



100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2017 and 2018

HB2426

by Rep. Barbara Flynn Currie

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/1C-2	
105 ILCS 5/2-3.71	from Ch. 122, par. 2-3.71
105 ILCS 5/2-3.89	from Ch. 122, par. 2-3.89

Amends the School Code. In provisions concerning the Early Childhood Education Block Grant, provides that (i) the requirement to fund programs for children ages 0-3 applies to funds distributed by this State and funds distributed to the Chicago school district, and the State Board of Education shall report annually, on or before December 1, on how much funding was allocated to programs for children ages 0-3 both by the State Board of Education and by the Chicago school district; and (ii) the requirement that the percentage of Early Childhood Education Block Grant funding allocated to programs for children ages 0-3 each fiscal year remain at least 20% of the overall Early Childhood Education Block Grant allocation, once that percentage has been reached, applies to funds distributed by this State and funds distributed to the Chicago school district. In provisions concerning grants for preschool educational programs and programs concerning services to at-risk children and their families, provides that the Chicago school district is also subject to the requirement to supplement, not supplant, funds received from other sources.

LRB100 10088 NHT 20261 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

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 1C-2, 2-3.71, and 2-3.89 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/1C-2)

7 Sec. 1C-2. Block grants.

8 (a) For fiscal year 1999, and each fiscal year thereafter,
9 the State Board of Education shall award to school districts
10 block grants as described in subsection (c). The State Board of
11 Education may adopt rules and regulations necessary to
12 implement this Section. In accordance with Section 2-3.32, all
13 state block grants are subject to an audit. Therefore, block
14 grant receipts and block grant expenditures shall be recorded
15 to the appropriate fund code.

16 (b) (Blank).

17 (c) An Early Childhood Education Block Grant shall be
18 created by combining the following programs: Preschool
19 Education, Parental Training and Prevention Initiative. These
20 funds shall be distributed to school districts and other
21 entities on a competitive basis. Not less than 14% of the Early
22 Childhood Education Block Grant allocation of funds shall be
23 used to fund programs for children ages 0-3. Beginning in

1 Fiscal Year 2016, at least 25% of any additional Early
2 Childhood Education Block Grant funding over and above the
3 previous fiscal year's allocation shall be used to fund
4 programs for children ages 0-3. This requirement to fund
5 programs for children ages 0-3 applies to funds distributed by
6 this State and funds distributed to a school district having a
7 population exceeding 500,000 inhabitants pursuant to Article
8 1D, and the State Board of Education shall report annually, on
9 or before December 1, on how much funding was allocated to
10 programs for children ages 0-3 both by the State Board of
11 Education and by a school district having a population
12 exceeding 500,000 inhabitants. Once the percentage of Early
13 Childhood Education Block Grant funding allocated to programs
14 for children ages 0-3 reaches 20% of the overall Early
15 Childhood Education Block Grant allocation for a full fiscal
16 year, thereafter in subsequent fiscal years the percentage of
17 Early Childhood Education Block Grant funding allocated to
18 programs for children ages 0-3 each fiscal year shall remain at
19 least 20% of the overall Early Childhood Education Block Grant
20 allocation; this requirement applies to funds distributed by
21 this State and funds distributed to a school district having a
22 population exceeding 500,000 inhabitants pursuant to Article
23 1D. However, if, in a given fiscal year, the amount
24 appropriated for the Early Childhood Education Block Grant is
25 insufficient to increase the percentage of the grant to fund
26 programs for children ages 0-3 without reducing the amount of

1 the grant for existing providers of preschool education
2 programs, then the percentage of the grant to fund programs for
3 children ages 0-3 may be held steady instead of increased.
4 (Source: P.A. 98-645, eff. 7-1-14; 99-589, eff. 7-21-16.)

5 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.71) (from Ch. 122, par. 2-3.71)
6 Sec. 2-3.71. Grants for preschool educational programs.
7 (a) Preschool program.

8 (1) The State Board of Education shall implement and
9 administer a grant program under the provisions of this
10 subsection which shall consist of grants to public school
11 districts and other eligible entities, as defined by the
12 State Board of Education, to conduct voluntary preschool
13 educational programs for children ages 3 to 5 which include
14 a parent education component. A public school district
15 which receives grants under this subsection may
16 subcontract with other entities that are eligible to
17 conduct a preschool educational program. These grants must
18 be used to supplement, not supplant, funds received from
19 any other source. A school district receiving grants
20 pursuant to Article 1D is also subject to the requirement
21 to supplement, not supplant, funds received from other
22 sources.

23 (2) (Blank).

24 (3) Any teacher of preschool children in the program
25 authorized by this subsection shall hold an early childhood

1 teaching certificate.

2 (4) (Blank).

3 (4.5) The State Board of Education shall provide the
4 primary source of funding through appropriations for the
5 program. Such funds shall be distributed to achieve a goal
6 of "Preschool for All Children" for the benefit of all
7 children whose families choose to participate in the
8 program. Based on available appropriations, newly funded
9 programs shall be selected through a process giving first
10 priority to qualified programs serving primarily at-risk
11 children and second priority to qualified programs serving
12 primarily children with a family income of less than 4
13 times the poverty guidelines updated periodically in the
14 Federal Register by the U.S. Department of Health and Human
15 Services under the authority of 42 U.S.C. 9902(2). For
16 purposes of this paragraph (4.5), at-risk children are
17 those who because of their home and community environment
18 are subject to such language, cultural, economic and like
19 disadvantages to cause them to have been determined as a
20 result of screening procedures to be at risk of academic
21 failure. Such screening procedures shall be based on
22 criteria established by the State Board of Education.

