

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Sections  
5 21B-20 and 21B-25 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/21B-20)

7 Sec. 21B-20. Types of licenses. Before July 1, 2013, the  
8 State Board of Education shall implement a system of educator  
9 licensure, whereby individuals employed in school districts  
10 who are required to be licensed must have one of the following  
11 licenses: (i) a professional educator license; (ii) a  
12 professional educator license with stipulations; or (iii) a  
13 substitute teaching license. References in law regarding  
14 individuals certified or certificated or required to be  
15 certified or certificated under Article 21 of this Code shall  
16 also include individuals licensed or required to be licensed  
17 under this Article. The first year of all licenses ends on June  
18 30 following one full year of the license being issued.

19 The State Board of Education, in consultation with the  
20 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, may adopt such  
21 rules as may be necessary to govern the requirements for  
22 licenses and endorsements under this Section.

23 (1) Professional Educator License. Persons who (i)

1 have successfully completed an approved educator  
2 preparation program and are recommended for licensure by  
3 the Illinois institution offering the educator preparation  
4 program, (ii) have successfully completed the required  
5 testing under Section 21B-30 of this Code, (iii) have  
6 successfully completed coursework on the psychology of,  
7 the identification of, and the methods of instruction for  
8 the exceptional child, including without limitation  
9 children with learning disabilities, (iv) have  
10 successfully completed coursework in methods of reading  
11 and reading in the content area, and (v) have met all other  
12 criteria established by rule of the State Board of  
13 Education shall be issued a Professional Educator License.  
14 All Professional Educator Licenses are valid until June 30  
15 immediately following 5 years of the license being issued.  
16 The Professional Educator License shall be endorsed with  
17 specific areas and grade levels in which the individual is  
18 eligible to practice.

19 Individuals can receive subsequent endorsements on the  
20 Professional Educator License. Subsequent endorsements  
21 shall require a minimum of 24 semester hours of coursework  
22 in the endorsement area, unless otherwise specified by  
23 rule, and passage of the applicable content area test.

24 (2) Educator License with Stipulations. An Educator  
25 License with Stipulations shall be issued an endorsement  
26 that limits the license holder to one particular position

1 or does not require completion of an approved educator  
2 program or both.

3 An individual with an Educator License with  
4 Stipulations must not be employed by a school district or  
5 any other entity to replace any presently employed teacher  
6 who otherwise would not be replaced for any reason.

7 An Educator License with Stipulations may be issued  
8 with the following endorsements:

9 (A) Provisional educator. A provisional educator  
10 endorsement in a specific content area or areas on an  
11 Educator License with Stipulations may be issued to an  
12 applicant who holds an educator license with a minimum  
13 of 15 semester hours in content coursework from another  
14 state, U.S. territory, or foreign country and who, at  
15 the time of applying for an Illinois license, does not  
16 meet the minimum requirements under Section 21B-35 of  
17 this Code, but does, at a minimum, meet the following  
18 requirements:

19 (i) Holds the equivalent of a minimum of a  
20 bachelor's degree, unless a master's degree is  
21 required for the endorsement, from a regionally  
22 accredited college or university or, for  
23 individuals educated in a country other than the  
24 United States, the equivalent of a minimum of a  
25 bachelor's degree issued in the United States,  
26 unless a master's degree is required for the

1 endorsement.

2 (ii) Has passed or passes a test of basic  
3 skills and content area test, as required by  
4 Section 21B-30 of this Code, prior to or within one  
5 year after issuance of the provisional educator  
6 endorsement on the Educator License with  
7 Stipulations. If an individual who holds an  
8 Educator License with Stipulations endorsed for  
9 provisional educator has not passed a test of basic  
10 skills and applicable content area test or tests  
11 within one year after issuance of the endorsement,  
12 the endorsement shall expire on June 30 following  
13 one full year of the endorsement being issued. If  
14 such an individual has passed the test of basic  
15 skills and applicable content area test or tests  
16 either prior to issuance of the endorsement or  
17 within one year after issuance of the endorsement,  
18 the endorsement is valid until June 30 immediately  
19 following 2 years of the license being issued,  
20 during which time any and all coursework  
21 deficiencies must be met and any and all additional  
22 testing deficiencies must be met.

