

## DPI Language for Speech/Language Aides

The legal and appropriate use of paraprofessionals in school-based speech and language practice, which is not exactly the same as use of unlicensed professionals outside school-based practice, is posted on the DPI Web site. Documents clearly spell out the scope of practice for these individuals and what the use of a paraprofessional in speech/language services in the schools looks like. Keep in mind that the terms “aide” and “assistant” are not identical. A speech/language educational aides is not the same as a speech/language pathology assistant (SLPA), in training or in scope of duties.

The DPI document is called: “Permissible Use of the Special Education Aide License Related to Speech and Language.” It is located at <http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/dlsea/een/doc/sl-aide-use.doc>