

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 21-7.1 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/21-7.1) (from Ch. 122, par. 21-7.1)

7 Sec. 21-7.1. Administrative certificate.

8 (a) After July 1, 1999, an administrative certificate valid
9 for 5 years of supervising and administering in the public
10 common schools (unless changed under subsection (a-5) of this
11 Section) may be issued to persons who have graduated from a
12 regionally accredited institution of higher learning with a
13 master's degree and who have been recommended by a recognized
14 institution of higher learning as having completed a program of
15 preparation for one or more of these endorsements. Such
16 programs of academic and professional preparation required for
17 endorsement shall be administered by the institution in
18 accordance with standards set forth by the State Superintendent
19 of Education in consultation with the State Teacher
20 Certification Board.

21 (a-5) Beginning July 1, 2003, if an administrative
22 certificate holder holds a Standard Teaching Certificate, the
23 validity period of the administrative certificate shall be

1 changed, if necessary, so that the validity period of the
2 administrative certificate coincides with the validity period
3 of the Standard Teaching Certificate. Beginning July 1, 2003,
4 if an administrative certificate holder holds a Master Teaching
5 Certificate, the validity period of the administrative
6 certificate shall be changed so that the validity period of the
7 administrative certificate coincides with the validity period
8 of the Master Teaching Certificate.

9 (b) No administrative certificate shall be issued for the
10 first time after June 30, 1987 and no endorsement provided for
11 by this Section shall be made or affixed to an administrative
12 certificate for the first time after June 30, 1987 unless the
13 person to whom such administrative certificate is to be issued
14 or to whose administrative certificate such endorsement is to
15 be affixed has been required to demonstrate as a part of a
16 program of academic or professional preparation for such
17 certification or endorsement: (i) an understanding of the
18 knowledge called for in establishing productive parent-school
19 relationships and of the procedures fostering the involvement
20 which such relationships demand; and (ii) an understanding of
21 the knowledge required for establishing a high quality school
22 climate and promoting good classroom organization and
23 management, including rules of conduct and instructional
24 procedures appropriate to accomplishing the tasks of
25 schooling; and (iii) a demonstration of the knowledge and
26 skills called for in providing instructional leadership. The

1 standards for demonstrating an understanding of such knowledge
2 shall be set forth by the State Board of Education in
3 consultation with the State Teacher Certification Board, and
4 shall be administered by the recognized institutions of higher
5 learning as part of the programs of academic and professional
6 preparation required for certification and endorsement under
7 this Section. As used in this subsection: "establishing
8 productive parent-school relationships" means the ability to
9 maintain effective communication between parents and school
10 personnel, to encourage parental involvement in schooling, and
11 to motivate school personnel to engage parents in encouraging
12 student achievement, including the development of programs and
13 policies which serve to accomplish this purpose; and
14 "establishing a high quality school climate" means the ability
15 to promote academic achievement, to maintain discipline, to
16 recognize substance abuse problems among students and utilize
17 appropriate law enforcement and other community resources to
18 address these problems, to support teachers and students in
19 their education endeavors, to establish learning objectives
20 and to provide instructional leadership, including the
21 development of policies and programs which serve to accomplish
22 this purpose; and "providing instructional leadership" means
23 the ability to effectively evaluate school personnel, to
24 possess general communication and interpersonal skills, and to
25 establish and maintain appropriate classroom learning
26 environments. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply

1 to or affect the initial issuance or making on or before June
2 30, 1987 of any administrative certificate or endorsement
3 provided for under this Section, nor shall such provisions
4 apply to or affect the renewal after June 30, 1987 of any such
5 certificate or endorsement initially issued or made on or
6 before June 30, 1987.

7 (c) Administrative certificates shall be renewed every 5
8 years with the first renewal being 5 years following the
9 initial receipt of an administrative certificate, unless the
10 validity period for the administrative certificate has been
11 changed under subsection (a-5) of this Section, in which case
12 the certificate shall be renewed at the same time that the
13 Standard or Master Teaching Certificate is renewed.

