

Education Department

Paraeducator Technology

This associate degree program prepares students for a career as a paraeducator in a K-12 school setting. The program provides a foundation in academic skills, child development theory, literacy and mathematics instructional support strategies, and a comprehensive range of educational experiences necessary for employment.

Completion of this program satisfies the Title I Federal Regulation of professional development requirements for practicing paraeducators.

You'll Learn

- Proven instructional strategies for supporting reading, writing, and mathematics instruction
- Educational technology skills for teaching and learning
- Basic theories of human growth and development
- General classroom and behavior management skills
- Proven instructional strategies needed to work with children of different abilities, learning styles, and cultural backgrounds
- Constructive methods for communicating with school, family and community members

You'll Earn

- An opportunity to make a difference in children's lives
- Completion of this program is one way to satisfy the requirement of the federal No Child Left Behind Act
- Practicing paraeducators may increase their flexibility and job security by completing this program
- Course work may transfer to a senior institution

You'll Succeed

- More than half of all new jobs require education beyond high school.
- Employees with degrees have better chances for promotions.
- Associate degree holders generally earn 30 percent more than high school graduates (according to the U.S. Department of Commerce, Census Bureau).
- Many credits from an associate degree can be applied toward a bachelor's degree.

Get in, Get smart, Get going. . .

You can enroll in the Paraeducator Technology Program on either a full-time or part-time basis. The length of time required to complete an associate degree depends on the number of courses you take each semester. Some students may need refresher courses at the basic or pre-tech level; others may receive transfer credit or credit for prior learning.

Contact Education Department Chair Nancy Campbell at 302-855-1654, 302-857-1284 or ncampbel@dtcc.edu.
For more information, visit www.dtcc.edu/teach

TECHNICAL COURSES

Intro to Paraeducator Issues introduces the roles and responsibilities of the paraeducator and will be studied in this introductory course. Professional, ethical and legal aspects of becoming a paraeducator will be examined. The ability to communicate effectively with students, parents and school personnel will be emphasized. Standards-based education, diversity issues and career opportunities in education will be studied.

Foundations of Literacy teaches effective strategies to develop phonics, vocabulary and comprehension as well as techniques to decode and understand reading materials. Successful strategies for teaching writing skills will also be a major focus of this course. Recent trends and theories in reading and writing will be explored.

Classroom Management enables students to learn about behavior management theories with an emphasis on the child-centered approach known as Positive Behavior Systems (PBS). Proactive strategies for a positive learning environment will be emphasized. The strategies will highlight discipline methods, diversity and multicultural factors, mainstreaming and classroom organization.

Instructional Strategies students will learn about a variety of instructional and remedial methods, techniques and materials that are developmentally age appropriate for children. Learning styles and learning environments for different students will be emphasized. Lesson plans will be constructed.

Parent, Family & School Interaction, using an interdisciplinary approach, focuses on the dynamic relationship of the home, the school and the community as each contributes to the development and education of children. The course examines principles, technique, and resources relevant to working with parents as individuals, couples, and both traditional and non-traditional families and with the community and community agencies. This course includes field experience.

Children's Literature provides students with an overview of developmentally appropriate literature focusing on cultural perspectives and universal themes found in fiction and information text. Through class and individual projects, students explore children's literature as well as create and evaluate integrated lessons. Field experience is required.

Technology Tools in Teaching will help the student to set up and operate a computer and printer; use a computer and projection system for large screen display; use a scanner; deliver a multimedia presentation; demonstrate use of a variety of technology media including CD-ROMs and networked resources.

Word Processing & Presentations Skills In Teaching enables the student to learn how to open, save, and print files; access and run commercial software applications; use word processing to create, edit and format documents; integrate video and graphics; create, edit, and deliver an instructional presentation.

Spreadsheets in Teaching will show students how to use spreadsheets to interpret and communicate information, create formulas to perform spreadsheet calculations, and create graphs from spreadsheets.

Telecommunications in Teaching will show students how to access resources from local desktop computers, local networks, CD-ROMs and the Internet. Students will use electronic mail and use the Internet to locate and download online resources including electronic library services.

Mathematics for Teachers II is a continuation of MAT 201. Topics include areas and volumes of geometric figures, geometric constructions, measurement, introductory probability and statistics.

Internship & Seminar conducted in local school settings will provide practical experience for the prospective paraeducator. The class will meet on a regular basis to evaluate activities, share experiences and assess readiness to direct additional activities under the supervision of a teacher.

SUPPORT COURSES

General Biology or Biology I

Exceptional Child

Composition

Technical Writing & Communications

U.S. History: Post-Civil War

Oral Communications

Mathematics for Teachers I

General Psychology

Child & Adolescent Psychology

Critical Reading & Thinking

Sociology

TO APPLY FOR ADMISSION

1. Obtain an admission application by calling (302) 888-5288. Admission applications are also available online at www.dtcc.edu/all/forms/. Complete and return the application to the Stanton campus with a \$10 fee.
2. Request that your high school and/or college transcripts be sent to the Admissions Office.
3. Arrange to take the Computerized Placement Test (CPT) *unless you have already completed college-level math and English courses with a "C" grade or better*. The CPT is administered by the Admissions Office (302) 454-3954 and is used to determine appropriate course placement.
4. Meet with a Delaware Tech counselor to discuss your CPT results and select your course schedule.
5. Remember to apply and register early for the best selection of courses.