

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 21-5c as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/21-5c)

7 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2017)

8 (Text of Section before amendment by P.A. 98-603)

9 Sec. 21-5c. Alternative route to teacher certification.
10 The State Board of Education, in consultation with the State
11 Teacher Certification Board, shall establish and implement one
12 or more alternative route to teacher certification programs
13 under which persons who meet the requirements of and
14 successfully complete the programs established by this Section
15 shall be issued an initial teaching certificate for teaching in
16 schools in this State. The State Board of Education may approve
17 a course of study that persons in such programs must
18 successfully complete in order to satisfy one criterion for
19 issuance of a certificate under this Section. The Alternative
20 Route to Teacher Certification programs course of study must
21 include content and skills which have been approved by the
22 State Board of Education, in consultation with the State
23 Teacher Certification Board, as meeting the requirement for

1 State teacher certification.

2 Programs established under this Section shall be known as
3 Alternative Route to Teacher Certification programs. The
4 programs may be offered by a university that offers 4-year
5 baccalaureate and masters degree programs and that is a
6 recognized institution as defined in Section 21B-105 of this
7 Code, by one or more not-for-profit organizations in the State,
8 or a combination thereof. The programs shall be comprised of
9 the following 3 phases: (a) a course of study offered on an
10 intensive basis in education theory, instructional methods,
11 and practice teaching; (b) the person's assignment to a
12 full-time teaching position for one school year, including the
13 designation of a mentor teacher to advise and assist the person
14 with that teaching assignment; and (c) a comprehensive
15 assessment of the person's teaching performance by school
16 officials and program participants and a recommendation by the
17 program sponsor to the State Board of Education that the person
18 be issued an initial teaching certificate. Successful
19 completion of Alternative Route to Teacher Certification
20 programs shall be deemed to satisfy any other practice or
21 student teaching and subject matter requirements established
22 by law.

23 A provisional alternative teaching certificate, valid for
24 one year of teaching in the common schools and not renewable,
25 shall be issued under this Section 21-5c to persons who at the
26 time of applying for the provisional alternative teaching

1 certificate under this Section:

2 (1) have graduated from an accredited college or
3 university with a bachelor's degree;

4 (2) have been employed for a period of at least 5 years
5 in an area requiring application of the individual's
6 education;

7 (3) have successfully completed the first phase of the
8 Alternative Teacher Certification program as provided in
9 this Section; and

10 (4) have passed the tests of basic skills and subject
11 matter knowledge required by Section 21-1a.

12 An initial teaching certificate, valid for teaching in the
13 common schools, shall be issued under Section 21-3 or 21-5 to
14 persons who first complete the requirements for the provisional
15 alternative teaching certificate and who at the time of
16 applying for an initial teaching certificate have successfully
17 completed the second and third phases of the Alternative Route
18 to Teacher Certification program as provided in this Section.

19 A person possessing a provisional alternative certificate
20 or an initial teaching certificate earned under this Section
21 shall be treated as a regularly certified teacher for purposes
22 of compensation, benefits, and other terms and conditions of
23 employment afforded teachers in the school who are members of a
24 bargaining unit represented by an exclusive bargaining
25 representative, if any.

26 The State Board of Education may adopt rules and

1 regulations that are consistent with this Section and that the
2 State Board deems necessary to establish and implement the
3 program.

4 No one may be admitted to an alternative certification
5 program under this Section after September 1, 2014 ~~2013~~, and
6 those alternative certification candidates who are admitted on
7 or before September 1, 2014 ~~2013~~ must complete their coursework
8 ~~the program~~ before January 1, 2016 ~~2015~~, ~~except that candidates~~
9 ~~admitted to an alternative certification program at Governors~~
10 ~~State University and participants in the Teacher Quality~~
11 ~~Partnership Grant program must be admitted on or before March~~
12 ~~31, 2014, complete their coursework on or before August 31,~~
13 ~~2015,~~ and be entitled to certification on or before September
14 30, 2016 ~~31, 2015~~. ~~An~~ The alternative certification program ~~at~~
15 ~~Governors State University~~ shall provide the State Board of
16 Education with the names of the candidates who will be eligible
17 for certification ~~under this exception~~.

18 This Section is repealed on January 1, 2017 ~~2016~~.
19 (Source: P.A. 97-607, eff. 8-26-11; 97-702, eff. 6-25-12;
20 98-38, eff. 6-28-13.)

