Credential Pathway: Paraprofessional

To help connect students with career-focused learning and experiences, the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce has created credentialing pathways that can be implemented within traditional schools. The Paraprofessional certification credentialing pathway provides an opportunity for students to prepare themselves for a career after graduation by offering the student hands-on experience, educational knowledge and training, while also meeting graduation requirements along the way. The information in the toolkit provides schools with the specific pathway, resources of how to implement the pathway, and connection to experts in the field of education.

Credential Name - Point Value - (EMIS Code)

- Parapro (assessment only) - 6 points (CQ73)
- Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention- 1 point (CJ69)
- Communicable Disease Training – 1 point (CJ70)
- CPR First Aid -1 point (CB62)
- ServSafe- Food Handler- 1 point (CQ78)
- ServSafe- Allergens – 1 point (CQ77)
- OSHA 10 – 1 point (CJ02)

How to Earn:
Students must pass the exams associated with different credentials. Often these classes are embedded into health, education and other elective courses. The Parapro test must be taken at a designated testing site. For a list of designated sites please visit: Taking the ParaPro Assessment at a Test Center

Jobs and Wages:
A Paraprofessional license allows individuals to work and be employed at school districts across our state in various aide and service positions. This also serves an introduction to education and often aspiring teachers can develop hands-on experience by working directly with students while pursuing a teaching certificate.

Implementation Needs:
Passage of the Paraprofessional exam is needed to receive this credential as well as completing the other coursework. Teachers can prepare students for the Parapro exam by using these free resources:
https://www.parapropracticetest.com/

Practice Questions

https://jobseeker.ohiomeansjobs.monster.com/Assessments/Home.aspx

Credential Funding:
Reimbursement is available through EMIS for the cost of the test when student passes credentialing exam – please visit the webpage for more details.

Best Practices:
Schools that currently offer the Parapro Credential include:
Southwestern City Schools
Parma City Schools
Lancaster City Schools