

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7 (Section scheduled to be repealed on June 30, 2013)

8 Sec. 21-7.1. Administrative certificate.

9 (a) After July 1, 1999, an administrative certificate valid  
10 for 5 years of supervising and administering in the public  
11 common schools (unless changed under subsection (a-5) of this  
12 Section) may be issued to persons who have graduated from a  
13 regionally accredited institution of higher learning with a  
14 master's degree or its equivalent and who have been recommended  
15 by a recognized institution of higher learning, a  
16 not-for-profit entity, or a combination thereof, as having  
17 completed a program of preparation for one or more of these  
18 endorsements. Such programs of academic and professional  
19 preparation required for endorsement shall be administered by  
20 an institution or not-for-profit entity approved to offer such  
21 programs by the State Board of Education, in consultation with  
22 the State Teacher Certification Board, and shall be operated in  
23 accordance with this Article and the standards set forth by the

1 State Superintendent of Education in consultation with the  
2 State Teacher Certification Board. Any program offered in whole  
3 or in part by a not-for-profit entity must also be approved by  
4 the Board of Higher Education.

5 (a-5) Beginning July 1, 2003, if an administrative  
6 certificate holder holds a Standard Teaching Certificate, the  
7 validity period of the administrative certificate shall be  
8 changed, if necessary, so that the validity period of the  
9 administrative certificate coincides with the validity period  
10 of the Standard Teaching Certificate. Beginning July 1, 2003,  
11 if an administrative certificate holder holds a Master Teaching  
12 Certificate, the validity period of the administrative  
13 certificate shall be changed so that the validity period of the  
14 administrative certificate coincides with the validity period  
15 of the Master Teaching Certificate.

16 (b) No administrative certificate shall be issued for the  
17 first time after June 30, 1987 and no endorsement provided for  
18 by this Section shall be made or affixed to an administrative  
19 certificate for the first time after June 30, 1987 unless the  
20 person to whom such administrative certificate is to be issued  
21 or to whose administrative certificate such endorsement is to  
22 be affixed has been required to demonstrate as a part of a  
23 program of academic or professional preparation for such  
24 certification or endorsement: (i) an understanding of the  
25 knowledge called for in establishing productive parent-school  
26 relationships and of the procedures fostering the involvement

1 which such relationships demand; and (ii) an understanding of  
2 the knowledge required for establishing a high quality school  
3 climate and promoting good classroom organization and  
4 management, including rules of conduct and instructional  
5 procedures appropriate to accomplishing the tasks of  
6 schooling; and (iii) a demonstration of the knowledge and  
7 skills called for in providing instructional leadership. The  
8 standards for demonstrating an understanding of such knowledge  
9 shall be set forth by the State Board of Education in  
10 consultation with the State Teacher Certification Board, and  
11 shall be administered by the recognized institutions of higher  
12 learning as part of the programs of academic and professional  
13 preparation required for certification and endorsement under  
14 this Section. As used in this subsection: "establishing  
15 productive parent-school relationships" means the ability to  
16 maintain effective communication between parents and school  
17 personnel, to encourage parental involvement in schooling, and  
18 to motivate school personnel to engage parents in encouraging  
19 student achievement, including the development of programs and  
20 policies which serve to accomplish this purpose; and  
21 "establishing a high quality school climate" means the ability  
22 to promote academic achievement, to maintain discipline, to  
23 recognize substance abuse problems among students and utilize  
24 appropriate law enforcement and other community resources to  
25 address these problems, to support teachers and students in  
26 their education endeavors, to establish learning objectives

1 and to provide instructional leadership, including the  
2 development of policies and programs which serve to accomplish  
3 this purpose; and "providing instructional leadership" means  
4 the ability to effectively evaluate school personnel, to  
5 possess general communication and interpersonal skills, and to  
6 establish and maintain appropriate classroom learning  
7 environments. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply  
8 to or affect the initial issuance or making on or before June  
9 30, 1987 of any administrative certificate or endorsement  
10 provided for under this Section, nor shall such provisions  
11 apply to or affect the renewal after June 30, 1987 of any such  
12 certificate or endorsement initially issued or made on or  
13 before June 30, 1987.

14 (c) Administrative certificates shall be renewed every 5  
15 years with the first renewal being 5 years following the  
16 initial receipt of an administrative certificate, unless the  
17 validity period for the administrative certificate has been  
18 changed under subsection (a-5) of this Section, in which case  
19 the certificate shall be renewed at the same time that the  
20 Standard or Master Teaching Certificate is renewed.

21 (c-5) (Blank).

