

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 21-27 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/21-27)

7 Sec. 21-27. The Illinois Teaching Excellence Program. The  
8 Illinois Teaching Excellence Program is hereby established to  
9 provide categorical funding for monetary incentives and  
10 bonuses for teachers and school counselors who are employed by  
11 school districts and who hold a Master Certificate. The State  
12 Board of Education shall allocate and distribute to each school  
13 district an amount as annually appropriated by the General  
14 Assembly from federal funds for the Illinois Teaching  
15 Excellence Program. The State Board of Education's annual  
16 budget must set out by separate line item the appropriation for  
17 the program. Unless otherwise provided by appropriation, each  
18 school district's annual allocation shall be the sum of the  
19 amounts earned for the following incentives and bonuses:

20 (1) An annual payment of \$3,000 to be paid to (A) each  
21 teacher who successfully completes the program leading to  
22 and who receives a Master Certificate and is employed as a  
23 teacher by a school district and (B) each school counselor  
24 who successfully completes the program leading to and who  
25 receives a Master Certificate and is employed as a school  
26 counselor by a school district. The school district shall  
27 distribute this payment to each eligible teacher or school  
28 counselor as a single payment or in not more than 3  
29 payments.

30 (2) An annual incentive equal to \$1,000 shall be paid  
31 to each teacher who holds a Master Certificate, who is  
32 employed as a teacher by a school district, and who agrees,

1 in writing, to provide 60 hours of mentoring during that  
2 year to classroom teachers. This mentoring may include,  
3 either singly or in combination, (i) providing high quality  
4 professional development for new and experienced teachers,  
5 and (ii) assisting National Board for Professional  
6 Teaching Standards (NBPTS) candidates through the NBPTS  
7 certification process. The school district shall  
8 distribute 50% of each annual incentive payment upon  
9 completion of 30 hours of the required mentoring and the  
10 remaining 50% of the incentive upon completion of the  
11 required 60 hours of mentoring. Credit may not be granted  
12 by a school district for mentoring or related services  
13 provided during a regular school day or during the total  
14 number of days of required service for the school year.

15 (3) An annual incentive equal to \$3,000 shall be paid  
16 to each teacher who holds a Master Certificate, who is  
17 employed as a teacher by a school district, and who agrees,  
18 in writing, to provide 60 hours of mentoring during that  
19 year to classroom teachers in schools on academic early  
20 warning status or in schools in which 50% or more of the  
21 students receive free or reduced price lunches, or both.  
22 The school district shall distribute 50% of each annual  
23 incentive payment upon completion of 30 hours of the  
24 required mentoring and the remaining 50% of the incentive  
25 upon completion of the required 60 hours of mentoring.  
26 Credit may not be granted by a school district for  
27 mentoring or related services provided during a regular  
28 school day or during the total number of days of required  
29 service for the school year.

30 Each regional superintendent of schools shall provide  
31 information about the Master Certificate Program of the  
32 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) and  
33 this amendatory Act of the 91st General Assembly to each  
34 individual seeking to register or renew a certificate under  
35 Section 21-14 of this Code.

36 (Source: P.A. 93-470, eff. 8-8-03; 94-105, eff. 7-1-05.)

1           Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
2    becoming law.