

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 Sections
5 21-25 and 21-27 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/21-25) (from Ch. 122, par. 21-25)

7 Sec. 21-25. School service personnel certificate.

8 (a) Subject to the provisions of Section 21-1a, a school
9 service personnel certificate shall be issued to those
10 applicants of good character, good health, a citizen of the
11 United States and at least 19 years of age who have a
12 Bachelor's degree with not fewer than 120 semester hours from a
13 regionally accredited institution of higher learning and who
14 meets the requirements established by the State Superintendent
15 of Education in consultation with the State Teacher
16 Certification Board. A school service personnel certificate
17 with a school nurse endorsement may be issued to a person who
18 holds a bachelor of science degree from an institution of
19 higher learning accredited by the North Central Association or
20 other comparable regional accrediting association. Persons
21 seeking any other endorsement on the school service personnel
22 certificate shall be recommended for the endorsement by a
23 recognized teacher education institution as having completed a
24 program of preparation approved by the State Superintendent of
25 Education in consultation with the State Teacher Certification
26 Board.

27 (b) Until August 30, 2002, a school service personnel
28 certificate endorsed for school social work may be issued to a
29 student who has completed a school social work program that has
30 not been approved by the State Superintendent of Education,
31 provided that each of the following conditions is met:

32 (1) The program was offered by a recognized, public

1 teacher education institution that first enrolled students
2 in its master's degree program in social work in 1998;

3 (2) The student applying for the school service
4 personnel certificate was enrolled in the institution's
5 master's degree program in social work on or after May 11,
6 1998;

7 (3) The State Superintendent verifies that the student
8 has completed coursework that is substantially similar to
9 that required in approved school social work programs,
10 including (i) not fewer than 600 clock hours of a
11 supervised internship in a school setting or (ii) if the
12 student has completed part of a supervised internship in a
13 school setting prior to the effective date of this
14 amendatory Act of the 92nd General Assembly and receives
15 the prior approval of the State Superintendent, not fewer
16 than 300 additional clock hours of supervised work in a
17 public school setting under the supervision of a certified
18 school social worker who certifies that the supervised work
19 was completed in a satisfactory manner; and

20 (4) The student has passed a test of basic skills and
21 the test of subject matter knowledge required by Section
22 21-1a.

23 This subsection (b) does not apply after August 29, 2002.

24 (c) A school service personnel certificate shall be
25 endorsed with the area of Service as determined by the State
26 Superintendent of Education in consultation with the State
27 Teacher Certification Board.

28 The holder of such certificate shall be entitled to all of
29 the rights and privileges granted holders of a valid teaching
30 certificate, including teacher benefits, compensation and
31 working conditions.

32 When the holder of such certificate has earned a master's
33 degree, including 8 semester hours of graduate professional
34 education from a recognized institution of higher learning, and
35 has at least 2 years of successful school experience while
36 holding such certificate, the certificate may be endorsed for

1 supervision.

2 (d) Persons who have successfully achieved National Board
3 certification through the National Board for Professional
4 Teaching Standards shall be issued a Master School Service
5 Personnel Certificate, valid for 10 years and renewable
6 thereafter every 10 years through compliance with requirements
7 set forth by the State Board of Education, in consultation with
8 the State Teacher Certification Board. However, each holder of
9 a Master School Service Personnel Certificate shall be eligible
10 for a corresponding position in this State in the areas for
11 which he or she holds a Master Certificate without satisfying
12 any other requirements of this Code, except for those
13 requirements pertaining to criminal background checks.

14 (Source: P.A. 91-102, eff. 7-12-99; 92-254, eff. 1-1-02.)

15 (105 ILCS 5/21-27)

16 Sec. 21-27. The Illinois Teaching Excellence Program. The
17 Illinois Teaching Excellence Program is hereby established to
18 provide categorical funding for monetary incentives and
19 bonuses for teachers and school counselors who are employed by
20 school districts and who hold a Master Certificate. The State
21 Board of Education shall allocate and distribute to each school
22 district an amount as annually appropriated by the General
23 Assembly from federal funds for the Illinois Teaching
24 Excellence Program. Unless otherwise provided by
25 appropriation, each school district's annual allocation shall
26 be the sum of the amounts earned for the following incentives
27 and bonuses:

28 (1) An annual payment of \$3,000 to be paid to (A) each
29 teacher who successfully completes the program leading to
30 and who receives a Master Certificate and is employed as a
31 teacher by a school district and (B) each school counselor
32 who successfully completes the program leading to and who
33 receives a Master Certificate and is employed as a school
34 counselor by a school district. The school district shall
35 distribute this payment to each eligible teacher or school

1 counselor as a single payment or in not more than 3
2 payments.

3 (2) An annual incentive equal to \$1,000 shall be paid
4 to each teacher who holds a Master Certificate, who is
5 employed as a teacher by a school district, and who agrees,
6 in writing, to provide 60 hours of mentoring during that
7 year to classroom teachers. This mentoring may include,
8 either singly or in combination, (i) providing high quality
9 professional development for new and experienced teachers,
10 and (ii) assisting National Board for Professional
11 Teaching Standards (NBPTS) candidates through the NBPTS
12 certification process. The school district shall
13 distribute 50% of each annual incentive payment upon
14 completion of 30 hours of the required mentoring and the
15 remaining 50% of the incentive upon completion of the
16 required 60 hours of mentoring. Credit may not be granted
17 by a school district for mentoring or related services
18 provided during a regular school day or during the total
19 number of days of required service for the school year.

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

35 Each regional superintendent of schools shall provide
36 information about the Master Certificate Program of the

1 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) and
2 this amendatory Act of the 91st General Assembly to each
3 individual seeking to register or renew a certificate under
4 Section 21-14 of this Code.

5 (Source: P.A. 92-796, eff. 8-10-02; 93-470, eff. 8-8-03.)

6 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
7 becoming law.