

## MN ASSOCIATION OF CHARTER SCHOOLS - NEW LAW PRIMER 2023

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### **NEW: PARAPROFESSIONAL TRAINING** - (MN Statutes -121A.642)

#### REQUIREMENT

A school district or charter school must provide a minimum of 8 hours of paid orientation or professional development annually to all paraprofessionals, Title I aides, and other instructional support staff.

#### TIMELINE

- **6 of the 8 hours must be completed:**
  - **Before** the first instructional day of the school year
  - **OR** within 30 days of hire

#### RELEVANCE TO JOB

- Orientation or professional development: must be relevant to the employee's job and may include collaboration time with classroom teachers and planning for the school year.
  - **For paraprofessionals who provide direct support to students, at least 50 percent** of the professional development or orientation must be dedicated to this.
- Professional Development can also address emergency procedures, confidentiality, vulnerability, reporting obligations, discipline policies, roles and responsibilities, and a building orientation. (120B.363)

#### CERTIFICATION

- Administrator must provide annual certification of compliance with this requirement to MDE.

#### REIMBURSEMENT

- Beginning in FY25 MDE will reimburse for paraprofessional training costs.
- Reimbursement = prior year compensation expenses associated with providing up to 8 hours of paid orientation and professional development for each paraprofessional trained under this requirement.

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**EFFECTIVE DATE - JULY 1, 2023**