

EDUCATION PARAPROFESSIONAL



Technical Certificate of Credit

The Education Paraprofessional technical certificate of credit is a series of courses designed to prepare students for a position as a paraprofessional in the public school system. The program emphasizes education theory and practical application competencies necessary for successful employment. Upon high school graduation, completers will be eligible to take the GACE Paraprofessional licensure exam to qualify to apply for a position as an entry-level paraprofessional in various educational settings.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- **INTERNSHIP HOURS:** Three courses (EDUC 2110, EDUC 2120, EDUC 2130) are scheduled for the fall semester and each course includes a total of 45 contact hours, 10 of which are embedded internship hours. The high school is required to assign a mentor teacher for students who will arrange an appropriate classroom experience for the completion of the internship hours.
- **INTERNSHIP CLASS:** EDUC 2210 is the primary internship class that is taken in the spring semester. This internship class includes 135 contact hours. Students are assigned a mentor teacher by the school system who will select the appropriate classroom experience for the completion of the internship. This course contains specific assignments and observations that are outlined in the course's Blackboard Learning Management System. The College instructor will conduct periodic classroom observations and coordinate activities with the school system teacher in which the student is assigned.
- **BACKGROUND CHECK:** Some school systems require background clearance for students to participate in internship experiences. This may be obtained at the local law enforcement office and requires a photo ID (typically a Georgia driver's license). If a driver's license is not available, you may acquire an official State Identification card through the Georgia Department of Driver Services. The background check may cost between \$10-\$20 and requires a form to be completed at the law enforcement office. Additionally, if the student is not 16 years old, a parent (legal guardian) may be required to sign the form. Background checks are only valid for 90 days.
- **GACE PARAPROFESSIONAL EXAM:** Exams will be coordinated by Chip Fleming at EDGE College and Career Academy.
- **CONFIDENTIALITY FORM:** All Education Students must sign a confidentiality form related to the laws protecting student information and internship cell phone restrictions.

Courses:

Fall Semester:

- EDUC 2110 Investigating Critical & Contemporary Issues in Education (3 hours)
- EDUC 2120 Exploring Sociocultural Perspectives and Diversity in Educational Context (3 hours)
- EDUC 2130 Exploring Teaching and Learning (3 hours)

Spring Semester

- EDUC 2210 Paraprofessional Internship (3 hours)
- EDUC 2220 Education Review (2 hours)

Potential Jobs & Salaries

Graduates of the Education Paraprofessional technical certificate are eligible to be employed as entry-level paraprofessionals. Annual starting salaries range from \$24,960 - \$31,200.

Questions? Contact:

Chip Fleming | (478) 289-2278 | chip.fleming@emanuel.k12.ga.us