23 In addition, a provisional educator endorsement for  
24 principals or superintendents may be issued if the  
25 individual meets the requirements set forth in  
26 subdivisions (1) and (3) of subsection (b-5) of Section

1           21B-35 of this Code. Applicants who have not been  
2           entitled by an Illinois-approved educator preparation  
3           program at an Illinois institution of higher education  
4           shall not receive a provisional educator endorsement  
5           if the person completed an alternative licensure  
6           program in another state, unless the program has been  
7           determined to be equivalent to Illinois program  
8           requirements.

9           Notwithstanding any other requirements of this  
10          Section, a service member or spouse of a service member  
11          may obtain a Professional Educator License with  
12          Stipulations, and a provisional educator endorsement  
13          in a specific content area or areas, if he or she holds  
14          a valid teaching certificate or license in good  
15          standing from another state, meets the qualifications  
16          of educators outlined in Section 21B-15 of this Code,  
17          and has not engaged in any misconduct that would  
18          prohibit an individual from obtaining a license  
19          pursuant to Illinois law, including without limitation  
20          any administrative rules of the State Board of  
21          Education.

22          In this Section, "service member" means any person  
23          who, at the time of application under this Section, is  
24          an active duty member of the United States Armed Forces  
25          or any reserve component of the United States Armed  
26          Forces or the National Guard of any state,

1 commonwealth, or territory of the United States or the  
2 District of Columbia.

3 A provisional educator endorsement is valid until  
4 June 30 immediately following 2 years of the license  
5 being issued, provided that any remaining testing and  
6 coursework deficiencies are met as set forth in this  
7 Section. Failure to satisfy all stated deficiencies  
8 shall mean the individual, including any service  
9 member or spouse who has obtained a Professional  
10 Educator License with Stipulations and a provisional  
11 educator endorsement in a specific content area or  
12 areas, is ineligible to receive a Professional  
13 Educator License at that time. An Educator License with  
14 Stipulations endorsed for provisional educator shall  
15 not be renewed for individuals who hold an Educator  
16 License with Stipulations and who have held a position  
17 in a public school or non-public school recognized by  
18 the State Board of Education.

19 (B) Alternative provisional educator. An  
20 alternative provisional educator endorsement on an  
21 Educator License with Stipulations may be issued to an  
22 applicant who, at the time of applying for the  
23 endorsement, has done all of the following:

24 (i) Graduated from a regionally accredited  
25 college or university with a minimum of a  
26 bachelor's degree.

1           (ii) Successfully completed the first phase of  
2           the Alternative Educator Licensure Program for  
3           Teachers, as described in Section 21B-50 of this  
4           Code.

5           (iii) Passed a test of basic skills and content  
6           area test, as required under Section 21B-30 of this  
7           Code.

8           The alternative provisional educator endorsement  
9           is valid for 2 years of teaching and may be renewed for  
10          a third year by an individual meeting the requirements  
11          set forth in Section 21B-50 of this Code.

12          (C) Alternative provisional superintendent. An  
13          alternative provisional superintendent endorsement on  
14          an Educator License with Stipulations entitles the  
15          holder to serve only as a superintendent or assistant  
16          superintendent in a school district's central office.  
17          This endorsement may only be issued to an applicant  
18          who, at the time of applying for the endorsement, has  
19          done all of the following:

20               (i) Graduated from a regionally accredited  
21               college or university with a minimum of a master's  
22               degree in a management field other than education.

23               (ii) Been employed for a period of at least 5  
24               years in a management level position in a field  
25               other than education.

26               (iii) Successfully completed the first phase

1 of an alternative route to superintendent  
2 endorsement program, as provided in Section 21B-55  
3 of this Code.

