

# TEACHER AIDE

## { JOB DESCRIPTION }

Perform duties that are instructional in nature or deliver direct services to students and/or parents. Serve in a position for which a teacher or another professional has ultimate responsibility for the design and implementation of educational programs and services.

## { SKILLS AND APTITUDES NEEDED }

- Ability to work well individually or as a team member
- Working knowledge of audiovisual equipment
- Computer and communication skills
- Enjoy working with children from diverse cultural backgrounds
- Demonstrate initiative and be willing to follow a teacher's instructions

Teacher aides provide instructional and clerical support for classroom teachers, allowing teachers more time for lesson planning and teaching. Teacher aides tutor and assist children in learning class material using the teacher's lesson plans, providing students with individualized attention. They also supervise students in the cafeteria, schoolyard, school discipline center, or on field trips. They record grades, set up equipment, and help prepare materials for instruction. Teacher aides are also called instructional aides. Some refer to themselves as paraeducators.

Some teacher aides perform exclusively noninstructional or clerical tasks such as monitoring nonacademic settings. Playground and lunchroom attendants are examples of such aides. Most teacher aides, however, perform a combination of instructional and clerical duties. They generally instruct children under the direction and guidance of teachers. They work with students individually or in small groups—listening while students read, reviewing or reinforcing class work or helping them find information for reports. At the secondary school level, teacher aides often specialize in a certain subject such as math or science. Teacher aides often take charge of special projects and prepare equipment or exhibits such as for a science demonstration. Some aides work in computer laboratories, helping students using computers and educational software programs.

### { SOUTH PLAINS }

Avg. Wage  
**\$6.43**

Avg. Annual  
Job Openings  
**69**

Employment in  
1998 2008  
**1,475 1,999**

### { TEXAS }

Avg. Wage  
**\$6.72**

Avg. Annual  
Job Openings  
**3,105**

Employment in  
1998 2008  
**76,620 105,200**

### { U.S. EMPLOYMENT }

In 1998  
**1,261,531**

Female **93%**  
Minority **44%**

## HUMAN SERVICES CAREERS



### { PREFERRED EDUCATION }

- OJT to bachelor degree

### { LICENSE / CERTIFICATION }

- Licensure may be required by some employers

### { REGIONAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS }

- **SOUTH PLAINS COLLEGE**- Associate of Arts (A.A.), Education or Associate of Science (A.S.), Education
- **TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY**- Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Interdisciplinary Studies
- **LUBBOCK CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY**- Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Interdisciplinary Studies
- **WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY**- Bachelor of Science (B.S.) Interdisciplinary Studies

### { JOB SITES }

Elementary/Secondary Schools	89%
College/University	9%

### { FOR MORE INFORMATION }

TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY  
1701 N. Congress Ave.  
Austin, TX 78701-1494  
(512) 463-9734, [www.tea.state.tx.us](http://www.tea.state.tx.us)

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