

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2015 and 2016

SB2912

Introduced 2/18/2016, by Sen. David S. Luechtefeld

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/21B-20
105 ILCS 5/21B-25
105 ILCS 5/21B-30
105 ILCS 5/21B-35
105 ILCS 5/21B-40
105 ILCS 5/21B-45

Amends the Educator Licensure Article of the School Code. Makes changes concerning a provisional in-state educator endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations, a career and technical educator endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations, a provisional career and technical educator endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations, a Substitute Teaching License, a teacher leader endorsement on a Professional Educator License, educator testing, the minimum requirements for educators trained in other states or countries, fees for Substitute Teaching Licenses, and requirements for licensees retiring during a renewal cycle.

LRB099 19280 NHT 45355 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

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 Sections
5 21B-20, 21B-25, 21B-30, 21B-35, 21B-40, and 21B-45 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/21B-20)

7 Sec. 21B-20. Types of licenses. Before July 1, 2013, the
8 State Board of Education shall implement a system of educator
9 licensure, whereby individuals employed in school districts
10 who are required to be licensed must have one of the following
11 licenses: (i) a professional educator license; (ii) a
12 professional educator license with stipulations; or (iii) a
13 substitute teaching license. References in law regarding
14 individuals certified or certificated or required to be
15 certified or certificated under Article 21 of this Code shall
16 also include individuals licensed or required to be licensed
17 under this Article. The first year of all licenses ends on June
18 30 following one full year of the license being issued.

19 The State Board of Education, in consultation with the
20 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, may adopt such
21 rules as may be necessary to govern the requirements for
22 licenses and endorsements under this Section.

23 (1) Professional Educator License. Persons who (i)

1 have successfully completed an approved educator
2 preparation program and are recommended for licensure by
3 the Illinois institution offering the educator preparation
4 program, (ii) have successfully completed the required
5 testing under Section 21B-30 of this Code, (iii) have
6 successfully completed coursework on the psychology of,
7 the identification of, and the methods of instruction for
8 the exceptional child, including without limitation
9 children with learning disabilities, (iv) have
10 successfully completed coursework in methods of reading
11 and reading in the content area, and (v) have met all other
12 criteria established by rule of the State Board of
13 Education shall be issued a Professional Educator License.
14 All Professional Educator Licenses are valid until June 30
15 immediately following 5 years of the license being issued.
16 The Professional Educator License shall be endorsed with
17 specific areas and grade levels in which the individual is
18 eligible to practice.

19 Individuals can receive subsequent endorsements on the
20 Professional Educator License. Subsequent endorsements
21 shall require a minimum of 24 semester hours of coursework
22 in the endorsement area, unless otherwise specified by
23 rule, and passage of the applicable content area test.

24 (2) Educator License with Stipulations. An Educator
25 License with Stipulations shall be issued an endorsement
26 that limits the license holder to one particular position

1 or does not require completion of an approved educator
2 program or both.

3 An individual with an Educator License with
4 Stipulations must not be employed by a school district or
5 any other entity to replace any presently employed teacher
6 who otherwise would not be replaced for any reason.

7 An Educator License with Stipulations may be issued
8 with the following endorsements:

9 (A) Provisional educator. A provisional educator
10 endorsement in a specific content area or areas on an
11 Educator License with Stipulations may be issued to an
12 applicant who holds an educator license ~~with a minimum~~
13 ~~of 15 semester hours in content coursework~~ from another
14 state, U.S. territory, or foreign country and who, at
15 the time of applying for an Illinois license, does not
16 meet the minimum requirements under Section 21B-35 of
17 this Code, but does, at a minimum, meet the following
18 requirements:

19 (i) Holds the equivalent of a minimum of a
20 bachelor's degree, unless a master's degree is
21 required for the endorsement, from a regionally
22 accredited college or university or, for
23 individuals educated in a country other than the
24 United States, the equivalent of a minimum of a
25 bachelor's degree issued in the United States,
26 unless a master's degree is required for the

1 endorsement.

2 (ii) Has passed or passes a test of basic
3 skills and content area test, ~~as required by~~
4 ~~Section 21B-30 of this Code,~~ prior to or within one
5 year after issuance of the provisional educator
6 endorsement on the Educator License with
7 Stipulations. If an individual who holds an
8 Educator License with Stipulations endorsed for
9 provisional educator has not passed a test of basic
10 skills and applicable content area test or tests
11 within one year after issuance of the endorsement,
12 the endorsement shall expire on June 30 following
13 one full year of the endorsement being issued. If
14 such an individual has passed the test of basic
15 skills and applicable content area test or tests
16 either prior to issuance of the endorsement or
17 within one year after issuance of the endorsement,
18 the endorsement is valid until June 30 immediately
19 following 2 years of the license being issued,
20 during which time any and all coursework
21 deficiencies must be met and any and all additional
22 testing deficiencies must be met.

23 In addition, a provisional educator endorsement
24 for principals or superintendents may be issued if the
25 individual meets the requirements set forth in
26 subdivisions (1) and (3) of subsection (b-5) of Section

1 21B-35 of this Code. Applicants who have not been
2 entitled by an Illinois-approved educator preparation
3 program at an Illinois institution of higher education
4 shall not receive a provisional educator endorsement
5 if the person completed an alternative licensure
6 program in another state, unless the program has been
7 determined to be equivalent to Illinois program
8 requirements.

9 Notwithstanding any other requirements of this
10 Section, a service member or spouse of a service member
11 may obtain a Professional Educator License with
12 Stipulations, and a provisional educator endorsement
13 in a specific content area or areas, if he or she holds
14 a valid teaching certificate or license in good
15 standing from another state, meets the qualifications
16 of educators outlined in Section 21B-15 of this Code,
17 and has not engaged in any misconduct that would
18 prohibit an individual from obtaining a license
19 pursuant to Illinois law, including without limitation
20 any administrative rules of the State Board of
21 Education.

22 In this Section, "service member" means any person
23 who, at the time of application under this Section, is
24 an active duty member of the United States Armed Forces
25 or any reserve component of the United States Armed
26 Forces or the National Guard of any state,

1 commonwealth, or territory of the United States or the
2 District of Columbia.

3 A provisional educator endorsement is valid until
4 June 30 immediately following 2 years of the license
5 being issued, provided that any remaining testing and
6 coursework deficiencies are met as set forth in this
7 Section. Failure to satisfy all stated deficiencies
8 shall mean the individual, including any service
9 member or spouse who has obtained a Professional
10 Educator License with Stipulations and a provisional
11 educator endorsement in a specific content area or
12 areas, is ineligible to receive a Professional
13 Educator License at that time. An Educator License with
14 Stipulations endorsed for provisional educator shall
15 not be renewed for individuals who hold an Educator
16 License with Stipulations and who have held a position
17 in a public school or non-public school recognized by
18 the State Board of Education.

19 (B) Alternative provisional educator. An
20 alternative provisional educator endorsement on an
21 Educator License with Stipulations may be issued to an
22 applicant who, at the time of applying for the
23 endorsement, has done all of the following:

24 (i) Graduated from a regionally accredited
25 college or university with a minimum of a
26 bachelor's degree.

1 (ii) Successfully completed the first phase of
2 the Alternative Educator Licensure Program for
3 Teachers, as described in Section 21B-50 of this
4 Code.

5 (iii) Passed a test of basic skills and content
6 area test, as required under Section 21B-30 of this
7 Code.

8 The alternative provisional educator endorsement
9 is valid for 2 years of teaching and may be renewed for
10 a third year by an individual meeting the requirements
11 set forth in Section 21B-50 of this Code.