4 (iv) Passed a test of basic skills and content  
5 area tests required under Section 21B-30 of this  
6 Code.

7 The endorsement may be registered for 2 fiscal  
8 years in order to complete one full year of serving as  
9 a superintendent or assistant superintendent.

10 (D) Resident teacher endorsement. A resident  
11 teacher endorsement on an Educator License with  
12 Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who, at the  
13 time of applying for the endorsement, has done all of  
14 the following:

15 (i) Graduated from a regionally accredited  
16 institution of higher education with a minimum of a  
17 bachelor's degree.

18 (ii) Enrolled in an approved Illinois educator  
19 preparation program.

20 (iii) Passed a test of basic skills and content  
21 area test, as required under Section 21B-30 of this  
22 Code.

23 The resident teacher endorsement on an Educator  
24 License with Stipulations is valid for 4 years of  
25 teaching and shall not be renewed.

26 A resident teacher may teach only under the



1 direction of a licensed teacher, who shall act as the  
2 resident mentor teacher, and may not teach in place of  
3 a licensed teacher. A resident teacher endorsement on  
4 an Educator License with Stipulations shall no longer  
5 be valid after June 30, 2017.

6 (E) Career and technical educator. A career and  
7 technical educator endorsement on an Educator License  
8 with Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who has  
9 a minimum of 60 semester hours of coursework from a  
10 regionally accredited institution of higher education  
11 and has a minimum of 2,000 hours of experience outside  
12 of education in each area to be taught.

13 The career and technical educator endorsement on  
14 an Educator License with Stipulations is valid until  
15 June 30 immediately following 5 years of the  
16 endorsement being issued and may be renewed. For  
17 individuals who were issued the career and technical  
18 educator endorsement on an Educator License with  
19 Stipulations on or after January 1, 2015, the license  
20 may be renewed if the individual passes a test of basic  
21 skills, as required under Section 21B-30 of this Code.

22 (F) Part-time provisional career and technical  
23 educator or provisional career and technical educator.  
24 A part-time provisional career and technical educator  
25 endorsement or a provisional career and technical  
26 educator endorsement on an Educator License with

1 Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who has a  
2 minimum of 8,000 hours of work experience in the skill  
3 for which the applicant is seeking the endorsement. It  
4 is the responsibility of each employing school board  
5 and regional office of education to provide  
6 verification, in writing, to the State Superintendent  
7 of Education at the time the application is submitted  
8 that no qualified teacher holding a Professional  
9 Educator License or an Educator License with  
10 Stipulations with a career and technical educator  
11 endorsement is available and that actual circumstances  
12 require such issuance.

13 The provisional career and technical educator  
14 endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations  
15 is valid until June 30 immediately following 5 years of  
16 the endorsement being issued and may be renewed only  
17 one time for 5 years. For individuals who were issued  
18 the provisional career and technical educator  
19 endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations  
20 on or after January 1, 2015, the license may be renewed  
21 one time if the individual passes a test of basic  
22 skills, as required under Section 21B-30 of this Code,  
23 and has completed a minimum of 20 semester hours from a  
24 regionally accredited institution.

25 A part-time provisional career and technical  
26 educator endorsement on an Educator License with

1 Stipulations may be issued for teaching no more than 2  
2 courses of study for grades 6 through 12. The part-time  
3 provisional career and technical educator endorsement  
4 on an Educator License with Stipulations is valid until  
5 June 30 immediately following 5 years of the  
6 endorsement being issued and may be renewed for 5 years  
7 if the individual makes application for renewal.

8 (G) Transitional bilingual educator. A  
9 transitional bilingual educator endorsement on an  
10 Educator License with Stipulations may be issued for  
11 the purpose of providing instruction in accordance  
12 with Article 14C of this Code to an applicant who  
13 provides satisfactory evidence that he or she meets all  
14 of the following requirements:

15 (i) Possesses adequate speaking, reading, and  
16 writing ability in the language other than English  
17 in which transitional bilingual education is  
18 offered.

