

PARAPRO ASSESSMENT FACT SHEET GENERAL INFORMATION

What is the ParaPro Assessment?

A test for paraprofessionals developed by Educational Testing Service that can be used by states and school districts to comply with the 2002 federal legislation. Testing is one of three options for qualifying paraprofessionals according to the law. The other two are possession of an AA degree or two years of college/university coursework.

What does it measure?

Knowledge of and skills in reading, writing, and mathematics judged important to be able to assist in instruction in those content areas.

What is the format and length?

The test consists of 90 multiple-choice items and is 2.5 hours in length. 15 of the questions are not counted toward the score.

How is it delivered?

Two methods: paper and pencil at the regularly scheduled Praxis administrations, and via the Internet at participating school districts.

Where is it given?

The **paper and pencil** test is administered at ETS national Praxis test centers.
The **internet-based** test is administered via secure Internet service only in participating school districts.

How much does it cost?

The test fee is \$45.

Is there a registration fee in addition to the test fee?

There is no registration fee.

Is there a refund policy?

There will be no refunds.

How often can the test be taken?

Paper and pencil: ETS offers the test 4 times a year.

Internet-based: ETS recommends that school districts observe a 30-day period between retakes.

There is no limit on how many times the test can be taken.

What is the passing score for the assessment?

The Connecticut State Board of Education adopted a passing standard of 457. The national pass rate at this standard on a pilot assessment was 79.1, and is consistent with first-time pass rates for most Praxis examinations. The final score is based on the number of questions you answer correctly; skipped and wrong answers do not count against you. Try to answer every question even if you have to guess. As with other assessments, the standard will be monitored and reviewed after one year of Connecticut test data is collected.

How are scores reported?

The test will yield one overall scaled score and 6 sub scores. Three of the sub scores will be related to reading, writing, and mathematics skills levels, and three will be related to the application of these skills to classroom instruction.

When are scores reported?

Paper and pencil: Scores are mailed to examinees approximately 4 weeks after the test administration

Internet-based: Unofficial scores are available on screen to the test taker at the conclusion of the testing session. These can be printed for the examinee's reference. The examinee will also receive official scores approximately two weeks after the test date. ETS will notify the school district via email when a test has been completed so that the district can view the results on the secure website.

What is the language of the test?

English. Nonstandard test accommodations (extended testing time) may be available for test takers whose primary language is not English. Test takers who meet ETS requirements will be allowed 50 percent additional testing time. Standby registration is not available. Test center changes are not available for this service because space and test materials are specifically limited to accommodate the number of examinees assigned to each center. In Connecticut, the test centers for Primary Language Not English are New Haven, Southern CT State University and Bloomfield High School.

What test preparation is available?

Test-at-a-Glance (TAAG): This contains the test specifications and sample questions with answers and explanations. It is available from the ETS website at www.ets.org/parapro.

ParaPro Study Guide: There are three ways to order copies of this booklet. You can call ETS at 1-800-772-9476 Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. EST. You must have a valid American Express, Discover, MasterCard or VISA to purchase via the telephone.

You can order a guide through the mail. Send your order to ETS with the appropriate fee (\$25). Be sure to include the following information with your order:

Paraprofessional Study Guide, Item #997331, Name, Address, Daytime Telephone Number.
Mailing Address: The Praxis Series-ParaPro, Educational Testing Service, N00, P.O. Box 6058, Princeton, NJ 08541-6058.

Or go online www.ets.org/store and order on the ETS Online Store. You will need a valid American Express, Discover, Master Card or Visa to purchase the guide online.

ParaPro Practice Test: This full length practice test was retired after being used in actual test administrations and will give test takers an idea of how they score on the test. The retired test comes with a list of correct answers plus a score conversion chart. Price per practice test is \$12.00. Purchase discounts are also available. Contact ETS to order.

Online Tutorial for the Internet-based assessment: The tutorial will cover all the steps you need to know to complete the ParaPro Assessment. To view the online tutorial go to:
http://ibt.ets.org/parapro/candidate/tutorial_welcome.jsp.

Free online practice: Available on this website: www.testpreview.com

How does a district become an Internet based test site?

Any district may become an Internet based test site for the ParaPro Assessment. Aside from the cost of the test, there is no charge to a district to become an IBT site. There is no pre-registration for the Internet-based test. The test is scheduled at the convenience of the participating school district and the test taker. Districts need to complete the Internet based ParaPro Assessment Application at: www.ets.org/parapro/ippform.html.

How will a paraprofessional be able to register for the test?

Paper and pencil: Registration is via the ParaPro Registration Bulletin available at participating districts or by contacting ETS: 1-800-772-9476 Email: parapro@ets.org. The registration bulletin is free of charge. You must use the original registration form in the ETS Registration Bulletin. You can also download the form on the ETS website: www.ets.org/parapro. **NO PHOTOCOPIES**