

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 Substitute Teaching License must hold a bachelor's degree  
26 or higher from a regionally accredited institution of

1 higher education.

2 Substitute Teaching Licenses are valid for 5 years ~~and~~  
3 ~~may be renewed if the individual has passed a test of basic~~  
4 ~~skills, as authorized under Section 21B-30 of this Code. An~~  
5 ~~individual who has passed a test of basic skills for the~~  
6 ~~first licensure renewal is not required to retake the test~~  
7 ~~again for further renewals.~~

8 Substitute Teaching Licenses are valid for substitute  
9 teaching in every county of this State. If an individual  
10 has had his or her Professional Educator License or  
11 Educator License with Stipulations suspended or revoked or  
12 has not met the renewal requirements for licensure, then  
13 that individual is not eligible to obtain a Substitute  
14 Teaching License.

15 A substitute teacher may only teach in the place of a  
16 licensed teacher who is under contract with the employing  
17 board. If, however, there is no licensed teacher under  
18 contract because of an emergency situation, then a district  
19 may employ a substitute teacher for no longer than 30  
20 calendar days per each vacant position in the district if  
21 the district notifies the appropriate regional office of  
22 education within 5 business days after the employment of  
23 the substitute teacher in the emergency situation. An  
24 emergency situation is one in which an unforeseen vacancy  
25 has occurred and (i) a teacher is unable to fulfill his or  
26 her contractual duties or (ii) teacher capacity needs of

1 the district exceed previous indications, and the district  
2 is actively engaged in advertising to hire a fully licensed  
3 teacher for the vacant position.

4 There is no limit on the number of days that a  
5 substitute teacher may teach in a single school district,  
6 provided that no substitute teacher may teach for longer  
7 than 90 school days for any one licensed teacher under  
8 contract in the same school year. A substitute teacher who  
9 holds a Professional Educator License or Educator License  
10 with Stipulations shall not teach for more than 120 school  
11 days for any one licensed teacher under contract in the  
12 same school year. The limitations in this paragraph (3) on  
13 the number of days a substitute teacher may be employed do  
14 not apply to any school district operating under Article 34  
15 of this Code.

16 (Source: P.A. 98-28, eff. 7-1-13; 98-751, eff. 1-1-15; 99-35,  
17 eff. 1-1-16; 99-58, eff. 7-16-15; 99-143, eff. 7-27-15; revised  
18 10-14-15.)

19 (105 ILCS 5/21B-25)

20 Sec. 21B-25. Endorsement on licenses. All licenses issued  
21 under paragraph (1) of Section 21B-20 of this Code shall be  
22 specifically endorsed by the State Board of Education for each  
23 content area, school support area, and administrative area for  
24 which the holder of the license is qualified. Recognized  
25 institutions approved to offer educator preparation programs

1 shall be trained to add endorsements to licenses issued to  
2 applicants who meet all of the requirements for the endorsement  
3 or endorsements, including passing any required tests. The  
4 State Superintendent of Education shall randomly audit  
5 institutions to ensure that all rules and standards are being  
6 followed for entitlement or when endorsements are being  
7 recommended.

8 (1) The State Board of Education, in consultation with  
9 the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, shall  
10 establish, by rule, the grade level and subject area  
11 endorsements to be added to the Professional Educator  
12 License. These rules shall outline the requirements for  
13 obtaining each endorsement.

14 (2) In addition to any and all grade level and content  
15 area endorsements developed by rule, the State Board of  
16 Education, in consultation with the State Educator  
17 Preparation and Licensure Board, shall develop the  
18 requirements for the following endorsements:

19 (A) General administrative endorsement. A general  
20 administrative endorsement shall be added to a  
21 Professional Educator License, provided that an  
22 approved program has been completed. An individual  
23 holding a general administrative endorsement may work  
24 only as a principal or assistant principal or in a  
25 related or similar position, as determined by the State  
26 Superintendent of Education, in consultation with the

1 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board.

2 Beginning on September 1, 2014, the general  
3 administrative endorsement shall no longer be issued  
4 except to individuals who completed all coursework  
5 requirements for the receipt of the general  
6 administrative endorsement by September 1, 2014, who  
7 have completed all testing requirements by June 30,  
8 2016, and who apply for the endorsement on or before  
9 June 30, 2016. Individuals who hold a valid and  
10 registered administrative certificate with a general  
11 administrative endorsement issued under Section 21-7.1  
12 of this Code or a Professional Educator License with a  
13 general administrative endorsement issued prior to  
14 September 1, 2014 and who have served for at least one  
15 full year during the 5 years prior in a position  
16 requiring a general administrative endorsement shall,  
17 upon request to the State Board of Education and  
18 through July 1, 2015, have their respective general  
19 administrative endorsement converted to a principal  
20 endorsement on the Professional Educator License.  
21 Candidates shall not be admitted to an approved general  
22 administrative preparation program after September 1,  
23 2012.

