



PARAPROFESSIONAL CHECKLIST

This checklist supports self-assessment across seven key areas of effective paraprofessional practice. Use it to reflect on your daily work and identify strengths and areas for growth.

Language Modeling and Communication

I regularly:

- ☐ Model appropriate ASL and/or English
- ☐ Engage students in meaningful conversation
- ☐ Encourage communication with peers and adults
- ☐ Create opportunities for language development throughout the day
- ☐ Help students make connections between ASL and English when appropriate

Ask Yourself:

- *Am I using every part of the school day (not just instruction time) as an opportunity to model and support language development?*

Instructional Support and Learning Facilitation

I regularly:

- ☐ Reinforce teacher instruction
- ☐ Support student understanding rather than simply providing answers
- ☐ Use multiple strategies to explain concepts
- ☐ Adjust support based on student needs
- ☐ Promote student problem-solving and participation

Ask Yourself:

- *When I support a student, am I building their understanding and independence, or am I doing the work for them?*

Student Access and Participation

I regularly:

- ☐ Monitor student engagement
- ☐ Support communication access
- ☐ Encourage participation with peers
- ☐ Recognize barriers to learning or participation
- ☐ Support student self-advocacy and independence

Ask Yourself:

- *Are there students who are consistently on the edges of participation, and what am I doing to bring them in?*

Initiative and Responsiveness

I regularly:

- ☐ Anticipate student needs
- ☐ Respond to students in a timely manner
- ☐ Look for opportunities to support learning
- ☐ Remain actively engaged throughout the day
- ☐ Take initiative while remaining aligned with teacher expectations

Ask Yourself:

- *Am I waiting to be told what to do, or am I actively looking for ways to support students?*

Professionalism and Role Clarity

I regularly:

- ☐ Maintain professional boundaries
- ☐ Demonstrate professional conduct and communication
- ☐ Present myself appropriately for my setting and responsibilities
- ☐ Understand my role and responsibilities
- ☐ Support teacher-led instruction

Ask Yourself:

- *Do I have a clear sense of where my role ends and the teacher's begins, am I consistently working within those boundaries?*

Collaboration and Teaming

I regularly:

- ☐ Communicate with teachers and service providers
- ☐ Understand lesson objectives and student needs
- ☐ Coordinate support with team members
- ☐ Follow instructional plans
- ☐ Share observations that may support student success

Ask Yourself:

- *Do I have the information I need to support students effectively, and if not, am I asking for it?*

Community Engagement and Culture

I regularly:

- ☐ Contribute positively to school culture
- ☐ Build positive relationships with students and staff
- ☐ Participate in school events and activities
- ☐ Support school-wide initiatives
- ☐ Help create a welcoming and inclusive environment

Ask Yourself:

- *Am I showing up as a visible, contributing member of this school community beyond my assigned duties?*