

# SB1922



## 99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2015 and 2016

SB1922

Introduced 2/20/2015, by Sen. Julie A. Morrison

### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/21B-45

Amends the School Code. Makes a technical change in a Section concerning educator licensure renewal.

LRB099 09879 NHT 30093 b

A BILL FOR

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 21B-45 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/21B-45)

7 Sec. 21B-45. Professional Educator License renewal.

8 (a) Individuals holding a Professional Educator License  
9 are required to complete the ~~the~~ licensure renewal requirements  
10 as specified in this Section, unless otherwise provided in this  
11 Code.

12 Individuals holding a Professional Educator License shall  
13 meet the renewal requirements set forth in this Section, unless  
14 otherwise provided in this Code. If an individual holds a  
15 license endorsed in more than one area that has different  
16 renewal requirements, that individual shall follow the renewal  
17 requirements for the position for which he or she spends the  
18 majority of his or her time working.

19 (b) All Professional Educator Licenses not renewed as  
20 provided in this Section shall lapse on September 1 of that  
21 year. Lapsed licenses may be immediately reinstated upon (i)  
22 payment by the applicant of a \$500 penalty to the State Board  
23 of Education or, for individuals holding an Educator License

1 with Stipulations with a paraprofessional educator endorsement  
2 only, payment by the applicant of a \$150 penalty to the State  
3 Board of Education or (ii) the demonstration of proficiency by  
4 completing 9 semester hours of coursework from a regionally  
5 accredited institution of higher education in the content area  
6 that most aligns with one or more of the educator's endorsement  
7 areas. Any and all back fees, including without limitation  
8 registration fees owed from the time of expiration of the  
9 certificate until the date of reinstatement, shall be paid and  
10 kept in accordance with the provisions in Article 3 of this  
11 Code concerning an institute fund and the provisions in Article  
12 21B of this Code concerning fees and requirements for  
13 registration. Licenses not registered in accordance with  
14 Section 21B-40 of this Code shall lapse after a period of 6  
15 months from the expiration of the last year of registration. An  
16 unregistered license is invalid after September 1 for  
17 employment and performance of services in an Illinois public or  
18 State-operated school or cooperative and in a charter school.  
19 Any license or endorsement may be voluntarily surrendered by  
20 the license holder. A voluntarily surrendered license, except a  
21 substitute teaching license issued under Section 21B-20 of this  
22 Code, shall be treated as a revoked license.

23 (c) From July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014, in order to  
24 satisfy the requirements for licensure renewal provided for in  
25 this Section, each professional educator licensee with an  
26 administrative endorsement who is working in a position

1 requiring such endorsement shall complete one Illinois  
2 Administrators' Academy course, as described in Article 2 of  
3 this Code, per fiscal year.

4 (d) Beginning July 1, 2014, in order to satisfy the  
5 requirements for licensure renewal provided for in this  
6 Section, each professional educator licensee may create a  
7 professional development plan each year. The plan shall address  
8 one or more of the endorsements that are required of his or her  
9 educator position if the licensee is employed and performing  
10 services in an Illinois public or State-operated school or  
11 cooperative. If the licensee is employed in a charter school,  
12 the plan shall address that endorsement or those endorsements  
13 most closely related to his or her educator position. Licensees  
14 employed and performing services in any other Illinois schools  
15 may participate in the renewal requirements by adhering to the  
16 same process.

17 Except as otherwise provided in this Section, the  
18 licensee's professional development activities shall align  
19 with one or more of the following criteria:

20 (1) activities are of a type that engage participants  
21 over a sustained period of time allowing for analysis,  
22 discovery, and application as they relate to student  
23 learning, social or emotional achievement, or well-being;

24 (2) professional development aligns to the licensee's  
25 performance;

26 (3) outcomes for the activities must relate to student

1 growth or district improvement;

2 (4) activities align to State-approved standards; and

3 (5) higher education coursework.

4 (e) For each renewal cycle, each professional educator  
5 licensee shall engage in professional development activities.  
6 Within 60 days after the conclusion of a professional  
7 development activity, the licensee shall enter electronically  
8 into the Educator Licensure Information System (ELIS) the name,  
9 date, and location of the activity, the number of professional  
10 development hours, and the provider's name. The following  
11 provisions shall apply concerning professional development  
12 activities:

13 (1) Each licensee shall complete a total of 120 hours  
14 of professional development per 5-year renewal cycle in  
15 order to renew the license, except as otherwise provided in  
16 this Section.

17 (2) Beginning with his or her first full 5-year cycle,  
18 any licensee with an administrative endorsement who is not  
19 working in a position requiring such endorsement shall  
20 complete one Illinois Administrators' Academy course, as  
21 described in Article 2 of this Code, in each 5-year renewal  
22 cycle in which the administrative endorsement was held for  
23 at least one year. The Illinois Administrators' Academy  
24 course may count toward the total of 120 hours per 5-year  
25 cycle.

