

NAME: _____

I.D.# _____

2011-12
PARAPROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR
Certificate

This program provides a foundation of important skills and standards that prepare paraprofessionals to work in non-Title I programs. Professional education core requirements are combined with general education and special emphasis electives. Paraprofessionals who possess college credits that, when combined with this certificate, total 60 credits hours, meet requirements of NCLB (No Child Left Behind) and are eligible to work in Title I positions. Students who complete this certificate program can continue to work toward completion of the Paraprofessional AAS degree. For further information about paraprofessional (teacher aide) certification in Illinois, visit the ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION website at www.isbe.state.il.us/certification/html/paraprofessional.htm

THIS PROGRAM IS NOT FOR STUDENTS PLANNING TO BECOME REGULARLY CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL TEACHERS IN ILLINOIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS! Students interested in teaching in the elementary schools in Illinois should follow the Associate in Arts Degree programs in pre-teacher education or pre-early childhood education. Consult a counselor or advisor for further information.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (33 credits)

**Please note: COMM 101, ED 100 and ENG 101 should be completed prior to enrollment in all other courses.*

- _____ COMM 101* 3 cr Principles of Communication (Prereq. Placement in ENG 099 or above)
- _____ ECED 103 3 cr Health, Safety and Nutrition (Prereq. Placement in ENG 099 or above)
- _____ ED 100* 3 cr Foundations of American Public Education (Prereq. Placement in ENG 099 or above)
- _____ ED 101 3 cr Child Growth & Development (Prereq. Placement in ENG 099 or above)
- _____ ED 160 3 cr Technology for Teachers (Prereq. Placement in ENG 099 or above) **[Cross-listed as ITAPP 160]**
- _____ ED 212 3 cr Exceptional Child (Prereq. ED 101)
- _____ ED 220 3 cr Children’s Literature (Prereq. ENG 101 with C or better) **[Cross-listed as ENG 220]**
- _____ EDU 111 3 cr Mathematics for Paraprofessionals (Prereq. MATH 085 with C or better or placement in MATH 090) **[Cross-listed as MATH 111]**
- _____ ENG 101* 3 cr Composition I (Prereq. ENG 099 with C or better or qualifying score on English Placement Test)
- _____ 3 cr **Select ONE course in sociology from the following:**
SOCIO 101 (3) Introduction to Sociology (Prereq. Placement in ENG 099 or above)
- OR**
- _____ 3 cr SOCIO 210 (3) Marriage and the Family (Prereq. Placement in ENG 099 or above)
- _____ **Select ONE course from the following:**
CJ 204 (3) - Juvenile Justice (Prereq. Placement in ENG 099 or above)
ECED 104 (3) - Intro to Early Childhood Educ (Prereq. Placement in ENG 099 or above)
HUMAN 101 (3) - Comparative Religions (Prereq. Placement in ENG 099 or above)
PSYCH 202 (3) - Educational Psychology (Prereq. PSYCH 101)
SOCIO 101 (3) - Introduction of Sociology (Prereq. Placement in ENG 099 or above)
SOCIO 210 (3) - Marriage and the Family (Prereq. Placement in ENG 099 or above)

_____ Attained a minimum grade point average of 2.0 in the courses identified in this certificate program.

_____ **Current cumulative GPA:** _____

_____ Completed a minimum of one-half of the credit hours required as a student at PSC.

_____ Filed a **Graduation Petition Form** with the Office of Enrollment Services.

_____ **Deadline for filing:** October 1 for Winter, March 1 for Spring, July 1 for Summer. (December, May & August candidates may choose to participate in the annual May Commencement Ceremony. Deadline to apply for ceremony is March 1st)

Credits Required: 33	Credits Completed: _____	Credits In Progress: _____	Credits Needed: _____
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Advised By: _____ **Date:** _____

SIGNATURE: Counselor or Advisor or Faculty Advisor

This is an UNOFFICIAL evaluation. Official Evaluations must be requested in the Office of Enrollment Services.

IMPORTANT PSC GRADUATION POLICIES

1. If the degree or certificate requirements are changed during your continuous attendance, you may elect to satisfy either the new requirements or

- the ones in force when you enrolled.
2. If you withdraw from Prairie State College for either a fall or spring semester, you must satisfy requirements in force at the time you re-enroll.
 3. **Requests for COURSE SUBSTITUTIONS** in the program must be directed to the Program Coordinator. A Course Substitution Form must be signed by the Program Coordinator and submitted to the Office of Enrollment Services at least one semester prior to graduation.
 4. Petitions for alteration of other graduation requirements must be submitted on a Student Appeal Form at least one semester prior to graduation.