12 (C) Alternative provisional superintendent. An
13 alternative provisional superintendent endorsement on
14 an Educator License with Stipulations entitles the
15 holder to serve only as a superintendent or assistant
16 superintendent in a school district's central office.
17 This endorsement may only be issued to an applicant
18 who, at the time of applying for the endorsement, has
19 done all of the following:

20 (i) Graduated from a regionally accredited
21 college or university with a minimum of a master's
22 degree in a management field other than education.

23 (ii) Been employed for a period of at least 5
24 years in a management level position in a field
25 other than education.

26 (iii) Successfully completed the first phase

1 of an alternative route to superintendent
2 endorsement program, as provided in Section 21B-55
3 of this Code.

4 (iv) Passed a test of basic skills and content
5 area tests required under Section 21B-30 of this
6 Code.

7 The endorsement may be registered for 2 fiscal
8 years in order to complete one full year of serving as
9 a superintendent or assistant superintendent.

10 (D) Resident teacher endorsement. A resident
11 teacher endorsement on an Educator License with
12 Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who, at the
13 time of applying for the endorsement, has done all of
14 the following:

15 (i) Graduated from a regionally accredited
16 institution of higher education with a minimum of a
17 bachelor's degree.

18 (ii) Enrolled in an approved Illinois educator
19 preparation program.

20 (iii) Passed a test of basic skills and content
21 area test, as required under Section 21B-30 of this
22 Code.

23 The resident teacher endorsement on an Educator
24 License with Stipulations is valid for 4 years of
25 teaching and shall not be renewed.

26 A resident teacher may teach only under the

1 direction of a licensed teacher, who shall act as the
2 resident mentor teacher, and may not teach in place of
3 a licensed teacher. A resident teacher endorsement on
4 an Educator License with Stipulations shall no longer
5 be valid after June 30, 2017.

6 (E) Career and technical educator. A career and
7 technical educator endorsement on an Educator License
8 with Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who has
9 a minimum of 60 semester hours of coursework from a
10 regionally accredited institution of higher education
11 and has a minimum of 2,000 hours of experience outside
12 of education in each area to be taught.

13 The career and technical educator endorsement on
14 an Educator License with Stipulations is valid until
15 June 30 immediately following 5 years of the
16 endorsement being issued and may be renewed. For
17 individuals who were issued the career and technical
18 educator endorsement on an Educator License with
19 Stipulations on or after January 1, 2015, the license
20 may be renewed if the individual passes a test of basic
21 skills or test of work proficiency, as required under
22 Section 21B-30 of this Code.

23 (F) Part-time provisional career and technical
24 educator or provisional career and technical educator.
25 A part-time provisional career and technical educator
26 endorsement or a provisional career and technical

1 educator endorsement on an Educator License with
2 Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who has a
3 minimum of 8,000 hours of work experience in the skill
4 for which the applicant is seeking the endorsement. It
5 is the responsibility of each employing school board
6 and regional office of education to provide
7 verification, in writing, to the State Superintendent
8 of Education at the time the application is submitted
9 that no qualified teacher holding a Professional
10 Educator License or an Educator License with
11 Stipulations with a career and technical educator
12 endorsement is available and that actual circumstances
13 require such issuance.

14 The provisional career and technical educator
15 endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations
16 is valid until June 30 immediately following 5 years of
17 the endorsement being issued and may be renewed only
18 one time for 5 years. For individuals who were issued
19 the provisional career and technical educator
20 endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations
21 on or after January 1, 2015, the license may be renewed
22 one time if the individual passes a test of basic
23 skills or test of work proficiency, as required under
24 Section 21B-30 of this Code, and has completed a
25 minimum of 20 semester hours from a regionally
26 accredited institution.

1 A part-time provisional career and technical
2 educator endorsement on an Educator License with
3 Stipulations may be issued for teaching no more than 2
4 courses of study for grades 6 through 12. The part-time
5 provisional career and technical educator endorsement
6 on an Educator License with Stipulations is valid until
7 June 30 immediately following 5 years of the
8 endorsement being issued and may be renewed for 5 years
9 if the individual makes application for renewal.

10 (G) Transitional bilingual educator. A
11 transitional bilingual educator endorsement on an
12 Educator License with Stipulations may be issued for
13 the purpose of providing instruction in accordance
14 with Article 14C of this Code to an applicant who
15 provides satisfactory evidence that he or she meets all
16 of the following requirements:

17 (i) Possesses adequate speaking, reading, and
18 writing ability in the language other than English
19 in which transitional bilingual education is
20 offered.

21 (ii) Has the ability to successfully
22 communicate in English.

23 (iii) Either possessed, within 5 years
24 previous to his or her applying for a transitional
25 bilingual educator endorsement, a valid and
26 comparable teaching certificate or comparable

1 authorization issued by a foreign country or holds
2 a degree from an institution of higher learning in
3 a foreign country that the State Educator
4 Preparation and Licensure Board determines to be
5 the equivalent of a bachelor's degree from a
6 regionally accredited institution of higher
7 learning in the United States.

8 A transitional bilingual educator endorsement
9 shall be valid for prekindergarten through grade 12, is
10 valid until June 30 immediately following 5 years of
11 the endorsement being issued, and shall not be renewed.

12 Persons holding a transitional bilingual educator
13 endorsement shall not be employed to replace any
14 presently employed teacher who otherwise would not be
15 replaced for any reason.

16 (H) Language endorsement. In an effort to
17 alleviate the shortage of teachers speaking a language
18 other than English in the public schools, an individual
19 who holds an Educator License with Stipulations may
20 also apply for a language endorsement, provided that
21 the applicant provides satisfactory evidence that he
22 or she meets all of the following requirements:

23 (i) Holds a transitional bilingual
24 endorsement.

25 (ii) Has demonstrated proficiency in the
26 language for which the endorsement is to be issued

1 by passing the applicable language content test
2 required by the State Board of Education.

3 (iii) Holds a bachelor's degree or higher from
4 a regionally accredited institution of higher
5 education or, for individuals educated in a
6 country other than the United States, holds a
7 degree from an institution of higher learning in a
8 foreign country that the State Educator
9 Preparation and Licensure Board determines to be
10 the equivalent of a bachelor's degree from a
11 regionally accredited institution of higher
12 learning in the United States.

13 (iv) Has passed a test of basic skills, as
14 required under Section 21B-30 of this Code.

15 A language endorsement on an Educator License with
16 Stipulations is valid for prekindergarten through
17 grade 12 for the same validity period as the
18 individual's transitional bilingual educator
19 endorsement on the Educator License with Stipulations
20 and shall not be renewed.

21 (I) Visiting international educator. A visiting
22 international educator endorsement on an Educator
23 License with Stipulations may be issued to an
24 individual who is being recruited by a particular
25 school district that conducts formal recruitment
26 programs outside of the United States to secure the

1 services of qualified teachers and who meets all of the
2 following requirements:

3 (i) Holds the equivalent of a minimum of a
4 bachelor's degree issued in the United States.

5 (ii) Has been prepared as a teacher at the
6 grade level for which he or she will be employed.

7 (iii) Has adequate content knowledge in the
8 subject to be taught.

9 (iv) Has an adequate command of the English
10 language.

11 A holder of a visiting international educator
12 endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations
13 shall be permitted to teach in bilingual education
14 programs in the language that was the medium of
15 instruction in his or her teacher preparation program,
16 provided that he or she passes the English Language
17 Proficiency Examination or another test of writing
18 skills in English identified by the State Board of
19 Education, in consultation with the State Educator
20 Preparation and Licensure Board.

21 A visiting international educator endorsement on
22 an Educator License with Stipulations is valid for 3
23 years and shall not be renewed.

