

PROGRAM PLANNING GUIDE

PARAEDUCATOR PROGRAM Associate in Technical Arts Degree Certificate of Completion

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: The Paraeducator Program is designed for persons interested in assisting certified elementary teachers in the public school system. The Paraeducator Program provides students with the knowledge and competency necessary to provide assistance to a licensed or certified staff in the K-12 education system. Paraeducators assist licensed/certified staff in many ways including monitoring the environment, implementing instruction to individual or groups of students, preparing materials and assisting with parent contact. Students graduating with an Associate of Technical Arts degree in the Paraeducator Program will qualify for positions such as paraeducators, paraprofessionals or educational assistants in the K-12 public education system

PROGRAM OUTCOMES: South Puget Sound Community College believes that all students need to develop a broad range of abilities that will not only make them more effective in their professional pursuits but will enhance their capacity to relate well to others in their daily lives. Therefore students who complete a Paraeducator ATA will:

- Demonstrate the following skill standards and knowledge:
Assist Licensed/Certified Staff with Student Instruction,
Assist Licensed/Certified Staff with Behavior Management,
Assist Licensed/Certified Staff with Clerical Functions,
Assist Licensed/Certified Staff with Parental Contact.
- Gather information about, understand and explain clearly to others concepts relevant to successful performance as a Paraeducator.
- Think logically and critically and apply these thinking skills in their roll as a Paraeducator.
- Communicate effectively in oral, written and graphic form.
- Apply fundamental quantitative and computation skills.
- Understand themselves and others as they interact in a global environment.
- Demonstrate skills in dealing with differences and managing interpersonal relationships.
- Understand fundamental ethical issues and their related responsibilities and liabilities.

PROGRAM INFORMATION/CONTACTS: The Paraeducator ATA degree can be completed in three years attending evenings only or in two years with a combination of day and evening courses. The majority of Paraeducator courses meet in the evening. Practicums require daytime hours. Each of the three certificates in Early Childhood Education – Family Advocate, Lead Preschool and School-Age can be obtained within one year. Students can enter the program any quarter but are strongly encouraged to meet with a Paraeducator Advisor and attend the first available ECE/Paraeducator group advising for detailed information necessary for planning their degree. Contact (360) 596-5293 for advising day information.

1. Students planning to transfer to a four-year college or university should work closely with an advisor to ensure maximum transfer of credits.
2. Courses may be taken in any order, except ECE 225, PARA 220 and PARA 225. It is recommended but not necessary to take EDUC 230 or ECE 102 first.
3. Grades of "C" or better must be obtained in all courses with an ECE, EDUC or PARA prefix to apply to the Paraeducator degree.

Paraeducator program information 596-5293

Paraeducator advisor: Christine Moon, (360) 596-5378 cmoon@spscc.ctc.edu

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

Basic Skills Requirement:

May be waived based on testing or course work. If testing reveals basic skills deficiencies in reading or writing, the following courses must be completed before taking ECE/EDUC courses. College level reading and writing are necessary to successfully progress in ECE/EDUC courses.

ENGL	097	Basic Writing II	5
READ	097	Analytical Reading II	5
MATH	090	Basic Math II	5

Associate Degree:

An Associate of Technical Arts degree will be awarded upon successful completion of a minimum of 90 credits in courses numbered 100 or above. All core and general education list requirements must be met with any additional credits to be selected as electives.

Core Requirements:

EDUC&	205	Introduction to Education w/Field Experience (formerly EDUC 101)	5
OR			
ECE	102	Introduction to Early Childhood Education	5
ECE	180	Children's Literature	2
ECE	235	Educating Young Children in a Diverse Society	3
EDUC&	115	Child Development (formerly EDUC 120)	5
EDUC&	203	Exceptional Child (formerly EDUC 215)	5
EDUC	225	Family and Community Relationship	5
EDUC	230	Guiding Children's Behavior	5
PARA	220	Assisting in the Classroom	5
PARA	225	Practicum for Paraeducators	4

