



Paraeducator Work Group – Student Survey

Sponsored by the Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services in collaboration with the Johns Hopkins University Center for Technology in Education

The purpose of this survey is to identify current practices throughout the state and assess local school system, public agency, and stakeholder needs in order to develop recommendations for action planning.

This questionnaire pertains to your knowledge of those paid, non-certified instructional support staff, also known as "paraeducators," who assist teachers, schools, and students (particularly those students with disabilities). While the title "paraeducator" is not standard across the state, for simplicity these assistants will be called "**paraeducators**" in this survey. "**Learning environment**" refers to the classroom or other settings where children/students receive support from paraeducators. Additionally, "**school**" refers not only to K-12 schools, but also other public agencies and Local Infants and Toddlers programs.

1) Please check the box that indicates your local school system or public agency.

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Allegany | <input type="checkbox"/> Anne Arundel | <input type="checkbox"/> Baltimore City |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Baltimore County | <input type="checkbox"/> Calvert | <input type="checkbox"/> Caroline |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carroll | <input type="checkbox"/> Cecil | <input type="checkbox"/> Charles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dorchester | <input type="checkbox"/> Frederick | <input type="checkbox"/> Garrett |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Harford | <input type="checkbox"/> Howard | <input type="checkbox"/> Kent |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Montgomery | <input type="checkbox"/> Prince George's | <input type="checkbox"/> Queen Anne's |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Somerset | <input type="checkbox"/> St. Mary's | <input type="checkbox"/> Talbot |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Washington | <input type="checkbox"/> Wicomico | <input type="checkbox"/> Worcester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Maryland School for the Blind | <input type="checkbox"/> Maryland School for the Deaf | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> RICA/Catonsville Educational Center | <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Justice Educational Programs | |

2) How old are you? (Write your age on the line below.)

_____ years old

3) **Which of these titles or names are used to describe paraeducators in your school? (Check all that apply.)**

- Paraeducator
 - Paraprofessional
 - Teacher's Aide/Assistant
 - Assistant Teacher (AT)
 - Intervener
 - IEP Aide
 - Inclusion Helper
 - Student Mentor
 - Educational Assistant
 - Instructional Assistant
 - Parent Helper
 - Other (please specify): _____
-

4) **With which of the following kinds of tasks does a paraeducator work with you? (Check all that apply.)**

- Help with my daily living activities** (for example, moving from one place to another, dressing, or eating)
 - Help with my medical needs** (for example, giving me my medication, helping with my nebulizer or other equipment)
 - Watching over me and other students** (for example, in the cafeteria, when waiting for the bus, etc.)
 - Helping me use technology equipment** (for example, typing/using computers, setting up communication devices for me, helping with equipment like hearing aids)
 - Helping me get along with other students** (for example, learning to listen to others, talk about my feelings, work in groups with others)
 - Helping me with classwork** (for example, helping me to work on assignments or helping to administer tests)
 - Helping with reading, writing, or speaking** (for example, making Braille materials for me, using American Sign Language)
 - Other** (please specify): _____
-

5) **How else would you like paraeducators to help you? (Use the space below to write any suggestions you might have.)**

6) **During the most recent school year (2000-2001), approximately how many paraeducators worked with you?**

- Zero
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6 – 10
- More than 10

Thank you for your help!

Please give this survey to the person who asked you to fill it out, OR you can:

Mail it to:

Paraeducator Work Group
c/o Center for Technology in Education
6740 Alexander Bell Drive / Suite 302
Columbia, MD 21046

Fax it to:

410-312-3868
Attn: Paraeducator Work Group

Be sure to get permission to use a fax machine that is not your own. Thanks!