24 (J) Paraprofessional educator. A paraprofessional
25 educator endorsement on an Educator License with
26 Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who holds a

1 high school diploma or its recognized equivalent and
2 either holds an associate's degree or a minimum of 60
3 semester hours of credit from a regionally accredited
4 institution of higher education or has passed a test of
5 basic skills required under Section 21B-30 of this
6 Code. The paraprofessional educator endorsement is
7 valid until June 30 immediately following 5 years of
8 the endorsement being issued and may be renewed through
9 application and payment of the appropriate fee, as
10 required under Section 21B-40 of this Code. An
11 individual who holds only a paraprofessional educator
12 endorsement is not subject to additional requirements
13 in order to renew the endorsement.

14 (K) Chief school business official. A chief school
15 business official endorsement on an Educator License
16 with Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who
17 qualifies by having a master's degree or higher, 2
18 years of full-time administrative experience in school
19 business management or 2 years of university-approved
20 practical experience, and a minimum of 24 semester
21 hours of graduate credit in a program approved by the
22 State Board of Education for the preparation of school
23 business administrators and by passage of the
24 applicable State tests, including a test of basic
25 skills and applicable content area test.

26 The chief school business official endorsement may

1 also be affixed to the Educator License with
2 Stipulations of any holder who qualifies by having a
3 master's degree in business administration, finance,
4 or accounting and who completes an additional 6
5 semester hours of internship in school business
6 management from a regionally accredited institution of
7 higher education and passes the applicable State
8 tests, including a test of basic skills and applicable
9 content area test. This endorsement shall be required
10 for any individual employed as a chief school business
11 official.

12 The chief school business official endorsement on
13 an Educator License with Stipulations is valid until
14 June 30 immediately following 5 years of the
15 endorsement being issued and may be renewed if the
16 license holder completes renewal requirements as
17 required for individuals who hold a Professional
18 Educator License endorsed for chief school business
19 official under Section 21B-45 of this Code and such
20 rules as may be adopted by the State Board of
21 Education.

22 (L) Provisional in-state educator. A provisional
23 in-state educator endorsement on an Educator License
24 with Stipulations may be issued to a candidate who has
25 completed an Illinois-approved educator preparation
26 program at an Illinois institution of higher education

1 and who has not successfully completed an
2 evidence-based assessment of teacher effectiveness but
3 who meets all of the following requirements:

4 (i) Holds at least a bachelor's degree.

5 (ii) Has completed an approved educator
6 preparation program at an Illinois institution.

7 (iii) Has passed a test of basic skills and
8 applicable content area test, as required by
9 Section 21B-30 of this Code.

10 (iv) Has attempted an evidence-based
11 assessment of teacher effectiveness and received a
12 minimum score on that assessment, as established
13 by the State Board of Education in consultation
14 with the State Educator Preparation and Licensure
15 Board.

16 A provisional in-state educator endorsement on an
17 Educator License with Stipulations is valid for one
18 full fiscal year after the date of issuance and may not
19 be renewed.

20 (3) Substitute Teaching License. A Substitute Teaching
21 License may be issued to qualified applicants for
22 substitute teaching in all grades of the public schools,
23 prekindergarten through grade 12. Substitute Teaching
24 Licenses are not eligible for endorsements. Applicants for
25 a short-term Substitute Teaching License shall have
26 completed 60 hours of college coursework from a regionally

1 accredited institution. Applicants for a long-term
2 Substitute Teaching License must hold a bachelor's degree
3 or higher from a regionally accredited institution of
4 higher education.

5 Substitute Teaching Licenses are valid for 5 years ~~and~~
6 ~~may be renewed if the individual has passed a test of basic~~
7 ~~skills, as authorized under Section 21B-30 of this Code. An~~
8 ~~individual who has passed a test of basic skills for the~~
9 ~~first licensure renewal is not required to retake the test~~
10 ~~again for further renewals.~~ Individuals who hold a
11 short-term Substitute Teaching License must pass a test of
12 basic skills or test of work proficiency prior to renewal
13 of the license.

14 Substitute Teaching Licenses are valid for substitute
15 teaching in every county of this State. If an individual
16 has had his or her Professional Educator License or
17 Educator License with Stipulations suspended or revoked or
18 has not met the renewal requirements for licensure, then
19 that individual is not eligible to obtain a Substitute
20 Teaching License.

21 A substitute teacher may only teach in the place of a
22 licensed teacher who is under contract with the employing
23 board. If, however, there is no licensed teacher under
24 contract because of an emergency situation, then a district
25 may employ a substitute teacher for no longer than 30
26 calendar days per each vacant position in the district if

1 the district notifies the appropriate regional office of
2 education within 5 business days after the employment of
3 the substitute teacher in the emergency situation. An
4 emergency situation is one in which an unforeseen vacancy
5 has occurred and (i) a teacher is unable to fulfill his or
6 her contractual duties or (ii) teacher capacity needs of
7 the district exceed previous indications, and the district
8 is actively engaged in advertising to hire a fully licensed
9 teacher for the vacant position.

10 A substitute teacher who holds a short-term Substitute
11 Teaching License may serve for a total of only 90 school
12 days during a school year and no more than 5 school days
13 within any period of 10 school days for one licensed
14 teacher under contract.

15 There is no limit on the number of days that a
16 substitute teacher who holds a long-term Substitute
17 Teaching License may teach in a single school district,
18 provided that no substitute teacher may teach for longer
19 than 90 school days for any one licensed teacher under
20 contract in the same school year. A substitute teacher who
21 holds a Professional Educator License or Educator License
22 with Stipulations shall not teach for more than 120 school
23 days for any one licensed teacher under contract in the
24 same school year. The limitations in this paragraph (3) on
25 the number of days a substitute teacher may be employed do
26 not apply to any school district operating under Article 34

1 of this Code.

2 (Source: P.A. 98-28, eff. 7-1-13; 98-751, eff. 1-1-15; 99-35,
3 eff. 1-1-16; 99-58, eff. 7-16-15; 99-143, eff. 7-27-15; revised
4 10-14-15.)

5 (105 ILCS 5/21B-25)

6 Sec. 21B-25. Endorsement on licenses. All licenses issued
7 under paragraph (1) of Section 21B-20 of this Code shall be
8 specifically endorsed by the State Board of Education for each
9 content area, school support area, and administrative area for
10 which the holder of the license is qualified. Recognized
11 institutions approved to offer educator preparation programs
12 shall be trained to add endorsements to licenses issued to
13 applicants who meet all of the requirements for the endorsement
14 or endorsements, including passing any required tests. The
15 State Superintendent of Education shall randomly audit
16 institutions to ensure that all rules and standards are being
17 followed for entitlement or when endorsements are being
18 recommended.

19 (1) The State Board of Education, in consultation with
20 the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, shall
21 establish, by rule, the grade level and subject area
22 endorsements to be added to the Professional Educator
23 License. These rules shall outline the requirements for
24 obtaining each endorsement.

25 (2) In addition to any and all grade level and content

1 area endorsements developed by rule, the State Board of
2 Education, in consultation with the State Educator
3 Preparation and Licensure Board, shall develop the
4 requirements for the following endorsements:

5 (A) General administrative endorsement. A general
6 administrative endorsement shall be added to a
7 Professional Educator License, provided that an
8 approved program has been completed. An individual
9 holding a general administrative endorsement may work
10 only as a principal or assistant principal or in a
11 related or similar position, as determined by the State
12 Superintendent of Education, in consultation with the
13 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board.

