

## PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR AND LICENSURE BOARD (PELSB)

**NEW: EXAMINING PARAPROFESIONAL QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS** Laws 2024, Chapter 115, Article 5, Sec. 21

### PARA QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Paraprofessionals meet the Federal Regulations for qualified, if the paraprofessional:

- Has at least two years of college credits or an associate’s degree or higher
- Has received a passing score on a formal assessment approved by MDE
- Meets the local assessment criteria established by MDE

A school can continue to pay staff in special education para roles, using state special education aid, only if:

- Those positions were filled during 2023-24 school year
- Paid for with this state aid
- The para has the one of the following qualifications:
  - Demonstrates the competencies in (1) instructional content and practice (competency 4), and (2) academic instructional skills (competency 9) listed in MN Rules 8710.9000 subpart4 **OR**
  - Is enrolled in a ParaPro or Paraeducator training and testing program

A school must provide administrative assistance to the paraprofessional when:

- Paraprofessional requests assistance
- The para is completing required competencies (Competencies for MDE’s local assessment or those found in Minnesota Rules, part 8710.9000, subpart 4, item D)
- This is for the 2024-25 school year only

### PARA STANDARDS

PELSB and MDE must examine Minnesota’s standards for paraprofessionals in consultation with at least the representatives from the following:

- Paraprofessional organizations (at least two)
- Minnesota Association of School Administrators
- Minnesota Administrators for Special Education

By July 1, PELSB and MDE must announce their work plan for revising the qualification requirements and determining eligibility for state special education aid.

PELSB may revise Minnesota Rules, part 8710.9000, subpart 4 to comply with the federal personnel qualifications required in Code of Federal Regulations, title 34, section 300.156.

MDE must revise the minimum passing score for the approved formal assessments.

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**EFFECTIVE DATE – JULY 1, 2024**

**NEW: SURVEY AND REPORT ON PAID STUDENT TEACHING** Laws 2024, Chapter 115, Article 5, Sec. 20, Subd. 5

PELSB must create and survey students who receive student teaching stipends and also interview a representative sample.

PELSB must submit reports to the Education Committee chairs by February 1, 2025 and July 1, 2025. The reports must include:

- Number of student teachers receiving a stipend by teacher preparation provider
- The schools where student teachers were placed
- The amount each student teacher received
- A summary of data collected from the surveys and interviews

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**EFFECTIVE DATE – JULY 1, 2024**

**NEW: PELSB TECHNOLOGY UPGRADE FUNDING** Laws 2024, Chapter 115, Article 10, Sec. 5 Subd. 2

PELSB received \$2,767,000 in one-time funding for information technology upgrades. These funds are available until June 30, 2027.

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**EFFECTIVE DATE – AUGUST 1, 2024**

**NEW: TEACHER SUPPLY AND DEMAND REPORT 122A.091 Subd. 5**

PELSB's report on teacher supply and demand will change in the following ways:

- The reporting date will change from February in odd number years, to November of even number years
- The report will include the extent to which teacher diversity reflects the student population
- The report will include teacher licensure
- Survey data from school districts and teacher preparation programs will be in the report
- The report will no longer include five-year teacher demand projections for each school, considering the students enrolled in each school

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**EFFECTIVE DATE – AUGUST 1, 2024**

**NEW: COLLECTING DATA ON NONLICENCED PERSONNEL 122A.18 Subd. 1**

Clarifies that PELSB has the authority to collect and report data on unlicensed staff for the purpose of managing and processing funding to schools. PELSB must share this data with MDE.

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**EFFECTIVE DATE – AUGUST 1, 2024**