



103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

HB4672

Introduced 2/6/2024, by Rep. Michelle Mussman

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/21B-30

Amends the Educator Licensure Article of the School Code. In provisions concerning educator testing, provides that an applicant for a Professional Educator License with a school support personnel endorsement for non-teaching speech-language pathologist may satisfy the requirement of passing a test of content area knowledge by passing the national Praxis test in speech-language pathology administered by the Educational Testing Service. Provides that an applicant for a Professional Educator License with a school support personnel endorsement for non-teaching speech-language pathologist may complete a school internship, externship, or practicum prior to taking the Praxis test, but must pass the Praxis test in speech-language pathology prior to licensure.

LRB103 36869 RJT 66981 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-30 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/21B-30)

7 Sec. 21B-30. Educator testing.

8 (a) (Blank).

9 (b) The State Board of Education, in consultation with the
10 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, shall design
11 and implement a system of examinations, which shall be
12 required prior to the issuance of educator licenses. These
13 examinations and indicators must be based on national and
14 State professional teaching standards, as determined by the
15 State Board of Education, in consultation with the State
16 Educator Preparation and Licensure Board. The State Board of
17 Education may adopt such rules as may be necessary to
18 implement and administer this Section.

19 (c) (Blank).

20 (c-5) The State Board must adopt rules to implement a
21 paraprofessional competency test. This test would allow an
22 applicant seeking an Educator License with Stipulations with a
23 paraprofessional educator endorsement to obtain the

1 endorsement if he or she passes the test and meets the other
2 requirements of subparagraph (J) of paragraph (2) of Section
3 21B-20 other than the higher education requirements.

4 (d) All applicants seeking a State license shall be
5 required to pass a test of content area knowledge for each area
6 of endorsement for which there is an applicable test. An
7 applicant for a Professional Educator License with a school
8 support personnel endorsement for non-teaching speech-language
9 pathologist may satisfy the requirement of passing a test of
10 content area knowledge by passing the national Praxis test in
11 speech-language pathology administered by the Educational
12 Testing Service. There shall be no exception to this
13 requirement. No candidate shall be allowed to student teach or
14 serve as the teacher of record until he or she has passed the
15 applicable content area test. An applicant for a Professional
16 Educator License with a school support personnel endorsement
17 for non-teaching speech-language pathologist may complete a
18 school internship, externship, or practicum prior to taking
19 the Praxis test but must pass the Praxis test in
20 speech-language pathology prior to licensure.

21 (d-5) The State Board shall consult with any applicable
22 vendors within 90 days after July 28, 2023 (the effective date
23 of Public Act 103-402) ~~this amendatory Act of the 103rd~~
24 ~~General Assembly~~ to develop a plan to transition the test of
25 content area knowledge in the endorsement area of elementary
26 education, grades one through 6, by July 1, 2026 to a content

1 area test that contains testing elements that cover
2 bilingualism, biliteracy, oral language development,
3 foundational literacy skills, and developmentally appropriate
4 higher-order comprehension and on which a valid and reliable
5 language and literacy subscore can be determined. The State
6 Board shall base its rules concerning the passing subscore on
7 the language and literacy portion of the test on the
8 recommended cut-score determined in the formal
9 standard-setting process. Candidates need not achieve a
10 particular subscore in the area of language and literacy. The
11 State Board shall aggregate and publish the number of
12 candidates in each preparation program who take the test and
13 the number who pass the language and literacy portion.

14 (e) (Blank).

15 (f) Beginning on August 4, 2023 (the effective date of
16 Public Act 103-488) ~~this amendatory Act of the 103rd General~~
17 ~~Assembly~~ through August 31, 2025, no candidate completing a
18 teacher preparation program in this State or candidate subject
19 to Section 21B-35 of this Code is required to pass a teacher
20 performance assessment. Except as otherwise provided in this
21 Article, beginning on September 1, 2015 until August 4, 2023
22 (the effective date of Public Act 103-488) ~~this amendatory Act~~
23 ~~of the 103rd General Assembly~~ and beginning again on September
24 1, 2025, all candidates completing teacher preparation
25 programs in this State and all candidates subject to Section
26 21B-35 of this Code are required to pass a teacher performance

1 assessment approved by the State Board of Education, in
2 consultation with the State Educator Preparation and Licensure
3 Board. A candidate may not be required to submit test
4 materials by video submission. Subject to appropriation, an
5 individual who holds a Professional Educator License and is
6 employed for a minimum of one school year by a school district
7 designated as Tier 1 under Section 18-8.15 may, after
8 application to the State Board, receive from the State Board a
9 refund for any costs associated with completing the teacher
10 performance assessment under this subsection.

11 (f-5) The Teacher Performance Assessment Task Force is
12 created to evaluate potential performance-based and objective
13 teacher performance assessment systems for implementation
14 across all educator preparation programs in this State, with
15 the intention of ensuring consistency across programs and
16 supporting a thoughtful and well-rounded licensure system.
17 Members appointed to the Task Force must reflect the racial,
18 ethnic, and geographic diversity of this State. The Task Force
19 shall consist of all of the following members:

20 (1) One member of the Senate, appointed by the
21 President of the Senate.

22 (2) One member of the Senate, appointed by the
23 Minority Leader of the Senate.

24 (3) One member of the House of Representatives,
25 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

26 (4) One member of the House of Representatives,

1 appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of
2 Representatives.

