



101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2019 and 2020

HB0355

by Rep. Mark Batinick

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/21B-45

Amends the School Code. With regard to a Professional Educator License renewal, provides that, beginning with the next 5-year renewal cycle after the effective date of the amendatory Act, no less than 15 of the 120 required hours of professional development must include training on inclusive practices in the classroom that examines instructional and behavioral strategies that improve academic and social-emotional outcomes for all students, with or without disabilities, in a general education setting.

LRB101 05824 AXK 50840 b

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 Section
5 21B-45 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/21B-45)

7 Sec. 21B-45. Professional Educator License renewal.

8 (a) Individuals holding a Professional Educator License
9 are required to complete the licensure renewal requirements as
10 specified in this Section, unless otherwise provided in this
11 Code.

12 Individuals holding a Professional Educator License shall
13 meet the renewal requirements set forth in this Section, unless
14 otherwise provided in this Code. If an individual holds a
15 license endorsed in more than one area that has different
16 renewal requirements, that individual shall follow the renewal
17 requirements for the position for which he or she spends the
18 majority of his or her time working.

19 (b) All Professional Educator Licenses not renewed as
20 provided in this Section shall lapse on September 1 of that
21 year. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Section, if
22 a license holder's electronic mail address is available, the
23 State Board of Education shall send him or her notification

1 electronically that his or her license will lapse if not
2 renewed, to be sent no more than 6 months prior to the license
3 lapsing. Lapsed licenses may be immediately reinstated upon (i)
4 payment by the applicant of a \$500 penalty to the State Board
5 of Education or (ii) the demonstration of proficiency by
6 completing 9 semester hours of coursework from a regionally
7 accredited institution of higher education in the content area
8 that most aligns with one or more of the educator's endorsement
9 areas. Any and all back fees, including without limitation
10 registration fees owed from the time of expiration of the
11 license until the date of reinstatement, shall be paid and kept
12 in accordance with the provisions in Article 3 of this Code
13 concerning an institute fund and the provisions in Article 21B
14 of this Code concerning fees and requirements for registration.
15 Licenses not registered in accordance with Section 21B-40 of
16 this Code shall lapse after a period of 6 months from the
17 expiration of the last year of registration or on January 1 of
18 the fiscal year following initial issuance of the license. An
19 unregistered license is invalid after September 1 for
20 employment and performance of services in an Illinois public or
21 State-operated school or cooperative and in a charter school.
22 Any license or endorsement may be voluntarily surrendered by
23 the license holder. A voluntarily surrendered license, except a
24 substitute teaching license issued under Section 21B-20 of this
25 Code, shall be treated as a revoked license. An Educator
26 License with Stipulations with only a paraprofessional

1 endorsement does not lapse.

2 (c) From July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014, in order to
3 satisfy the requirements for licensure renewal provided for in
4 this Section, each professional educator licensee with an
5 administrative endorsement who is working in a position
6 requiring such endorsement shall complete one Illinois
7 Administrators' Academy course, as described in Article 2 of
8 this Code, per fiscal year.

9 (d) Beginning July 1, 2014, in order to satisfy the
10 requirements for licensure renewal provided for in this
11 Section, each professional educator licensee may create a
12 professional development plan each year. The plan shall address
13 one or more of the endorsements that are required of his or her
14 educator position if the licensee is employed and performing
15 services in an Illinois public or State-operated school or
16 cooperative. If the licensee is employed in a charter school,
17 the plan shall address that endorsement or those endorsements
18 most closely related to his or her educator position. Licensees
19 employed and performing services in any other Illinois schools
20 may participate in the renewal requirements by adhering to the
21 same process.

22 Except as otherwise provided in this Section, the
23 licensee's professional development activities shall align
24 with one or more of the following criteria:

25 (1) activities are of a type that engage participants
26 over a sustained period of time allowing for analysis,

1 discovery, and application as they relate to student
2 learning, social or emotional achievement, or well-being;

3 (2) professional development aligns to the licensee's
4 performance;

5 (3) outcomes for the activities must relate to student
6 growth or district improvement;

7 (4) activities align to State-approved standards; and

8 (5) higher education coursework.

