

Instructional Assistants

Instructional assistants shall be hired by the superintendent or designee.

All instructional assistants¹ must:

1. Have a high school diploma or the equivalent;
2. Be at least 18 years of age or older; and
3. Have standards of moral character as required of teachers.

In addition to the above, instructional assistants providing translation services must have demonstrated proficiency and fluency, knowledge of and ability to provide accurate translations from a language other than English into English and from English into another language.

Instructional assistants² who work in Title IA programs and provide instructional support must have:

1. Completed at least two years of study at an institution of higher education; or
2. Obtained an associate's or higher degree; or
3. Met a rigorous standard of quality, and can demonstrate, through a formal state or local academic assessment or para-professional certificate program, knowledge of, and the ability to assist in instructing, as appropriate, reading/language arts, writing and mathematics or reading readiness, writing readiness and mathematics readiness.

¹ "Instructional assistant" means a classified employee who does not require a license to teach, who is employed by a school district or education service district and whose assignment consists of and is limited to assisting a licensed teacher in accordance with the rules established by the TSPC.

² Instructional assistants may be assigned to: (1) provide one-on-one tutoring for eligible students, if the tutoring is scheduled at a time when a student would not otherwise receive instruction from a teacher; (2) assist with classroom management, such as organizing instructional and other materials; (3) provide assistance in a computer laboratory; (4) conduct parental involvement activities; (5) provide support in a library or media center; (6) act as a translator; or (7) provide instructional services to students while working under the direct supervision of a teacher. Instructional assistants may assume limited duties that are assigned to similar personnel who are not working in a program supported with Title IA funds, including duties beyond classroom instruction or that do not benefit participating children, so long as the amount of time spent on such duties is the same proportion of total work time as prevails with respect to similar personnel at the same school.

These requirements do not apply to an instructional assistant: (1) who is proficient in English and a language other than English and who provides services primarily to enhance the participation of children in Title IA programs by acting as a translator; or (2) whose duties consist solely of conducting parental involvement activities.

The district will not require individuals newly hired as Title IA instructional assistants who have met another district's academic assessment to meet the district's academic assessment standards.

The general responsibilities of an instructional assistant shall be outlined in a job description. The major responsibility shall be to assist the classroom teacher, specialist or supervisor or related service provider with instruction and/or support. The instructional assistants shall be under the supervision of the appropriately licensed classroom teachers, specialist or supervisor. Other supporting tasks may include, but are not limited to: clerical support, student control, personal care, translation or parent and family involvement activities and media center or computer laboratory support.

Instructional assistants shall not be used by the district or teacher as substitute teachers. The responsibility for classroom supervision remains with the teacher at all times.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 332.107](#)

[ORS 332.505](#)

[ORS 342.120](#)

[OAR 581-022-1710\(2\)](#)

[OAR 581-037-0005 to -0025](#)

[OAR 584-005-0005\(27\), \(41\)](#)

The Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act 38 U.S.C. § 4212 (2018).

Title II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act, 42 U.S.C § 2000ff-1 (2018); 29 C.F.R. Part 1635 (2022).

Rehabilitation Act, 29 U.S.C. § 791, 793-794 (2018).