24 All other individuals holding a valid and  
25 registered administrative certificate with a general  
26 administrative endorsement issued pursuant to Section

1           21-7.1 of this Code or a general administrative  
2           endorsement on a Professional Educator License issued  
3           prior to September 1, 2014 shall have the general  
4           administrative endorsement converted to a principal  
5           endorsement on a Professional Educator License upon  
6           request to the State Board of Education and by  
7           completing one of the following pathways:

8                   (i) Passage of the State principal assessment  
9                   developed by the State Board of Education.

10                   (ii) Through July 1, 2019, completion of an  
11                   Illinois Educators' Academy course designated by  
12                   the State Superintendent of Education.

13                   (iii) Completion of a principal preparation  
14                   program established and approved pursuant to  
15                   Section 21B-60 of this Code and applicable rules.

16           Individuals who do not choose to convert the  
17           general administrative endorsement on the  
18           administrative certificate issued pursuant to Section  
19           21-7.1 of this Code or on the Professional Educator  
20           License shall continue to be able to serve in any  
21           position previously allowed under paragraph (2) of  
22           subsection (e) of Section 21-7.1 of this Code.

23           The general administrative endorsement on the  
24           Professional Educator License is available only to  
25           individuals who, prior to September 1, 2014, had such  
26           an endorsement on the administrative certificate

1 issued pursuant to Section 21-7.1 of this Code or who  
2 already have a Professional Educator License and have  
3 completed a general administrative program and who do  
4 not choose to convert the general administrative  
5 endorsement to a principal endorsement pursuant to the  
6 options in this Section.

7 (B) Principal endorsement. A principal endorsement  
8 shall be affixed to a Professional Educator License of  
9 any holder who qualifies by having all of the  
10 following:

11 (i) Successful completion of a principal  
12 preparation program approved in accordance with  
13 Section 21B-60 of this Code and any applicable  
14 rules.

15 (ii) At least 4 total years of teaching or,  
16 until June 30, 2019, working in the capacity of  
17 school support personnel in an Illinois public  
18 school or nonpublic school recognized by the State  
19 Board of Education or in an out-of-state public  
20 school or out-of-state nonpublic school meeting  
21 out-of-state recognition standards comparable to  
22 those approved by the State Superintendent of  
23 Education; however, the State Board of Education,  
24 in consultation with the State Educator  
25 Preparation and Licensure Board, shall allow, by  
26 rules, for fewer than 4 years of experience based

1 on meeting standards set forth in such rules,  
2 including without limitation a review of  
3 performance evaluations or other evidence of  
4 demonstrated qualifications.

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

7 (C) Chief school business official endorsement. A  
8 chief school business official endorsement shall be  
9 affixed to the Professional Educator License of any  
10 holder who qualifies by having a master's degree or  
11 higher, 2 years of full-time administrative experience  
12 in school business management or 2 years of  
13 university-approved practical experience, and a  
14 minimum of 24 semester hours of graduate credit in a  
15 program approved by the State Board of Education for  
16 the preparation of school business administrators and  
17 by passage of the applicable State tests. The chief  
18 school business official endorsement may also be  
19 affixed to the Professional Educator License of any  
20 holder who qualifies by having a master's degree in  
21 business administration, finance, or accounting and  
22 who completes an additional 6 semester hours of  
23 internship in school business management from a  
24 regionally accredited institution of higher education  
25 and passes the applicable State tests. This  
26 endorsement shall be required for any individual



1 employed as a chief school business official.

2 (D) Superintendent endorsement. A superintendent  
3 endorsement shall be affixed to the Professional  
4 Educator License of any holder who has completed a  
5 program approved by the State Board of Education for  
6 the preparation of superintendents of schools, has had  
7 at least 2 years of experience employed full-time in a  
8 general administrative position or as a full-time  
9 principal, director of special education, or chief  
10 school business official in the public schools or in a  
11 State-recognized nonpublic school in which the chief  
12 administrator is required to have the licensure  
13 necessary to be a principal in a public school in this  
14 State and where a majority of the teachers are required  
15 to have the licensure necessary to be instructors in a  
16 public school in this State, and has passed the  
17 required State tests; or of any holder who has  
18 completed a program that is not an Illinois-approved  
19 educator preparation program at an Illinois  
20 institution of higher education and that has  
21 recognition standards comparable to those approved by  
22 the State Superintendent of Education and holds the  
23 general administrative, principal, or chief school  
24 business official endorsement and who has had 2 years  
25 of experience as a principal, director of special  
26 education, or chief school business official while

1 holding a valid educator license or certificate  
2 comparable in validity and educational and experience  
3 requirements and has passed the appropriate State  
4 tests, as provided in Section 21B-30 of this Code. The  
5 superintendent endorsement shall allow individuals to  
6 serve only as a superintendent or assistant  
7 superintendent.