14 (c-5) Before July 1, 2003, renewal requirements for
15 administrators whose positions require certification shall be
16 based upon evidence of continuing professional education which
17 promotes the following goals: (1) improving administrators'
18 knowledge of instructional practices and administrative
19 procedures; (2) maintaining the basic level of competence
20 required for initial certification; and (3) improving the
21 mastery of skills and knowledge regarding the improvement of
22 teaching performance in clinical settings and assessment of the
23 levels of student performance in their schools. Evidence of
24 continuing professional education must include verification of
25 biennial attendance in a program developed by the Illinois
26 Administrators' Academy and verification of annual

1 participation in a school district approved activity which
2 contributes to continuing professional education.

3 (c-10) Beginning July 1, 2003, except as otherwise provided
4 in subsection (c-15) of this Section, persons holding
5 administrative certificates must follow the certificate
6 renewal procedure set forth in this subsection (c-10), provided
7 that those persons holding administrative certificates on June
8 30, 2003 who are renewing those certificates on or after July
9 1, 2003 shall be issued new administrative certificates valid
10 for 5 years (unless changed under subsection (a-5) of this
11 Section), which may be renewed thereafter as set forth in this
12 subsection (c-10).

13 A person holding an administrative certificate and
14 employed in a position requiring administrative certification,
15 including a regional superintendent of schools, must satisfy
16 the continuing professional development requirements of this
17 Section to renew his or her administrative certificate. The
18 continuing professional development must include without
19 limitation the following continuing professional development
20 purposes:

21 (1) To improve the administrator's knowledge of
22 instructional practices and administrative procedures in
23 accordance with the Illinois Professional School Leader
24 Standards.

25 (2) To maintain the basic level of competence required
26 for initial certification.

1 (3) To improve the administrator's mastery of skills
2 and knowledge regarding the improvement of teaching
3 performance in clinical settings and assessment of the
4 levels of student performance in the schools.

5 The continuing professional development must include the
6 following in order for the certificate to be renewed:

7 (A) Participation in continuing professional
8 development activities, which must total a minimum of 100
9 hours of continuing professional development. The
10 participation must consist of a minimum of 5 activities per
11 validity period of the certificate, and the certificate
12 holder must maintain documentation of completion of each
13 activity.

14 (B) Participation every year in an Illinois
15 Administrators' Academy course, which participation must
16 total a minimum of 30 continuing professional development
17 hours during the period of the certificate's validity and
18 which must include completion of applicable required
19 coursework, including completion of a communication,
20 dissemination, or application component, as defined by the
21 State Board of Education.

22 The certificate holder must complete a verification form
23 developed by the State Board of Education and certify that 100
24 hours of continuing professional development activities and 5
25 Administrators' Academy courses have been completed. The
26 regional superintendent of schools shall review and validate

1 the verification form for a certificate holder. Based on
2 compliance with all of the requirements for renewal, the
3 regional superintendent of schools shall forward a
4 recommendation for renewal or non-renewal to the State
5 Superintendent of Education and shall notify the certificate
6 holder of the recommendation. The State Superintendent of
7 Education shall review the recommendation to renew or non-renew
8 and shall notify, in writing, the certificate holder of a
9 decision denying renewal of his or her certificate. Any
10 decision regarding non-renewal of an administrative
11 certificate may be appealed to the State Teacher Certification
12 Board.

13 The State Board of Education, in consultation with the
14 State Teacher Certification Board, shall adopt rules to
15 implement this subsection (c-10).

16 The regional superintendent of schools shall monitor the
17 process for renewal of administrative certificates established
18 in this subsection (c-10).

