



## Starting immediately- Special Education Paraprofessional (Primary)

### About Polaris

Located on Chicago's west side, Polaris Charter Academy is a dynamic EL Education (formerly Expeditionary Learning) school dedicated to supporting students to become academically successful life-long learners with a strong sense of personal and civic responsibility. With 450 students grades K – 8, PCA promotes an expanded definition of student achievement, putting both academic excellence and character development equally at the forefront. PCA was founded in 2007 by three Golden Apple Award winning teachers whose mission was to transform education by creating a school deeply rooted in the best practice of "learning by doing." Their partnership with EL Education brought about rigorous community-based curriculum called "expeditions" (long term projects), experiential learning methods, and the importance of developing character through a core set of values, we call The Points of Polaris. PCA is one of the 33 credentialed EL Education schools and one of seven EL Mentor Schools in a national network of more than 150 schools that work together with EL Education to challenge students to think critically and take active leadership in their classrooms and community.

### Paraprofessional Job Description

Polaris Charter Academy is seeking a full time paraprofessional position for the 2018/2019 school year- starting immediately.

### Duties and Responsibilities Include:

- Assist the teacher with crisis problems and behavior management when necessary
- Monitor students safety issues both inside and outside the classroom
- Support the student in general education curriculum with activities as assigned by the teacher(s)
- Implement the modification/accommodations as specified in the Individual Education Plan (IEP)
- Monitor individual students in performing academic and social activities initiated by the teacher(s)
- Supervise child(ren) in the hallway, lunchroom, and playground
- Reinforce directions and procedures as given by the teacher
- Observe, record, and chart data on behaviors as indicated on the IEP
- Attend organized fieldwork to support student success

### Requirements:

- Flexibility regarding schedule
- Ability to implement effective de-escalation strategies
- Ability to think on your feet, especially when schedule changes occur
- Demonstrate a commitment for continuously learning and improving knowledge of interventions and supports that will increase student independence

### Minimum Degree Requirements:

- Associates Degree or higher OR of 60 hours of college credit
- OR
- Successful completion of a paraprofessional exam



### **Want to join the PCA crew?**

PCA seeks to recruit persons of diverse backgrounds. PCA is inclusive of people regardless of their race, ethnicity, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, marital status, age, physical abilities, political affiliation, religious beliefs or any other non-merit fact, so that all employees feel included, equally valued and supported.

To initiate the process, please send your cover letter, resume and three professional references to Michelle Navarre, Head of School, at [mnavarre @pcachicago.org](mailto:mnavarre@pcachicago.org).