22 (c-10) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (c-15) of  
23 this Section, persons holding administrative certificates must  
24 follow the certificate renewal procedure set forth in this  
25 subsection (c-10), provided that those persons holding  
26 administrative certificates on June 30, 2003 who are renewing

1 those certificates on or after July 1, 2003 shall be issued new  
2 administrative certificates valid for 5 years (unless changed  
3 under subsection (a-5) of this Section), which may be renewed  
4 thereafter as set forth in this subsection (c-10).

5 A person holding an administrative certificate and  
6 employed in a position requiring administrative certification,  
7 including a regional superintendent of schools, must satisfy  
8 the continuing professional development requirements of this  
9 Section to renew his or her administrative certificate. The  
10 continuing professional development must include without  
11 limitation the following continuing professional development  
12 purposes:

13 (1) To improve the administrator's knowledge of  
14 instructional practices and administrative procedures in  
15 accordance with the Illinois Professional School Leader  
16 Standards.

17 (2) To maintain the basic level of competence required  
18 for initial certification.

19 (3) To improve the administrator's mastery of skills  
20 and knowledge regarding the improvement of teaching  
21 performance in clinical settings and assessment of the  
22 levels of student performance in the schools.

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

25 (A) Participation in continuing professional  
26 development activities, which must total a minimum of 100

1 hours of continuing professional development. The  
2 participation must consist of a minimum of 5 activities per  
3 validity period of the certificate, and the certificate  
4 holder must maintain documentation of completion of each  
5 activity.

6 (B) Participation every year in an Illinois  
7 Administrators' Academy course, which participation must  
8 total a minimum of 30 continuing professional development  
9 hours during the period of the certificate's validity and  
10 which must include completion of applicable required  
11 coursework, including completion of a communication,  
12 dissemination, or application component, as defined by the  
13 State Board of Education.

14 The certificate holder must complete a verification form  
15 developed by the State Board of Education and certify that 100  
16 hours of continuing professional development activities and 5  
17 Administrators' Academy courses have been completed. The  
18 regional superintendent of schools shall review and validate  
19 the verification form for a certificate holder. Based on  
20 compliance with all of the requirements for renewal, the  
21 regional superintendent of schools shall forward a  
22 recommendation for renewal or non-renewal to the State  
23 Superintendent of Education and shall notify the certificate  
24 holder of the recommendation. The State Superintendent of  
25 Education shall review the recommendation to renew or non-renew  
26 and shall notify, in writing, the certificate holder of a

1 decision denying renewal of his or her certificate. Any  
2 decision regarding non-renewal of an administrative  
3 certificate may be appealed to the State Teacher Certification  
4 Board.

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

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

11 (c-15) This subsection (c-15) applies to the first period  
12 of an administrative certificate's validity during which the  
13 holder becomes subject to the requirements of subsection (c-10)  
14 of this Section if the certificate has less than 5 years'  
15 validity or has less than 5 years' validity remaining when the  
16 certificate holder becomes subject to the requirements of  
17 subsection (c-10) of this Section. With respect to this period,  
18 the 100 hours of continuing professional development and 5  
19 activities per validity period specified in clause (A) of  
20 subsection (c-10) of this Section shall instead be deemed to  
21 mean 20 hours of continuing professional development and one  
22 activity per year of the certificate's validity or remaining  
23 validity and the 30 continuing professional development hours  
24 specified in clause (B) of subsection (c-10) of this Section  
25 shall instead be deemed to mean completion of at least one  
26 course per year of the certificate's validity or remaining

1 validity. Certificate holders who evaluate certified staff  
2 must complete a 2-day teacher evaluation course, in addition to  
3 the 30 continuing professional development hours.

4 (c-20) The State Board of Education, in consultation with  
5 the State Teacher Certification Board, shall develop  
6 procedures for implementing this Section and shall administer  
7 the renewal of administrative certificates. Failure to submit  
8 satisfactory evidence of continuing professional education  
9 which contributes to promoting the goals of this Section shall  
10 result in a loss of administrative certification.

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

17 (e) The administrative or supervisory positions for which  
18 the certificate shall be valid shall be determined by one or  
19 more of the following endorsements: general supervisory,  
20 general administrative, principal, chief school business  
21 official, and superintendent.

22 Subject to the provisions of Section 21-1a, endorsements  
23 shall be made under conditions set forth in this Section. The  
24 State Board of Education shall, in consultation with the State  
25 Teacher Certification Board, adopt rules pursuant to the  
26 Illinois Administrative Procedure Act, establishing



1 requirements for obtaining administrative certificates where  
2 the minimum administrative or supervisory requirements surpass  
3 those set forth in this Section.