19 (ii) Has the ability to successfully  
20 communicate in English.

21 (iii) Either possessed, within 5 years  
22 previous to his or her applying for a transitional  
23 bilingual educator endorsement, a valid and  
24 comparable teaching certificate or comparable  
25 authorization issued by a foreign country or holds  
26 a degree from an institution of higher learning in

1 a foreign country that the State Educator  
2 Preparation and Licensure Board determines to be  
3 the equivalent of a bachelor's degree from a  
4 regionally accredited institution of higher  
5 learning in the United States.

6 A transitional bilingual educator endorsement  
7 shall be valid for prekindergarten through grade 12, is  
8 valid until June 30 immediately following 5 years of  
9 the endorsement being issued, and shall not be renewed.

10 Persons holding a transitional bilingual educator  
11 endorsement shall not be employed to replace any  
12 presently employed teacher who otherwise would not be  
13 replaced for any reason.

14 (H) Language endorsement. In an effort to  
15 alleviate the shortage of teachers speaking a language  
16 other than English in the public schools, an individual  
17 who holds an Educator License with Stipulations may  
18 also apply for a language endorsement, provided that  
19 the applicant provides satisfactory evidence that he  
20 or she meets all of the following requirements:

21 (i) Holds a transitional bilingual  
22 endorsement.

23 (ii) Has demonstrated proficiency in the  
24 language for which the endorsement is to be issued  
25 by passing the applicable language content test  
26 required by the State Board of Education.

1 (iii) Holds a bachelor's degree or higher from  
2 a regionally accredited institution of higher  
3 education or, for individuals educated in a  
4 country other than the United States, holds a  
5 degree from an institution of higher learning in a  
6 foreign country that the State Educator  
7 Preparation and Licensure Board determines to be  
8 the equivalent of a bachelor's degree from a  
9 regionally accredited institution of higher  
10 learning in the United States.

11 (iv) Has passed a test of basic skills, as  
12 required under Section 21B-30 of this Code.

13 A language endorsement on an Educator License with  
14 Stipulations is valid for prekindergarten through  
15 grade 12 for the same validity period as the  
16 individual's transitional bilingual educator  
17 endorsement on the Educator License with Stipulations  
18 and shall not be renewed.

19 (I) Visiting international educator. A visiting  
20 international educator endorsement on an Educator  
21 License with Stipulations may be issued to an  
22 individual who is being recruited by a particular  
23 school district that conducts formal recruitment  
24 programs outside of the United States to secure the  
25 services of qualified teachers and who meets all of the  
26 following requirements:

1 (i) Holds the equivalent of a minimum of a  
2 bachelor's degree issued in the United States.

3 (ii) Has been prepared as a teacher at the  
4 grade level for which he or she will be employed.

5 (iii) Has adequate content knowledge in the  
6 subject to be taught.

7 (iv) Has an adequate command of the English  
8 language.

9 A holder of a visiting international educator  
10 endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations  
11 shall be permitted to teach in bilingual education  
12 programs in the language that was the medium of  
13 instruction in his or her teacher preparation program,  
14 provided that he or she passes the English Language  
15 Proficiency Examination or another test of writing  
16 skills in English identified by the State Board of  
17 Education, in consultation with the State Educator  
18 Preparation and Licensure Board.

19 A visiting international educator endorsement on  
20 an Educator License with Stipulations is valid for 3  
21 years and shall not be renewed.

22 (J) Paraprofessional educator. A paraprofessional  
23 educator endorsement on an Educator License with  
24 Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who holds a  
25 high school diploma or its recognized equivalent and  
26 either holds an associate's degree or a minimum of 60

1 semester hours of credit from a regionally accredited  
2 institution of higher education or has passed a test of  
3 basic skills required under Section 21B-30 of this  
4 Code. The paraprofessional educator endorsement is  
5 valid until June 30 immediately following 5 years of  
6 the endorsement being issued and may be renewed through  
7 application and payment of the appropriate fee, as  
8 required under Section 21B-40 of this Code. An  
9 individual who holds only a paraprofessional educator  
10 endorsement is not subject to additional requirements  
11 in order to renew the endorsement.

