

HB5025



103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

HB5025

Introduced 2/8/2024, by Rep. Laura Faver Dias

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/21B-20

Amends the Educator Licensure Article of the School Code. Allows an applicant to qualify for a Short-Term Substitute Teaching License if the applicant has retired in good standing while holding a valid paraprofessional educator endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations.

LRB103 37380 RJT 67501 b

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 Section
5 21B-20 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/21B-20)

7 Sec. 21B-20. Types of licenses. The State Board of
8 Education shall implement a system of educator licensure,
9 whereby individuals employed in school districts who are
10 required to be licensed must have one of the following
11 licenses: (i) a professional educator license; (ii) an
12 educator license with stipulations; (iii) a substitute
13 teaching license; or (iv) until June 30, 2028, a short-term
14 substitute teaching license. References in law regarding
15 individuals certified or certificated or required to be
16 certified or certificated under Article 21 of this Code shall
17 also include individuals licensed or required to be licensed
18 under this Article. The first year of all licenses ends on June
19 30 following one full year of the license being issued.

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

1 (1) Professional Educator License. Persons who (i)
2 have successfully completed an approved educator
3 preparation program and are recommended for licensure by
4 the Illinois institution offering the educator preparation
5 program, (ii) have successfully completed the required
6 testing under Section 21B-30 of this Code, (iii) have
7 successfully completed coursework on the psychology of,
8 the identification of, and the methods of instruction for
9 the exceptional child, including, without limitation,
10 children with learning disabilities, (iv) have
11 successfully completed coursework in methods of reading
12 and reading in the content area, and (v) have met all other
13 criteria established by rule of the State Board of
14 Education shall be issued a Professional Educator License.
15 All Professional Educator Licenses are valid until June 30
16 immediately following 5 years of the license being issued.
17 The Professional Educator License shall be endorsed with
18 specific areas and grade levels in which the individual is
19 eligible to practice. For an early childhood education
20 endorsement, an individual may satisfy the student
21 teaching requirement of his or her early childhood teacher
22 preparation program through placement in a setting with
23 children from birth through grade 2, and the individual
24 may be paid and receive credit while student teaching. The
25 student teaching experience must meet the requirements of
26 and be approved by the individual's early childhood

1 teacher preparation program.

2 Individuals can receive subsequent endorsements on the
3 Professional Educator License. Subsequent endorsements
4 shall require a minimum of 24 semester hours of coursework
5 in the endorsement area and passage of the applicable
6 content area test, unless otherwise specified by rule.

7 (2) Educator License with Stipulations. An Educator
8 License with Stipulations shall be issued an endorsement
9 that limits the license holder to one particular position
10 or does not require completion of an approved educator
11 program or both.

12 An individual with an Educator License with
13 Stipulations must not be employed by a school district or
14 any other entity to replace any presently employed teacher
15 who otherwise would not be replaced for any reason.

16 An Educator License with Stipulations may be issued
17 with the following endorsements:

18 (A) (Blank).

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 content area test, as required
6 under Section 21B-30 of this Code.

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

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

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

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

25 (iii) Successfully completed the first phase
26 of an alternative route to superintendent

1 endorsement program, as provided in Section 21B-55
2 of this Code.

3 (iv) Passed a content area test required under
4 Section 21B-30 of this Code.

5 The endorsement is valid for 2 fiscal years in
6 order to complete one full year of serving as a
7 superintendent or assistant superintendent.

8 (D) (Blank).

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

17 The career and technical educator endorsement on
18 an Educator License with Stipulations is valid until
19 June 30 immediately following 5 years of the
20 endorsement being issued and may be renewed.

21 An individual who holds a valid career and
22 technical educator endorsement on an Educator License
23 with Stipulations but does not hold a bachelor's
24 degree may substitute teach in career and technical
25 education classrooms.

26 (F) (Blank).

1 (G) Transitional bilingual educator. A
2 transitional bilingual educator endorsement on an
3 Educator License with Stipulations may be issued for
4 the purpose of providing instruction in accordance
5 with Article 14C of this Code to an applicant who
6 provides satisfactory evidence that he or she meets
7 all of the following requirements:

8 (i) Possesses adequate speaking, reading, and
9 writing ability in the language other than English
10 in which transitional bilingual education is
11 offered.

12 (ii) Has the ability to successfully
13 communicate in English.

14 (iii) Either possessed, within 5 years
15 previous to his or her applying for a transitional
16 bilingual educator endorsement, a valid and
17 comparable teaching certificate or comparable
18 authorization issued by a foreign country or holds
19 a degree from an institution of higher learning in
20 a foreign country that the State Educator
21 Preparation and Licensure Board determines to be
22 the equivalent of a bachelor's degree from a
23 regionally accredited institution of higher
24 learning in the United States.