9 (e) For each renewal cycle, each professional educator
10 licensee shall engage in professional development activities.
11 Prior to renewal, the licensee shall enter electronically into
12 the Educator Licensure Information System (ELIS) the name,
13 date, and location of the activity, the number of professional
14 development hours, and the provider's name. The following
15 provisions shall apply concerning professional development
16 activities:

17 (1) Each licensee shall complete a total of 120 hours
18 of professional development per 5-year renewal cycle in
19 order to renew the license, except as otherwise provided in
20 this Section. Beginning with the next 5-year renewal cycle
21 after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
22 101st General Assembly, no less than 15 of the 120 hours of
23 professional development must include training on
24 inclusive practices in the classroom that examines
25 instructional and behavioral strategies that improve
26 academic and social-emotional outcomes for all students,

1 with or without disabilities, in a general education
2 setting.

3 (2) Beginning with his or her first full 5-year cycle,
4 any licensee with an administrative endorsement who is not
5 working in a position requiring such endorsement is not
6 required to complete Illinois Administrators' Academy
7 courses, as described in Article 2 of this Code. Such
8 licensees must complete one Illinois Administrators'
9 Academy course within one year after returning to a
10 position that requires the administrative endorsement.

11 (3) Any licensee with an administrative endorsement
12 who is working in a position requiring such endorsement or
13 an individual with a Teacher Leader endorsement serving in
14 an administrative capacity at least 50% of the day shall
15 complete one Illinois Administrators' Academy course, as
16 described in Article 2 of this Code, each fiscal year in
17 addition to 100 hours of professional development per
18 5-year renewal cycle in accordance with this Code.

19 (4) Any licensee holding a current National Board for
20 Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) master teacher
21 designation shall complete a total of 60 hours of
22 professional development per 5-year renewal cycle in order
23 to renew the license.

24 (5) Licensees working in a position that does not
25 require educator licensure or working in a position for
26 less than 50% for any particular year are considered to be

1 exempt and shall be required to pay only the registration
2 fee in order to renew and maintain the validity of the
3 license.

4 (6) Licensees who are retired and qualify for benefits
5 from a State of Illinois retirement system shall notify the
6 State Board of Education using ELIS, and the license shall
7 be maintained in retired status. For any renewal cycle in
8 which a licensee retires during the renewal cycle, the
9 licensee must complete professional development activities
10 on a prorated basis depending on the number of years during
11 the renewal cycle the educator held an active license. If a
12 licensee retires during a renewal cycle, the licensee must
13 notify the State Board of Education using ELIS that the
14 licensee wishes to maintain the license in retired status
15 and must show proof of completion of professional
16 development activities on a prorated basis for all years of
17 that renewal cycle for which the license was active. An
18 individual with a license in retired status shall not be
19 required to complete professional development activities
20 or pay registration fees until returning to a position that
21 requires educator licensure. Upon returning to work in a
22 position that requires the Professional Educator License,
23 the licensee shall immediately pay a registration fee and
24 complete renewal requirements for that year. A license in
25 retired status cannot lapse. Beginning on January 6, 2017
26 (the effective date of Public Act 99-920) through December

1 31, 2017, any licensee who has retired and whose license
2 has lapsed for failure to renew as provided in this Section
3 may reinstate that license and maintain it in retired
4 status upon providing proof to the State Board of Education
5 using ELIS that the licensee is retired and is not working
6 in a position that requires a Professional Educator
7 License.

8 (7) For any renewal cycle in which professional
9 development hours were required, but not fulfilled, the
10 licensee shall complete any missed hours to total the
11 minimum professional development hours required in this
12 Section prior to September 1 of that year. Professional
13 development hours used to fulfill the minimum required
14 hours for a renewal cycle may be used for only one renewal
15 cycle. For any fiscal year or renewal cycle in which an
16 Illinois Administrators' Academy course was required but
17 not completed, the licensee shall complete any missed
18 Illinois Administrators' Academy courses prior to
19 September 1 of that year. The licensee may complete all
20 deficient hours and Illinois Administrators' Academy
21 courses while continuing to work in a position that
22 requires that license until September 1 of that year.

