November 2026

Approved Paraeducator Preparation Programs & Certifying Official

Organization	Programs	Certifying Official
1. Buena Vista University	Generalist	Angela Hunter Director of Teacher Education Programs Associate Professor Education Buena Vista University 610 W 4th St, Storm Lake, IA 50588 712-749-1997 huntera@bvu.edu
2. Central Rivers AEA	Generalist *Areas of Concentration:* Early Childhood Special Needs	Brandie Gean Director of Continuing Education Heartland AEA 6500 Corporate Dr, Johnston, IA 50131 https://aealearningonline.org/ bgean@heartlandaea.org 515-473-6670
3. Des Moines Area Community College	Generalist	Laura Katch Education Instructor Des Moines Area Community College 2006 S Ankeny Blvd, Ankeny, IA 50023 515-248-7248 lakatch@dmacc.edu
4. Eastern Iowa Community College	Generalist	Emily Gaskill Education Practicum Coordinator & Education Instructor Scott Community College 500 Belmont Rd, Bettendorf, IA 52722 563-441-4135 egaskill@eicc.edu
5. Grand View University	Generalist	Jaclyn Easter Associate Professor of Education Department Chair and Graduate Program Coordinator Grand View University, Education Department 1200 Grandview Ave, Des Moines, IA 50316 515-263-2973 jeaster@grandview.edu

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6. Grant Wood AEA	Generalist	Brandie Gean Director of Continuing Education Heartland AEA 6500 Corporate Dr, Johnston, IA 50131 https://aealearningonline.org/ bgean@heartlandaea.org 515-473-6670 Andrea Krier Registrar Heartland AEA 6500 Corporate Dr, Johnston, IA 50131 https://aealearningonline.org/ akrier@heartlandaea.org 515-473-6845
7. Great Prairie AEA	Generalist *Areas of Concentration:* Early Childhood Special Needs English as a Second Language	Brandie Gean Director of Continuing Education Heartland AEA 6500 Corporate Dr, Johnston, IA 50131 https://aealearningonline.org/ bgean@heartlandaea.org 515-473-6670 Andrea Krier Registrar Heartland AEA 6500 Corporate Dr, Johnston, IA 50131 https://aealearningonline.org/ akrier@heartlandaea.org 515-473-6845
8. Green Hills AEA	Generalist	Brandie Gean Director of Continuing Education Heartland AEA 6500 Corporate Dr, Johnston, IA 50131 https://aealearningonline.org/ bgean@heartlandaea.org 515-473-6670
9. Heartland AEA	Generalist *Areas of Concentration:* Early Childhood Special Needs Library Media Tech English as a Second Language	Brandie Gean Director of Continuing Education Heartland AEA 6500 Corporate Dr, Johnston, IA 50131 https://aealearningonline.org/ bgean@heartlandaea.org 515-473-6670 Andrea Krier Registrar Heartland AEA 6500 Corporate Dr, Johnston, IA 50131 https://aealearningonline.org/ akrier@heartlandaea.org 515-473-6845

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10. Indian Hills Community College	Generalist	Amy Taylor Dean, Arts & Sciences Indian Hills Community College 525 Grandview Ave, Ottumwa, IA 52501 641-683-5111 x5154 amy.taylor@indianhills.edu www.indianhills.edu
11. Iowa Valley Community College District	Generalist	MaryAnne Nickle, M.Ed. Iowa Valley Community College District Dean of Arts & Sciences 3700 South Center St, Marshalltown, IA 50158 641-844-5716 maryanne.nickle@iavalley.edu www.iavalley.edu
12. Iowa Western Community College	Generalist	Ashley Johnston Continuing Education Coordinator Iowa Western Community College 2700 College Rd, Council Bluffs, IA 51503 712-325-3265 ajohnston@iwcc.edu Libby Woods Director of Community Education 712-256-7088 lwoods@iwcc.edu https://www.iwcc.edu/ce/para-educator/
13. Keystone AEA	Generalist *Areas of Concentration:* Early Childhood	Brandie Gean Director of Continuing Education Heartland AEA 6500 Corporate Dr, Johnston, IA 50131 https://aealearningonline.org/ bgean@heartlandaea.org 515-473-6670 Andrea Krier Registrar Heartland AEA 6500 Corporate Dr, Johnston, IA 50131 https://aealearningonline.org/ akrier@heartlandaea.org 515-473-6845
14. Kirkwood Community College	Generalist *Areas of Concentration:* Early Childhood Special Needs English as a Second Language Career and Transition Vision Impairment Autism Spectrum Disorders Advanced Generalist	Patrice Becicka Para oversight Kirkwood Community College 6301 Kirkwood Blvd SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404 319-398-4995 Patrice.Becicka@kirkwood.edu Angela Gillis Associate Dean Kirkwood Community College 6301 Kirkwood Blvd SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404 319-398-1241 Angie.Gillis@kirkwood.edu

