

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Act 48, PFT's PD PROGRAM, & PARAPROFESSIONAL PD REQUIREMENTS

Act 48 hours are required in Pennsylvania for educators to maintain an active certificate.

The Pennsylvania Department of Education requires that persons holding Pennsylvania professional educator certification to complete continuing education requirements every five years to maintain their certificates in active status. This requirement, established in July 1, 2000, is referred to as Act 48.

All educators holding Pennsylvania public school certification must earn 180 Act 48 hours (approved professional development hours) every five years to remain in active status.

The five-year period begins on the day the educator's initial instructional certificate is issued. At least 12 months before the five-year period ends, the Pennsylvania Department of Education will notify educators and their schools of their current status, i.e. the number of hours completed and the numbers of hours needed.

You may monitor your Act 48 hours online at:

<https://www.perms.ed.state.pa.us/Screens/wfPublicAccess.aspx>

PFT's Quest Professional Development: Delivering Effective Professional Development

The goal of the PFT Health & Welfare Fund's Professional Development is to improve student performance. We cannot improve schools and student achievement unless teachers are kept abreast of developments in research on teaching and learning. Quest professional development bridges the gap between research and practice and novice and master teachers. Educators need access to knowledge that supports and enhances their ability to help students achieve high standards. Professionals perform at the highest level when they have the appropriate knowledge and resources.

Professional Development is offered throughout the year. For more information, visit www.pfthw.org.

Paraprofessional are required 20 hours of professional development annually.

Paraprofessionals are required to provide documentation annually of 20 hours of training to the Office of Specialized Services.

Trainings include, but are not limited to, In-Service Workshops, PATTAN sponsored trainings, college coursework, as well as professional development offered at schools.