

What is the role of the Special Needs Assistant (SNA)?



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In general terms the SNA acts in a care and support role that is non-teaching in nature and works under the guidance and supervision of the Principal and/or class teacher. The role and duties of the SNA are more clearly defined in DES Circular 10/76 and Circular 07/02. An overview of the role is provided in the Professional Development area of the website ([click here for the Professional Development area of the website](#) [2]).

How do I become an SNA and what is the salary?

Information about becoming an SNA, salary, conditions of employment and so forth are available on the DES website ([click here for the relevant area of the DES website](#)) [3]

Where can SNAs locate information on training?

Three Colleges of Education – St. Angela's College in Sligo, Mary Immaculate College in Limerick, and Church of Ireland College, Rathmines – in conjunction with the Education Centre network, have formulated and delivered officially recognised training courses for existing SNAs. Please check the colleges, Education Centre of the [College and Universities Courses section of the website](#) [4] for currently available courses.



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