

Paraprofessionals working in 21st Century Community Learning Center Programs

The NDDPI is often asked the question as to what qualifications are needed for paraprofessionals working in 21st CCLC 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 21st Century Community Learning Center Programs?

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

In summary, if Title I funds are being used to support the 21st CCLC programs, then yes, paraprofessionals would need to meet the definition of being highly qualified. In addition, if the 21st CCLC program is an integral part of the school's schoolwide program, then all paraprofessionals would have to be highly qualified, no matter the funding source.