

Have you ever wanted to work in the school system? Would you enjoy being part of a team that makes a difference?

Do you need your GED®?

What is a Paraprofessional?

The Virginia Department of Education defines a paraprofessional as a "....school employee who works under the supervision of a licensed staff member to assist in providing instruction and other services to children, youth, and families."

- "Paras" work in a variety of instructional and non-instructional roles
- Paraprofessionals work in education settings ranging from preschool and daycare to adult vocational sites

• Paras are essential parts of a team, providing direct and indirect services to students with disabilities\* \*from the The Virginia Paraprofessional Guide to Supervision and Collaboration with Paraprofessionals: A Partnership (June 2005)

**Certified Paras are in Great Demand!** 

All school systems in the Commonwealth of Virginia use paras. PRACEP is offering a virtual 6-month intensive program aimed at training a select number of candidates to become certified paraprofessionals. Paras receive good benefits and job security, along with opportunities for career advancement.

CANDIDATE QUALIFICATIONS: This program requires a 6-month commitment. Priority will be given to candidates in need of completing their GED<sup>®</sup>. HS and GED<sup>®</sup> "graduates" will also be considered. Candidates may not have a postsecondary education. Training will require a commitment of 1-2 hours/week, usually evenings with occasional Saturdays. Training is intensive and factors such as childcare, work schedules, and other commitments should be carefully considered prior to engaging with this program.

## Successful PluggedIn Para completers will obtain:

• GED®

- Paraprofessional certification (based on passing the para exam)
- CPR & First Aid Certification
- Microsoft Digital Literacy certification
- Other state required certifications
- Workplace and job search skills enabling candidates to seamlessly transition into the para role

## Apply to the Paraprofessional PluggedIn program at PRACEP!

**PRACEP**: The adult education division of the Virginia Department of Education serving Culpeper, Fauquier, Madison, Orange and Rappahannock Counties.

**Pluggedin**: A Virginia state-funded program offering an opportunity to receive training specifically designed so an individual can plug in to a career path upon successful completion.

## All program fees and materials supplied by PRACEP

For more information contact: by September 25th Joyce at jhdurso@gmail.com or 540-718-8230 Ginger at ghilleary@ocss-va.org