



## MISSISSINEWA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

July 14, 2025

To Whom it May Concern,

Mississinewa Community Schools is requesting the state of Indiana for the Ed-Flex Waiver #2 for increased flexibility of paraprofessional requirements. This allows Mississinewa to hire paraprofessionals who do not have either 60 credits or more from a college or passed the Indiana ParaPro or ParaPathways exam. This state waiver enables Mississinewa Community Schools to hire paraprofessionals that provide effective small group interventions for students who are not meeting grade level standards. These paraprofessionals are trained weekly by classroom and intervention teachers on the proper use of instructional strategies and programming.

This waiver will allow Mississinewa to employ paraprofessionals who:

- Have two years of college experience
- Have a two-year college degree
- Passed the Para-Pro or ParaPathways Assessment (within the first year of employment)
- Have one year, or 1,000 hours of previous employment experience in a school or other setting in a position that supported student academic instruction
- Passed annual school-level evaluations
- Completed 48 credit hours of college level classes
- Have a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential
- Have completed LEA required professional development modules/training

Mississinewa wants to invest in their paraprofessionals and ensure they have the opportunity to keep teaching students if the federal waiver is no longer available. All paraprofessional hires who do not have 60 hours or more from an accredited college or university will enroll in a free adult education program that provides specific Indiana State Standards training. After completion of this training, that takes approximately 2-4 months, the paraprofessionals will take the ParaPro or ParaPathways exam at no cost to them.

Public comments are welcome regarding Mississinewa's intention to apply for the paraprofessional waiver. Please direct all questions or feedback to the QR code below. This code can also be found on the Mississinewa Title I page for parents. Your questions and comments will be visible for the public and will be addressed in a timely manner by a Mississinewa Community Schools administrator. Thank you for your feedback.



<https://bit.ly/ParaWaiver2>

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