14 Beginning on September 1, 2014, the general
15 administrative endorsement shall no longer be issued
16 except to individuals who completed all coursework
17 requirements for the receipt of the general
18 administrative endorsement by September 1, 2014, who
19 have completed all testing requirements by June 30,
20 2016, and who apply for the endorsement on or before
21 June 30, 2016. Individuals who hold a valid and
22 registered administrative certificate with a general
23 administrative endorsement issued under Section 21-7.1
24 of this Code or a Professional Educator License with a
25 general administrative endorsement issued prior to
26 September 1, 2014 and who have served for at least one

1 full year during the 5 years prior in a position
2 requiring a general administrative endorsement shall,
3 upon request to the State Board of Education and
4 through July 1, 2015, have their respective general
5 administrative endorsement converted to a principal
6 endorsement on the Professional Educator License.
7 Candidates shall not be admitted to an approved general
8 administrative preparation program after September 1,
9 2012.

10 All other individuals holding a valid and
11 registered administrative certificate with a general
12 administrative endorsement issued pursuant to Section
13 21-7.1 of this Code or a general administrative
14 endorsement on a Professional Educator License issued
15 prior to September 1, 2014 shall have the general
16 administrative endorsement converted to a principal
17 endorsement on a Professional Educator License upon
18 request to the State Board of Education and by
19 completing one of the following pathways:

20 (i) Passage of the State principal assessment
21 developed by the State Board of Education.

22 (ii) Through July 1, 2019, completion of an
23 Illinois Educators' Academy course designated by
24 the State Superintendent of Education.

25 (iii) Completion of a principal preparation
26 program established and approved pursuant to

1 Section 21B-60 of this Code and applicable rules.

2 Individuals who do not choose to convert the
3 general administrative endorsement on the
4 administrative certificate issued pursuant to Section
5 21-7.1 of this Code or on the Professional Educator
6 License shall continue to be able to serve in any
7 position previously allowed under paragraph (2) of
8 subsection (e) of Section 21-7.1 of this Code.

9 The general administrative endorsement on the
10 Professional Educator License is available only to
11 individuals who, prior to September 1, 2014, had such
12 an endorsement on the administrative certificate
13 issued pursuant to Section 21-7.1 of this Code or who
14 already have a Professional Educator License and have
15 completed a general administrative program and who do
16 not choose to convert the general administrative
17 endorsement to a principal endorsement pursuant to the
18 options in this Section.

19 (B) Principal endorsement. A principal endorsement
20 shall be affixed to a Professional Educator License of
21 any holder who qualifies by having all of the
22 following:

23 (i) Successful completion of a principal
24 preparation program approved in accordance with
25 Section 21B-60 of this Code and any applicable
26 rules.

1 (ii) At least 4 total years of teaching or,
2 until June 30, 2019, working in the capacity of
3 school support personnel in an Illinois public
4 school or nonpublic school recognized by the State
5 Board of Education or in an out-of-state public
6 school or out-of-state nonpublic school meeting
7 out-of-state recognition standards comparable to
8 those approved by the State Superintendent of
9 Education; however, the State Board of Education,
10 in consultation with the State Educator
11 Preparation and Licensure Board, shall allow, by
12 rules, for fewer than 4 years of experience based
13 on meeting standards set forth in such rules,
14 including without limitation a review of
15 performance evaluations or other evidence of
16 demonstrated qualifications.

17 (iii) A master's degree or higher from a
18 regionally accredited college or university.

19 (C) Chief school business official endorsement. A
20 chief school business official endorsement shall be
21 affixed to the Professional Educator License of any
22 holder who qualifies by having a master's degree or
23 higher, 2 years of full-time administrative experience
24 in school business management or 2 years of
25 university-approved practical experience, and a
26 minimum of 24 semester hours of graduate credit in a

1 program approved by the State Board of Education for
2 the preparation of school business administrators and
3 by passage of the applicable State tests. The chief
4 school business official endorsement may also be
5 affixed to the Professional Educator License of any
6 holder who qualifies by having a master's degree in
7 business administration, finance, or accounting and
8 who completes an additional 6 semester hours of
9 internship in school business management from a
10 regionally accredited institution of higher education
11 and passes the applicable State tests. This
12 endorsement shall be required for any individual
13 employed as a chief school business official.

14 (D) Superintendent endorsement. A superintendent
15 endorsement shall be affixed to the Professional
16 Educator License of any holder who has completed a
17 program approved by the State Board of Education for
18 the preparation of superintendents of schools, has had
19 at least 2 years of experience employed full-time in a
20 general administrative position or as a full-time
21 principal, director of special education, or chief
22 school business official in the public schools or in a
23 State-recognized nonpublic school in which the chief
24 administrator is required to have the licensure
25 necessary to be a principal in a public school in this
26 State and where a majority of the teachers are required

1 to have the licensure necessary to be instructors in a
2 public school in this State, and has passed the
3 required State tests; or of any holder who has
4 completed a program that is not an Illinois-approved
5 educator preparation program at an Illinois
6 institution of higher education and that has
7 recognition standards comparable to those approved by
8 the State Superintendent of Education and holds the
9 general administrative, principal, or chief school
10 business official endorsement and who has had 2 years
11 of experience as a principal, director of special
12 education, or chief school business official while
13 holding a valid educator license or certificate
14 comparable in validity and educational and experience
15 requirements and has passed the appropriate State
16 tests, as provided in Section 21B-30 of this Code. The
17 superintendent endorsement shall allow individuals to
18 serve only as a superintendent or assistant
19 superintendent.

20 (E) Teacher leader endorsement. It shall be the
21 policy of this State to improve the quality of
22 instructional leaders by providing a career pathway
23 for teachers interested in serving in leadership
24 roles, but not as principals. The State Board of
25 Education, in consultation with the State Educator
26 Preparation and Licensure Board, may issue a teacher

1 leader endorsement under this subdivision (E). Persons
2 who meet and successfully complete the requirements of
3 the endorsement shall be issued a teacher leader
4 endorsement on the Professional Educator License for
5 serving in schools in this State. Teacher leaders may
6 qualify to serve in such positions as department
7 chairs, coaches, mentors, curriculum and instruction
8 leaders, or other leadership positions as defined by
9 the district. The endorsement shall be available to
10 those teachers who (i) hold a Professional Educator
11 License, (ii) hold a master's degree or higher from a
12 regionally accredited institution, (iii) have
13 completed a program of study that has been approved by
14 the State Board of Education, in consultation with the
15 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, and
16 (iv) have successfully demonstrated competencies as
17 defined by rule. ~~have taken coursework in all of the~~
18 ~~following areas:~~

19 ~~(I) Leadership.~~

20 ~~(II) Designing professional development to~~
21 ~~meet teaching and learning needs.~~

22 ~~(III) Building school culture that focuses on~~
23 ~~student learning.~~

24 ~~(IV) Using assessments to improve student~~
25 ~~learning and foster school improvement.~~

26 ~~(V) Building collaboration with teachers and~~

1 ~~stakeholders.~~

2 A teacher who meets the requirements set forth in
3 this Section and holds a teacher leader endorsement may
4 evaluate teachers pursuant to Section 24A-5 of this
5 Code, provided that the individual has completed the
6 evaluation component required by Section 24A-3 of this
7 Code and a teacher leader is allowed to evaluate
8 personnel under the respective school district's
9 collective bargaining agreement.

10 The State Board of Education, in consultation with
11 the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board,
12 may adopt such rules as may be necessary to establish
13 and implement the teacher leader endorsement program
14 and to specify the positions for which this endorsement
15 shall be required.

