



PARAPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION (505 & 507)

Associate of Applied Science Degree (505)

Certificate Program (507)

ABOUT OUR PROGRAM

The purpose of the Paraprofessional AAS Degree and Certificate Program is to prepare prospective teacher aides to enter the workforce after meeting the Federal Teacher Aide Certification requirements. As education has moved towards specialization, one of the largest areas of growth is the teacher aide field. This growth has created an increasing need for properly trained and certified teacher aides. The Highland Community College, Teacher Aide, Paraprofessional AAS Degree Program offers the student the theory and practical skills training necessary to not only meet certification requirements, but to exceed them.

The target population for the Teacher Aide, Paraprofessional AAS Degree Program includes the following: persons desiring career entry skills; displaced workers pursuing retraining into new career areas; and current teacher aides in need of upgraded skills.

There are two items of particular interest in this program. The first is the attention given to communications and math skills. Feedback from the college curriculum and instruction committee has traditionally assured faculty that emphasizing these areas will afford improved academic value for students.

The second noteworthy feature concerns the component of special education and educational technology in the curriculum. These areas are of vital importance to today's educator, and having strong skills in each will enable teacher aides who are graduated from our program to contribute significant value to full-time teachers in their school settings.

The Teacher Aide Paraprofessional AAS Degree Program is complementary to the Early Childhood Education Program and Associate of Applied Science programs at Highland Community College. The programs will share faculty, facilities, and resources allowing improved economies of delivery. Appraisals of local market need have shown a considerable demand for trained teacher aides. A review of local employers indicates a steady demand for this career to address issues of growth and employee retention.

NATURE OF WORK AND EMPLOYMENT

The typical program graduate is prepared to be a teacher's aide in either a public or private school.

PROGRAM CONTACTS

Call Highland at 815-235-6121 for the following program contacts:

- Dr. Thompson Brandt, Dean, Humanities and Social Sciences
- Mr. Scott Anderson, Dean of Business & Technology
- Ms. Melissa Johnson, Early Childhood Faculty
- Ms. Vicki Schulz, Student Advisor

AAS Degree Model (Paraprofessional)

General Education 22 Req. Hours

* ENGL	121	Rhetoric and Composition I	3
* ENGL	122	Rhetoric and Composition II	3
SPCH	191	Fundamentals of Speech	3
SOCI	276	Racism and Diversity in Cont. Society	3
PSY	161	Introduction to Psychology	3
		Humanities/Fine Arts Elective	3
* MATH	164	Math for Elementary Teachers I	4

AAS Degree Model (Paraprofessional)

Professional Education 19 Req. Hours

* EDUC	100	Education Observation I	1
EDUC	221	The American Public School	3
EDUC	224	Introduction to Special Education	3
EDUC	225	Educational Technology	3
* PSY	262	Human Growth and Development	3
		- and/or -	3
* PSY	162	Child Psychology	3
ECE	124	Language & Literacy Development in Early Childhood	3
* MATH	174	Math for Elementary Teachers II	3

* Course has a prerequisite. See course descriptions.



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Electives 23 Required Hours

ECE	127	Music and Movement for the Young Child	3
*	ECE	128 Practicum II	3
ECE	206	Creative Activities for the Young Child	
	- or -		3
ART	110	Introduction to Art	
CJS	208	Juvenile Delinquency	
	-or-		3
LAW	208	Juvenile Delinquency	
ECE	121	Introduction to Early Childhood Education	3
ECE	123	Health, Safety & Nutrition of Young Child	3
ECE	203	Home School & Community Relations in Early Childhood	3
NSCI	131	Physical Science	
	- or -		4
NSCI	132	Physical Geography	
*	PSY	261 Educational Psychology	3
SOCI	274	Marriage and Family	3
SPAN	155	Elementary Spanish I	4

Total Hours = 64

Certificate Model (Paraprofessional)

ECE	121	Introduction to Early Childhood Education	3
ECE	123	Health, Safety & Nutrition of Young Child	3
ECE	124	Lang. & Literacy Development in EC	3
*	EDUC	100 Education Observation I	1
EDUC	221	The American Public School	3
EDUC	224	Introduction to Special Education	3
EDUC	225	Educational Technology	3
*	ENGL	121 Rhetoric and Composition I	3
*	MATH	164 Math for Elementary Teacher I	4
*	MATH	174 Math for Elementary Teachers II	3
*	PSY	262 Human Growth and Development	
	- and/or -		3
*	PSY	162 Child Psychology	
PSY	161	Introduction to Psychology	3
SOCI	276	Racism and Diversity in Cont. Society	3

Total Hours = 38