Electives: (Choose 21 credits from List A and 10 from List B)**LIST A (Choose 21 credits)**

ECE	104	Art for Young Children	2
ECE	110	Learning Environments for Children	3
ECE	130	Physical Development for Young Children	2
ECE	131	Language Arts for Young Children	2
ECE	132	Caring for School Age Children	2
ECE	136	Cognitive Skill Development	2
ECE	138	Creative Dramatics for Young Children	2
ECE	141	Math & Science for Young Children	4
ECE	142	Music for Young Children	2
ECE	150	Child Health Safety and Nutrition	3
ECE	275	Current Issues in Brain Development	5
OR			
PSYC	275	Current Issues in Brain Development	5
PSYC&	200	Lifespan Psychology (formerly PSYC 220)	5
SOC	225	Sociology of the Family	5
Any Art, Music or Acting Course			5 each
Any Foreign Language			5 each

LIST B (choose 10 credits)

EARTH	105	The Earth in Time and Space	5(recommended)
Any Course from the General Education List available in Building 25 or at www.spscc.ctc.edu .			

Other courses may be considered as elective credits. Contact your advisor for approval. Up to 5 credits from credit bearing community based training, parent education or individual Building Bridges modules may be used toward elective credits with advisor approval.

General Education Requirements:

Complete a minimum of three credits from each of the four categories: Reading/Writing, Listening/Speaking, Computation, and Human Relations. Unless specific courses are listed below, refer to the General Education List for the Associate of Technical Arts/Associate Degree Nursing/Certificate of Completion available in Building 25 or at www.spscc.ctc.edu.

For an ATA, a single course may not be used to satisfy more than one category.

Communication**Reading/Writing**

ENGL&	101	English Composition I (formerly WRIT 101)	5
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Speaking/Listening

CMST&	220	Public Speaking (formerly SPCH 101)	5
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OR

CMST& 210	Interpersonal Communication (formerly SPCH 103)	5
OR		
*CMST 240	Intercultural Communication (formerly SPCH 105)	5
OR		
CMST& 230	Small Group Communication (formerly SPCH 115)	5
Computation		
MATH 101	Technical Mathematics I	5
OR		
BUS 104	Business Math	5
OR		
	any course listed under the Quantitative category on the General Education List for the Associate in Arts/Associate of General Studies	5
Human Relations		
*HUM 121	Multicultural America, Past to Present	5
OR		
*PSYC 116	Psychology of Human Relations	5
OR		
CMST& 210	Interpersonal Communication (formerly SPCH 103)	5
OR		
*CMST 240	Intercultural Communication (formerly SPCH 105)	5
OR		
CMST& 230	Small Group Communication (formerly SPCH 115)	5

Electives:

If any of the above courses have been waived, select courses with the assistance of an advisor to complete the 90-credit minimum requirement.

DIVERSITY REQUIREMENT: South Puget Sound Community College requires all new students seeking an Associate Degree to complete a “diversity” course which meets the college criteria for listing as a diversity course and has been approved for such listing by the college Instruction Council prior to the student enrolling in the class.

ECE 235 fulfills this requirement.

CERTIFICATE OPTIONS:

Three Early Childhood Education Certificates are available and can be obtained in one year.

Family Advocate Certificate will be awarded upon completion of EDUC 225, ECE 102, ECE 235 and ECE 275/PSYC 275.

Lead Preschool Certificate will awarded upon completion of ECE 102, ECE 235, ECE 131, EDUC 225, ECE 180 and an ECE elective course.

School-Age certificate will be awarded upon completion of ECE 102, ECE 132, ECE 235, EDUC 225 and ECE 180.

OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLIANCE STATEMENT: South Puget Sound Community College’s equal opportunity policy prohibits discrimination in our services and in employment against any person on the basis of race or ethnicity, creed, color, national origin, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, age, religion, Vietnam-era or disabled veteran status, or the presence of any sensory, physical or mental disability except in the case of a bona fide occupation qualification. South Puget Sound Community College is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Effective: Summer 2008

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