16 (F) Special education endorsement. A special
17 education endorsement in one or more areas shall be
18 affixed to a Professional Educator License for any
19 individual that meets those requirements established
20 by the State Board of Education in rules. Special
21 education endorsement areas shall include without
22 limitation the following:

- 23 (i) Learning Behavior Specialist I;
24 (ii) Learning Behavior Specialist II;
25 (iii) Speech Language Pathologist;
26 (iv) Blind or Visually Impaired;

1 (v) Deaf-Hard of Hearing; and

2 (vi) Early Childhood Special Education.

3 Notwithstanding anything in this Code to the contrary,
4 the State Board of Education, in consultation with the
5 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, may
6 add additional areas of special education by rule.

7 (G) School support personnel endorsement. School
8 support personnel endorsement areas shall include, but
9 are not limited to, school counselor, marriage and
10 family therapist, school psychologist, school speech
11 and language pathologist, school nurse, and school
12 social worker. This endorsement is for individuals who
13 are not teachers or administrators, but still require
14 licensure to work in an instructional support position
15 in a public or State-operated elementary school,
16 secondary school, or cooperative or joint agreement
17 with a governing body or board of control or a charter
18 school operating in compliance with the Charter
19 Schools Law. The school support personnel endorsement
20 shall be affixed to the Professional Educator License
21 and shall meet all of the requirements established in
22 any rules adopted to implement this subdivision (G).
23 The holder of such an endorsement is entitled to all of
24 the rights and privileges granted holders of any other
25 Professional Educator License, including teacher
26 benefits, compensation, and working conditions.

Beginning on January 1, 2014 and ending on April 30, 2014, a person holding a Professional Educator License with a school speech and language pathologist (teaching) endorsement may exchange his or her school speech and language pathologist (teaching) endorsement for a school speech and language pathologist (non-teaching) endorsement through application to the State Board of Education. There shall be no cost for this exchange.

(Source: P.A. 98-413, eff. 8-16-13; 98-610, eff. 12-27-13; 98-872, eff. 8-11-14; 98-917, eff. 8-15-14; 98-1147, eff. 12-31-14; 99-58, eff. 7-16-15.)

(105 ILCS 5/21B-30)

Sec. 21B-30. Educator testing.

(a) This Section applies beginning on July 1, 2012.

(b) The State Board of Education, in consultation with the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, shall design and implement a system of examinations, which shall be required prior to the issuance of educator licenses. These examinations and indicators must be based on national and State professional teaching standards, as determined by the State Board of Education, in consultation with the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board. The State Board of Education may adopt such rules as may be necessary to implement and administer this Section. ~~No score on a test required under this Section, other~~

1 ~~than a test of basic skills, shall be more than 10 years old at~~
2 ~~the time that an individual makes application for an educator~~
3 ~~license or endorsement.~~

4 (c) Applicants seeking a Professional Educator License or
5 an Educator License with Stipulations shall be required to pass
6 a test of basic skills before the license is issued, unless the
7 endorsement the individual is seeking does not require passage
8 of the test. All applicants completing Illinois-approved,
9 teacher education or school service personnel preparation
10 programs shall be required to pass the State Board of
11 Education's recognized test of basic skills prior to starting
12 their student teaching or starting the final semester of their
13 internship, unless required earlier at the discretion of the
14 recognized, Illinois institution in which they are completing
15 their approved program. An individual who passes a test of
16 basic skills does not need to do so again for subsequent
17 endorsements or other educator licenses.

18 (d) All applicants seeking a State license shall be
19 required to pass a test of content area knowledge for each area
20 of endorsement for which there is an applicable test. There
21 shall be no exception to this requirement. No candidate shall
22 be allowed to student teach or serve as the teacher of record
23 until he or she has passed the applicable content area test.

24 (e) (Blank). ~~All applicants seeking a State license~~
25 ~~endorsed in a teaching field shall pass the assessment of~~
26 ~~professional teaching (APT). Passage of the APT is required for~~

1 ~~completion of an approved Illinois educator preparation~~
2 ~~program.~~

3 (f) Beginning on September 1, 2015, all candidates
4 completing teacher preparation programs in this State and all
5 candidates subject to Section 21B-35 of this Code are required
6 to pass an evidence-based assessment of teacher effectiveness
7 approved by the State Board of Education, in consultation with
8 the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board. All
9 recognized institutions offering approved teacher preparation
10 programs must begin phasing in the approved teacher performance
11 assessment no later than July 1, 2013.

12 (g) Tests of basic skills and content area knowledge and
13 the assessment of professional teaching shall be the tests that
14 from time to time are designated by the State Board of
15 Education, in consultation with the State Educator Preparation
16 and Licensure Board, and may be tests prepared by an
17 educational testing organization or tests designed by the State
18 Board of Education, in consultation with the State Educator
19 Preparation and Licensure Board. The areas to be covered by a
20 test of basic skills shall include reading, language arts, and
21 mathematics. The test of content area knowledge shall assess
22 content knowledge in a specific subject field. The tests must
23 be designed to be racially neutral to ensure that no person
24 taking the tests is discriminated against on the basis of race,
25 color, national origin, or other factors unrelated to the
26 person's ability to perform as a licensed employee. The score

1 required to pass the tests shall be fixed by the State Board of
2 Education, in consultation with the State Educator Preparation
3 and Licensure Board. The tests shall be administered not fewer
4 than 3 times a year at such time and place as may be designated
5 by the State Board of Education, in consultation with the State
6 Educator Preparation and Licensure Board.

7 The State Board shall implement a test or tests to assess
8 the speaking, reading, writing, and grammar skills of
9 applicants for an endorsement or a license issued under
10 subdivision (G) of paragraph (2) of Section 21B-20 of this Code
11 in the English language and in the language of the transitional
12 bilingual education program requested by the applicant.

13 (h) Except as provided in Section 34-6 of this Code, the
14 provisions of this Section shall apply equally in any school
15 district subject to Article 34 of this Code.

16 (i) The rules developed to implement and enforce the
17 testing requirements under this Section shall include without
18 limitation provisions governing test selection, test
19 validation and determination of a passing score,
20 administration of the tests, frequency of administration,
21 applicant fees, frequency of applicants taking the tests, the
22 years for which a score is valid, and appropriate special
23 accommodations. The State Board of Education shall develop such
24 rules as may be needed to ensure uniformity from year to year
25 in the level of difficulty for each form of an assessment.

26 (Source: P.A. 98-361, eff. 1-1-14; 98-581, eff. 8-27-13;

98-756, eff. 7-16-14; 99-58, eff. 7-16-15.)

(105 ILCS 5/21B-35)

Sec. 21B-35. Minimum requirements for educators trained in other states or countries.

(a) All applicants who have not been entitled by an Illinois-approved educator preparation program at an Illinois institution of higher education applying for a Professional Educator License endorsed in a teaching field or school support personnel area must meet all of the following requirements:

(1) Hold a comparable and valid educator license or certificate with similar grade level and subject matter credentials from another state. The State Board of Education shall have the authority to determine what constitutes similar grade level and subject matter credentials from another state. ~~Have completed a comparable state approved education program, as defined by the State Superintendent of Education.~~

(2) Have a degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education and the degreed major or a constructed major must directly correspond to the license or endorsement sought.

