two years of study (48 semester credits) at an institution of higher education; **or**
  - b. Obtained an associate's (or higher) degree; **or**
  - c. Demonstrated through a formal assessment both content knowledge and the ability to assist in instruction.

In Alaska, the formal assessment option for meeting paraprofessional requirements is as follows:

1. A passing score (459) on the *ETS ParaPro Assessment* \* **and**
2. Completion of the *Alaska Paraprofessional Qualifications Form* by the supervising principal. The *APQ Form* documents the principal's assessment of the paraprofessional's ability to assist with instruction.

\* Prior to January of 2010, the *HELP Test* was accepted for meeting part one of the formal assessment option; however, the publisher of *HELP* no longer distributes it. Therefore, the Alaska Department of Education adopted the *ETS ParaPro Assessment* as the replacement test. With official documentation, a passing *HELP* score is still accepted for meeting part one of the formal assessment option.

For those who wish to meet NCLB paraprofessional requirements by passing the *ETS ParaPro Assessment*, go online to [www.ets.org/parapro](http://www.ets.org/parapro) for a registration form as well as for testing dates, deadlines and details.

The Anchorage School District is committed to supporting paraprofessionals who are trying to meet NCLB paraprofessional requirements. Supports include:

- Assistance with understanding NCLB paraprofessional requirements and options.
- Assistance with registering for the *ETS ParaPro Assessment*.
- The *ETS ParaPro Assessment Study Guide* is available for checkout.
- Periodically, study groups (led by an exemplary instructor) are formed for *ETS ParaPro* test preparation sessions, at no cost to the employee.
- The ASD reimburses *ETS ParaPro Assessment* fees to eligible employees.

For further assistance with meeting NCLB paraprofessional requirements, contact Zareena Clendaniel at 742-7819 or [Clendaniel\\_Zareena@asdk12.org](mailto:Clendaniel_Zareena@asdk12.org).