21 (Text of Section after amendment by P.A. 98-603)
22 Sec. 21-5c. Alternative route to teacher certification.
23 The State Board of Education, in consultation with the State
24 Teacher Certification Board, shall establish and implement one
25 or more alternative route to teacher certification programs

1 under which persons who meet the requirements of and
2 successfully complete the programs established by this Section
3 shall be issued an initial teaching certificate for teaching in
4 schools in this State. The State Board of Education may approve
5 a course of study that persons in such programs must
6 successfully complete in order to satisfy one criterion for
7 issuance of a certificate under this Section. The Alternative
8 Route to Teacher Certification programs course of study must
9 include content and skills which have been approved by the
10 State Board of Education, in consultation with the State
11 Teacher Certification Board, as meeting the requirement for
12 State teacher certification.

13 Programs established under this Section shall be known as
14 Alternative Route to Teacher Certification programs. The
15 programs may be offered by a university that offers 4-year
16 baccalaureate and masters degree programs and that is a
17 recognized institution as defined in Section 21B-105 of this
18 Code, by one or more not-for-profit organizations in the State,
19 or a combination thereof. The programs shall be comprised of
20 the following 3 phases: (a) a course of study offered on an
21 intensive basis in education theory, instructional methods,
22 and practice teaching; (b) the person's assignment to a
23 full-time teaching position for one school year, including the
24 designation of a mentor teacher to advise and assist the person
25 with that teaching assignment; and (c) a comprehensive
26 assessment of the person's teaching performance by school

1 officials and program participants and a recommendation by the
2 program sponsor to the State Board of Education that the person
3 be issued an initial teaching certificate. Successful
4 completion of Alternative Route to Teacher Certification
5 programs shall be deemed to satisfy any other practice or
6 student teaching and subject matter requirements established
7 by law.

8 A provisional alternative teaching certificate, valid for
9 one year of teaching in the common schools and not renewable,
10 shall be issued under this Section 21-5c to persons who at the
11 time of applying for the provisional alternative teaching
12 certificate under this Section:

13 (1) have graduated from an accredited college or
14 university with a bachelor's degree;

15 (2) have been employed for a period of at least 5 years
16 in an area requiring application of the individual's
17 education;

18 (3) have successfully completed the first phase of the
19 Alternative Teacher Certification program as provided in
20 this Section; and

21 (4) have passed the tests of basic skills and subject
22 matter knowledge required by Section 21-1a.

23 An initial teaching certificate, valid for teaching in the
24 common schools, shall be issued under Section 21-3 or 21-5 to
25 persons who first complete the requirements for the provisional
26 alternative teaching certificate and who at the time of

1 applying for an initial teaching certificate have successfully
2 completed the second and third phases of the Alternative Route
3 to Teacher Certification program as provided in this Section.

4 A person possessing a provisional alternative certificate
5 or an initial teaching certificate earned under this Section
6 shall be treated as a regularly certified teacher for purposes
7 of compensation, benefits, and other terms and conditions of
8 employment afforded teachers in the school who are members of a
9 bargaining unit represented by an exclusive bargaining
10 representative, if any.

11 The State Board of Education may adopt rules and
12 regulations that are consistent with this Section and that the
13 State Board deems necessary to establish and implement the
14 program.

15 No one may be admitted to an alternative certification
16 program under this Section after September 1, 2014, and those
17 alternative certification candidates who are admitted on or
18 before September 1 ~~June 30~~, 2014 must complete their coursework
19 before January 1, 2016 and be entitled to certification on or
20 before September 30, 2016. An alternative certification
21 program shall provide the State Board of Education with the
22 names of the candidates who will be eligible for certification.

23 This Section is repealed on January 1, 2017.

24 (Source: P.A. 97-607, eff. 8-26-11; 97-702, eff. 6-25-12;
25 98-38, eff. 6-28-13; 98-603, eff. 6-1-14.)

1 Section 95. No acceleration or delay. Where this Act makes
2 changes in a statute that is represented in this Act by text
3 that is not yet or no longer in effect (for example, a Section
4 represented by multiple versions), the use of that text does
5 not accelerate or delay the taking effect of (i) the changes
6 made by this Act or (ii) provisions derived from any other
7 Public Act.

8 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
9 becoming law.