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

21 (1) Until July 1, 2003, the general supervisory  
22 endorsement shall be affixed to the administrative  
23 certificate of any holder who has at least 16 semester  
24 hours of graduate credit in professional education  
25 including 8 semester hours of graduate credit in curriculum  
26 and research and who has at least 2 years of full-time

1 teaching experience or school service personnel experience  
2 in public schools, schools under the supervision of the  
3 Department of Corrections, schools under the  
4 administration of the Department of Rehabilitation  
5 Services, or nonpublic schools meeting the standards  
6 established by the State Superintendent of Education or  
7 comparable out-of-state recognition standards approved by  
8 the State Superintendent of Education.

9 Such endorsement shall be required for supervisors,  
10 curriculum directors and for such similar and related  
11 positions as determined by the State Superintendent of  
12 Education in consultation with the State Teacher  
13 Certification Board.

14 (2) Until August 31, 2014, the general administrative  
15 endorsement shall be affixed to the administrative  
16 certificate of any holder who has at least 20 semester  
17 hours of graduate credit in educational administration and  
18 supervision and who has at least 2 years of full-time  
19 teaching experience or school service personnel experience  
20 in public schools, schools under the supervision of the  
21 Department of Corrections, schools under the  
22 administration of the Department of Rehabilitation  
23 Services, or nonpublic schools meeting the standards  
24 established by the State Superintendent of Education or  
25 comparable out-of-state recognition standards approved by  
26 the State Superintendent of Education. However,

1 notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Code or  
2 the Illinois Administrative Code, a candidate (i) who has  
3 enrolled and began coursework prior to August 1, 2011 in an  
4 Illinois program approved by the State Board of Education  
5 for the preparation of administrators and (ii) who  
6 successfully completes that program prior to January 1,  
7 2013 may apply for the general administrative endorsement  
8 until January 1, 2013 without his or her 2 years of  
9 full-time teaching or school service personnel experience  
10 having been accrued while the individual held a valid early  
11 childhood, elementary, secondary, special K through 12,  
12 special pre-school through age 21, or school service  
13 personnel certificate.

14 Such endorsement or a principal endorsement shall be  
15 required for principal, assistant principal, assistant or  
16 associate superintendent, and junior college dean and for  
17 related or similar positions as determined by the State  
18 Superintendent of Education in consultation with the State  
19 Teacher Certification Board.

20 (2.5) The principal endorsement shall be affixed to the  
21 administrative certificate of any holder who qualifies by:

22 (A) successfully completing a principal  
23 preparation program approved in accordance with  
24 Section 21-7.6 of this Code and any applicable rules;

25 (B) having 4 years of teaching experience;  
26 however, the State Board of Education shall allow, by

1 rules, for fewer than 4 years of experience based on  
2 meeting standards set forth in such rules, including  
3 without limitation a review of performance evaluations  
4 or other evidence of demonstrated qualifications; and

5 (C) having a master's degree.

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

22 After June 30, 1977, such endorsement shall be required  
23 for any individual first employed as a chief school  
24 business official.

25 (4) The superintendent endorsement shall be affixed to  
26 the administrative certificate of any holder who has

1 completed 30 semester hours of graduate credit beyond the  
2 master's degree in a program for the preparation of  
3 superintendents of schools including 16 semester hours of  
4 graduate credit in professional education and who has at  
5 least 2 years experience as an administrator or supervisor  
6 in the public schools or the State Board of Education or  
7 education service regions or in nonpublic schools meeting  
8 the standards established by the State Superintendent of  
9 Education or comparable out-of-state recognition standards  
10 approved by the State Superintendent of Education and holds  
11 general supervisory or general administrative endorsement,  
12 or who has had 2 years of experience as a supervisor, chief  
13 school business official, or administrator while holding  
14 an all-grade supervisory certificate or a certificate  
15 comparable in validity and educational and experience  
16 requirements.

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

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

25 (f) All official interpretations or acts of issuing or  
26 denying administrative certificates or endorsements by the

1 State Teacher's Certification Board, State Board of Education  
2 or the State Superintendent of Education, from the passage of  
3 P.A. 81-1208 on November 8, 1979 through September 24, 1981 are  
4 hereby declared valid and legal acts in all respects and  
5 further that the purported repeal of the provisions of this  
6 Section by P.A. 81-1208 and P.A. 81-1509 is declared null and  
7 void.

8 (g) This Section is repealed on June 30, 2013.

9 (Source: P.A. 96-56, eff. 1-1-10; 96-903, eff. 7-1-10; 96-982,  
10 eff. 1-1-11; 96-1423, eff. 8-3-10; 97-255, eff. 8-4-11; 97-333,  
11 eff. 8-12-11; 97-607, eff. 8-26-11; revised 9-28-11.)

12 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
13 becoming law.