19 (c-15) This subsection (c-15) applies to the first period
20 of an administrative certificate's validity during which the
21 holder becomes subject to the requirements of subsection (c-10)
22 of this Section if the certificate has less than 5 years'
23 validity or has less than 5 years' validity remaining when the
24 certificate holder becomes subject to the requirements of
25 subsection (c-10) of this Section. With respect to this period,
26 the 100 hours of continuing professional development and 5

1 activities per validity period specified in clause (A) of
2 subsection (c-10) of this Section shall instead be deemed to
3 mean 20 hours of continuing professional development and one
4 activity per year of the certificate's validity or remaining
5 validity and the 30 continuing professional development hours
6 specified in clause (B) of subsection (c-10) of this Section
7 shall instead be deemed to mean completion of at least one
8 course per year of the certificate's validity or remaining
9 validity. Certificate holders who evaluate certified staff
10 must complete a 2-day teacher evaluation course, in addition to
11 the 30 continuing professional development hours.

12 (c-20) The State Board of Education, in consultation with
13 the State Teacher Certification Board, shall develop
14 procedures for implementing this Section and shall administer
15 the renewal of administrative certificates. Failure to submit
16 satisfactory evidence of continuing professional education
17 which contributes to promoting the goals of this Section shall
18 result in a loss of administrative certification.

19 (d) Any limited or life supervisory certificate issued
20 prior to July 1, 1968 shall continue to be valid for all
21 administrative and supervisory positions in the public schools
22 for which it is valid as of that date as long as its holder
23 meets the requirements for registration or renewal as set forth
24 in the statutes or until revoked according to law.

25 (e) The administrative or supervisory positions for which
26 the certificate shall be valid shall be determined by one or

1 more of 3 endorsements: general supervisory, general
2 administrative and superintendent.

3 Subject to the provisions of Section 21-1a, endorsements
4 shall be made under conditions set forth in this Section. The
5 State Board of Education shall, in consultation with the State
6 Teacher Certification Board, adopt rules pursuant to the
7 Illinois Administrative Procedure Act, establishing
8 requirements for obtaining administrative certificates where
9 the minimum administrative or supervisory requirements surpass
10 those set forth in this Section.

11 The State Teacher Certification Board shall file with the
12 State Board of Education a written recommendation when
13 considering additional administrative or supervisory
14 requirements. All additional requirements shall be based upon
15 the requisite knowledge necessary to perform those tasks
16 required by the certificate. The State Board of Education shall
17 in consultation with the State Teacher Certification Board,
18 establish standards within its rules which shall include the
19 academic and professional requirements necessary for
20 certification. These standards shall at a minimum contain, but
21 not be limited to, those used by the State Board of Education
22 in determining whether additional knowledge will be required.
23 Additionally, the State Board of Education shall in
24 consultation with the State Teacher Certification Board,
25 establish provisions within its rules whereby any member of the
26 educational community or the public may file a formal written

1 recommendation or inquiry regarding requirements.

2 (1) Until July 1, 2003, the general supervisory
3 endorsement shall be affixed to the administrative
4 certificate of any holder who has at least 16 semester
5 hours of graduate credit in professional education
6 including 8 semester hours of graduate credit in curriculum
7 and research and who has at least 2 years of full-time
8 teaching experience or school service personnel experience
9 in public schools, schools under the supervision of the
10 Department of Corrections, schools under the
11 administration of the Department of Rehabilitation
12 Services, or nonpublic schools meeting the standards
13 established by the State Superintendent of Education or
14 comparable out-of-state recognition standards approved by
15 the State Superintendent of Education.

16 Such endorsement shall be required for supervisors,
17 curriculum directors and for such similar and related
18 positions as determined by the State Superintendent of
19 Education in consultation with the State Teacher
20 Certification Board.