25 A transitional bilingual educator endorsement
26 shall be valid for prekindergarten through grade 12,

1 is valid until June 30 immediately following 5 years
2 of the endorsement being issued, and shall not be
3 renewed.

4 Persons holding a transitional bilingual educator
5 endorsement shall not be employed to replace any
6 presently employed teacher who otherwise would not be
7 replaced for any reason.

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

16 (i) Holds a transitional bilingual
17 endorsement.

18 (ii) Has demonstrated proficiency in the
19 language for which the endorsement is to be issued
20 by passing the applicable language content test
21 required by the State Board of Education.

22 (iii) Holds a bachelor's degree or higher from
23 a regionally accredited institution of higher
24 education or, for individuals educated in a
25 country other than the United States, holds a
26 degree from an institution of higher learning in a

1 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 (iv) (Blank).

7 A language endorsement on an Educator License with
8 Stipulations is valid for prekindergarten through
9 grade 12 for the same validity period as the
10 individual's transitional bilingual educator
11 endorsement on the Educator License with Stipulations
12 and shall not be renewed.

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

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

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

25 (iii) Has adequate content knowledge in the
26 subject to be taught.

1 (iv) Has an adequate command of the English
2 language.

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

13 A visiting international educator endorsement on
14 an Educator License with Stipulations is valid for 5
15 years and shall not be renewed.

16 (J) Paraprofessional educator. A paraprofessional
17 educator endorsement on an Educator License with
18 Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who holds a
19 high school diploma or its recognized equivalent and
20 (i) holds an associate's degree or a minimum of 60
21 semester hours of credit from a regionally accredited
22 institution of higher education; (ii) has passed a
23 paraprofessional competency test under subsection
24 (c-5) of Section 21B-30; or (iii) is at least 18 years
25 of age and will be using the Educator License with
26 Stipulations exclusively for grades prekindergarten

1 through grade 8, until the individual reaches the age
2 of 19 years and otherwise meets the criteria for a
3 paraprofessional educator endorsement pursuant to this
4 subparagraph (J). The paraprofessional educator
5 endorsement is valid until June 30 immediately
6 following 5 years of the endorsement being issued and
7 may be renewed through application and payment of the
8 appropriate fee, as required under Section 21B-40 of
9 this Code. An individual who holds only a
10 paraprofessional educator endorsement is not subject
11 to additional requirements in order to renew the
12 endorsement.

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

25 The chief school business official endorsement may
26 also be affixed to the Educator License with

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

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

21 The State Board of Education shall adopt any rules
22 necessary to implement Public Act 100-288.

23 (L) Provisional in-state educator. A provisional
24 in-state educator endorsement on an Educator License
25 with Stipulations may be issued to a candidate who has
26 completed an Illinois-approved educator preparation

1 program at an Illinois institution of higher education
2 and who has not successfully completed an
3 evidence-based assessment of teacher effectiveness but
4 who meets all of the following requirements:

5 (i) Holds at least a bachelor's degree.

6 (ii) Has completed an approved educator
7 preparation program at an Illinois institution.

8 (iii) Has passed an applicable content area
9 test, as required by Section 21B-30 of this Code.

10 (iv) Has attempted an evidence-based
11 assessment of teacher effectiveness and received a
12 minimum score on that assessment, as established
13 by the State Board of Education in consultation
14 with the State Educator Preparation and Licensure
15 Board.

16 A provisional in-state educator endorsement on an
17 Educator License with Stipulations is valid for one
18 full fiscal year after the date of issuance and may not
19 be renewed.

20 (M) (Blank).

21 (N) Specialized services. A specialized services
22 endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations
23 may be issued as defined and specified by rule.

24 (O) Provisional career and technical educator. A
25 provisional career and technical educator endorsement
26 on an Educator License with Stipulations may be issued

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

12 A provisional career and technical educator
13 endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations
14 is valid until June 30 immediately following 5 years
15 of the endorsement being issued and may be renewed.

16 An individual who holds a provisional career and
17 technical educator endorsement on an Educator License
18 with Stipulations may teach as a substitute teacher in
19 career and technical education classrooms.

20 (3) Substitute Teaching License. A Substitute Teaching
21 License may be issued to qualified applicants for
22 substitute teaching in all grades of the public schools,
23 prekindergarten through grade 12. Substitute Teaching
24 Licenses are not eligible for endorsements. Applicants for
25 a Substitute Teaching License must hold a bachelor's
26 degree or higher from a regionally accredited institution

1 of higher education or must be enrolled in an approved
2 educator preparation program in this State and have earned
3 at least 90 credit hours.