12 (K) Chief school business official. A chief school  
13 business official endorsement on an Educator License  
14 with Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who  
15 qualifies by having a master's degree or higher, 2  
16 years of full-time administrative experience in school  
17 business management or 2 years of university-approved  
18 practical experience, and a minimum of 24 semester  
19 hours of graduate credit in a program approved by the  
20 State Board of Education for the preparation of school  
21 business administrators and by passage of the  
22 applicable State tests, including a test of basic  
23 skills and applicable content area test.

24 The chief school business official endorsement may  
25 also be affixed to the Educator License with  
26 Stipulations of any holder who qualifies by having a

1 master's degree in business administration, finance,  
2 ~~or~~ accounting, or public administration and who  
3 completes an additional 6 semester hours of internship  
4 in school business management from a regionally  
5 accredited institution of higher education and passes  
6 the applicable State tests, including a test of basic  
7 skills and applicable content area test. This  
8 endorsement shall be required for any individual  
9 employed as a chief school business official.

10 The chief school business official endorsement on  
11 an Educator License with Stipulations is valid until  
12 June 30 immediately following 5 years of the  
13 endorsement being issued and may be renewed if the  
14 license holder completes renewal requirements as  
15 required for individuals who hold a Professional  
16 Educator License endorsed for chief school business  
17 official under Section 21B-45 of this Code and such  
18 rules as may be adopted by the State Board of  
19 Education.

20 The State Board of Education shall adopt any rules  
21 necessary to implement this amendatory Act of the 100th  
22 General Assembly.

23 (3) Substitute Teaching License. A Substitute Teaching  
24 License may be issued to qualified applicants for  
25 substitute teaching in all grades of the public schools,  
26 prekindergarten through grade 12. Substitute Teaching



1 Licenses are not eligible for endorsements. Applicants for  
2 a Substitute Teaching License must hold a bachelor's degree  
3 or higher from a regionally accredited institution of  
4 higher education.

5 Substitute Teaching Licenses are valid for 5 years and  
6 may be renewed if the individual has passed a test of basic  
7 skills, as authorized under Section 21B-30 of this Code. An  
8 individual who has passed a test of basic skills for the  
9 first licensure renewal is not required to retake the test  
10 again for further renewals.

11 Substitute Teaching Licenses are valid for substitute  
12 teaching in every county of this State. If an individual  
13 has had his or her Professional Educator License or  
14 Educator License with Stipulations suspended or revoked or  
15 has not met the renewal requirements for licensure, then  
16 that individual is not eligible to obtain a Substitute  
17 Teaching License.

18 A substitute teacher may only teach in the place of a  
19 licensed teacher who is under contract with the employing  
20 board. If, however, there is no licensed teacher under  
21 contract because of an emergency situation, then a district  
22 may employ a substitute teacher for no longer than 30  
23 calendar days per each vacant position in the district if  
24 the district notifies the appropriate regional office of  
25 education within 5 business days after the employment of  
26 the substitute teacher in the emergency situation. An

1 emergency situation is one in which an unforeseen vacancy  
2 has occurred and (i) a teacher is unable to fulfill his or  
3 her contractual duties or (ii) teacher capacity needs of  
4 the district exceed previous indications, and the district  
5 is actively engaged in advertising to hire a fully licensed  
6 teacher for the vacant position.

7 There is no limit on the number of days that a  
8 substitute teacher may teach in a single school district,  
9 provided that no substitute teacher may teach for longer  
10 than 90 school days for any one licensed teacher under  
11 contract in the same school year. A substitute teacher who  
12 holds a Professional Educator License or Educator License  
13 with Stipulations shall not teach for more than 120 school  
14 days for any one licensed teacher under contract in the  
15 same school year. The limitations in this paragraph (3) on  
16 the number of days a substitute teacher may be employed do  
17 not apply to any school district operating under Article 34  
18 of this Code.

