

North Dakota Department of Public Instruction  
Dr. Wayne G. Sanstead, State Superintendent  
600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 201  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0440

## **Title I Aides/Paraprofessionals and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Programs**

**June 2010**

The state Title I office is often asked the question as to what qualifications are needed for aides/paraprofessionals working in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Programs when the program is housed in schoolwide Title I facilities. This question is addressed in the US Department of Education's guidance on Title I paraprofessionals.

**B-19. Do the paraprofessional requirements apply to people working in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Programs?**

In general, the requirements do not apply to individuals working in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Programs. However, the requirements would apply to paraprofessionals paid with Title I, Part A funds in a 21<sup>st</sup> Century afterschool program funded jointly with Title I funds in a targeted assistance school, and to paraprofessionals working in a 21<sup>st</sup> Century afterschool program that is part of a Title I schoolwide program. The requirements do not apply to staff of 21<sup>st</sup> Century programs who are not employees of the LEA.

In summary, if Title I funds are being used to support the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Programs, then yes, aides/paraprofessionals would need to meet the definition of being highly qualified. In addition, if the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Program is an integral part of the school's schoolwide program, then all aides/paraprofessionals would have to be highly qualified, no matter the funding source.