

1 AN ACT concerning schools.

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 adding Section
5 2-3.61a as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.61a new)

7 Sec. 2-3.61a. After-school program grant.

8 (a) From moneys appropriated for the purposes of this
9 Section, the State Board of Education shall provide
10 after-school program grants to qualifying school districts
11 for the purpose of providing academic assistance at the end
12 of the regular day of instruction or on non-school days for
13 students and their families at school sites in the qualifying
14 school district.

15 (b) A school district qualifies and may apply for a
16 grant under this Section if the district contains one or more
17 schools in which at least two-fifths of the students at the
18 school fail to meet State academic standards as determined
19 under Section 2-3.64 of this Code.

20 (c) If a school district receives a grant under this
21 Section, all students who are enrolled at the school where
22 the after-school program is administered may participate in
23 the after-school program. The school district must submit to
24 the State Board of Education a detailed plan summarizing its
25 strategy for recruiting students to and retaining students in
26 the after-school program who have failed to meet the academic
27 standards.

28 (d) The grants under this Section may be used without
29 limitation for the following purposes:

30 (1) homework assistance;

31 (2) supplemental educational and recreational

1 programs; and

2 (3) family-centered education programs at the
3 school site in the qualifying school district.

4 (e) A school district may administer an after-school
5 program supported by a grant under this Section in any way
6 that it deems fit. However, the State Board of Education
7 shall strongly encourage the school district to establish
8 partnerships with not-for-profit organizations or businesses
9 for components of the after-school program's administration
10 at each school site.

11 (f) All applications for grants under this Section shall
12 be made on forms that the State Board of Education shall
13 provide. An application shall be filed by the school
14 district with the State Board of Education before the start
15 of the after-school program. The State Board of Education
16 shall adopt rules regarding the procedure by which
17 application may be made for the grants and shall establish
18 standards by which to evaluate the after-school programs
19 supported by the grants. The State Board of Education may
20 adopt any other rules necessary to carry out its
21 responsibilities under this Section.

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