23 (8) Any licensee who has not fulfilled the professional
24 development renewal requirements set forth in this Section
25 at the end of any 5-year renewal cycle is ineligible to
26 register his or her license and may submit an appeal to the

1 State Superintendent of Education for reinstatement of the
2 license.

3 (9) If professional development opportunities were
4 unavailable to a licensee, proof that opportunities were
5 unavailable and request for an extension of time beyond
6 August 31 to complete the renewal requirements may be
7 submitted from April 1 through June 30 of that year to the
8 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board. If an
9 extension is approved, the license shall remain valid
10 during the extension period.

11 (10) Individuals who hold exempt licenses prior to
12 December 27, 2013 (the effective date of Public Act 98-610)
13 shall commence the annual renewal process with the first
14 scheduled registration due after December 27, 2013 (the
15 effective date of Public Act 98-610).

16 (11) Notwithstanding any other provision of this
17 subsection (e), if a licensee earns more than the required
18 number of professional development hours during a renewal
19 cycle, then the licensee may carry over any hours earned
20 from April 1 through June 30 of the last year of the
21 renewal cycle. Any hours carried over in this manner must
22 be applied to the next renewal cycle. Illinois
23 Administrators' Academy courses or hours earned in those
24 courses may not be carried over.

25 (f) At the time of renewal, each licensee shall respond to
26 the required questions under penalty of perjury.

1 (g) The following entities shall be designated as approved
2 to provide professional development activities for the renewal
3 of Professional Educator Licenses:

4 (1) The State Board of Education.

5 (2) Regional offices of education and intermediate
6 service centers.

7 (3) Illinois professional associations representing
8 the following groups that are approved by the State
9 Superintendent of Education:

10 (A) school administrators;

11 (B) principals;

12 (C) school business officials;

13 (D) teachers, including special education
14 teachers;

15 (E) school boards;

16 (F) school districts;

17 (G) parents; and

18 (H) school service personnel.

19 (4) Regionally accredited institutions of higher
20 education that offer Illinois-approved educator
21 preparation programs and public community colleges subject
22 to the Public Community College Act.

23 (5) Illinois public school districts, charter schools
24 authorized under Article 27A of this Code, and joint
25 educational programs authorized under Article 10 of this
26 Code for the purposes of providing career and technical

1 education or special education services.

2 (6) A not-for-profit organization that, as of December
3 31, 2014 (the effective date of Public Act 98-1147), has
4 had or has a grant from or a contract with the State Board
5 of Education to provide professional development services
6 in the area of English Learning to Illinois school
7 districts, teachers, or administrators.

8 (7) State agencies, State boards, and State
9 commissions.

10 (8) Museums as defined in Section 10 of the Museum
11 Disposition of Property Act.

12 (h) Approved providers under subsection (g) of this Section
13 shall make available professional development opportunities
14 that satisfy at least one of the following:

15 (1) increase the knowledge and skills of school and
16 district leaders who guide continuous professional
17 development;

18 (2) improve the learning of students;

19 (3) organize adults into learning communities whose
20 goals are aligned with those of the school and district;

21 (4) deepen educator's content knowledge;

22 (5) provide educators with research-based
23 instructional strategies to assist students in meeting
24 rigorous academic standards;

25 (6) prepare educators to appropriately use various
26 types of classroom assessments;

1 (7) use learning strategies appropriate to the
2 intended goals;

3 (8) provide educators with the knowledge and skills to
4 collaborate; or

5 (9) prepare educators to apply research to
6 decision-making.

7 (i) Approved providers under subsection (g) of this Section
8 shall do the following:

9 (1) align professional development activities to the
10 State-approved national standards for professional
11 learning;

12 (2) meet the professional development criteria for
13 Illinois licensure renewal;

14 (3) produce a rationale for the activity that explains
15 how it aligns to State standards and identify the
16 assessment for determining the expected impact on student
17 learning or school improvement;

18 (4) maintain original documentation for completion of
19 activities;

20 (5) provide license holders with evidence of
21 completion of activities; and

22 (6) request an Illinois Educator Identification Number
23 (IEIN) for each educator during each professional
24 development activity.

