

ParaPro Training & Testing Resources in Rhode Island as of February 2009

The training & testing listed below is available to persons on a statewide basis. Internet-based testing (taking the ParaPro on computer) known as IBT is available through school districts & collaboratives. The written version of the ParaPro is available through Educational Testing Service (ETS). In addition to the training & testing resources listed below, a number of districts offer intensive training &/or testing for their own staff. For more information, go to www.ritap.org/ta & then to the ParaPro webpage. For your information, this handout is available on the website & is updated whenever new training or testing information is received.

PARAPRO TRAINING & INTERNET-BASED TESTING – Testing this summer is limited. Additional sessions will be scheduled for the fall. **Contact the individual sites to get information on their schedules.**

- ★ **Chariho** - Contact Deborah Williams & Nancy Pirnie, 315 –2871, adult.education@chariho.k12.ri.us or get info at <http://www.chariho.k12.ri.us>. Go to "District Info" & Adult Education link there.
ParaPro Training – A 4-week training class at cost of \$40 followed by the Internet-based ParaPro Testing. Training on space available basis. ParaPro is offered only for people taking the ParaPro training class. Cost is \$60 bank check or money order, no cash or personal checks. Photo ID required.
- ★ **CCRI** - Offer ParaPro Training Courses of 4 sessions each. Cost \$60. Contact Center for Workforce & Community Education, Cindy Pennacchia, cpennacchia@ccri.edu, 333-7070, <http://www.ccri.edu/cwce>
- ★ **Coventry Public Schools Vocational Training for Adults / Adult Education** – Offers a ParaPro Prep Class as part of its Teacher Assistant Training Program. Cost for the combined/total program including ParaPro testing is \$220.
- ★ **East Bay Collaborative** - On-line ParaPro Training. \$100 for 21-day access to program that let's you work from home or school & work at your own pace. East Bay also offers ParaPro testing on both a scheduled basis and, on a limited basis, by appointment for a cost of \$65. Contact: 245-2045 x 303; aspinwac@ride.ri.net, or www.ebecri.org.
- ★ **Newport** (Aquidneck Island Adult Learning Center) – Contact Stan Brown, 847-7171, rid04940@ride.ri.net. ParaPro training. Cost \$60. Internet-based ParaPro Testing: Cost \$60. Offers the ParaPro online on a monthly basis. They also offer it by appointment. Call Chrissy at 401-847-7171 to schedule. They can test any time from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on any weekday if the lab is not in use. The monthly schedule is Wednesday afternoon at 3:00 p.m. Next test is Oct 22, 2008.
- ★ **Providence** - Internet-based ParaPro Testing on space available basis through RI Public Employees Training Fund, Local 1033 & Roger Williams University Metropolitan Campus in Providence. Cost \$55. Contact Robert DeRobbio, 276-4849, rderobbio@rwu.edu. Testing arranged on need basis. Call to schedule.
- ★ **Washington County Adult Learning Center** - Contact: Cheryl at 783-0293, info@wcalc.org.
ParaPro Training – Course of 4 classes - 2 classes in Math, 1 in Reading, & 1 in Language. Minimum of 10 students needed to run class. Cost: \$40.00
Internet-based ParaPro Testing on space available basis: Cost \$60. Cash, checks payable to WCALC, and money orders are accepted. Space is limited. Fees are due at time of registering.
- ★ **Woonsocket** - Internet-based ParaPro Testing on space available basis. Cost \$50. Contact Kathie Lombardo, 767-4646, ride4646@ride.ri.net.

WRITTEN TEST THROUGH ETS – The ParaPro publisher, Educational Testing Service (ETS), offers a written ParaPro test 4 times a year. Cost \$45. To get information or to register for the test, go to the ETS website at www.ets.org where you should click on "Quick Links", then "Find a Test" and then click on ParaPro. This will take you to the **ParaPro Home Page**. Click on "Find a Test Center" and then on "Test Centers" for the RI test centers and dates. All dates are on Saturdays. RI test centers: University of RI in Kingston; RI College in Providence; Feinstein High School in Providence; Brown University in Providence & Salve Regina in Newport. The website provides a Registration Bulletin that you can download plus information on testing centers, resources you can use to help you prepare for the test. You can also call 1-800-772-9476 or 1-609-771-7395. The ETS ParaPro Registration Bulletin provides the required registration forms, testing information, which tests are offered at which test centers on which dates, etc.

ETS ParaPro written test accommodations for persons with disabilities or whose primary language is not English:

- If you have a disability, you can ask for accommodations. To get information or to register for the test, go to the ETS website at www.ets.org where you should click on "Quick Links", then "Find a Test" and then click on ParaPro. This will take you to the **ParaPro Home Page**. Click on "Test Takers with Disabilities" for more information. You can also call Disability Services at 1/866-387-8602; 1/609/771-7780 or TTY (for callers who are deaf or hard-of-hearing) 1/609/771-7714; fax: 1/609/771-7165.
- If your Primary Language is Not English (PLNE), you can ask for extended time in test taking. The Registration Bulletin that you can download from the ParaPro Home Page tells you how you can qualify for this. To get information or to register for the test, go to the ETS website at www.ets.org where you should click on "Quick Links", then "Find a Test" and then click on ParaPro. This will take you to the **ParaPro Home Page**. Click on "Find a Test Date". Those dates with an asterisk (*) are the dates when the testing for Primary Language is Not English (PLNE) is available. RI's PLNE testing site is RI College, (Code - TC 00349).

PARAPRO RESOURCES - The **Teacher Assistant Website** ParaPro Webpage at www.ritap.org/ta has:

★ **ParaPro Assessment Fact Sheet**

★ **ParaPro Knowledge & Skills** – Lists knowledge & skills tested.

★ **ParaPro Passing Score** – 461 as adopted by the RI Department of Education (RIDE).

★ **ParaPro Assessment & Training Availability Through RI School Districts & Related Agencies** – Contact information for districts & related agencies that offer ParaPro training & IBT ParaPro.

★ **Link quickly from the TA website to the Educational Testing Service (ETS) Website ParaPro Home Page** where you can get the various information and registration materials described above.

From the ParaPro Home Page, you can click on "Test Preparation" and access resources to help you

-Test-At-A-Glance –Free mini-workbook for test preparation

-Tutorial –Free tutorial to practice taking the IBT ParaPro

- Reducing Test Anxiety – A free booklet

From the ParaPro Home Page you can also purchase the ETS ParaPro Assessment Study Guide. ETS sells this in-depth Study Guide for \$25 or call 1-800-537-3161. This Study Guide is also available on loan – for free - from RI Educational Collaboratives in East Bay (245-4998), Northern RI (658-5790), Southern RI (295-2888), & West Bay (941-8353) + RITAP (456-4600) & CHILDSPAN (729-0765).