26 (3) Any licensee with an administrative endorsement

1           who is working in a position requiring such endorsement or  
2           an individual with a Teacher Leader endorsement serving in  
3           an administrative capacity at least 50% of the day shall  
4           complete one Illinois Administrators' Academy course, as  
5           described in Article 2 of this Code, each fiscal year in  
6           addition to 100 hours of professional development per  
7           5-year renewal cycle in accordance with this Code.

8           (4) Any licensee holding a current National Board for  
9           Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) master teacher  
10          designation shall complete a total of 60 hours of  
11          professional development per 5-year renewal cycle in order  
12          to renew the license.

13          (5) Licensees working in a position that does not  
14          require educator licensure or working in a position for  
15          less than 50% for any particular year are considered to be  
16          exempt and shall be required to pay only the registration  
17          fee in order to renew and maintain the validity of the  
18          license.

19          (6) Licensees who are retired and qualify for benefits  
20          from a State retirement system shall notify the State Board  
21          of Education using ELIS, and the license shall be  
22          maintained in retired status. An individual with a license  
23          in retired status shall not be required to complete  
24          professional development activities or pay registration  
25          fees until returning to a position that requires educator  
26          licensure. Upon returning to work in a position that

1 requires the Professional Educator License, the licensee  
2 shall immediately pay a registration fee and complete  
3 renewal requirements for that year. A license in retired  
4 status cannot lapse.

5 (7) For any renewal cycle in which professional  
6 development hours were required, but not fulfilled, the  
7 licensee shall complete any missed hours to total the  
8 minimum professional development hours required in this  
9 Section prior to September 1 of that year. For any fiscal  
10 year or renewal cycle in which an Illinois Administrators'  
11 Academy course was required but not completed, the licensee  
12 shall complete any missed Illinois Administrators' Academy  
13 courses prior to September 1 of that year. The licensee may  
14 complete all deficient hours and Illinois Administrators'  
15 Academy courses while continuing to work in a position that  
16 requires that license until September 1 of that year.

17 (8) Any licensee who has not fulfilled the professional  
18 development renewal requirements set forth in this Section  
19 at the end of any 5-year renewal cycle is ineligible to  
20 register his or her license and may submit an appeal to the  
21 State Superintendent of Education for reinstatement of the  
22 license.

23 (9) If professional development opportunities were  
24 unavailable to a licensee, proof that opportunities were  
25 unavailable and request for an extension of time beyond  
26 August 31 to complete the renewal requirements may be

1 submitted from April 1 through June 30 of that year to the  
2 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board. If an  
3 extension is approved, the license shall remain valid  
4 during the extension period.

5 (10) Individuals who hold exempt licenses prior to the  
6 effective date of this amendatory Act of the 98th General  
7 Assembly shall commence the annual renewal process with the  
8 first scheduled registration due after the effective date  
9 of this amendatory Act of the 98th General Assembly.

10 (f) At the time of renewal, each licensee shall respond to  
11 the required questions under penalty of perjury.

12 (g) The following entities shall be designated as approved  
13 to provide professional development activities for the renewal  
14 of Professional Educator Licenses:

15 (1) The State Board of Education.

16 (2) Regional offices of education and intermediate  
17 service centers.

18 (3) Illinois professional associations representing  
19 the following groups that are approved by the State  
20 Superintendent of Education:

21 (A) school administrators;

22 (B) principals;

23 (C) school business officials;

24 (D) teachers, including special education  
25 teachers;

26 (E) school boards;



- 1 (F) school districts;  
2 (G) parents; and  
3 (H) school service personnel.

4 (4) Regionally accredited institutions of higher  
5 education that offer Illinois-approved educator  
6 preparation programs.

7 (5) Illinois public school districts, charter schools  
8 authorized under Article 27A of this Code, and joint  
9 educational programs authorized under Article 10 of this  
10 Code for the purposes of providing career and technical  
11 education or special education services.

12 (6) A not-for-profit organization that, as of the  
13 effective date of this amendatory Act of the 98th General  
14 Assembly, has had or has a grant from or a contract with  
15 the State Board of Education to provide professional  
16 development services in the area of English Language  
17 Learning to Illinois school districts, teachers, or  
18 administrators.