8 (E) Teacher leader endorsement. It shall be the  
9 policy of this State to improve the quality of  
10 instructional leaders by providing a career pathway  
11 for teachers interested in serving in leadership  
12 roles, but not as principals. The State Board of  
13 Education, in consultation with the State Educator  
14 Preparation and Licensure Board, may issue a teacher  
15 leader endorsement under this subdivision (E). Persons  
16 who meet and successfully complete the requirements of  
17 the endorsement shall be issued a teacher leader  
18 endorsement on the Professional Educator License for  
19 serving in schools in this State. Teacher leaders may  
20 qualify to serve in such positions as department  
21 chairs, coaches, mentors, curriculum and instruction  
22 leaders, or other leadership positions as defined by  
23 the district. The endorsement shall be available to  
24 those teachers who (i) hold a Professional Educator  
25 License, (ii) hold a master's degree or higher from a  
26 regionally accredited institution, (iii) have

1 completed a program of study that has been approved by  
2 the State Board of Education, in consultation with the  
3 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, and  
4 (iv) have successfully demonstrated competencies as  
5 defined by rule. ~~have taken coursework in all of the~~  
6 ~~following areas:~~

7 ~~(I) Leadership.~~

8 ~~(II) Designing professional development to~~  
9 ~~meet teaching and learning needs.~~

10 ~~(III) Building school culture that focuses on~~  
11 ~~student learning.~~

12 ~~(IV) Using assessments to improve student~~  
13 ~~learning and foster school improvement.~~

14 ~~(V) Building collaboration with teachers and~~  
15 ~~stakeholders.~~

16 A teacher who meets the requirements set forth in  
17 this Section and holds a teacher leader endorsement may  
18 evaluate teachers pursuant to Section 24A-5 of this  
19 Code, provided that the individual has completed the  
20 evaluation component required by Section 24A-3 of this  
21 Code and a teacher leader is allowed to evaluate  
22 personnel under the respective school district's  
23 collective bargaining agreement.

24 The State Board of Education, in consultation with  
25 the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board,  
26 may adopt such rules as may be necessary to establish

1 and implement the teacher leader endorsement program  
2 and to specify the positions for which this endorsement  
3 shall be required.

4 (F) Special education endorsement. A special  
5 education endorsement in one or more areas shall be  
6 affixed to a Professional Educator License for any  
7 individual that meets those requirements established  
8 by the State Board of Education in rules. Special  
9 education endorsement areas shall include without  
10 limitation the following:

- 11 (i) Learning Behavior Specialist I;
- 12 (ii) Learning Behavior Specialist II;
- 13 (iii) Speech Language Pathologist;
- 14 (iv) Blind or Visually Impaired;
- 15 (v) Deaf-Hard of Hearing; and
- 16 (vi) Early Childhood Special Education.

17 Notwithstanding anything in this Code to the contrary,  
18 the State Board of Education, in consultation with the  
19 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, may  
20 add additional areas of special education by rule.

21 (G) School support personnel endorsement. School  
22 support personnel endorsement areas shall include, but  
23 are not limited to, school counselor, marriage and  
24 family therapist, school psychologist, school speech  
25 and language pathologist, school nurse, and school  
26 social worker. This endorsement is for individuals who

1 are not teachers or administrators, but still require  
2 licensure to work in an instructional support position  
3 in a public or State-operated elementary school,  
4 secondary school, or cooperative or joint agreement  
5 with a governing body or board of control or a charter  
6 school operating in compliance with the Charter  
7 Schools Law. The school support personnel endorsement  
8 shall be affixed to the Professional Educator License  
9 and shall meet all of the requirements established in  
10 any rules adopted to implement this subdivision (G).  
11 The holder of such an endorsement is entitled to all of  
12 the rights and privileges granted holders of any other  
13 Professional Educator License, including teacher  
14 benefits, compensation, and working conditions.