21 (2) The general administrative endorsement shall be
22 affixed to the administrative certificate of any holder who
23 has at least 20 semester hours of graduate credit in
24 educational administration and supervision and who has at
25 least 2 years of full-time teaching experience or school
26 service personnel experience in public schools, schools

1 under the supervision of the Department of Corrections,
2 schools under the administration of the Department of
3 Rehabilitation Services, or nonpublic schools meeting the
4 standards established by the State Superintendent of
5 Education or comparable out-of-state recognition standards
6 approved by the State Superintendent of Education.

7 Such endorsement shall be required for principal,
8 assistant principal, assistant or associate
9 superintendent, junior college dean and for related or
10 similar positions as determined by the State
11 Superintendent of Education in consultation with the State
12 Teacher Certification Board.

13 Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Act,
14 after January 1, 1990 and until January 1, 1991, any
15 teacher employed by a district subject to Article 34 shall
16 be entitled to receive an administrative certificate with a
17 general administrative endorsement affixed thereto if he
18 or she: (i) had at least 3 years of experience as a
19 certified teacher for such district prior to August 1,
20 1985; (ii) obtained a Master's degree prior to August 1,
21 1985; (iii) completed at least 20 hours of graduate credit
22 in education courses (including at least 12 hours in
23 educational administration and supervision) prior to
24 September 1, 1987; and (iv) has received a rating of
25 superior for at least each of the last 5 years. Any person
26 who obtains an administrative certificate with a general

1 administrative endorsement affixed thereto under this
2 paragraph shall not be qualified to serve in any
3 administrative position except assistant principal.

4 (3) The chief school business official endorsement
5 shall be affixed to the administrative certificate of any
6 holder who qualifies by having a Master's degree, 2 ~~two~~
7 years of administrative experience in school business
8 management or 2 years of university-approved practical
9 experience, and a minimum of 20 semester hours of graduate
10 credit in a program established by the State Superintendent
11 of Education in consultation with the State Teacher
12 Certification Board for the preparation of school business
13 administrators. Such endorsement shall also be affixed to
14 the administrative certificate of any holder who qualifies
15 by having a Master's Degree in Business Administration,
16 Finance or Accounting from a regionally accredited
17 institution of higher education.

18 After June 30, 1977, such endorsement shall be required
19 for any individual first employed as a chief school
20 business official.

21 (4) The superintendent endorsement shall be affixed to
22 the administrative certificate of any holder who has
23 completed 30 semester hours of graduate credit beyond the
24 master's degree in a program for the preparation of
25 superintendents of schools including 16 semester hours of
26 graduate credit in professional education and who has at

1 least 2 years experience as an administrator or supervisor
2 in the public schools or the State Board of Education or
3 education service regions or in nonpublic schools meeting
4 the standards established by the State Superintendent of
5 Education or comparable out-of-state recognition standards
6 approved by the State Superintendent of Education and holds
7 general supervisory or general administrative endorsement,
8 or who has had 2 years of experience as a supervisor or
9 administrator while holding an all-grade supervisory
10 certificate or a certificate comparable in validity and
11 educational and experience requirements.

12 After June 30, 1968, such endorsement shall be required
13 for a superintendent of schools, except as provided in the
14 second paragraph of this Section and in Section 34-6.

15 Any person appointed to the position of superintendent
16 between the effective date of this Act and June 30, 1993 in
17 a school district organized pursuant to Article 32 with an
18 enrollment of at least 20,000 pupils shall be exempt from
19 the provisions of this paragraph (4) until June 30, 1996.

20 (f) All official interpretations or acts of issuing or
21 denying administrative certificates or endorsements by the
22 State Teacher's Certification Board, State Board of Education
23 or the State Superintendent of Education, from the passage of
24 P.A. 81-1208 on November 8, 1979 through September 24, 1981 are
25 hereby declared valid and legal acts in all respects and
26 further that the purported repeal of the provisions of this

1 Section by P.A. 81-1208 and P.A. 81-1509 is declared null and
2 void.

3 (Source: P.A. 92-796, eff. 8-10-02; 93-679, eff. 6-30-04.)