

# FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



**CHARLIE CRIST**  
Commissioner

BETTY COXE  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER  
EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

November 27, 2002

## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** District School Superintendents  
Directors of Title I Programs  
District Certification Contacts  
Directors of Personnel

**FROM:** Betty Coxe *BC*

**SUBJECT: No Child Left Behind Act  
Title I Paraprofessional Qualification Requirements**

The No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001 makes significant changes in educational programs to improve student achievement. The changes include requirements and timelines for paraprofessionals who provide instructional support services in programs that are supported with Title I funds and an overarching requirement for a secondary diploma or its equivalent for any paraprofessional paid with Title I funds.

These documents are sent to provide information and interpretations that have been made to date regarding the new federal requirements for paraprofessionals. It is hoped that some of your questions will be answered and implementation issues clarified. Please note that there are areas still under review and that further information relating to these federal paraprofessional personnel requirements may be forthcoming.

If you have questions relating to this document, please direct those to Beverly Gregory, Chief, Bureau of Educator Certification, at [edcert@fldoe.org](mailto:edcert@fldoe.org). Additional questions relating to specific program issues are to be directed to your established program contact person(s). We hope this information will help us achieve our goal of having well-qualified instructional support personnel in Florida's schools.

BC/bg

Attachments