

## **ParaPro Assessment Education and Training Cluster**

(High Skill, High Wage, High Demand = Education and Training)

### **Name and Description of Project:**

The ParaPro Assessment measures the skills and knowledge in reading, writing, and math of prospective and practicing paraprofessionals. It also measures their ability to apply those skills and knowledge when assisting in classroom instruction. It was designed to satisfy the requirements of the federally legislated No Child Left Behind Act.

In order to obtain paraprofessional certification in Arkansas, individuals must meet one of the following three requirements:

- Completed 2 years of study at an institute of higher education; or
- Obtained an associate's (or higher) degree; or
- ParaPro Assessment passing scores

This project will allow students who successfully complete the program and the assessment to enter the field upon graduation from high school. Fees for the assessment will be reimbursed when eligible students meet or exceed the Arkansas qualifying score.

### **Major Activities:**

Complete application to become an Internet-based ParaPro Assessment site.

Register students who have completed the Education and Training program of study of the ParaPro Assessment.

### **Performance Indicator:**

CTE Skill Attainment through certification

### **Measurement:**

The success of this project will be measured by the number of students completing the Education and Training program of study who successfully meet or exceed the qualifying score for the State of Arkansas.

### **Professional Development:**

Teachers will attend professional development provided by DWE to implement this project.

### **Instructional Materials/Supplies:**

None required

### **Equipment:**

Three computers for on-line para-pro assessments

## How the Test Was Developed

The ParaPro Assessment reflects the most current research and the professional judgment and experience of educators from across the country. The test was developed with the assistance of an advisory committee composed of paraprofessionals and the teachers who work with them. A thorough job analysis was conducted to determine what knowledge and skills in the areas of reading, writing, and mathematics and in assisting in instruction in these areas are important for Paraprofessionals.

## What the Test Questions Are Like

The test consists of 90 multiple-choice questions in the core subject areas of reading, writing, and math. Approximately two-thirds of the questions focus on basic skills and knowledge, while the remaining one-third focuses on applying skills in the classroom. See the [ParaPro Test at a Glance \(PDF\)](#).

## How ETS Ensures Quality and Fairness

Each test edition is reviewed multiple times for accuracy, fairness, and relevance as it's developed. After the test is given, but before scores are released, each question undergoes rigorous statistical analysis to confirm it is

- accurate
- comparable to previous tests
- fair to test taker subgroups.

These procedures meet and exceed the exacting standards of the professional measurement community and ETS's own [Standards for Quality and Fairness \(PDF\)](#).

The ParaPro Assessment is reviewed and updated on an ongoing basis to confirm it provides the valid information states and districts need to meet legislative mandates.

## Why the Test Was Developed

ETS's ParaPro Assessment was developed in response to the federal legislation known as *No Child Left Behind*. The law requires paraprofessionals serving in an instructional capacity to

- hold an associate of arts degree, or
- complete two years of college, or
- demonstrate, through a state or local academic assessment, that they are knowledgeable in reading, writing, and math, and capable to assist in classroom instruction.

## What Is It?

The ParaPro Assessment measures the skills and knowledge in reading, writing, and math of prospective and practicing paraprofessionals. It also measures their ability to apply those skills and knowledge when assisting in classroom instruction. It was designed to satisfy the requirements of the federally legislated *No Child Left Behind Act*.

## Who Takes It?

The test is for prospective and practicing paraprofessionals.

## How Long Is It?

Test takers have 2 1/2 hours to complete the test.

## What Subjects Are on the Test?

Test subjects include reading, writing, and math.

## What Are the Questions Like?

The test has 90 multiple-choice questions, approximately two-thirds of which focus on basic skills and knowledge. The remaining one-third focuses on applying skills in the classroom. All test questions are in English.

## How Is the Test Given?

The test is given in paper- and Internet-based formats. Complete the [Internet-based ParaPro Assessment Application](#) to become an Internet-based test center.

## Fees

Test/Service	Fee
Test fee (non-refundable)	\$45.00
<b>Additional fees for the paper-based test:</b>	
Late registration	\$45.00
Test center or test date change	\$45.00
Scores by Phone	\$30.00 per request
Score Verification	\$40.00
<b>Additional fees for both versions:</b>	
File Correction	\$35.00
Additional Score Reports	\$40.00 each

*Fees are subject to change without notice.*

## Forms of Payment

Preferred

- Credit card — American Express, Discover, JCB, MasterCard, or VISA
- Money order/Bank Check (Make payable to ETS-ParaPro Assessment)
- U.S. Postal Money Order

## Payment Policies

All test payments must

- be paid in full
- dated within 90 days of the date of receipt at ETS
- have the correct numeric and written dollar amount
- have the appropriate signature(s).

The following guidelines also apply:

- All fees are stated in U.S. dollars.
- By sending your check, you are authorizing ETS at its discretion to make a one-time electronic debit from your account for the amount of your check. No additional amount will be added. If you do not have sufficient funds in your account, an additional \$20 U.S. service fee will be debited electronically from your account.
- Services may be withheld for nonpayment of fees.
- There are no refunds.
- There is a \$20 fee for declined credit cards.
- Cash payments cannot be accepted.

**If you don't submit the correct fee, your registration or request for service may be returned. Official score reports will not be released if you have an outstanding balance.**