What is a Paraprofessional?

Paraprofessionals play an essential role within school districts. Under the supervision of a licensed teacher, a paraprofessional supports teachers and students many ways. For instance, a paraprofessional can tutor students or assist the teacher with classroom management and organizing instructional materials.

### Do you qualify for a Paraprofessional Short-Term Approval?

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<tr>
<th>REQUIREMENTS</th>
<th>HOW TO APPLY</th>
<th>EMPLOYMENT</th>
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| ✓ Must provide proof of a high school diploma or GED | ✓ Login to ELIS [here](#)  
• If you do not have an ELIS account, you may create one [here](#)  
✓ From the Action Center in ELIS, select "apply for an approval"  
• Short-Term Approval for Teachers at All Grades Levels  
• Paraprofessional Educator  
✓ Complete application and pay fee  
✓ Submit a copy of your high school diploma or GED to [licensureforms@isbe.net](mailto:licensureforms@isbe.net) | ✓ Valid for 3 fiscal years*  
✓ Non-renewable  
✓ Eligible to be employed as a paraprofessional full-time  
✓ No limit on work days |

*Before the 3 fiscal year period expires, you must apply for and receive the Educator License with Stipulations endorsed for Paraprofessional (the ELS-PARA) in order to continue serving as a paraprofessional.

### Licensure Pathway to an ELS-PARA

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| ✓ Must provide proof of **one** of the following:  
  • Associate degree or higher  
  • 60 semester hours of coursework  
  • High school diploma/GED** + score of 460 or higher on the ETS Parapro test  
  • High school diploma/GED** a score of 4 or higher on the ACT Workkeys Applied Mathematics and Reading for Information tests  | ✓ Login to ELIS [here](#)  
✓ From the Action Center apply for a paraprofessional license  
✓ Complete application and pay fee  
✓ Submit a copy of test scores to [licensureforms@isbe.net](mailto:licensureforms@isbe.net) or your official transcripts to [transcripts@isbe.net](mailto:transcripts@isbe.net) | ✓ Valid for five years  
✓ Renewable  
✓ Eligible to be employed as a paraprofessional full-time  
✓ No limit on work days |

*If you already hold the paraprofessional short-term approval, you do not need to resubmit your high school diploma/GED.

Visit [www.isbe.net/licensure](http://www.isbe.net/licensure) for more information.