



# National Occupational Framework: Paraeducator

Paraeducators support the instruction of students in grades K–12 to prepare them for personal and professional success. They assist teachers with many tasks including classroom management, instructional delivery, assessment of students, and administrative duties. They also engage with stakeholders in the school and community to support student needs.

**Paraeducator**  
National Occupational Framework  
<https://urbn.is/3VFb4UX>



## Apprenticeship: A Solution for Recruiting and Training Paraeducators

Apprenticeship programs combine learning on the job and in the classroom to train workers in the exact skills needed by employers. Paraeducators are the fastest growing segment of the education workforce, and they play a critical role in maintaining a calm, organized, and efficient classroom environment that supports student learning. Apprenticeships prepare paraeducators with the child development knowledge and skills they need to effectively perform this in-demand job.



**Apprenticeship Benefits:**

**90%**  
employment retention for apprentices

**86%**  
of employers with programs recommend apprenticeship

**\$1.44**  
return on investment for every dollar spent

### WHAT'S INCLUDED IN A [NATIONAL OCCUPATIONAL FRAMEWORK](#)?

- background information to help you learn more about the occupation
- comprehensive list of the competencies apprentices need to do the job
- building blocks of information for employers developing a registered apprenticeship program

Questions? Visit the National Apprenticeship Resource Hub at [apprenticeships.urban.org](https://apprenticeships.urban.org) or contact the Urban Institute at [apprenticeship@urban.org](mailto:apprenticeship@urban.org).



This project has been funded, either wholly or in part, with federal funds from the Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration under Cooperative Grant Number AP-36653-21-75-A-11. The contents of this publication do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Department of Labor, nor does mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement of the same by the US Government.