

Directory of RIDE Approved Teacher Assistant Training Programs – October 2009

RI TEACHER ASSISTANT QUALIFICATIONS

Qualifications for Both Instructional and Non-Instructional Teacher Assistants (TAs): According to RI State Law persons in these positions must:

1. Be of good character,
2. Have a high school diploma OR general equivalency
3. Must have completed a RIDE approved TA Training Program IF hired AFTER Jan. 1, 1999. 3 Exceptions to this particular qualification:
 - a. TAs hired before Jan. 1, 1999 do not need to meet this qualification OR
 - b. Certification as a TA in another state, OR
 - c. Hold an associate's degree or bachelor's degree and have completed coursework or other training that covers the knowledge and skills needed for entry level instructional TAs as articulated in RIDE TA Standards. *The law does not specify the degree has to be in education or a related field...BUT training needs to cover the same TA knowledge and skills that RIDE approved TA Training Programs are required to cover in accordance with RIDE Standards for approval of those programs.*

Additional Qualifications for Instructional Teacher Assistants (TAs): **One** of the following 3 requirements:

1. Completed at least 2 years of study at an institution of higher education. *The law does not specify that the coursework has to be in education or a related field. School districts or other education agencies have discretion to have requirements related to type of coursework.* OR
2. Obtained an associate's or higher degree. *School districts or other education agencies have discretion to have requirements related to type of degree.* OR
3. Met a rigorous standard of quality and can demonstrate, through a formal State or local academic assessment: knowledge and ability to assist in instructing, reading, writing, and mathematics; OR reading, writing, and mathematics readiness. (The ParaPro is the state recognized assessment.)

Additional Qualifications for Non-Instructional Teacher Assistants (TAs): Individuals serving as translators to enhance the participation of limited English proficient students must be proficient in English and a language other than English.

OVERVIEW OF RIDE APPROVED TEACHER ASSISTANT TRAINING PROGRAMS

Rhode Island has RI Department of Education (RIDE) Approved Teacher Assistant Training Programs that train people in the knowledge and skills required in state standards for persons interested in being employed as a teacher assistant. The lists below provide contact information and program status re: RIDE approval (Initial Approval Date and Approval Expiration Date) including:

- Currently Approved Training Programs For People Who Have Already Graduated From High School/Have GEDs
- Currently Approved Training Programs ONLY for High School Students in These Districts
- Formerly Approved Training Programs No Longer In Operation
- Other Pre-Employment Training Recognized by RIDE as Meeting State Standards

RIDE Approved Teacher Assistant Training Programs are provided by a number of entities: community college, school districts, educational collaboratives, career/technical programs, adult education, high schools, private schools and agencies, and individual consultants. Some programs are exclusively for "in-house" staff or for high school students. However, most are post-secondary programs available to any qualified applicant. A "typical" training program is 30-40 hours over multiple weeks, involving classes and field experience/practica. The average cost is around \$150-300. Program participants generally pay this fee. Some programs are offered free or at reduced cost to employees of the entity operating the program. The following provides contact information for these programs. The Teacher Assistant Website at www.ritap.org/ta also provides Profiles that describe the currently approved Teacher Assistant Training Programs including Contact Information, Program Overview, Program Schedule, Participant Information (eligibility, prerequisites, fees), Field Experience, Linkage to ParaPro Assessment, Program Completion Requirements and Evaluation of Participant Competencies (e.g., attendance, tests, portfolio), and Training Program Evaluation (instruments and strategies to evaluate program effectiveness in preparing participants to be teacher assistants).

CURRENTLY APPROVED TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE ALREADY GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL/HAVE GEDS

