

# Para-to-Teacher Tuition Support Program

Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services  
Florida Department of Education



## Service Obligation Agreement

The Para-to-Teacher Tuition Support Program provides financial assistance for paraprofessionals who are currently working in Florida's public schools, to earn a bachelor's degree in special education. The program will provide up to \$700 per course for tuition support through annual funding from the Florida Department of Education, Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services.

Upon completion of the program, the participant agrees to teach students with disabilities in a Florida public school for a minimum of two years for every academic year of tuition support received.

By accepting the financial assistance provided by this program, you agree to:

1. Register at a state approved college or university at least a month prior to the start of each semester. The program will not reimburse for late registration payment or charges.
2. Be enrolled for a minimum of six credit hours for each academic term in which the tuition support is received.
3. Maintain an overall 2.5 GPA in all courses. If your GPA falls below a 2.5, you will be placed on probation for one semester. Failure to raise your GPA will result in dismissal from the program. You must retake any course in which a D or F is earned, at your expense.
4. Email your grades to the Project Director in order to receive funding for the next semester.
5. Provide a copy of your schedule to the Project Director each semester.
6. Pay all other required fees (application/admissions, health, parking, and other non-tuition related university fees).
7. Participate in project evaluation activities.
8. Not accept tuition support from any other funding source except FAFSA. The amount of this financial assistance will be reported to the financial aid department at your university.

Upon completion of the program, you agree to:

1. Show proof of a Florida Professional Educator's Certificate in the area of Exceptional Student Education to the Project Director.
2. Provide your current address, telephone number, and email to the Project Director.
3. Provide the Verification of Employment form at the beginning of each school year to the Project Director until the period of service obligation is fulfilled.
4. Teach students with disabilities in a Florida public school, for a minimum of two years for every one academic year of tuition support you receive. If you decide not to teach students with disabilities in a Florida public school, you may be required to pay back the funds. Upon completion of the program, you will have up to two years to begin to fulfill your service obligation and up to six years to complete the service obligation.

I have read and accept the terms outlined above.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date