

PARAEDUCATOR CERTIFICATE PROGRAM



The paraeducator certificate program offers standards-based training for all instructional paraeducators in Washington State. The Fundamental Course of Study and general certificate are required when funding is provided by the Legislature.

FUNDAMENTAL COURSE OF STUDY (FCS)

The program begins with 28 hours of training that covers the paraeducator standards of practice. School districts are responsible for providing this training.

START
HERE

GENERAL PARAEDUCATOR CERTIFICATE

The general certificate includes an additional 70 clock hours of training to help improve instructional practices. School districts must ensure this training is provided by an approved clock hour provider.

NEXT

SUBJECT MATTER CERTIFICATES

Each optional subject matter certificate includes 20 hours of training. Subject matter certificates can count towards general certificate hours.

ADD
ON

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER (ELL)

Language acquisition, cultural competence, and instructional strategies.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Special education processes, culturally responsive strategies, and behavioral support.

ADVANCED PARAEDUCATOR CERTIFICATE

ADD
ON

After completing the general certificate, a paraeducator can earn the advanced certificate. This certificate includes 75 clock hours of training on assisting high-impact classrooms, supporting specialized instruction, and mentoring other paraeducators.

For more information, visit pesb.wa.gov or contact your district human resources office.