<p>Bradley Hospital / Bradley School Bradley Teacher Assistant Training Program Kevin P. Myers, Ph.D. 1011 Veterans Memorial Parkway East Providence, RI 02915 432-1130; kmyers@lifespan.org Initial Approval Date: October 3, 2007 Current Approval Expiration Date: June 30, 2010 Status: Offered ONLY for their employees.</p>	<p>Chariho Regional School District Vin Levcowich 455A Switch Road Wood River Junction, RI 02894 315 –2871; adult.education@chariho.K12.ri.us Initial Approval Date: June 29, 1999 Current Approval Expiration Date: June 30, 2012</p>
<p>Community College of RI (CCRI) Cindy Pennacchia Center for Workforce & Community Education 1762 Louisquisset Pike Lincoln, RI 02865-4585 333-7333; cpennacchia@ccri.edu, http://www.ccri.edu/cwce Initial Approval Date: Jan. 21, 2000 Current Approval Expiration Date: June 30, 2012</p>	<p>Coventry Public Schools Vocational Training for Adults / Adult Education: Teacher Assistant and ParaPro Prep class Kathleen DeLuca 40 Reservoir Road (401) 822-9499 ext 138 delucakathie@coventryschools.net Initial Approval Date: April 14, 2008 Current Approval Expiration Date: June 30, 2011</p>
<p>East Bay Collaborative Carolyn R. Aspinwall Teacher Assistant Certification Program 317 Market Street Warren, RI 02885 245-2045 x303; Aspinwac@ride.ri.net Initial Approval Date: Jan. 27, 1999 Current Approval Expiration Date: June 30, 2012</p>	<p>The Groden Center, Inc. Amy Diller, Associate Director of Training 86 Mt. Hope Avenue Providence, RI 02906 274-6310; adiller@grodencenter.org Initial Approval Date: April 20, 1999 Current Approval Expiration Date: June 30, 2012 Status: Offered ONLY for their employees.</p>
<p>Newport Public Schools Aquidneck Island Adult Learning Center Stan Brown 437 Broadway Newport, RI 02840 847-7171; stanleybrown@newportpublicschools.org Initial Approval Date: Jan. 27, 1999 Current Approval Expiration Date: June 30, 2012</p>	<p>Northern Rhode Island Collaborative Julian E. MacDonnell, Jr. 640 George Washington Highway, Suite 200 Lincoln, RI 02865 495-2023; jmacdonnell@nric-ri.org or djannetta@nric-ri.org Initial Approval Date: March 29, 1999 Current Approval Expiration Date: June 30, 2012</p>
<p>Pawtucket School Department TA Training Program for Pawtucket HIPPY & PAT Home Visitors Mary Doyle 286 Main Street Pawtucket, RI 02860 729-6509; doylema@psdri.net Initial Approval Date: January 7, 2008 Current Approval Expiration Date: June 30, 2011 Status: Offered ONLY for their employees.</p>	<p>SORICO (So. RI Regional Collaborative) Alice Woods 646 Camp Avenue North Kingstown, RI 295-2888; awoods@ride.ri.net Initial Approval Date: April 20, 1999 Current Approval Expiration Date: June 30, 2012</p>
<p>Valley Community School of Cranston C/o Cindy Houston 249 Roosevelt Ave. Pawtucket, RI 02860 722-3513; chouston@gatewayhealth.org Initial Approval Date: June 5, 2000 Current Approval Expiration Date: June 30, 2010 Status: Offered ONLY for their employees.</p>	<p>Valley Community School of Middletown C/o Cindy Houston 249 Roosevelt Ave. Pawtucket, RI 02860 722-3513; chouston@gatewayhealth.org Initial Approval Date: June 5, 2000 Current Approval Expiration Date: June 30, 2010 Status: Offered ONLY for their employees.</p>

<p>Valley Community School of Pawtucket C/o Cindy Houston 249 Roosevelt Ave. Pawtucket, RI 02860 722-3513; chouston@gatewayhealth.org Initial Approval Date: June 5, 2000 Current Approval Expiration Date: June 30, 2010 Status: Offered ONLY for their employees.</p>	<p>Warwick Adult Education Daniel Crowley, Sharron Wolf and Marilynne Soscia 575 Centerville Rd., Bldg. 5 Warwick, RI 02886 734-3156; dcrowley@adult-ed.org, shawri@cox.net, info@adult-ed.org Initial Approval Date: Jan. 26, 2000 Current Approval Expiration Date: June 30, 2010</p>
<p>West Bay Educational Collaborative Lisa Kilby 141 Bignall Street Warwick, RI 02888 941-8353; lkilby@mail.ri.net Initial Approval Date: May 7, 2002 Current Approval Expiration Date: June 30, 2010</p>	

CURRENTLY APPROVED TRAINING PROGRAMS ONLY FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN THESE DISTRICTS

<p>Regional Career & Technical Center at Coventry High School Lynn Swain and John Canole 40 Reservoir Road Coventry, RI 02816 822-9499; canolejohn@coventryschools.net, swainlynn@coventryschools.net Initial Approval Date: Feb. 2, 2000 Current Approval Expiration Date: June 30, 2012</p>	<p>Cranston Area Career & Technical Center Elaine Arbor and Charlene Barbieri 100 Metropolitan Ave. Cranston, RI 02920 270-8070; margiec1@cox.net Initial Approval Date: Dec. 13, 2000 Current Approval Expiration Date: June 30, 2012</p>
<p>Westerly School District Diane Ritchotte Westerly High School 23 Ward Ave. Westerly, RI 02891 596-2109; dritchotte@westerly.k12.ri.us Initial Approval Date: July 19, 2001 Current Approval Expiration Date: June 30, 2012</p>	<p>Woonsocket Area Career & Technical Center Dr. Lynne Bedard, Ms. Colleen Curis, Ms. Christine McKenna 400 Aylsworth Avenue Woonsocket, RI 02895 767-4667 or 767-4665; bedardl@ride.ri.net Initial Approval Date: Nov. 30, 1999 Current Approval Expiration Date: June 30, 2012</p>

