



Dec 9, 2024

Dear Parents,

In compliance with the requirements of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) the Evergreen Public Schools would like to inform you that you may request information about the professional qualifications of your student's teacher(s) or instructional paraprofessional(s) [ESSA Section 1112(e)(1)(A)].

The following professional qualification information may be requested pertaining to your child's teacher(s):

1. Whether the teacher has met Washington teacher certification requirements for the grade level and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
2. Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency or other provisional status through which Washington qualifications or certification criteria have been waived.
3. The college major and any graduate certification or degree held by the teacher.
4. Whether the student is provided services by paraprofessionals, and if so, their qualifications.

The following professional qualification information may be requested pertaining to an instructional paraprofessional instructing your child:

Paraeducators must be at least eighteen years of age and hold a high school diploma or its equivalent, (for more detailed information on what is considered equivalent, please read the [FAQ \(document\)](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mS3yqB93lQymwsFxVv3WJd3-2B51Boz0RsAlsSlh5kw/edit) <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mS3yqB93lQymwsFxVv3WJd3-2B51Boz0RsAlsSlh5kw/edit>).

In addition, a paraeducator must meet **one** of the following:

1. Have received a qualifying score on the Education Testing Service (ETS) paraeducator assessment
2. Hold an associate degree or higher from an accredited college or university
3. Have earned 72 quarter credits or 48 semester credits at the 100 level or higher at an accredited college or university
4. Have completed an apprenticeship as a paraeducator, in a program registered with the Washington State Apprenticeship and Training Council.* For more information go to [Minimum employment requirements - Professional Educator Standards Board](https://www.pesb.wa.gov/paraeducator-certificate-program/minimum-employment-requirements/a.gov) (<https://www.pesb.wa.gov/paraeducator-certificate-program/minimum-employment-requirements/a.gov>).

Note: Paraprofessionals must work under the supervision of a certified teacher. In schools that operate a schoolwide program, all paraprofessionals must meet professional qualifications. In a Target Assistance program, only paraprofessionals instructing Title I intervention, under the direct supervision of a certificated teacher, must meet the above qualifications.

If you wish to request information concerning your child's teachers' and instructional paraprofessionals' qualification, please contact Darcy Mitchelson at (360) 604-3925 or darcy.mitchelson@evergreenps.org.

Sincerely,

Darcy Mitchelson

Darcy Mitchelson
Principal
Emerald Elementary