19 (Source: P.A. 98-28, eff. 7-1-13; 98-751, eff. 1-1-15; 99-35,  
20 eff. 1-1-16; 99-58, eff. 7-16-15; 99-143, eff. 7-27-15; 99-642,  
21 eff. 7-28-16.)

22 (105 ILCS 5/21B-25)

23 Sec. 21B-25. Endorsement on licenses. All licenses issued  
24 under paragraph (1) of Section 21B-20 of this Code shall be  
25 specifically endorsed by the State Board of Education for each

1 content area, school support area, and administrative area for  
2 which the holder of the license is qualified. Recognized  
3 institutions approved to offer educator preparation programs  
4 shall be trained to add endorsements to licenses issued to  
5 applicants who meet all of the requirements for the endorsement  
6 or endorsements, including passing any required tests. The  
7 State Superintendent of Education shall randomly audit  
8 institutions to ensure that all rules and standards are being  
9 followed for entitlement or when endorsements are being  
10 recommended.

11 (1) The State Board of Education, in consultation with  
12 the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, shall  
13 establish, by rule, the grade level and subject area  
14 endorsements to be added to the Professional Educator  
15 License. These rules shall outline the requirements for  
16 obtaining each endorsement.

17 (2) In addition to any and all grade level and content  
18 area endorsements developed by rule, the State Board of  
19 Education, in consultation with the State Educator  
20 Preparation and Licensure Board, shall develop the  
21 requirements for the following endorsements:

22 (A) General administrative endorsement. A general  
23 administrative endorsement shall be added to a  
24 Professional Educator License, provided that an  
25 approved program has been completed. An individual  
26 holding a general administrative endorsement may work

1           only as a principal or assistant principal or in a  
2           related or similar position, as determined by the State  
3           Superintendent of Education, in consultation with the  
4           State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board.

5           Beginning on September 1, 2014, the general  
6           administrative endorsement shall no longer be issued  
7           except to individuals who completed all coursework  
8           requirements for the receipt of the general  
9           administrative endorsement by September 1, 2014, who  
10          have completed all testing requirements by June 30,  
11          2016, and who apply for the endorsement on or before  
12          June 30, 2016. Individuals who hold a valid and  
13          registered administrative certificate with a general  
14          administrative endorsement issued under Section 21-7.1  
15          of this Code or a Professional Educator License with a  
16          general administrative endorsement issued prior to  
17          September 1, 2014 and who have served for at least one  
18          full year during the 5 years prior in a position  
19          requiring a general administrative endorsement shall,  
20          upon request to the State Board of Education and  
21          through July 1, 2015, have their respective general  
22          administrative endorsement converted to a principal  
23          endorsement on the Professional Educator License.  
24          Candidates shall not be admitted to an approved general  
25          administrative preparation program after September 1,  
26          2012.

1 All other individuals holding a valid and  
2 registered administrative certificate with a general  
3 administrative endorsement issued pursuant to Section  
4 21-7.1 of this Code or a general administrative  
5 endorsement on a Professional Educator License issued  
6 prior to September 1, 2014 shall have the general  
7 administrative endorsement converted to a principal  
8 endorsement on a Professional Educator License upon  
9 request to the State Board of Education and by  
10 completing one of the following pathways:

11 (i) Passage of the State principal assessment  
12 developed by the State Board of Education.

13 (ii) Through July 1, 2019, completion of an  
14 Illinois Educators' Academy course designated by  
15 the State Superintendent of Education.

16 (iii) Completion of a principal preparation  
17 program established and approved pursuant to  
18 Section 21B-60 of this Code and applicable rules.

19 Individuals who do not choose to convert the  
20 general administrative endorsement on the  
21 administrative certificate issued pursuant to Section  
22 21-7.1 of this Code or on the Professional Educator  
23 License shall continue to be able to serve in any  
24 position previously allowed under paragraph (2) of  
25 subsection (e) of Section 21-7.1 of this Code.