FORMERLY APPROVED TRAINING PROGRAMS NO LONGER IN OPERATION

<p>Bristol-Warren School District Teacher Assistant Certification Program Bristol Warren Adult Learning Center 689 Main Street Warren, RI 02885 253-6098 and Marjorie Biancuzzo Teacher Assistant Certification Program 2 Cox Court Bristol, RI 02809 253-6098; ecoxcpa@cox.net Initial Approval Date: Jan. 27, 1999 Current Approval Expiration Date: June 30, 2009 Status: Notified RIDE in September 2008 that program no longer in operation.</p>	<p>The Center for Individualized Training and Education (C.I.T.E.) 15 Bough Street Providence, RI 029009 401/351-0610 Initial Approval Date: June 5, 2000 Approval Expiration Date: October 18, 2006 Status: Offered ONLY for their employees. Notified RIDE January 2003 program no longer operating.</p>
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FORMERLY APPROVED TRAINING PROGRAMS NO LONGER IN OPERATION CONTINUED

<p>CHILDSPAN 500 Prospect Street Pawtucket, RI 02860 401/729-0765 Initial Approval Date: May 24, 2002 Approval Expiration Date: May 31, 2004</p>	<p>CranstonArc - Cornerstone School 665 Dyer Ave. Cranston, RI 02920 942-2388 Initial Approval Date: Dec. 8, 1999 Current Approval Expiration Date: June 30, 2007 Status: Notified RIDE Nov 2005 no longer in operation.</p>
<p>Cranston School Department Kathy Park 845 Park Ave. Cranston, RI 02910 270-8182; kpark@cpsed.net Initial Approval Date: March 23, 1999 Current Approval Expiration Date: June 30, 2009 Status: Notified RIDE February 2009 no longer in operation.</p>	<p>Genesis Center Pheamo Witcher, Executive Director 620 Potters Avenue Providence, RI 02907 781-6110; Pheamo@gencenter.org Initial Approval Date: Jan. 27, 1999 Current Approval Expiration Date: June 30, 2009 Status: Notified RIDE February 2009 no longer in operation.</p>
<p>Independent Proposal for Teacher Assistant Training Trainers: Anne Dogon and Ann Marie Dubuque 50 Pilgrim Ave. Coventry, RI 02816 401/825-8514 26 Baxter Street Pawtucket, RI 02861 401/523-8204 Initial Approval Date: March 29, 1999 Approval Expiration Date: June 30, 2006 Status: Notified RIDE Jan. 2003 no longer in operation</p>	<p>Johnston Public Schools 10 Memorial Avenue Johnston, RI 02919 233-1900 Initial Approval Date: March 29, 1999 Approval Expiration Date: April 1, 2003 Status: No longer in operation.</p>
<p>National Education Association of RI (NEARI) Jane Argentieri 99 Bald Hill Road Cranston, RI 02920-2631 463-9630; Jargentieri@nea.org; chawes@nea.org Initial Approval Date: Oct. 4, 1999 Current Approval Expiration Date: June 30, 2009 Status: Notified RIDE February 2009 no longer in operation.</p>	<p>Pawtucket School Department Creamer Administration Building Park Place/P.O. Box 388 Pawtucket, RI 02860 401/729-6315 Initial Approval Date: Dec. 14, 1999 Approval Expiration Date: April 1, 2006 Status: Not in operation at this time.</p>
<p>Rhode Island Paraprofessional Training 32 Karen Drive Smithfield, RI 02917 Initial Approval Date: March 29, 1999 Approval Expiration Date: May 31, 2007 Status: Not in operation at this time.</p>	<p>Salve Regina University 100 Ochre Point Avenue Newport, RI 02840 Initial Approval Date: Aug. 17, 1999 Current Approval Expiration Date: June 1, 2006 Status: Notified RIDE Apr. 2003 no longer in operation.</p>
<p>Warwick Public Schools - Pilgrim High School Eileen Norton Teacher Assistant Training Program 111 Pilgrim Parkway Warwick, RI 02888 734-3273 x149; sherrye@wpsadmin.org Initial Approval Date: Dec. 14, 2001 Approval Expiration Date: June 30, 2007 Status: Did not seek renewal of approval status.</p>	<p>West Warwick Public Schools 10 Harris Avenue West Warwick, RI 02893 Initial Approval Date: May 21, 2001 Approval Expiration Date: June 1, 2003 Status: Notified RIDE Nov. 2003 no longer in operation.</p>

FORMERLY APPROVED TRAINING PROGRAMS NO LONGER IN OPERATION CONTINUED

Woonsocket Public Schools John Boudreau 1 Cumberland Plaza Woonsocket, RI 02895 769-5320 or 742-2703; rid27321@ride.ri.net or wtgjack@aol.com Initial Approval Date: March 29, 1999 Current Approval Expiration Date: June 30, 2009 Status: Notified RIDE Apr. 2009 no longer in operation.	
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OTHER PRE-EMPLOYMENT TRAINING RECOGNIZED BY RIDE AS MEETING STATE STANDARDS

PENN FOSTER CAREER SCHOOL (Formerly called Thompson Education Direct Program)

P.O. Box 1900
Scranton, PA. 18501
1-800-275-4410

<http://www.Pennfoster.edu>

RIDE recognizes this distance learning program for teacher assistants as meeting state standards.