4 Substitute Teaching Licenses are valid for 5 years.

5 Substitute Teaching Licenses are valid for substitute
6 teaching in every county of this State. If an individual
7 has had his or her Professional Educator License or
8 Educator License with Stipulations suspended or revoked,
9 then that individual is not eligible to obtain a
10 Substitute Teaching License.

11 A substitute teacher may only teach in the place of a
12 licensed teacher who is under contract with the employing
13 board. If, however, there is no licensed teacher under
14 contract because of an emergency situation, then a
15 district may employ a substitute teacher for no longer
16 than 30 calendar days per each vacant position in the
17 district if the district notifies the appropriate regional
18 office of education within 5 business days after the
19 employment of the substitute teacher in that vacant
20 position. A district may continue to employ that same
21 substitute teacher in that same vacant position for 90
22 calendar days or until the end of the semester, whichever
23 is greater, if, prior to the expiration of the
24 30-calendar-day period then current, the district files a
25 written request with the appropriate regional office of
26 education for a 30-calendar-day extension on the basis

1 that the position remains vacant and the district
2 continues to actively seek qualified candidates and
3 provides documentation that it has provided training
4 specific to the position, including training on meeting
5 the needs of students with disabilities and English
6 learners if applicable. Each extension request shall be
7 granted in writing by the regional office of education. An
8 emergency situation is one in which an unforeseen vacancy
9 has occurred and (i) a teacher is unexpectedly unable to
10 fulfill his or her contractual duties or (ii) teacher
11 capacity needs of the district exceed previous indications
12 or vacancies are unfilled due to a lack of qualified
13 candidates, and the district is actively engaged in
14 advertising to hire a fully licensed teacher for the
15 vacant position.

16 There is no limit on the number of days that a
17 substitute teacher may teach in a single school district,
18 provided that no substitute teacher may teach for longer
19 than 120 days beginning with the 2021-2022 school year
20 through the 2022-2023 school year, otherwise 90 school
21 days for any one licensed teacher under contract in the
22 same school year. A substitute teacher who holds a
23 Professional Educator License or Educator License with
24 Stipulations shall not teach for more than 120 school days
25 for any one licensed teacher under contract in the same
26 school year. The limitations in this paragraph (3) on the

1 number of days a substitute teacher may be employed do not
2 apply to any school district operating under Article 34 of
3 this Code.

4 A school district may not require an individual who
5 holds a valid Professional Educator License or Educator
6 License with Stipulations to seek or hold a Substitute
7 Teaching License to teach as a substitute teacher.

8 (4) Short-Term Substitute Teaching License. Beginning
9 on July 1, 2018 and until June 30, 2028, applicants may
10 apply to the State Board of Education for issuance of a
11 Short-Term Substitute Teaching License. A Short-Term
12 Substitute Teaching License may be issued to a qualified
13 applicant for substitute teaching in all grades of the
14 public schools, prekindergarten through grade 12.
15 Short-Term Substitute Teaching Licenses are not eligible
16 for endorsements. Applicants for a Short-Term Substitute
17 Teaching License must hold an associate's degree or have
18 completed at least 60 credit hours from a regionally
19 accredited institution of higher education or must have
20 retired in good standing while holding a valid
21 paraprofessional educator endorsement on an Educator
22 License with Stipulations.

23 Short-Term Substitute Teaching Licenses are valid for
24 substitute teaching in every county of this State. If an
25 individual has had his or her Professional Educator
26 License or Educator License with Stipulations suspended or

1 revoked, then that individual is not eligible to obtain a
2 Short-Term Substitute Teaching License.

3 The provisions of Sections 10-21.9 and 34-18.5 of this
4 Code apply to short-term substitute teachers.

5 An individual holding a Short-Term Substitute Teaching
6 License may teach no more than 15 consecutive days per
7 licensed teacher who is under contract. For teacher
8 absences lasting 6 or more days per licensed teacher who
9 is under contract, a school district may not hire an
10 individual holding a Short-Term Substitute Teaching
11 License, unless the Governor has declared a disaster due
12 to a public health emergency pursuant to Section 7 of the
13 Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act. An individual
14 holding a Short-Term Substitute Teaching License must
15 complete the training program under Section 10-20.67 or
16 34-18.60 of this Code to be eligible to teach at a public
17 school. Short-Term Substitute Teaching Licenses under this
18 Section are valid for 5 years.

19 (Source: P.A. 102-711, eff. 1-1-23; 102-712, eff. 4-27-22;
20 102-713, eff. 1-1-23; 102-717, eff. 4-29-22; 102-894, eff.
21 5-20-22; 103-111, eff. 6-29-23; 103-154, eff. 6-30-23;
22 103-193, eff. 1-1-24; 103-564, eff. 11-17-23.)