

# Para-to-Teacher Program

Personnel Development Partnerships Grant  
Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services  
Florida Department of Education



## Program Description

The Para-to-Teacher Support Program provides financial assistance for paraprofessionals to earn a bachelor's degree in special education. The program provides tuition support and book stipends for a minimum of two courses per semester to paraprofessionals who are currently working in Florida's public schools assisting students with disabilities. Upon completion of the program, the participant agrees to teach students with disabilities in a Florida public school.

## Admissions Criteria

In order to be accepted into the Para-to-Teacher Support Program, the applicant must meet all of the following criteria:

- Have an Associate of Arts degree with an overall 2.5 GPA
- Have applied for admission to a Florida university or college
- Be currently employed as a paraprofessional in a Florida public school
- Be assisting students with disabilities
- Have a recommendation from a school district administrator
- Submit a complete application by the deadline
- Pass all portions of the General Knowledge Test by the end of the first year of admittance to the program

## Florida Public Institutions of Education Offering a Bachelor's Degree in Special Education

Students can earn their bachelor's degree in special education by taking courses at a local university campus or through an online program.

Florida Atlantic University – <http://www.coe.fau.edu/ese/>

Florida Gulf Coast University – <http://coe.fgcu.edu/specialeducation/undergraduate/>

Florida International University – [http://education.fiu.edu/undergrad\\_programs/](http://education.fiu.edu/undergrad_programs/)

St. Petersburg College – <http://www.spcollege.edu/bachelors/>

University of Central Florida – <http://education.ucf.edu/cfcs/>

University of South Florida – <http://www.coedu.usf.edu/main/departments/sped/sped.html>

University of North Florida – <http://www.unf.edu/coehs/degrees/sp/bach.htm>

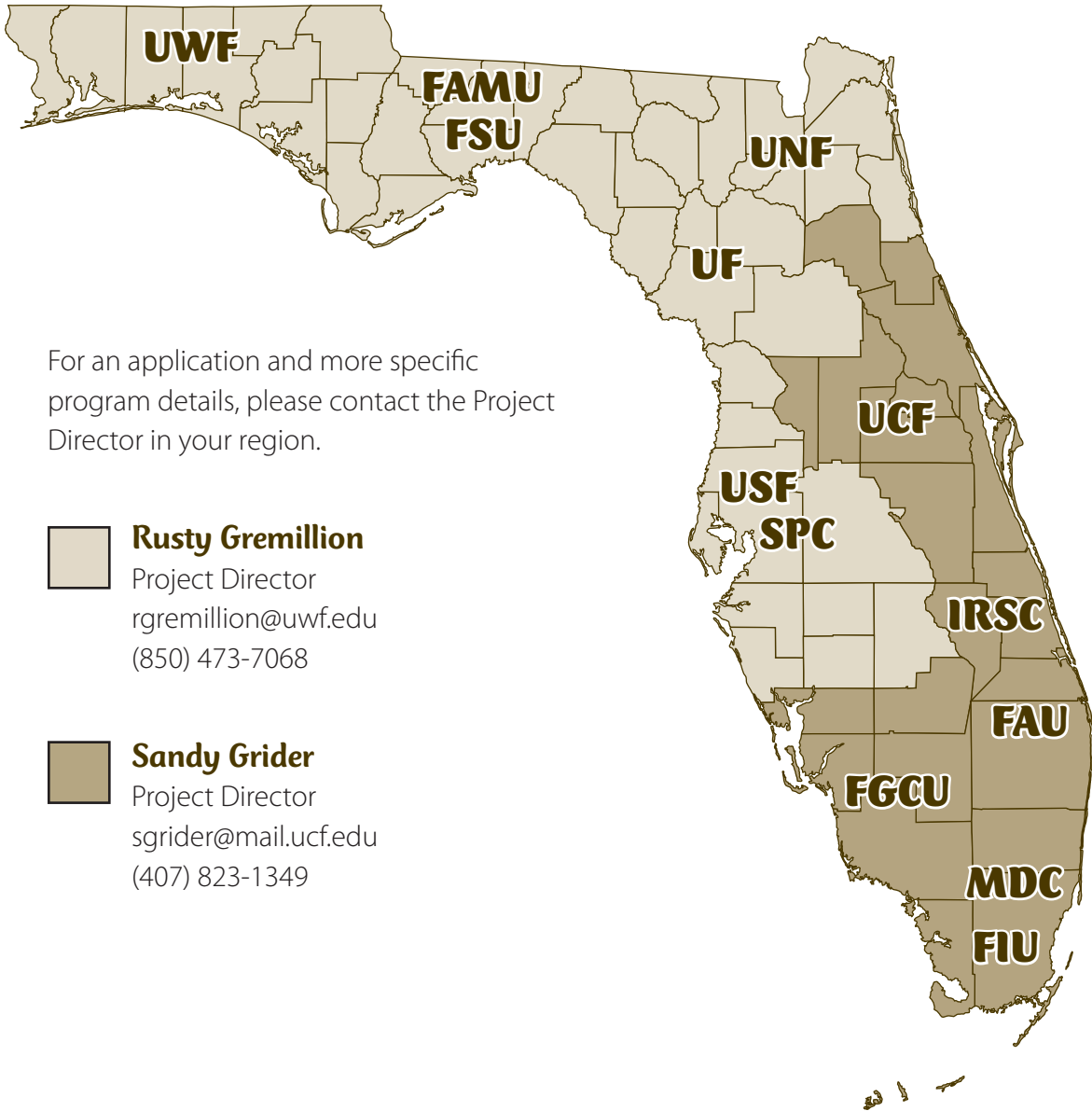
University of West Florida (total online program) – [http://uwf.edu/education/ug\\_ba\\_k12.cfm](http://uwf.edu/education/ug_ba_k12.cfm)

Indian River State College – <http://www.ircc.edu/portal/>

Miami Dade College – <http://www.mdc.edu/iac/AcademicPrograms/education/>

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For an application and more specific program details, please contact the Project Director in your region.

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