23 Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph (4.5),
24 grantees under the program must enter into a memorandum of
25 understanding with the appropriate local Head Start
26 agency. This memorandum must be entered into no later than

1 3 months after the award of a grantee's grant under the
2 program, except that, in the case of the 2009-2010 program
3 year, the memorandum must be entered into no later than the
4 deadline set by the State Board of Education for
5 applications to participate in the program in fiscal year
6 2011, and must address collaboration between the grantee's
7 program and the local Head Start agency on certain issues,
8 which shall include without limitation the following:

9 (A) educational activities, curricular objectives,
10 and instruction;

11 (B) public information dissemination and access to
12 programs for families contacting programs;

13 (C) service areas;

14 (D) selection priorities for eligible children to
15 be served by programs;

16 (E) maximizing the impact of federal and State
17 funding to benefit young children;

18 (F) staff training, including opportunities for
19 joint staff training;

20 (G) technical assistance;

21 (H) communication and parent outreach for smooth
22 transitions to kindergarten;

23 (I) provision and use of facilities,
24 transportation, and other program elements;

25 (J) facilitating each program's fulfillment of its
26 statutory and regulatory requirements;

1 (K) improving local planning and collaboration;

2 and

3 (L) providing comprehensive services for the
4 neediest Illinois children and families.

5 If the appropriate local Head Start agency is unable or
6 unwilling to enter into a memorandum of understanding as
7 required under this paragraph (4.5), the memorandum of
8 understanding requirement shall not apply and the grantee
9 under the program must notify the State Board of Education
10 in writing of the Head Start agency's inability or
11 unwillingness. The State Board of Education shall compile
12 all such written notices and make them available to the
13 public.

14 (5) The State Board of Education shall develop and
15 provide evaluation tools, including tests, that school
16 districts and other eligible entities may use to evaluate
17 children for school readiness prior to age 5. The State
18 Board of Education shall require school districts and other
19 eligible entities to obtain consent from the parents or
20 guardians of children before any evaluations are
21 conducted. The State Board of Education shall encourage
22 local school districts and other eligible entities to
23 evaluate the population of preschool children in their
24 communities and provide preschool programs, pursuant to
25 this subsection, where appropriate.

26 (6) The State Board of Education shall report to the

1 General Assembly by November 1, 2010 and every 3 years
2 thereafter on the results and progress of students who were
3 enrolled in preschool educational programs, including an
4 assessment of which programs have been most successful in
5 promoting academic excellence and alleviating academic
6 failure. The State Board of Education shall assess the
7 academic progress of all students who have been enrolled in
8 preschool educational programs.

9 On or before November 1 of each fiscal year in which
10 the General Assembly provides funding for new programs
11 under paragraph (4.5) of this Section, the State Board of
12 Education shall report to the General Assembly on what
13 percentage of new funding was provided to programs serving
14 primarily at-risk children, what percentage of new funding
15 was provided to programs serving primarily children with a
16 family income of less than 4 times the federal poverty
17 level, and what percentage of new funding was provided to
18 other programs.

19 (b) (Blank).

20 (Source: P.A. 95-724, eff. 6-30-08; 96-119, eff. 8-4-09;
21 96-944, eff. 6-25-10; 96-948, eff. 6-25-10.)

22 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.89) (from Ch. 122, par. 2-3.89)

23 Sec. 2-3.89. Programs concerning services to at-risk
24 children and their families.

25 (a) The State Board of Education may provide grants to

1 eligible entities, as defined by the State Board of Education,
2 to establish programs which offer coordinated services to
3 at-risk infants and toddlers and their families. Each program
4 shall include a parent education program relating to the
5 development and nurturing of infants and toddlers and case
6 management services to coordinate existing services available
7 in the region served by the program. These services shall be
8 provided through the implementation of an individual family
9 service plan. Each program will have a community involvement
10 component to provide coordination in the service system.

11 (b) The State Board of Education shall administer the
12 programs through the grants to public school districts and
13 other eligible entities. These grants must be used to
14 supplement, not supplant, funds received from any other source.
15 A school district receiving grants pursuant to Article 1D is
16 also subject to the requirement to supplement, not supplant,
17 funds received from other sources. School districts and other
18 eligible entities receiving grants pursuant to this Section
19 shall conduct voluntary, intensive, research-based, and
20 comprehensive prevention services, as defined by the State
21 Board of Education, for expecting parents and families with
22 children from birth to age 3 who are at-risk of academic
23 failure. A public school district that receives a grant under
24 this Section may subcontract with other eligible entities.

25 (c) The State Board of Education shall report to the
26 General Assembly by July 1, 2006 and every 2 years thereafter,

1 using the most current data available, on the status of
2 programs funded under this Section, including without
3 limitation characteristics of participants, services
4 delivered, program models used, unmet needs, and results of the
5 programs funded.

6 (Source: P.A. 96-734, eff. 8-25-09.)