(3) (Blank). ~~Teachers and school support personnel who have not been entitled by an Illinois-approved educator preparation program at an Illinois institution of higher education shall meet the same requirements concerning~~

~~courses in the methods of instruction of the exceptional child as candidates entitled by an Illinois approved educator preparation program in teaching and school support personnel areas, as defined by rules.~~

~~(4) (Blank). Teachers and school support personnel who have not been entitled by an Illinois approved educator preparation program at an Illinois institution of higher education shall meet the same requirements concerning coursework in methods of reading and reading in the content area as candidates entitled by an Illinois approved educator preparation program in teaching and school support personnel areas, as defined by rules.~~

~~(5) (Blank). Teachers and school support personnel who have not been entitled by an Illinois approved educator preparation program at an Illinois institution of higher education shall meet the same requirements concerning courses in instructional strategies for English language learners as candidates entitled by an Illinois approved educator preparation program in teaching and school support personnel areas, as defined by rules.~~

(6) Have successfully met all Illinois examination requirements. Applicants who have successfully completed a test of basic skills, as defined by rules, at the time of initial licensure in another state shall not be required to complete a test of basic skills. Applicants who have successfully completed a test of content, as defined by

1 rules, at the time of initial licensure in another state
2 shall not be required to complete a test of content.

3 Applicants for a teaching endorsement who have
4 successfully completed an evidence-based assessment of
5 teacher effectiveness, as defined by rules, at the time of
6 initial licensure in another state shall not be required to
7 complete an evidence-based assessment of teacher
8 effectiveness.

9 (7) For applicants for a teaching endorsement, have
10 completed student teaching or an equivalent experience or,
11 for applicants for a school service personnel endorsement,
12 have completed an internship or an equivalent experience.

13 ~~Teachers and school support personnel who have not been~~
14 ~~entitled by an Illinois approved educator preparation program~~
15 ~~at an Illinois institution of higher education must submit~~
16 ~~verification to the State Board of Education of having~~
17 ~~completed coursework as required under items (3), (4), and (5)~~
18 ~~of this subsection (a) prior to issuance of a Professional~~
19 ~~Educator License. An individual who is not able to verify~~
20 ~~completion of the coursework as required under items (3), (4),~~
21 ~~and (5) of this subsection (a) may qualify for an Educator~~
22 ~~License with Stipulations with a provisional educator~~
23 ~~endorsement and must complete coursework in those areas~~
24 ~~identified as deficient.~~

25 If one or more of the criteria in this subsection (a) are
26 not met, then applicants who have not been entitled by an

1 Illinois-approved educator preparation program at an Illinois
2 institution of higher education who hold a valid, comparable
3 certificate from another state may qualify for a provisional
4 educator endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations,
5 in accordance with Section 21B-20 of this Code.

6 (b) In order to receive a Professional Educator License
7 endorsed in a teaching field, applicants trained in another
8 country must meet all of the following requirements:

9 (1) Have completed a comparable education program in
10 another country.

11 (2) Have had transcripts evaluated by an evaluation
12 service approved by the State Superintendent of Education.

13 (3) Hold a degreed major that must directly correspond
14 to the license or endorsement sought.

15 (4) (Blank). ~~Have completed coursework in the methods~~
16 ~~of instruction of the exceptional child.~~

17 (5) (Blank). ~~Have completed coursework in methods of~~
18 ~~reading and reading in the content area.~~

19 (6) (Blank). ~~Have completed coursework in~~
20 ~~instructional strategies for English learners.~~

21 (7) Have successfully met all State licensure
22 examination requirements. Applicants who have successfully
23 completed a test of basic skills, as defined by rules, at
24 the time of initial licensure in another country shall not
25 be required to complete a test of basic skills. Applicants
26 who have successfully completed a test of content, as

1 defined by rules, at the time of initial licensure in
2 another country shall not be required to complete a test of
3 content. Applicants for a teaching endorsement who have
4 successfully completed an evidence-based assessment of
5 teacher effectiveness, as defined by rules, at the time of
6 initial licensure in another country shall not be required
7 to complete an evidence-based assessment of teacher
8 effectiveness.

9 (8) Have completed student teaching or an equivalent
10 experience.

11 ~~Applicants trained in another country must submit~~
12 ~~verification to the State Board of Education of having~~
13 ~~completed coursework as required under items (4), (5), and (6)~~
14 ~~of this subsection (b) prior to issuance of a Professional~~
15 ~~Educator License. Individuals who are not able to verify~~
16 ~~completion of the coursework as required under items (4), (5),~~
17 ~~and (6) of this subsection (b) may qualify for an Educator~~
18 ~~License with Stipulations with a provisional educator~~
19 ~~endorsement and must complete coursework in those areas~~
20 ~~identified as deficient.~~

21 ~~If one or more of the criteria in this subsection (b) are~~
22 ~~not met, then an applicant trained in another country may~~
23 ~~qualify for a provisional educator endorsement on an Educator~~
24 ~~License with Stipulations in accordance with Section 21B-20 of~~
25 ~~this Code.~~

26 (b-5) All applicants who have not been entitled by an

1 Illinois-approved educator preparation program at an Illinois
2 institution of higher education and applicants trained in
3 another country applying for a Professional Educator License
4 endorsed for principal or superintendent must meet all of the
5 following requirements:

6 (1) Have completed an educator preparation program
7 approved by another state or comparable educator program in
8 another country leading to the receipt of a license or
9 certificate for the Illinois endorsement sought.

10 (2) Have successfully met all State licensure
11 examination requirements, as required by Section 21B-30 of
12 this Code. Applicants who have successfully completed a
13 test of basic skills, as defined by rules, at the time of
14 initial licensure in another state or country shall not be
15 required to complete a test of basic skills. Applicants who
16 have successfully completed a test of content, as defined
17 by rules, at the time of initial licensure in another state
18 or country shall not be required to complete a test of
19 content.

20 (3) (Blank). ~~Have received a certificate or license~~
21 ~~endorsed in a teaching field.~~

22 A provisional educator endorsement to serve as a
23 superintendent or principal may be affixed to an Educator
24 License with Stipulations in accordance with Section 21B-20 of
25 this Code.

26 (b-10) All applicants who have not been entitled by an

1 Illinois-approved educator preparation program at an Illinois
2 institution of higher education applying for a Professional
3 Educator License endorsed for chief school business official
4 must meet all of the following requirements:

5 (1) Have completed a master's degree in school business
6 management, finance, or accounting.

7 (2) Have successfully completed an internship in
8 school business management or have 2 years of experience as
9 a school business administrator.

10 (3) Have successfully met all State examination
11 requirements, as required by Section 21B-30 of this Code.

12 (4) Have successfully completed modules in reading
13 methods, special education, and English Learners.

14 A provisional educator endorsement to serve as a chief
15 school business official may be affixed to an Educator License
16 with Stipulations.

17 (c) The State Board of Education, in consultation with the
18 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, may adopt such
19 rules as may be necessary to implement this Section.

20 (Source: P.A. 98-581, eff. 8-27-13; 99-58, eff. 7-16-15.)

21 (105 ILCS 5/21B-40)

22 Sec. 21B-40. Fees.

23 (a) Beginning with the start of the new licensure system
24 established pursuant to this Article, the following fees shall
25 be charged to applicants:

1 (1) A \$75 application fee for a Professional Educator
2 License or an Educator License with Stipulations ~~and for~~
3 ~~individuals seeking a Substitute Teaching License.~~
4 However, beginning on January 1, 2015, the application fee
5 for a Professional Educator License and, Educator License
6 with Stipulations, ~~or Substitute Teaching License~~ shall be
7 \$100.

8 (1.5) A \$50 application fee for a Substitute Teaching
9 License.

10 (2) A \$150 application fee for individuals who have not
11 been entitled by an Illinois-approved educator preparation
12 program at an Illinois institution of higher education and
13 are seeking any of the licenses set forth in subdivision
14 (1) of this subsection (a).

15 (3) A \$50 application fee for each endorsement or
16 approval an individual holding a license wishes to add to
17 that license.

