

Highly Qualified **PARAPROFESSIONAL** REQUIREMENTS

Title I, Part A paraprofessionals must have a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent and meet one of the following:

Option A:

Complete at least two years of study at an institution of higher education (defined as completion of 48 semester hours or equivalent trimester hours) of college coursework or an applicable number of semester hours as defined by the institution of higher education attended, whichever is less;

Option B:

Possess an associate (or higher) degree; or

Option C:

Meet a rigorous standard of quality and can demonstrate, through a local academic assessment:

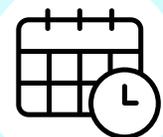
- Knowledge of and the ability to assist in instructing reading, writing, and mathematics; or
- Knowledge of and the ability to assist in instructing reading readiness, writing readiness, and mathematics readiness, as appropriate.

Those who do not meet Options A or B are encouraged to participate in the Lamar CISD Paraprofessional Academy to prepare for a district-approved assessment measuring the candidate's ability to assist in instructing reading, writing and mathematics readiness.

Upcoming Sessions

- ✓ September 6th & 7th
- ✓ October 11th & 12th
- ✓ January 10th & 11th
- ✓ February 21st & 22nd
- ✓ April 10th & 11th
- ✓ May 1st & 2nd

CLICK HERE
TO REGISTER!



INSTRUCTIONAL PARAPROFESSIONAL ACADEMY

The LCISD Locally Approved Assessment for Paraprofessional Readiness consists of 60 multiple choice and written response questions across the three subject areas of reading, writing, and mathematics. Examinees must complete the two-day Academy and pass all three parts of the exam with a 70% mastery or higher in order to meet the rigorous standard of quality.

Examinees who miss more than 18 questions on the combined three-part exam will be required to attend a review session before re-taking the assessment.

Approximately two-thirds of the questions in each subject focus on basic skills and knowledge, and approximately one-third of the questions in each subject area focus on the application of those skills and knowledge in a classroom context.

The two-day LCISD Paraprofessional Academy will prepare candidates for this assessment and for the responsibilities of the instructional paraprofessional job role.

Lamar CISD Paraprofessional Academy Overview:

| | | |
|---------------|---------------|--|
| Day 1: | 8:30 - 9:00 | Welcome/Introductions/Overview |
| | 9:00 - 11:30 | Professional Practices and Responsibilities of Instructional Paraprofessionals |
| | 11:30 - 12:30 | Lunch on your own |
| | 12:30 - 2:30 | Mathematics Skills and Knowledge Review |
| | 2:30 - 4:30 | Assessment for Paraprofessional Readiness: Mathematics |
| Day 2: | 8:00 - 8:30 | Welcome/Overview |
| | 8:30 - 10:30 | Reading Skills and Knowledge Review |
| | 10:30 - 12:30 | Assessment for Paraprofessional Readiness: Reading |
| | 12:30 - 1:30 | Lunch on your own |
| | 1:30 - 2:30 | Writing Skills and Knowledge Review |
| | 2:30 - 4:30 | Assessment for Paraprofessional Readiness: Writing |

I. Mathematics Readiness

a. Mathematics Skills & Knowledge

*The fundamentals of mathematical knowledge and skills including deriving the sum, difference, product and quotient of positive whole numbers. The basic arithmetic operations studied in mathematics include addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. These operations are also associated with arithmetic properties. **Examinees may not use calculators.***

1. Number Sense and Basic Algebra

- a. Basic addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of whole numbers, fractions and decimals
- b. Recognize and interpret mathematical symbols such as +, <, >, <
- c. Understand the definition of mathematical terms such as sum, difference, product, quotient, numerator and denominator
- d. Recognize the position of numbers in relations to each other ($1/3$ is between $1/4$ and $1/2$)
- e. Recognize equivalent forms of numbers and basic concepts of exponents ($2^2 = 4$)
- f. Demonstrate knowledge of place value for whole numbers and decimals
- g. Compute percentages
- h. Used mental math to solve problems by estimation
- i. Solve word problems

2. Geometry & Measurement

- a. Time value of money
- b. Converting units or measures in the same system (inches to feet, centimeters to meters)
- c. Identify basic geometrical shapes
- d. Perform computations related to area, volume and perimeter of basic shapes

3. Data Analysis

- a. Interpret tables, charts and graphs
- b. Create basic tables, charts and graphs
- c. Compute the mean, median and mode

b. Application of Mathematics Skills and Knowledge to Classroom Instruction

*The mathematics skills and knowledge portion of this examination assesses the examinee's ability to apply three categories of math skills measured above (number sense & basic algebra, geometry & measurement and data analysis) in a classroom setting or in support of classroom instruction. The test questions do not require knowledge of advanced-level mathematics vocabulary. **Examinees may not use calculators.***

II. Reading Readiness

a. Reading Knowledge & Skills

Reading Knowledge & Skills questions measure the examinees ability to understand, interpret and analyze a wide range of text. Questions are based on reading passages, graphs, charts and tables from a variety of subject areas and real-life situations. The questions assess the examinee's ability to:

1. Identify and differentiate main idea and supporting ideas.
2. Identify the components of text structure.
3. Identify the author's purpose and point of view.
4. Determine the meaning of words or phrases in context.
5. Draw inferences from context
6. Determine fact from opinion in context
7. Interpret information from tables, diagrams, charts and graph

b. Application of Reading Skills and Knowledge of Classroom Instruction

Reading Application questions are typically based on classroom scenarios in which students are involved in reading related tasks and vocabulary development. These questions measure the examinee's ability to assist students in learning the features of written text.

1. Basic Reading Components (phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, comprehension)
2. Word Analysis
3. Sounding out words (recognize long & short vowels, consonant sounds, rhyme)
4. Break down of words into parts (syllables, root words, prefixes, suffixes)
5. Decode words or phrases using context clues
6. Distinguish between synonyms, antonyms and homonyms
7. Alphabetize words
8. Parts of the Reading Process (pre-reading, comprehension, written directions)

III. III. Writing Readiness

a. A. Writing Skills and Knowledge

A fundamental understanding of written English is required to help students with writing. This part of the exam will test examinee's error detecting skills in major areas of the written language.

1. Basic grammar and grammar errors in standard written English
2. Errors in word usage (their/they're/there)
3. Errors in punctuation
4. Parts of a sentence (subject and verb)
5. Parts of speech (noun, verb, pronoun, adjective)
6. Errors in spelling

b. Application of Writing Skills and Knowledge to Classroom Instruction

Writing skills and application questions are typically based on classroom scenarios in which students are planning, composing, revising or editing documents written for a variety of purposes.

1. The Writing Process (pre-writing, draft, revising, editing, publishing)
2. Write for different purposes and audiences
3. Recognize and write different modes of writing (persuasive, narratives, letters)

Each part of the assessment (reading, math, and writing) will consist of 20 questions each for a total of 60 questions. Examinees must complete the two-day Academy and pass all three parts of the exam collectively with a 70% mastery score or higher. The exam will be graded on a Pass/Fail basis. Examinees who miss more than 18 questions on the combined three-part exam will not meet the passing standard and will be required to attend a review session before retaking the assessment.