

Become a Certified Paraeducator

Northwest AEA is offering the three courses required for certification in a blended format on:

Jun. 9, Jul. 14, & Aug. 11, 2020

Paraeducator certification is a process by which a person can obtain in-depth training and be recognized for successful completion of that training through a state recognized program. The paraeducator certification is not required by law, but may be required by local school districts.

All coursework for the classes is completed online. The paraeducator certification requires a 10-hour clinical experience to be completed in a school setting. Paraeducators currently employed can complete this requirement in the classroom they currently work in.

Course 1: Foundations

Zoom class on June 9
9:00am-12:00pm

The first course covers the foundational and professional skills for working in Pre K-12 classrooms. Knowledge about educational environments, student abilities and disabilities, communication, positive interaction and problem-solving are critical to being an effective paraeducator.

June 9- July 8, 2020

<http://bit.ly/2Hq3kRi>

Course 2: Instructional Supports

Zoom class on July 14
9:00am- 12:00pm

The second course examines how to promote positive learning environments and how to support content and instruction. The focus of the paraeducator's role is to support the academic achievements of all students in healthy and safe learning environments.

July 14- August 7, 2020

<http://bit.ly/38tdc8K>

Course 3: Behavioral Supports

Zoom class on August 11
9:00am-12:00pm

The third course focuses the importance of building strong professional relationships with students and adults. Paraeducators often work with challenging students and understanding behavior and positive supports is critical to support student success.

August 11- September 8, 2020

<http://bit.ly/3bB59Zn>

TWO LOCATIONS: Sioux Center NWAEA (1382 4th Ave. NE, Sioux Center) or River Valley High School (916 Hackberry St., Correctionville)

EACH CLASS COSTS:

\$120

There is an additional fee payable to the Iowa Board of Educational Examiners for a background check and a certificate upon completion of the classes.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact Judy Sweetman at 712-222-6088 or jsweetman@nwaea.org . or Joyce Vander Wilt at 712-222-6105 or jvanderwilt@nwaea.org

Iowa Department of Education Recommendation: All school districts should encourage their paraeducators to acquire Iowa's voluntary paraeducator certification offered through the Board of Education Examiners, even those who have already been approved using an assessment.



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