19 (h) Approved providers under subsection (g) of this Section  
20 shall make available professional development opportunities  
21 that satisfy at least one of the following:

22 (1) increase the knowledge and skills of school and  
23 district leaders who guide continuous professional  
24 development;

25 (2) improve the learning of students;

26 (3) organize adults into learning communities whose

- 1 goals are aligned with those of the school and district;
- 2 (4) deepen educator's content knowledge;
- 3 (5) provide educators with research-based  
4 instructional strategies to assist students in meeting  
5 rigorous academic standards;
- 6 (6) prepare educators to appropriately use various  
7 types of classroom assessments;
- 8 (7) use learning strategies appropriate to the  
9 intended goals;
- 10 (8) provide educators with the knowledge and skills to  
11 collaborate; or
- 12 (9) prepare educators to apply research to  
13 decision-making.
- 14 (i) Approved providers under subsection (g) of this Section  
15 shall do the following:
- 16 (1) align professional development activities to the  
17 State-approved national standards for professional  
18 learning;
- 19 (2) meet the professional development criteria for  
20 Illinois licensure renewal;
- 21 (3) produce a rationale for the activity that explains  
22 how it aligns to State standards and identify the  
23 assessment for determining the expected impact on student  
24 learning or school improvement;
- 25 (4) maintain original documentation for completion of  
26 activities; and

1           (5) provide license holders with evidence of  
2 completion of activities.

3           (j) The State Board of Education shall conduct annual  
4 audits of approved providers, except for school districts,  
5 which shall be audited by regional offices of education and  
6 intermediate service centers. The State Board of Education  
7 shall complete random audits of licensees.

8           (1) Approved providers shall annually submit to the  
9 State Board of Education a list of subcontractors used for  
10 delivery of professional development activities for which  
11 renewal credit was issued and other information as defined  
12 by rule.

13           (2) Approved providers shall annually submit data to  
14 the State Board of Education demonstrating how the  
15 professional development activities impacted one or more  
16 of the following:

17                   (A) educator and student growth in regards to  
18 content knowledge or skills, or both;

19                   (B) educator and student social and emotional  
20 growth; or

21                   (C) alignment to district or school improvement  
22 plans.

23           (3) The State Superintendent of Education shall review  
24 the annual data collected by the State Board of Education,  
25 regional offices of education, and intermediate service  
26 centers in audits to determine if the approved provider has

1 met the criteria and should continue to be an approved  
2 provider or if further action should be taken as provided  
3 in rules.

4 (k) Registration fees shall be paid for the next renewal  
5 cycle between April 1 and June 30 in the last year of each  
6 5-year renewal cycle using ELIS. If all required professional  
7 development hours for the renewal cycle have been completed and  
8 entered by the licensee, the licensee shall pay the  
9 registration fees for the next cycle using a form of credit or  
10 debit card.

11 (l) Beginning July 1, 2014, any professional educator  
12 licensee endorsed for school support personnel who is employed  
13 and performing services in Illinois public schools and who  
14 holds an active and current professional license issued by the  
15 Department of Financial and Professional Regulation related to  
16 the endorsement areas on the Professional Educator License  
17 shall be deemed to have satisfied the continuing professional  
18 development requirements provided for in this Section. Such  
19 individuals shall be required to pay only registration fees to  
20 renew the Professional Educator License. An individual who does  
21 not hold a license issued by the Department of Financial and  
22 Professional Regulation shall complete professional  
23 development requirements for the renewal of a Professional  
24 Educator License provided for in this Section.

25 (m) Appeals to the State Educator Preparation and Licensure  
26 Board must be made within 30 days after receipt of notice from

1 the State Superintendent of Education that a license will not  
2 be renewed based upon failure to complete the requirements of  
3 this Section. A licensee may appeal that decision to the State  
4 Educator Preparation and Licensure Board in a manner prescribed  
5 by rule.

6 (1) Each appeal shall state the reasons why the State  
7 Superintendent's decision should be reversed and shall be  
8 sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the  
9 State Board of Education.

10 (2) The State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board  
11 shall review each appeal regarding renewal of a license  
12 within 90 days after receiving the appeal in order to  
13 determine whether the licensee has met the requirements of  
14 this Section. The State Educator Preparation and Licensure  
15 Board may hold an appeal hearing or may make its  
16 determination based upon the record of review, which shall  
17 consist of the following:

18 (A) the regional superintendent of education's  
19 rationale for recommending nonrenewal of the license,  
20 if applicable;

21 (B) any evidence submitted to the State  
22 Superintendent along with the individual's electronic  
23 statement of assurance for renewal; and

24 (C) the State Superintendent's rationale for  
25 nonrenewal of the license.

26 (3) The State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board

1 shall notify the licensee of its decision regarding license  
2 renewal by certified mail, return receipt requested, no  
3 later than 30 days after reaching a decision. Upon receipt  
4 of notification of renewal, the licensee, using ELIS, shall  
5 pay the applicable registration fee for the next cycle  
6 using a form of credit or debit card.

7 (n) The State Board of Education may adopt rules as may be  
8 necessary to implement this Section.

9 (Source: P.A. 97-607, eff. 8-26-11; 98-610, eff. 12-27-13;  
10 98-1147, eff. 12-31-14.)