

Teacher Assistants

SOC: 25-9045 • Career Profile Report

■ Key Facts

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|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <div>\$35,240</div> <div>Median Salary</div> | <div>21,100</div> <div>Employment</div> | <div>-1.0%</div> <div>Growth Rate</div> |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|

■ Requirements & Salary Range

Education: Some college

■ Automation Risk Assessment

Low Risk - 10.0% probability of being automated in the next 10-20 years.
This job is relatively safe from automation due to its creative, social, or complex problem-solving requirements.

■ Work-Life Balance

8.2/10 - Excellent work-life balance

■ Personality Fit (RIASEC)

Higher scores indicate better personality fit for this career type.

| | | | |
|--------------|--------|---------------|--------|
| Realistic | 3.8/10 | Investigative | 6.6/10 |
| Artistic | 7.6/10 | Social | 9.4/10 |
| Enterprising | 5.2/10 | Conventional | 6.0/10 |

■ Top Skills Required

Communication skills, Interpersonal skills, Patience, Resourcefulness

✓ Strengths

- High Demand
- Flexible Work
- Continuous Learning

■ Challenges

- Burnout Risk
- Rapid Technological Change

■ What They Do

Teacher Assistants support **lead teachers in educational settings, helping students with learning, classroom activities, and daily routines**. They assist in instruction, provide individual or small group support, and help maintain a safe and organized classroom. Their work is critical in fostering student learning and classroom efficiency.

This career is well suited for individuals who enjoy working with children or students, supporting education, and helping others succeed academically.

What Do Teacher Assistants Do?

These professionals assist teachers in delivering lessons, managing classroom activities, and monitoring student progress.

Common responsibilities include:

- Helping students with academic tasks and assignments
- Assisting with classroom activities and lesson implementation
- Supervising students during activities, lunch, or recess
- Supporting students with special needs or individualized learning plans
- Preparing instructional materials and classroom resources
- Maintaining records of student behavior and performance
- Communicating with teachers, parents, and staff about student progress

Key Areas of Teacher Assistance

Teacher assistants may focus on specific student needs, subjects, or classroom functions:

- Academic Support: Assisting students with reading, math, and other subjects
- Behavioral Support: Helping manage classroom behavior and social interactions
- Special Education Assistance: Supporting students with individualized education programs (IEPs)
- Instructional Materials Preparation: Organizing and preparing teaching resources
- Classroom Organization and Safety: Maintaining a structured and secure learning environment

Skills and Abilities Needed

These professionals combine educational, interpersonal, and organizational skills.

Core Professional Skills

Personal Qualities That Matter

Education and Career Pathway

This role typically requires formal education and practical experience:

- High School Diploma or GED (minimum): Basic literacy, numeracy, and interpersonal skills
- Postsecondary or Vocational Training (optional): Early childhood or educational programs
- On-the-Job Training: Hands-on classroom experience under teacher supervision
- Specialized Training (optional): Working with students with disabilities or language needs
- Continuing Education: Professional development in teaching methods and classroom management

Where Do Teacher Assistants Work?

They are employed in organizations providing educational services:

- Public and Private Schools
- Preschools and Early Childhood Programs
- Special Education Centers
- After-School or Tutoring Programs

- Community Education Centers

Work environments include classrooms, laboratories, playgrounds, and educational centers.

Is This Career Difficult?

This career requires patience, flexibility, and the ability to support diverse learning needs. Teacher assistants must balance supervision, instructional support, and classroom organization.

Who Should Consider This Career?

This career may be a strong fit if you:

- Enjoy working with children or students
- Are patient, empathetic, and supportive
- Have strong communication and organizational skills
- Can assist teachers in academic and behavioral support
- Want a career contributing to education and student success

How to Prepare Early

- Take courses in education, child development, and psychology
- Volunteer or intern in schools or educational programs
- Develop communication, patience, and instructional skills
- Gain experience assisting teachers or tutoring students
- Explore programs or certifications in early childhood or special education

Teacher assistants support student learning, help maintain organized classrooms, and assist educators in fostering academic and social development.

*Generated by StartRight • Data from U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics & O*NET*

Source: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/education-training-and-library/teacher-assistants.htm>