26 The general administrative endorsement on the

1 Professional Educator License is available only to  
2 individuals who, prior to September 1, 2014, had such  
3 an endorsement on the administrative certificate  
4 issued pursuant to Section 21-7.1 of this Code or who  
5 already have a Professional Educator License and have  
6 completed a general administrative program and who do  
7 not choose to convert the general administrative  
8 endorsement to a principal endorsement pursuant to the  
9 options in this Section.

10 (B) Principal endorsement. A principal endorsement  
11 shall be affixed to a Professional Educator License of  
12 any holder who qualifies by having all of the  
13 following:

14 (i) Successful completion of a principal  
15 preparation program approved in accordance with  
16 Section 21B-60 of this Code and any applicable  
17 rules.

18 (ii) At least 4 total years of teaching or,  
19 until June 30, 2021, 4 total years of working in  
20 the capacity of school support personnel in an  
21 Illinois public school or nonpublic school  
22 recognized by the State Board of Education or in an  
23 out-of-state public school or out-of-state  
24 nonpublic school meeting out-of-state recognition  
25 standards comparable to those approved by the  
26 State Superintendent of Education; however, the

1 State Board of Education, in consultation with the  
2 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board,  
3 shall allow, by rules, for fewer than 4 years of  
4 experience based on meeting standards set forth in  
5 such rules, including without limitation a review  
6 of performance evaluations or other evidence of  
7 demonstrated qualifications.

8 (iii) A master's degree or higher from a  
9 regionally accredited college or university.

10 (C) Chief school business official endorsement. A  
11 chief school business official endorsement shall be  
12 affixed to the Professional Educator License of any  
13 holder who qualifies by having a master's degree or  
14 higher, 2 years of full-time administrative experience  
15 in school business management or 2 years of  
16 university-approved practical experience, and a  
17 minimum of 24 semester hours of graduate credit in a  
18 program approved by the State Board of Education for  
19 the preparation of school business administrators and  
20 by passage of the applicable State tests. The chief  
21 school business official endorsement may also be  
22 affixed to the Professional Educator License of any  
23 holder who qualifies by having a master's degree in  
24 business administration, finance, ~~or~~ accounting, or  
25 public administration and who completes an additional  
26 6 semester hours of internship in school business

1 management from a regionally accredited institution of  
2 higher education and passes the applicable State  
3 tests. This endorsement shall be required for any  
4 individual employed as a chief school business  
5 official.

6 (D) Superintendent endorsement. A superintendent  
7 endorsement shall be affixed to the Professional  
8 Educator License of any holder who has completed a  
9 program approved by the State Board of Education for  
10 the preparation of superintendents of schools, has had  
11 at least 2 years of experience employed full-time in a  
12 general administrative position or as a full-time  
13 principal, director of special education, or chief  
14 school business official in the public schools or in a  
15 State-recognized nonpublic school in which the chief  
16 administrator is required to have the licensure  
17 necessary to be a principal in a public school in this  
18 State and where a majority of the teachers are required  
19 to have the licensure necessary to be instructors in a  
20 public school in this State, and has passed the  
21 required State tests; or of any holder who has  
22 completed a program that is not an Illinois-approved  
23 educator preparation program at an Illinois  
24 institution of higher education and that has  
25 recognition standards comparable to those approved by  
26 the State Superintendent of Education and holds the



1           general administrative, principal, or chief school  
2           business official endorsement and who has had 2 years  
3           of experience as a principal, director of special  
4           education, or chief school business official while  
5           holding a valid educator license or certificate  
6           comparable in validity and educational and experience  
7           requirements and has passed the appropriate State  
8           tests, as provided in Section 21B-30 of this Code. The  
9           superintendent endorsement shall allow individuals to  
10          serve only as a superintendent or assistant  
11          superintendent.

