Instructional Assistants

Instructional assistants shall be hired by the superintendent.

All instructional assistants must:

1. Have a high school diploma or the equivalent;

2. Be at least18 years of age or older; and

3. Have standards of moral character as required of teachers.

In addition to the above, instructional assistants providing translation services must have demonstrated proficiency and fluency, knowledge of and ability to provide accurate translations from a language other than English into English and from English into another language.

Instructional assistants[1] who work in Title I programs and provide instructional support must have:

1. Completed at least two years of study at an institution of higher education; or

2. Obtained an associate's or higher degree; or

3. Met a rigorous standard of quality, and can demonstrate, through a formal state or local academic assessment or para-professional certificate program, knowledge of, and the ability to assist in instructing, as appropriate, reading/language arts, writing and mathematics or reading readiness, writing readiness and mathematics readiness.

The district will require individuals newly hired as Title I instructional assistants who have met another district's academic assessment as set forth by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, to meet the district's academic assessment standards.

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[1]Instructional assistants may be assigned to: (1) provide one-on-one tutoring for eligible students, if the tutoring is scheduled at a time when a student would not otherwise receive instruction from a teacher; (2) assist with classroom management, such as organizing instructional and other materials; (3) provide assistance in a computer laboratory; (4) conduct parental involvement activities; (5) provide support in a library or media center; (6) act as a translator; or (7) provide instructional services to students while working under the direct supervision of a teacher. instructional assistants may assume limited duties that are assigned to similar personnel who are not working in a program supported with Title I funds, including duties beyond classroom instruction or that do not benefit participating children, so long as the amount of time spent on such duties is the same proportion of total work time as prevails with respect to similar personnel at the same school.

These requirements do not apply to an instructional assistant: (1) who is proficient in English and a language other than English and who provides services primarily to enhance the participation of children in Title I programs by acting as a translator; or (2) whose duties consist solely of conducting parental involvement activities.

The general responsibilities of an instructional assistant shall be outlined in a job description. The major responsibility shall be to assist the classroom teacher, specialist or supervisor with instruction. The instructional assistants shall be under the supervision of the appropriately licensed classroom teachers, specialist or supervisor. Other supporting tasks may include, but are not limited to: clerical support, student control, personal care, translation or parent/family involvement activities and media center or computer laboratory support.

Instructional assistants shall not be used by the district or teacher as substitute teachers. The responsibility for classroom supervision remains with the teacher at all times.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

ORS 332.107
ORS 332.505
ORS 342.120

OAR 581-022-1710(2)
OAR 581-037-0005 to -0025
OAR 584-005-0005(41)

OR. DEP'T OF EDUC., SUGGESTED PERSONNEL POLICY GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS - EDUCATIONAL
No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, 20 U.S.C. § 6319 (2006).
The Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, as amended, 38 U.S.C. § 4212.
Title II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008.
Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.