



Para 2 Teacher

P R O G R A M



Education Committee

February 4, 2020

Expect great things.



Presentation Outline

- **Review & Recap**
- **Updates on RFP Process & Recommended University Partners**
- **University Partner Presentations**
- **Upcoming Milestones**
- **Questions**

Para2Teacher Program Goal

To increase the diversity and quality of the PPS teacher workforce by developing a sustainable pipeline of paraprofessionals prepared to meet the needs of students in our classrooms.

Para2Teacher Recap

- **September 24, 2019-** Board approves Para2Teacher Program
- **October 15, 2019-** Program launch postponed to seek regional university partner(s)
- **November 2019-** Request for Proposals (RFP) developed
- **December 6, 2019-** RFP published

RFP Summary

Para2Teacher Program

Request for Proposals

Released: December 3, 2019
Respond by: December 19, 2019


**Expect
great
things.**

 Pittsburgh
Public Schools

- **On December 6, 2019, RFP sent to 89 PA colleges/universities with PDE-approved teacher preparation programs**
- **4 Proposals submitted by December 23, 2019 deadline**
 - Carlow University
 - Point Park University
 - Slippery Rock University
 - University of Pennsylvania
- **3 universities advanced to Presentation/Interview Phase**
- **2 universities recommended:
Carlow University & Point Park University**



PPS Paraprofessional Pipeline Program

Carlow University



MEd *with* Certification

Early Childhood PreK-4 (with 5th-6th Grade Preparation)

Special Education PreK-12

Art Education PreK-12

Secondary Education 7-12 (Social Studies, English, Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, and General Science)

Curriculum & Instruction, Reading Specialist, Ed Administration

MEd Foundational Components



Culturally Responsive and
Universally Designed
Instruction



Computational Thinking and
Inquiry Process



Science of Reading and
Developmentally Appropriate
Practice

MEd Program Features

- Hybrid Model Design: with courses meeting every other week face-to-face
- Accelerated Course Model: evening 8-week courses with program completion in 18 months or two years
- Dedicated faculty who foster personal relationships with students
- Mock interviews, portfolio development and test preparation support



TEACHING CHANGES LIVES.

Master of Education *in* Early Childhood Education

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

- + Bachelor's degree
- + 3.0 cumulative, undergraduate GPA
- + Completed graduate application

According to the US Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor and Statistics, Employment
of...

Kindergarten and elementary school teachers
is projected to **grow 3%** from 2018 to 2028

PPS Proposal

25% Tuition Discount

Scholar Mentors for Support

Textbook Loan Program

Parking Passes Provided

NOT ALL SUPERHEROES WEAR CAPES.

SOMETIMES THEY WEAR LAB COATS AND INSPIRE STUDENTS TO LOVE

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)

Interested in a career teaching STEM?

Over the last decade, the U.S. Department of Education has declared Pennsylvania a Teacher Shortage Area for mathematics, biology, and chemistry.

**NSF
Noyce STEM
Scholarship
Program**

- \$18,000 for MEd
Secondary Education STEM

Para2Teacher Program Presentation

Dr. Darlene Marnich
Dr. Richard Gutkind
School of Education

POINT PARK
UNIVERSITY



Point Park University Mission

Point Park University educates students in a diverse environment and prepares graduates to apply knowledge to achieve their goals, advance their professions and serve their communities.



Point Park University

Diversity Statement

- As an institution of higher education, Point Park University recognizes its responsibility to create and maintain an environment that affirms the diversity of people and ideas.
- Point Park University embraces, supports and actively pursues a policy of inclusiveness that recognizes, values and reflects the diversity of the community we serve and the world in which we live.

Point Park Online Learning

- Cohort model--8 week asynchronous courses
- Small class sizes
- Highly qualified faculty trained in research based best online teaching practices
- Cohort Graduation Rate 83%
- 98% satisfaction rate
- Our online degrees offer students a relevant, high-quality education so they can achieve their goals, advance their careers and serve their communities.

Point Park Online Students

- Over 98% of our online Master's students are currently employed and working part-time on their degree.
- Over 95% are non-traditional students (age 24 and older).



A Culturally Responsive Curriculum

Point Park University was a pioneer in incorporating culturally responsive pedagogy into its curriculum before the Pennsylvania Department of Education mandated such content into teacher certification requirements.

Student Support Services

- On campus orientation sessions
- Library
- Disability Services
- Financial aid services
- Personalized advising
- Opportunities to attend sporting events and theater productions

Certification Program Options

- M.Ed. PreK to Grade 4
- M.Ed. Secondary Education
- M.Ed. Special Education PreK to Grade 12
- Start in Summer of 2020 (or fall of 2020)
- Graduation in April 2022 (or summer of 2022)
- Fully-accredited for Instructional I certification through the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE)

Point Park University Scholarships

- In support of Para2Teacher program participants, Point Park University will contribute \$1,500 per person per year.
- This contribution will be made via a \$500 scholarship that will be awarded each semester that the student is enrolled in the scheduled 6 (or 9) required credits, in order to complete the degree in the 6 semester sequence.

Tuition and Fees - 6 Credit Semesters

(Summer 2020, Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021)

Tuition: \$510 per credit x 6 credits	\$ 3,060
Fees: \$30 per credit x 6 credits	\$ 180
SUBTOTAL:	\$ 3,240
 Point Park University Scholarship	 (\$ 500)
 STUDENT TOTAL	 \$ 2,740*

**** The student total does not include monetary scholarships provided by Pittsburgh Public Schools and the Paraprofessional Union.***

Tuition and Fees - 9 Credit Semesters

(Summer 2021, Spring 2022)

Tuition: \$510 per credit x 9 credits	\$4,590
Fees: \$30 per credit x 9 credits	\$ 270
SUBTOTAL:	\$4,860

Point Park University Scholarship	(\$ 500)
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STUDENT TOTAL	\$4,360*
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**** The student total does not include monetary scholarships provided by Pittsburgh Public Schools and the Paraprofessional Union.***

University Partners: Side-by-Side Comparison

Carlow University

- Hybrid program
- \$13,530 final program cost
- 2 courses at a time
- PDE certifications:
 - PreK-4
 - Special Education
 - Secondary Education (Social Studies, English, General Science, Math, Biology, Chemistry)
 - Art K-12
- Up to 4 full scholarships for STEM teachers

Point Park University

- Fully-online program
- \$13,680 final program cost
- Primarily 1 course at a time
- PDE certifications:
 - PreK-4
 - Special Education
 - Secondary Education (Social Studies, English, Math, Biology, Citizenship)

Para2Teacher Milestones

Milestone	Date
Seeking Board approval	March 25, 2020
Information & Engagement Sessions	March-April 2020
Application window	March-April 2020
PPS paraprofessionals acceptance notification	May 2020
Program launch	August 2020
Cohort 1 graduation	Spring 2022

Questions