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15. Mississippi Bend AEA	Generalist *Areas of Concentration:* Early Childhood Special Needs Autism Spectrum Disorders School Library Media English as a Second Language	Brandie Gean Director of Continuing Education Heartland AEA 6500 Corporate Dr, Johnston, IA 50131 https://aealearningonline.org/ bgean@heartlandaea.org 515-473-6670 Lacy Christner Professional Learning Registration System Coordinator Mississippi Bend AEA 729 21st St, Bettendorf, IA 52722 563-344-6478 lchristner@aea9.k12.ia.us https://www.mbaea.org/o/mbaea/page/paraeducator-certification
16. North Iowa Area Community College	Generalist	John R. Malmo Dean of Business, Humanities, and Human & Public Services North Iowa Area Community College 500 College Dr Mason City, IA 50401 641-422-4121 john.malmo@niacc.edu https://catalog.niacc.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=16&poid=3448
17. Northwest AEA	Generalist *Areas of Concentration:* Early Childhood Autism School Library Media English as a Second Language	Brandie Gean Director of Continuing Education Heartland AEA 6500 Corporate Dr, Johnston, IA 50131 https://aealearningonline.org/ bgean@heartlandaea.org 515-473-6670 Andrea Krier Registrar Heartland AEA 6500 Corporate Dr, Johnston, IA 50131 https://aealearningonline.org/ akrier@heartlandaea.org 515-473-6845
18. Northwest Iowa Community College	Generalist	Sarah Breems-Diekevers Associate Dean of Arts, Science, Business, and Transitions Northwest Iowa Community College 603 West Park St, Sheldon, IA 51201 712-324-5061 ext. 137 sbreems-diekevers@nwicc.edu
19. Prairie Lakes AEA	Generalist *Areas of Concentration:* Early Childhood Special Needs English as a Second Language	Brandie Gean Director of Continuing Education Heartland AEA 6500 Corporate Dr, Johnston, IA 50131 https://aealearningonline.org/ bgean@heartlandaea.org 515-473-6670

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20. Southwestern Community College	Generalist	Salina Chesnut Southwestern Community College 1501 W Townline St, Creston, IA 50801 641-782-1329 chesnut@swcciowa.edu
21. University of Dubuque	Generalist	Chad Biermeier Head of Teacher Education Associate Professor of Education 301 Smith Hall University of Dubuque 2000 University Ave, Dubuque, IA 52001 563-589-3590 cbiermeier@dbq.edu Jeff Haverland Associate Professor of Education 303 Smith Hall 563-589-3723 jhaverland@dbq.edu
22. University of Iowa	Generalist	Mark McDermott Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education and Educator Preparation 240 S Madison, Iowa City, IA 52242 319-335-5591 mark-a-mcdermott@uiowa.edu
23. Upper Iowa University	Generalist	Michael Hagensick Teacher Education Chair Upper Iowa University 605 Washington St, PO Box 1857, Fayette, IA 52142 563-425-5988 hagensickm43@uiu.edu https://uiu.edu/academics/teacher-education/#paraeducator%20certification