18 (4) A \$10 per year registration fee for the course of
19 the validity cycle to register the license, which shall be
20 paid to the regional office of education having supervision
21 and control over the school in which the individual holding
22 the license is to be employed. If the individual holding
23 the license is not yet employed, then the license may be
24 registered in any county in this State. The registration
25 fee must be paid in its entirety the first time the
26 individual registers the license for a particular validity

1 period in a single region. No additional fee may be charged
2 for that validity period should the individual
3 subsequently register the license in additional regions.
4 An individual must register the license (i) immediately
5 after initial issuance of the license and (ii) at the
6 beginning of each renewal cycle if the individual has
7 satisfied the renewal requirements required under this
8 Code.

9 (b) All application fees paid pursuant to subdivisions (1)
10 through (3) of subsection (a) of this Section shall be
11 deposited into the Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving Fund and
12 shall be used, subject to appropriation, by the State Board of
13 Education to provide the technology and human resources
14 necessary for the timely and efficient processing of
15 applications and for the renewal of licenses. Funds available
16 from the Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving Fund may also be
17 used by the State Board of Education to support the recruitment
18 and retention of educators, to support educator preparation
19 programs as they seek national accreditation, and to provide
20 professional development aligned with the requirements set
21 forth in Section 21B-45 of this Code. A majority of the funds
22 in the Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving Fund must be dedicated
23 to the timely and efficient processing of applications and for
24 the renewal of licenses. The Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving
25 Fund is not subject to administrative charge transfers,
26 authorized under Section 8h of the State Finance Act, from the

1 Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving Fund into any other fund of
2 this State, and moneys in the Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving
3 Fund shall not revert back to the General Revenue Fund at any
4 time.

5 The regional superintendent of schools shall deposit the
6 registration fees paid pursuant to subdivision (4) of
7 subsection (a) of this Section into the institute fund
8 established pursuant to Section 3-11 of this Code.

9 (c) The State Board of Education and each regional office
10 of education are authorized to charge a service or convenience
11 fee for the use of credit cards for the payment of license
12 fees. This service or convenience fee shall not exceed the
13 amount required by the credit card processing company or vendor
14 that has entered into a contract with the State Board or
15 regional office of education for this purpose, and the fee must
16 be paid to that company or vendor.

17 (d) If, at the time a certificate issued under Article 21
18 of this Code is exchanged for a license issued under this
19 Article, a person has paid registration fees for any years of
20 the validity period of the certificate and these years have not
21 expired when the certificate is exchanged, then those fees must
22 be applied to the registration of the new license.

23 (Source: P.A. 98-610, eff. 12-27-13; 99-58, eff. 7-16-15.)

24 (105 ILCS 5/21B-45)

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

1 (a) Individuals holding a Professional Educator License
2 are required to complete the licensure renewal requirements as
3 specified in this Section, unless otherwise provided in this
4 Code.

5 Individuals holding a Professional Educator License shall
6 meet the renewal requirements set forth in this Section, unless
7 otherwise provided in this Code. If an individual holds a
8 license endorsed in more than one area that has different
9 renewal requirements, that individual shall follow the renewal
10 requirements for the position for which he or she spends the
11 majority of his or her time working.

12 (b) All Professional Educator Licenses not renewed as
13 provided in this Section shall lapse on September 1 of that
14 year. Lapsed licenses may be immediately reinstated upon (i)
15 payment by the applicant of a \$500 penalty to the State Board
16 of Education or (ii) the demonstration of proficiency by
17 completing 9 semester hours of coursework from a regionally
18 accredited institution of higher education in the content area
19 that most aligns with one or more of the educator's endorsement
20 areas. Any and all back fees, including without limitation
21 registration fees owed from the time of expiration of the
22 license until the date of reinstatement, shall be paid and kept
23 in accordance with the provisions in Article 3 of this Code
24 concerning an institute fund and the provisions in Article 21B
25 of this Code concerning fees and requirements for registration.
26 Licenses not registered in accordance with Section 21B-40 of

1 this Code shall lapse after a period of 6 months from the
2 expiration of the last year of registration. An unregistered
3 license is invalid after September 1 for employment and
4 performance of services in an Illinois public or State-operated
5 school or cooperative and in a charter school. Any license or
6 endorsement may be voluntarily surrendered by the license
7 holder. A voluntarily surrendered license, except a substitute
8 teaching license issued under Section 21B-20 of this Code,
9 shall be treated as a revoked license. An Educator License with
10 Stipulations with only a paraprofessional endorsement does not
11 lapse.

12 (c) From July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014, in order to
13 satisfy the requirements for licensure renewal provided for in
14 this Section, each professional educator licensee with an
15 administrative endorsement who is working in a position
16 requiring such endorsement shall complete one Illinois
17 Administrators' Academy course, as described in Article 2 of
18 this Code, per fiscal year.

19 (d) Beginning July 1, 2014, in order to satisfy the
20 requirements for licensure renewal provided for in this
21 Section, each professional educator licensee may create a
22 professional development plan each year. The plan shall address
23 one or more of the endorsements that are required of his or her
24 educator position if the licensee is employed and performing
25 services in an Illinois public or State-operated school or
26 cooperative. If the licensee is employed in a charter school,

1 the plan shall address that endorsement or those endorsements
2 most closely related to his or her educator position. Licensees
3 employed and performing services in any other Illinois schools
4 may participate in the renewal requirements by adhering to the
5 same process.

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

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

13 (2) professional development aligns to the licensee's
14 performance;

15 (3) outcomes for the activities must relate to student
16 growth or district improvement;

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

18 (5) higher education coursework.

19 (e) For each renewal cycle, each professional educator
20 licensee shall engage in professional development activities.
21 Prior to renewal, the licensee shall enter electronically into
22 the Educator Licensure Information System (ELIS) the name,
23 date, and location of the activity, the number of professional
24 development hours, and the provider's name. The following
25 provisions shall apply concerning professional development
26 activities:

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

5 (2) Beginning with his or her first full 5-year cycle,
6 any licensee with an administrative endorsement who is not
7 working in a position requiring such endorsement shall
8 complete one Illinois Administrators' Academy course, as
9 described in Article 2 of this Code, in each 5-year renewal
10 cycle in which the administrative endorsement was held for
11 at least one year. The Illinois Administrators' Academy
12 course may count toward the total of 120 hours per 5-year
13 cycle.

14 (3) Any licensee with an administrative endorsement
15 who is working in a position requiring such endorsement or
16 an individual with a Teacher Leader endorsement serving in
17 an administrative capacity at least 50% of the day shall
18 complete one Illinois Administrators' Academy course, as
19 described in Article 2 of this Code, each fiscal year in
20 addition to 100 hours of professional development per
21 5-year renewal cycle in accordance with this Code.

22 (4) Any licensee holding a current National Board for
23 Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) master teacher
24 designation shall complete a total of 60 hours of
25 professional development per 5-year renewal cycle in order
26 to renew the license.

1 (5) Licensees working in a position that does not
2 require educator licensure or working in a position for
3 less than 50% for any particular year are considered to be
4 exempt and shall be required to pay only the registration
5 fee in order to renew and maintain the validity of the
6 license.

