



Illinois State Board of Education

What is a Paraprofessional?

Paraprofessionals play an essential role within school districts. Under the supervision of a licensed teacher, a paraprofessional supports teachers and students many ways. For instance, a paraprofessional can tutor students or assist the teacher with classroom management and organizing instructional materials.

Do you qualify for a Paraprofessional Short-Term Approval?

REQUIREMENTS	HOW TO APPLY	EMPLOYMENT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Must provide proof of a high school diplom or GED 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Login to ELIS here <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you do not have an ELIS account, you may create one here ✓ From the Action Center in ELIS, select “apply for an approval” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short-Term Approval for Teachers at All Grades Levels • Paraprofessional Educator ✓ Complete application and pay fee ✓ Submit a copy of your high school diploma or GED to licensureforms@isbe.net 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Valid for 3 fiscal years* ✓ Non-renewable ✓ Eligible to be employed as a paraprofessional full-time ✓ No limit on work days <p><i>*Before the 3 fiscal year period expires, you must apply for and receive the Educator License with Stipulations endorsed for Paraprofessional (the ELS-PARA) in order to continue serving as a paraprofessional.</i></p>

Licensure Pathway to an ELS-PARA

REQUIREMENTS	HOW TO APPLY	EMPLOYMENT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Must provide proof of one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Associate degree or higher • 60 semester hours of coursework • High school diploma/GED** + score of 460 or higher on the ETS Parapro test • High school diploma/GED** a score of 4 or higher on the ACT Workkeys Applied Mathematics and Reading for Information tests <p><i>**If you already hold the paraprofessional short-term approval, you do not need to resubmit your high school diploma/GED.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Login to ELIS here. ✓ From the Action Center apply for a paraprofessional license ✓ Complete application and pay fee ✓ Submit a copy of test scores to licensureforms@isbe.net or your official transcripts to transcripts@isbe.net 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Valid for five years ✓ Renewable ✓ Eligible to be employed as a paraprofessional full-time ✓ No limit on work days

Visit www.isbe.net/licensure for more information.