Teacher Aide Training Program Description – Below is information (including cost) that is current as of June 2005. Check their website for current information.

Cost - \$513 to \$598 depending on payment method

Time Needed to Complete - A minimum of 6 months

Explanation – This is a distance-learning program that one takes using a computer. Most lesson materials are available online and students can ask questions of instructors by email. Students will also be provided with textbooks and related materials that they will use in the course.

Program Outline - 7 Instruction Modules written to take students step-by-step through skills

1. Instruction Module 1
 - a. Introduction to the Teacher Aide Program
 - b. Learning Strategies
2. Instruction Module 2
 - a. Skills for the Effective Teacher Aide
 - b. Child Development and Human Behavior
3. Instruction Module 3
 - a. How Children Learn
 - b. Enhancing Children's Self-Esteem
4. Instruction Module 4
 - a. Classroom Management Techniques
 - b. An Overview of Teaching Techniques
 - c. Student Supervision
 - d. Learning Aids:
 - i. Crack: The Facts - Pamphlet
 - ii. Sex: Not Yet - Pamphlet
 - e. Video: Setting Up the Rules
5. Instruction Module 5
 - a. Curriculum Content
 - b. Instructional Resources: Their Preparation and Use
 - c. Technology in the Classroom
6. Instruction Module 6
 - a. Language and Other Barriers
 - b. The Teacher Aide in the Special Education Program
 - c. The Teacher Aide in the Early Childhood Education Program and in the After-School Day Care Program
 - d. Learning Aids:

- i. Poison Control Slide Guide
 - ii. The Incredible Indoor Games Book
 - e. Video: The Playground
 - 7. Instruction Module 7
 - a. Children, Families, and Society
 - b. Helping Abused Children
 - c. Learning Aids:
 - i. Kids and Guns - Pamphlet
 - ii. Teen Suicide: What You Can Do - Pamphlet
 - d. Video: Kids on the Go
- Plus - Work Experience Option

BRISTOL COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN MASSACHUSETTS

Bristol Community College

777 Elsbree Street

Fall River, MA 02720

College phone: 508-678-2811; For Admissions, extension 2590

<http://srvweb.bristol.mass.edu/index.cfm>

Locations: Fall River, New Bedford, Attleboro and Taunton.

Below is information that is current as of June 2007. Check their website for current information.

INSTRUCTIONAL AIDE PROGRAM

IAD 11 Introduction to Instructional Aide I 1 credit

An introduction to the roles and responsibilities of the instructional aide in early education, with special emphasis on teacher-aide relations, techniques for observation, instructional skills, materials preparation, and classroom problem solving.

Prerequisite: None

Comments: No credit will be given until both semesters have been satisfactorily completed.

IAD 12 Introduction to Instructional Aide II 1 credit

An introduction to the roles and responsibilities of the instructional aide in early education, with special emphasis on teacher-aide relations, techniques for observation, instructional skills, materials preparation, and classroom problem solving.

Prerequisite: None

Comments: No credit will be given until both semesters have been satisfactorily completed.

INSTRUCTIONAL PARAPROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Program Courses

ENG 11 College Writing 3 credits

IAD 13 Roles and Responsibilities of the Instructional Paraprofessional 3 credits

IAD 14 Teaching Elementary School Mathematics 3 credits

PHL 53 Philosophy of Education 3 credits

PSY 51 General Psychology 3 credits

SPH 11 Fundamentals of Speech 3 credits

PSY 52 Child Development 3 credits

PSY 53 or Adolescent Psychology 3 credits

Elective Courses

Elective (Choose from HST 13, HST 20, HLT 11, or any foreign language) 3 credits

Elective (Choose from ENG 12, CIS 10 or CSS 15, PSY 55, or SCI 13) 3/4 credits

QUINEBAUG VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE PARAPROFESSIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM

The Quinebaug Valley Community College in CT operated a Paraprofessional Training Program in 1996 through 2003. The Rhode Island Department of Education has verified with the Quinebaug Valley Community College that the competencies addressed in this program were consistent with Rhode Island Department of Education standards for approved Teacher Assistant Training Programs. This program is no longer in operation.