

# 2015-2016 Online Training Series for Special Education Paraprofessionals

For the 2015-2016 school year, PaTTAN will offer training for special education paraprofessionals online at <http://pattan.frameworkelder.com>. These online training sessions will provide practical information regarding educational methods and resources for special education paraprofessionals who work with students in a variety of educational settings. Content covered in these sessions will help special education paraprofessionals gain knowledge related to the standards outlined in the Pennsylvania Credential of Competency Checklist, and obtain in-service training hours required by Pennsylvania regulations. Ten hours of new sessions will be offered.

There are two ways to view these online sessions:

1. Districts or intermediate units can facilitate a time and place for a group of paraprofessionals to view the sessions together.
2. Paraprofessionals may view training sessions individually, at their own convenience, using a computer with an internet connection.

**NOTE: To view sessions and receive a certificate of attendance, participants must use a desktop or laptop computer system with a modern internet connection and Adobe Flash Player. Mobile devices and tablets should not be used to view sessions as participation cannot be tracked on these devices.**

No registration is needed to access these sessions. To view sessions, participants should logon to: <http://pattan.frameworkelder.com> with the username and password they created. Participants, who individually view training sessions from start to finish and complete the required review questions, will be eligible to download and print a certificate of attendance. Participants are responsible to download their certificates of attendance from the <http://pattan.frameworkelder.com> website under the Certificates tab. PaTTAN will not keep a record of attendance for these online sessions in the CourseWhere transcript system.

Sessions will be posted to the website by the start date indicated below and remain available for viewing any time after the start date.

## Available Starting August 1, 2015

### ***Professional Development Resources for Special Education Paraprofessionals***

Paraprofessionals often struggle to find training that is an appropriate match to their job role or setting and to meet the requirement to obtain 20 in-service hours each school year. This session will present an array of professional development options paraprofessionals may choose to fit their professional development needs. (One Hour)

## Available Starting October 1, 2015

### ***Fostering Peer Supports and Relationships in Schools***

Paraprofessionals play an important role in supporting students with disabilities to fully participate in the variety of social and learning opportunities within classrooms and schools. How can these supports be provided in ways that help students learn along with their peers without disabilities and develop valued relationships? This session will address foundations of developing peer supports and relationships in schools and ways paraprofessionals can support this process. (One Hour)

### ***Secondary Transition: Working with Students to Prepare Them for Adult Life***

At age fourteen, students with disabilities and the IEP team develop goals in the areas of post-secondary education and training, post-secondary employment and, if appropriate, independent living. Paraprofessionals have a key role working with students to achieve their goals as they prepare for life after high school. This session will describe how paraprofessionals can support students to develop the specific skills they need to be successful in both work and college settings. (One Hour)

## Available Starting December 1, 2015

### ***Using Mobile Devices as Classroom Tools: Basics and Beyond***

This session will provide an introduction to tools frequently used in today's classrooms, beginning by clarifying the basic vocabulary and ending with resources and ideas. The presenter will explore types of devices, how they can be used to enhance access and engagement in instruction, provide reinforcement, and build student independence. (One Hour)

### ***Supporting Independence for Students who are Deaf-Blind***

This session will focus on strategies paraprofessionals can use to foster independence in the classroom and throughout the school day. This will include the paraprofessional's role in facilitating mobility, access to instruction, communication and interaction with others. Paraprofessionals need to be able to implement strategies which promote self-determination through building choice-making, organizational and self-monitoring skills; and using appropriate levels of cues and prompts. (Two Hours)

## Available Starting February 1, 2016

### ***Credential of Competency Standard #6: Language***

This updated session will examine the impact of speech and language development on the academic progress of students with disabilities. In addition, it will highlight ways in which paraprofessionals can support students in the development of language and literacy skills. The session will also provide information regarding the implications of cultural differences in communication. (One Hour)

### ***Can We Talk? The Importance of Communication and Conversation for Developing Early Literacy Skills***

This session focuses on students in early childhood classrooms and will emphasize how communication with young children is essential to building the foundations for literacy. The session will describe the paraprofessional's role in supporting effective communication, whether through talking, sign language or assistive technology and include guidance on effective engagement during story reading. (One Hour)

## Available Starting April 1, 2016

### ***Credential of Competency Standard #7: Instructional Planning***

This updated session will provide information on how paraprofessionals can support classroom teachers by following written plans and seeking clarification, as needed. In addition, information will be offered pertaining to the preparation and organization of materials to support teaching and learning. (One Hour)

### ***Social Emotional Development in the Early Years***

This session focuses on students in early childhood classrooms and will provide strategies paraprofessionals can implement to support young children's social and emotional growth. Specific topics will include acknowledging appropriate behavior, helping young children recognize and manage their emotions, and helping children practice friendship skills. (One Hour)

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## Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

**Tom Wolf**  
Governor



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