



# Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

To: Indiana State Board of Education

From: Risa A. Regnier, Director of Educator Licensing

Date: June 13, 2025

Subject: Final approval of updated Praxis paraprofessionals assessment

## **Background**

On May 6, 2020, the U.S. Department of Education approved the Indiana Department of Education's (IDOE's) request to allow local educational agencies (LEAs) that meet the requirements to utilize more flexible state defined paraprofessional requirements rather than the current federal requirements. LEAs may choose one of the following options to serve as their paraprofessional requirements, or they may request approval from IDOE for an option that does not appear on the list below.

The paraprofessional can be determined to be highly qualified if they have:

- Two years of college experience
- A two-year college degree
- Passed the ParaPro Assessment or its successor assessment (within the first year of employment)
- One year or 1,000 hours of previous employment experience in a school or working with children
- Passed annual school-level evaluations
- Completed 48 credit hours of college level classes
- Child Development Associate (CDA) Credentials
- Completed LEA required professional development modules/training
- Completed Other Requirements – LEAs may request approval from IDOE

These requirements apply to Title-I funded paraprofessionals in Targeted Assistance Schools (TAS), or all instructional paraprofessionals regardless of how they are funded in Schoolwide Programs (SWPs).



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## ParaPathways Assessment for Paraprofessionals

As a component of its normal and usual work to periodically update and replace assessments, Educational Testing Service (ETS) is replacing the existing ParaPro assessment #1755 with the updated ParaPathways assessment #5757, during a one-year transition period. The ParaPathways assessment includes two subtests: reading/writing (subtest 5758) and math (subtest 5759).

In March 2025, a multistate standard-setting study was conducted; 10 panelists representing five states participated. Panelists had experience as paraeducators, were teachers or other staff who train beginning paraeducators, or were educators who work with paraeducators. The recommended multistate passing score for **subtest 5758 in reading/writing** is 28 out of a possible 45 raw-score points. The scaled score associated with a raw score of 28 is **332** on a 310-350 scale. The recommended passing score for **subtest 5759 in math** is 20 out of a possible 30 raw-score points. The scaled score associated with a raw score of 20 is **334** on a 310-350 scale. The ParaPathways assessment will replace the current ParaPro test as of September 1, 2026. The full multistate standard-setting technical report with the recommended cut score was posted on IDOE's Educator Testing website for public comment for 30 days. Three public comments were submitted: Two comments expressed support for lower cut scores; one comment expressed support for a higher cut score for the reading/writing subtest #5758

No IDOE-issued educator license is based on passing ParaPro or ParaPathways. These tests are used as a local option for determining the highly qualified status of paraprofessionals employed by the LEA. From September 1, 2025, until August 31, 2026, both paraprofessional assessments will be available. On September 1, 2026, only ParaPathways will be available.

### Action Needed

Approval/adoption of ParaPathways Assessment as an accepted local option for determining the highly qualified status of paraprofessionals employed by LEAs.

### IDOE Recommendation

Approval of the ETS ParaPathways Assessment for paraprofessionals; reading/writing subtest cut score **332**; math subtest cut score **334**; effective September 1, 2025.