12           (E) Teacher leader endorsement. It shall be the  
13          policy of this State to improve the quality of  
14          instructional leaders by providing a career pathway  
15          for teachers interested in serving in leadership  
16          roles, but not as principals. The State Board of  
17          Education, in consultation with the State Educator  
18          Preparation and Licensure Board, may issue a teacher  
19          leader endorsement under this subdivision (E). Persons  
20          who meet and successfully complete the requirements of  
21          the endorsement shall be issued a teacher leader  
22          endorsement on the Professional Educator License for  
23          serving in schools in this State. Teacher leaders may  
24          qualify to serve in such positions as department  
25          chairs, coaches, mentors, curriculum and instruction  
26          leaders, or other leadership positions as defined by

1 the district. The endorsement shall be available to  
2 those teachers who (i) hold a Professional Educator  
3 License, (ii) hold a master's degree or higher from a  
4 regionally accredited institution, (iii) have  
5 completed a program of study that has been approved by  
6 the State Board of Education, in consultation with the  
7 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, and  
8 (iv) have successfully demonstrated competencies as  
9 defined by rule.

10 A teacher who meets the requirements set forth in  
11 this Section and holds a teacher leader endorsement may  
12 evaluate teachers pursuant to Section 24A-5 of this  
13 Code, provided that the individual has completed the  
14 evaluation component required by Section 24A-3 of this  
15 Code and a teacher leader is allowed to evaluate  
16 personnel under the respective school district's  
17 collective bargaining agreement.

18 The State Board of Education, in consultation with  
19 the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board,  
20 may adopt such rules as may be necessary to establish  
21 and implement the teacher leader endorsement program  
22 and to specify the positions for which this endorsement  
23 shall be required.

24 (F) Special education endorsement. A special  
25 education endorsement in one or more areas shall be  
26 affixed to a Professional Educator License for any

1 individual that meets those requirements established  
2 by the State Board of Education in rules. Special  
3 education endorsement areas shall include without  
4 limitation the following:

5 (i) Learning Behavior Specialist I;

6 (ii) Learning Behavior Specialist II;

7 (iii) Speech Language Pathologist;

8 (iv) Blind or Visually Impaired;

9 (v) Deaf-Hard of Hearing; and

10 (vi) Early Childhood Special Education.

11 Notwithstanding anything in this Code to the contrary,  
12 the State Board of Education, in consultation with the  
13 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, may  
14 add additional areas of special education by rule.

15 (G) School support personnel endorsement. School  
16 support personnel endorsement areas shall include, but  
17 are not limited to, school counselor, marriage and  
18 family therapist, school psychologist, school speech  
19 and language pathologist, school nurse, and school  
20 social worker. This endorsement is for individuals who  
21 are not teachers or administrators, but still require  
22 licensure to work in an instructional support position  
23 in a public or State-operated elementary school,  
24 secondary school, or cooperative or joint agreement  
25 with a governing body or board of control or a charter  
26 school operating in compliance with the Charter

1 Schools Law. The school support personnel endorsement  
2 shall be affixed to the Professional Educator License  
3 and shall meet all of the requirements established in  
4 any rules adopted to implement this subdivision (G).  
5 The holder of such an endorsement is entitled to all of  
6 the rights and privileges granted holders of any other  
7 Professional Educator License, including teacher  
8 benefits, compensation, and working conditions.

9 Beginning on January 1, 2014 and ending on April  
10 30, 2014, a person holding a Professional Educator  
11 License with a school speech and language pathologist  
12 (teaching) endorsement may exchange his or her school  
13 speech and language pathologist (teaching) endorsement  
14 for a school speech and language pathologist  
15 (non-teaching) endorsement through application to the  
16 State Board of Education. There shall be no cost for  
17 this exchange.

18 (Source: P.A. 98-413, eff. 8-16-13; 98-610, eff. 12-27-13;  
19 98-872, eff. 8-11-14; 98-917, eff. 8-15-14; 98-1147, eff.  
20 12-31-14; 99-58, eff. 7-16-15; 99-623, eff. 7-22-16; 99-920,  
21 eff. 1-6-17; revised 1-23-17.)

22 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
23 becoming law.