DIVISION OF ARTS & SCIENCES

Program Coord:	Chris Fogarty	Room 2167	(708)709-3628	cfogarty@prairiestate.edu
Dept. Chair:	Andrew Schott	Room 2165	(708)709-3624	aschott@prairiestate.edu
Division Dean	Susan Solberg	Room 2120	(708) 709-3758	ssolberg@prairiestate.edu

CAREER PLANNING/PLACEMENT INFORMATION:

Occupational Outlook Handbook, U.S. Department of Labor: <http://www.bls.gov/oco/home.htm>

Employment opportunities: www.collegecentral.com/prairiestate

For further information about paraprofessional (teacher aide) certification in Illinois, visit the ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION website at www.isbe.state.il.us/certification/html/paraprofessional.htm

State Requirements for Paraprofessional Approval (Effective June 1, 2004)

Except for designated special education paraprofessionals, all paraprofessionals (teacher aids) must have a statement of approval from the Illinois State Board of Education based on **one** of the following:

1. Completed 30 semester hours of college credit from a regionally accredited institution of higher education. Evidence is an official transcript, **or**
2. Completed a paraprofessional training program approved by ISBE or ICCB. Evidence is an Illinois Community College Board transcript or certificate of completion, **or**
3. Passed the ETS Parapro Assessment, with 460 as the minimum passing score. Evidence is an official score report, **or**
4. Passed the applicable ACT WorkKeys assessments (Applied Mathematics – 4, Reading for Information – 4, Writing – 3) and provided verification of satisfactory local performance assessment. Evidence is the ACT “WorkKeys Proficiency Certificate for Teacher Assistants” and verification of satisfactory local performance assessment.

Because paraprofessionals providing instructional support for students with disabilities were not previously required to have State approval, a transition period has been provided for such individuals. **Paraprofessionals first employed in programs for students with disabilities on or before June 30, 2005, have until July 1, 2007 to meet the State requirement.** These individuals do not have to fill out an application for state approval until they meet the requirements. **Paraprofessionals first employed in special education programs after June 30, 2005 must meet state requirements at the time of employment. Beginning July 1, 2007, all paraprofessionals must have State approval.** (NOTE: This extended timeline for state approval does NOT change the Federal timeline for paraprofessionals providing instructional support in a program supported with Title 1, Part A funds.)

Requirements for Paraprofessional Approval for Persons Employed in Programs Supported with Title I Funds

Meet **one** of the following four options:

1. Completed 60 semester hours of college credit at a regionally accredited institution of higher education. Evidence is an official transcript, **or**
2. Obtained an associate’s degree (or higher) at a regionally accredited institution of higher education. Evidence is an official transcript, **or**
3. Met a formal State assessment by **one** of the following means:
 - Passed the ETS Parapro Assessment, with 460 as the minimum passing score. Evidence is an official score report, **or**
 - Passed the applicable ACT WorkKeys assessment (Applied Mathematics – 4, Reading for Information – 4, Writing – 3) **and** provide verification of satisfactory local performance assessment. Evidence is the ACT “Proficiency Certificate for Teacher Assistants,” **or**
 - Met State paraprofessional approval **plus** 300 Professional Training Points (PTPs). The PTPs may be accrued as follows:
 - Paraprofessional work experience (public or private): 1 year = 30 PTPs (maximum 150).

Evidence is an official letter signed by the chief administrator or other designated official of the employing school or district.

- College credit beyond the 30 semester hour state requirement: 1 semester hour = 15 PTPs.
Evidence is an official transcript.
- Complete ISBE/ICCB Paraprofessional Test Preparation Curriculum training = 15 PTPs.
Evidence is a certificate of completion.
- Professional development activity related to assisting in the instruction of reading/language arts, writing, and/or mathematics: 1 hour participation = 1 PTP
Evidence before July 1, 2004, is a written description of the activity, which includes the subject, date, location, and name of the provider. If available, provide a program, outline, or provider completion form.

Evidence beginning July 1, 2004, is a provider completion form (ISBE Form 77-21) which includes subject, date, and location. If available, provide a program or outline.

4. Met a rigorous State-approved local academic assessment that conforms to federal guidelines.