

INSTRUCTION

SUBJECT: Student Aides/Peer Counselors

The County Office of Education and the County Superintendent of Schools recognize that many benefits accrue from the use of student aides. When assisting on a one-to-one basis, peer tutors often provide the extra attention that enables a fellow student to grasp a difficult concept or to practice shaky skills to the point of mastery. Classroom and laboratory assistants can free the teacher to spend more time on the kinds of learning activities and assignments that require long preparation and detailed review of students' work. Whether tutoring individuals or assisting in the class or laboratory, student aides themselves also benefit from this opportunity to reinforce their own abilities and learn by doing. Assistants and attendance aides can acquire practical skills and familiarity with aspects of the school with which they would not normally have contact.

The County Board of Education and County Superintendent of Schools also realize that the time spent as a student aide is time spent away from the academic setting in which students generally receive significant new instruction. Because students need to acquire a wealth of information and abilities during their school years, the County Office of Education finds it appropriate to place reasonable limits upon activities which reduce the amount of time spent in regular classes.

The County Office of Education expects that student aides as a group should reflect the diversity of each school/program's student population and include average students as well as those who excel.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

1040 - Duties of County Board of Education

1042 - Powers of County Board of Education

35160-35160.1 - Authority of County Boards - County Superintendent