



OPI Special Education Para Pathways Project

LEVEL 2: EMPLOYMENT VERIFICATION



This form is used to verify that paraeducators in the Para Pathways Project have worked at **least 1,000 hours to advance to Level 2** of the Sped Technician Track. Paraeducators must be currently employed at a Montana public school and working with students with disabilities to be eligible for Level 2 tuition payment at Dawson Community College under the project.

Paraeducator Information (please print)

First Name

Last Name

Home Mailing Address

City

State

Zip

Home Phone #

Home Email Address

Work Phone #

Work Email Address

Anticipated DCC Course Start Term:

Fall 2026

Spring 2027

***Applicants must be employed at a MT public school district and working with students with disabilities.**

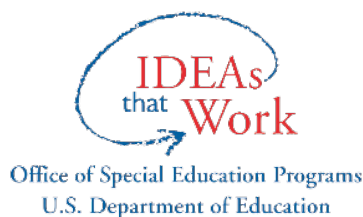
PARAEDUCATOR ASSURANCES

- _____ **Initial** to verify you are eligible for Level 2 tuition payment from the Para Pathways Project because you are **currently working with students with disabilities** in a Montana public school (2026-27 SY).
- _____ **Initial** to verify that you have worked or will have worked as a Paraeducator for at least 1,000 hours before your anticipated start term.
- _____ **Initial** to verify that you understand that in exchange for tuition payments on your behalf, this program will require a contract that includes a one-year service payback at a Montana public school working with students with disabilities in the year after the Dawson courses have been completed.
- _____ **Initial** to verify that should your employment status change and you are no longer eligible to receive tuition payments, you will notify the OPI and Dawson Community College immediately.

PARAEDUCATOR SIGNATURE

DATE

Please have your employer complete the information on the 2nd page of this form.



Paraeducator Information (please print)

First Name

Last Name

Employer Information (please print)

School District

School or Building

Sped Director, HR Director, Principal or Superintendent - Please **initial** to verify the following information:

_____ **Initial** to verify Paraeducator named above is currently employed by our district (2026-27 SY).

_____ **Initial** to verify Paraeducator named above works with students with disabilities in our district.

_____ **Initial** to verify Paraeducator named above has worked as a Paraeducator with students with disabilities for at least 1,000 hours.

_____ **Initial** to verify you understand the following: As a condition the Level 2 Tuition Payment, the Paraeducator agrees to continue to serve students with disabilities as a paraeducator or Special Education Technician in a Montana public school district for one school year following the completion of their coursework at Dawson Community College through the OPI Special Education ParaPathways Project. Both the district and the paraeducator understand this does not guarantee them continued employment and is not a binding contract with the current school district or special education cooperative.

PRINTED NAME

ROLE

E-MAIL ADDRESS

SIGNATURE

DATE

Paraeducator Applicant: **Please upload this completed verification form in your online application to DCC and save a copy for your Special Education Technician Class 09 License Application.**

ELIGIBILITY FOR LEVEL 2 TUITION PAYMENT
--

Eligibility for Tuition Payment

1. You must have completed and passed all 40 designated Special Education Technician Modules in LRP.
2. Provide verification of a minimum of 1,000 hours worked as a special education paraeducator in a Montana district using this form.
3. Complete and submit the Dawson Community Sped Tech Application, including uploading this file.
4. Complete the Tuition & Service Payback Agreement with OPI and Dawson Community College.

OPI Special Education Para Pathways Project



Tammy Lysons, Administrative
Coordinator, Special Education
Office of Public Instruction
Tamara.Lysons@mt.gov
Phone: 406-431-2309

Anne Carpenter, Program Support Specialist
Office of Public Instruction
Anne.Carpenter2@mt.gov
Phone: 406-465-0922



Nick Staffileno, Education Faculty
Dawson Community College
nstaffileno@dawson.edu
Phone: 406-377-9419

BreAnn Miller, Interim Director of Academic
Affairs
Dawson Community College
bmiller@dawson.edu
Phone: 406-377-9414