25 (j) The State Board of Education shall conduct annual
26 audits of a subset of approved providers, except for school

1 districts, which shall be audited by regional offices of
2 education and intermediate service centers. The State Board of
3 Education shall ensure that each approved provider, except for
4 a school district, is audited at least once every 5 years. The
5 State Board of Education may conduct more frequent audits of
6 providers if evidence suggests the requirements of this Section
7 or administrative rules are not being met. The State Board of
8 Education shall complete random audits of licensees.

9 (1) (Blank).

10 (2) Approved providers shall comply with the
11 requirements in subsections (h) and (i) of this Section by
12 annually submitting data to the State Board of Education
13 demonstrating how the professional development activities
14 impacted one or more of the following:

15 (A) educator and student growth in regards to
16 content knowledge or skills, or both;

17 (B) educator and student social and emotional
18 growth; or

19 (C) alignment to district or school improvement
20 plans.

21 (3) The State Superintendent of Education shall review
22 the annual data collected by the State Board of Education,
23 regional offices of education, and intermediate service
24 centers in audits to determine if the approved provider has
25 met the criteria and should continue to be an approved
26 provider or if further action should be taken as provided

1 in rules.

2 (k) Registration fees shall be paid for the next renewal
3 cycle between April 1 and June 30 in the last year of each
4 5-year renewal cycle using ELIS. If all required professional
5 development hours for the renewal cycle have been completed and
6 entered by the licensee, the licensee shall pay the
7 registration fees for the next cycle using a form of credit or
8 debit card.

9 (l) Any professional educator licensee endorsed for school
10 support personnel who is employed and performing services in
11 Illinois public schools and who holds an active and current
12 professional license issued by the Department of Financial and
13 Professional Regulation or a national certification board, as
14 approved by the State Board of Education, related to the
15 endorsement areas on the Professional Educator License shall be
16 deemed to have satisfied the continuing professional
17 development requirements provided for in this Section. Such
18 individuals shall be required to pay only registration fees to
19 renew the Professional Educator License. An individual who does
20 not hold a license issued by the Department of Financial and
21 Professional Regulation shall complete professional
22 development requirements for the renewal of a Professional
23 Educator License provided for in this Section.

24 (m) Appeals to the State Educator Preparation and Licensure
25 Board must be made within 30 days after receipt of notice from
26 the State Superintendent of Education that a license will not

1 be renewed based upon failure to complete the requirements of
2 this Section. A licensee may appeal that decision to the State
3 Educator Preparation and Licensure Board in a manner prescribed
4 by rule.

5 (1) Each appeal shall state the reasons why the State
6 Superintendent's decision should be reversed and shall be
7 sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the
8 State Board of Education.

9 (2) The State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board
10 shall review each appeal regarding renewal of a license
11 within 90 days after receiving the appeal in order to
12 determine whether the licensee has met the requirements of
13 this Section. The State Educator Preparation and Licensure
14 Board may hold an appeal hearing or may make its
15 determination based upon the record of review, which shall
16 consist of the following:

17 (A) the regional superintendent of education's
18 rationale for recommending nonrenewal of the license,
19 if applicable;

20 (B) any evidence submitted to the State
21 Superintendent along with the individual's electronic
22 statement of assurance for renewal; and

23 (C) the State Superintendent's rationale for
24 nonrenewal of the license.

25 (3) The State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board
26 shall notify the licensee of its decision regarding license

1 renewal by certified mail, return receipt requested, no
2 later than 30 days after reaching a decision. Upon receipt
3 of notification of renewal, the licensee, using ELIS, shall
4 pay the applicable registration fee for the next cycle
5 using a form of credit or debit card.

6 (n) The State Board of Education may adopt rules as may be
7 necessary to implement this Section.

8 (Source: P.A. 99-58, eff. 7-16-15; 99-130, eff. 7-24-15;
9 99-591, eff. 1-1-17; 99-642, eff. 7-28-16; 99-920, eff. 1-6-17;
10 100-13, eff. 7-1-17; 100-339, eff. 8-25-17; 100-596, eff.
11 7-1-18; 100-863, eff. 8-14-18.)