7 (6) Licensees who are retired and qualify for benefits
8 from a State retirement system shall notify the State Board
9 of Education using ELIS, and the license shall be
10 maintained in retired status. For any renewal cycle in
11 which a licensee retires during the renewal cycle, the
12 licensee must complete professional development activities
13 on a prorated basis depending on the number of years during
14 the renewal cycle the educator held an active license. If a
15 licensee retires during a renewal cycle, the licensee must
16 notify the State Board of Education using ELIS that the
17 licensee wishes to maintain the license in retired status
18 and must show proof of completion of professional
19 development activities on a prorated basis for all years of
20 that renewal cycle for which the license was active. An
21 individual with a license in retired status shall not be
22 required to complete professional development activities
23 or pay registration fees until returning to a position that
24 requires educator licensure. Upon returning to work in a
25 position that requires the Professional Educator License,
26 the licensee shall immediately pay a registration fee and

1 complete renewal requirements for that year. A license in
2 retired status cannot lapse. Beginning on the effective
3 date of this amendatory Act of the 99th General Assembly
4 through December 31, 2017, any licensee who has retired and
5 whose license has lapsed for failure to renew as provided
6 in this Section may reinstate that license and maintain it
7 in retired status upon providing proof to the State Board
8 of Education using ELIS that the licensee is retired and is
9 not working in a position that requires a Professional
10 Educator License.

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

23 (8) Any licensee who has not fulfilled the professional
24 development renewal requirements set forth in this Section
25 at the end of any 5-year renewal cycle is ineligible to
26 register his or her license and may submit an appeal to the

1 State Superintendent of Education for reinstatement of the
2 license.

3 (9) If professional development opportunities were
4 unavailable to a licensee, proof that opportunities were
5 unavailable and request for an extension of time beyond
6 August 31 to complete the renewal requirements may be
7 submitted from April 1 through June 30 of that year to the
8 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board. If an
9 extension is approved, the license shall remain valid
10 during the extension period.

11 (10) Individuals who hold exempt licenses prior to
12 December 27, 2013 (the effective date of Public Act 98-610)
13 ~~this amendatory Act of the 98th General Assembly~~ shall
14 commence the annual renewal process with the first
15 scheduled registration due after December 27, 2013 (the
16 effective date of Public Act 98-610) ~~this amendatory Act of~~
17 ~~the 98th General Assembly~~.

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

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

23 (1) The State Board of Education.

24 (2) Regional offices of education and intermediate
25 service centers.

26 (3) Illinois professional associations representing

1 the following groups that are approved by the State
2 Superintendent of Education:

3 (A) school administrators;

4 (B) principals;

5 (C) school business officials;

6 (D) teachers, including special education
7 teachers;

8 (E) school boards;

9 (F) school districts;

10 (G) parents; and

11 (H) school service personnel.

12 (4) Regionally accredited institutions of higher
13 education that offer Illinois-approved educator
14 preparation programs and public community colleges subject
15 to the Public Community College Act.

16 (5) Illinois public school districts, charter schools
17 authorized under Article 27A of this Code, and joint
18 educational programs authorized under Article 10 of this
19 Code for the purposes of providing career and technical
20 education or special education services.

21 (6) A not-for-profit organization that, as of December
22 31, 2014 (the effective date of Public Act 98-1147) ~~this~~
23 ~~amendatory Act of the 98th General Assembly~~, has had or has
24 a grant from or a contract with the State Board of
25 Education to provide professional development services in
26 the area of English Learning to Illinois school districts,

1 teachers, or administrators.

2 (7) State agencies, State boards, and State
3 commissions.

4 (8) ~~(7)~~ Museums as defined in Section 10 of the Museum
5 Disposition of Property Act.

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

9 (1) increase the knowledge and skills of school and
10 district leaders who guide continuous professional
11 development;

12 (2) improve the learning of students;

13 (3) organize adults into learning communities whose
14 goals are aligned with those of the school and district;

15 (4) deepen educator's content knowledge;

16 (5) provide educators with research-based
17 instructional strategies to assist students in meeting
18 rigorous academic standards;

19 (6) prepare educators to appropriately use various
20 types of classroom assessments;

21 (7) use learning strategies appropriate to the
22 intended goals;

23 (8) provide educators with the knowledge and skills to
24 collaborate; or

25 (9) prepare educators to apply research to
26 decision-making.

1 (i) Approved providers under subsection (g) of this Section
2 shall do the following:

3 (1) align professional development activities to the
4 State-approved national standards for professional
5 learning;

6 (2) meet the professional development criteria for
7 Illinois licensure renewal;

8 (3) produce a rationale for the activity that explains
9 how it aligns to State standards and identify the
10 assessment for determining the expected impact on student
11 learning or school improvement;

12 (4) maintain original documentation for completion of
13 activities; and

14 (5) provide license holders with evidence of
15 completion of activities.

16 (j) The State Board of Education shall conduct annual
17 audits of approved providers, except for school districts,
18 which shall be audited by regional offices of education and
19 intermediate service centers. The State Board of Education
20 shall complete random audits of licensees.

21 (1) Approved providers shall annually submit to the
22 State Board of Education a list of subcontractors used for
23 delivery of professional development activities for which
24 renewal credit was issued and other information as defined
25 by rule.

26 (2) Approved providers shall annually submit data to

1 the State Board of Education demonstrating how the
2 professional development activities impacted one or more
3 of the following:

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

6 (B) educator and student social and emotional
7 growth; or

8 (C) alignment to district or school improvement
9 plans.

10 (3) The State Superintendent of Education shall review
11 the annual data collected by the State Board of Education,
12 regional offices of education, and intermediate service
13 centers in audits to determine if the approved provider has
14 met the criteria and should continue to be an approved
15 provider or if further action should be taken as provided
16 in rules.

17 (k) Registration fees shall be paid for the next renewal
18 cycle between April 1 and June 30 in the last year of each
19 5-year renewal cycle using ELIS. If all required professional
20 development hours for the renewal cycle have been completed and
21 entered by the licensee, the licensee shall pay the
22 registration fees for the next cycle using a form of credit or
23 debit card.

24 (l) Beginning July 1, 2014, any professional educator
25 licensee endorsed for school support personnel who is employed
26 and performing services in Illinois public schools and who

1 holds an active and current professional license issued by the
2 Department of Financial and Professional Regulation related to
3 the endorsement areas on the Professional Educator License
4 shall be deemed to have satisfied the continuing professional
5 development requirements provided for in this Section. Such
6 individuals shall be required to pay only registration fees to
7 renew the Professional Educator License. An individual who does
8 not hold a license issued by the Department of Financial and
9 Professional Regulation shall complete professional
10 development requirements for the renewal of a Professional
11 Educator License provided for in this Section.

12 (m) Appeals to the State Educator Preparation and Licensure
13 Board must be made within 30 days after receipt of notice from
14 the State Superintendent of Education that a license will not
15 be renewed based upon failure to complete the requirements of
16 this Section. A licensee may appeal that decision to the State
17 Educator Preparation and Licensure Board in a manner prescribed
18 by rule.

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

23 (2) The State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board
24 shall review each appeal regarding renewal of a license
25 within 90 days after receiving the appeal in order to
26 determine whether the licensee has met the requirements of

1 this Section. The State Educator Preparation and Licensure
2 Board may hold an appeal hearing or may make its
3 determination based upon the record of review, which shall
4 consist of the following:

5 (A) the regional superintendent of education's
6 rationale for recommending nonrenewal of the license,
7 if applicable;

8 (B) any evidence submitted to the State
9 Superintendent along with the individual's electronic
10 statement of assurance for renewal; and

11 (C) the State Superintendent's rationale for
12 nonrenewal of the license.

13 (3) The State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board
14 shall notify the licensee of its decision regarding license
15 renewal by certified mail, return receipt requested, no
16 later than 30 days after reaching a decision. Upon receipt
17 of notification of renewal, the licensee, using ELIS, shall
18 pay the applicable registration fee for the next cycle
19 using a form of credit or debit card.

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

22 (Source: P.A. 98-610, eff. 12-27-13; 98-1147, eff. 12-31-14;
23 99-58, eff. 7-16-15; 99-130, eff. 7-24-15; revised 10-21-15.)