3 (5) One member who represents a statewide professional
4 teachers' organization, appointed by the State
5 Superintendent of Education.

6 (6) One member who represents a different statewide
7 professional teachers' organization, appointed by the
8 State Superintendent of Education.

9 (7) One member from a statewide organization
10 representing school principals, appointed by the State
11 Superintendent of Education.

12 (8) One member from a statewide organization
13 representing regional superintendents of schools,
14 appointed by the State Superintendent of Education.

15 (9) One member from a statewide organization
16 representing school administrators, appointed by the State
17 Superintendent of Education.

18 (10) One member representing a school district
19 organized under Article 34 of this Code, appointed by the
20 State Superintendent of Education.

21 (11) One member of an association representing rural
22 and small schools, appointed by the State Superintendent
23 of Education.

24 (12) One member representing a suburban school
25 district, appointed by the State Superintendent of
26 Education.

1 (13) One member from a statewide organization
2 representing school districts in the southern suburbs of
3 the City of Chicago, appointed by the State Superintendent
4 of Education.

5 (14) One member from a statewide organization
6 representing large unit school districts, appointed by the
7 State Superintendent of Education.

8 (15) One member from a statewide organization
9 representing school districts in the collar counties of
10 the City of Chicago, appointed by the State Superintendent
11 of Education.

12 (16) Three members, each representing a different
13 public university in this State and each a current member
14 of the faculty of an approved educator preparation
15 program, appointed by the State Superintendent of
16 Education.

17 (17) Three members, each representing a different
18 4-year nonpublic university or college in this State and
19 each a current member of the faculty of an approved
20 educator preparation program, appointed by the State
21 Superintendent of Education.

22 (18) One member of the Board of Higher Education,
23 appointed by the State Superintendent of Education.

24 (19) One member representing a statewide policy
25 organization advocating on behalf of multilingual students
26 and families, appointed by the State Superintendent of

1 Education.

2 (20) One member representing a statewide organization
3 focused on research-based education policy to support a
4 school system that prepares all students for college, a
5 career, and democratic citizenship, appointed by the State
6 Superintendent of Education.

7 (21) Two members representing an early childhood
8 advocacy organization, appointed by the State
9 Superintendent of Education.

10 (22) One member representing a statewide organization
11 that partners with educator preparation programs and
12 school districts to support the growth and development of
13 preservice teachers, appointed by the State Superintendent
14 of Education.

15 (23) One member representing a statewide organization
16 that advocates for educational equity and racial justice
17 in schools, appointed by the State Superintendent of
18 Education.

19 (24) One member representing a statewide organization
20 that represents school boards, appointed by the State
21 Superintendent of Education.

22 (25) One member who has, within the last 5 years,
23 served as a cooperating teacher, appointed by the State
24 Superintendent of Education.

25 Members of the Task Force shall serve without
26 compensation. The Task Force shall first meet at the call of

1 the State Superintendent of Education, and each subsequent
2 meeting shall be called by the chairperson of the Task Force,
3 who shall be designated by the State Superintendent of
4 Education. The State Board of Education shall provide
5 administrative and other support to the Task Force.

6 On or before August 1, 2024, the Task Force shall report on
7 its work, including recommendations on a teacher performance
8 assessment system in this State, to the State Board of
9 Education and the General Assembly. The Task Force is
10 dissolved upon submission of this report.

11 (g) The content area knowledge test and the teacher
12 performance assessment shall be the tests that from time to
13 time are designated by the State Board of Education, in
14 consultation with the State Educator Preparation and Licensure
15 Board, and may be tests prepared by an educational testing
16 organization or tests designed by the State Board of
17 Education, in consultation with the State Educator Preparation
18 and Licensure Board. The test of content area knowledge shall
19 assess content knowledge in a specific subject field. The
20 tests must be designed to be racially neutral to ensure that no
21 person taking the tests is discriminated against on the basis
22 of race, color, national origin, or other factors unrelated to
23 the person's ability to perform as a licensed employee. The
24 score required to pass the tests shall be fixed by the State
25 Board of Education, in consultation with the State Educator
26 Preparation and Licensure Board. The tests shall be

1 administered not fewer than 3 times a year at such time and
2 place as may be designated by the State Board of Education, in
3 consultation with the State Educator Preparation and Licensure
4 Board.

5 The State Board shall implement a test or tests to assess
6 the speaking, reading, writing, and grammar skills of
7 applicants for an endorsement or a license issued under
8 subdivision (G) of paragraph (2) of Section 21B-20 of this
9 Code in the English language and in the language of the
10 transitional bilingual education program requested by the
11 applicant.

12 (h) Except as provided in Section 34-6 of this Code, the
13 provisions of this Section shall apply equally in any school
14 district subject to Article 34 of this Code.

15 (i) The rules developed to implement and enforce the
16 testing requirements under this Section shall include, without
17 limitation, provisions governing test selection, test
18 validation, and determination of a passing score,
19 administration of the tests, frequency of administration,
20 applicant fees, frequency of applicants taking the tests, the
21 years for which a score is valid, and appropriate special
22 accommodations. The State Board of Education shall develop
23 such rules as may be needed to ensure uniformity from year to
24 year in the level of difficulty for each form of an assessment.
25 (Source: P.A. 102-301, eff. 8-26-21; 103-402, eff. 7-28-23;
26 103-488, eff. 8-4-23; revised 9-1-23.)