15 Beginning on January 1, 2014 and ending on April  
16 30, 2014, a person holding a Professional Educator  
17 License with a school speech and language pathologist  
18 (teaching) endorsement may exchange his or her school  
19 speech and language pathologist (teaching) endorsement  
20 for a school speech and language pathologist  
21 (non-teaching) endorsement through application to the  
22 State Board of Education. There shall be no cost for  
23 this exchange.

24 (Source: P.A. 98-413, eff. 8-16-13; 98-610, eff. 12-27-13;  
25 98-872, eff. 8-11-14; 98-917, eff. 8-15-14; 98-1147, eff.  
26 12-31-14; 99-58, eff. 7-16-15.)

1 (105 ILCS 5/21B-30)

2 Sec. 21B-30. Educator testing.

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

4 (b) The State Board of Education, in consultation with the  
5 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, shall design  
6 and implement a system of examinations, which shall be required  
7 prior to the issuance of educator licenses. These examinations  
8 and indicators must be based on national and State professional  
9 teaching standards, as determined by the State Board of  
10 Education, in consultation with the State Educator Preparation  
11 and Licensure Board. The State Board of Education may adopt  
12 such rules as may be necessary to implement and administer this  
13 Section. ~~No score on a test required under this Section, other  
14 than a test of basic skills, shall be more than 10 years old at  
15 the time that an individual makes application for an educator  
16 license or endorsement.~~

17 (c) Applicants seeking a Professional Educator License or  
18 an Educator License with Stipulations shall be required to pass  
19 a test of basic skills before the license is issued, unless the  
20 endorsement the individual is seeking does not require passage  
21 of the test. All applicants completing Illinois-approved,  
22 teacher education or school service personnel preparation  
23 programs shall be required to pass the State Board of  
24 Education's recognized test of basic skills prior to starting  
25 their student teaching or starting the final semester of their

1 internship, unless required earlier at the discretion of the  
2 recognized, Illinois institution in which they are completing  
3 their approved program. An individual who passes a test of  
4 basic skills does not need to do so again for subsequent  
5 endorsements or other educator licenses.

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

12 (e) (Blank). ~~All applicants seeking a State license~~  
13 ~~endorsed in a teaching field shall pass the assessment of~~  
14 ~~professional teaching (APT). Passage of the APT is required for~~  
15 ~~completion of an approved Illinois educator preparation~~  
16 ~~program.~~

17 (f) Except as otherwise provided in this Article, beginning  
18 Beginning on September 1, 2015, all candidates completing  
19 teacher preparation programs in this State and all candidates  
20 subject to Section 21B-35 of this Code are required to pass an  
21 evidence-based assessment of teacher effectiveness approved by  
22 the State Board of Education, in consultation with the State  
23 Educator Preparation and Licensure Board. All recognized  
24 institutions offering approved teacher preparation programs  
25 must begin phasing in the approved teacher performance  
26 assessment no later than July 1, 2013.

1 (g) Tests of basic skills and content area knowledge and  
2 the assessment of professional teaching shall be the tests that  
3 from time to time are designated by the State Board of  
4 Education, in consultation with the State Educator Preparation  
5 and Licensure Board, and may be tests prepared by an  
6 educational testing organization or tests designed by the State  
7 Board of Education, in consultation with the State Educator  
8 Preparation and Licensure Board. The areas to be covered by a  
9 test of basic skills shall include reading, language arts, and  
10 mathematics. The test of content area knowledge shall assess  
11 content knowledge in a specific subject field. The tests must  
12 be designed to be racially neutral to ensure that no person  
13 taking the tests is discriminated against on the basis of race,  
14 color, national origin, or other factors unrelated to the  
15 person's ability to perform as a licensed employee. The score  
16 required to pass the tests shall be fixed by the State Board of  
17 Education, in consultation with the State Educator Preparation  
18 and Licensure Board. The tests shall be administered not fewer  
19 than 3 times a year at such time and place as may be designated  
20 by the State Board of Education, in consultation with the State  
21 Educator Preparation and Licensure Board.

22 The State Board shall implement a test or tests to assess  
23 the speaking, reading, writing, and grammar skills of  
24 applicants for an endorsement or a license issued under  
25 subdivision (G) of paragraph (2) of Section 21B-20 of this Code  
26 in the English language and in the language of the transitional



1 bilingual education program requested by the applicant.

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

5 (i) The rules developed to implement and enforce the  
6 testing requirements under this Section shall include without  
7 limitation provisions governing test selection, test  
8 validation and determination of a passing score,  
9 administration of the tests, frequency of administration,  
10 applicant fees, frequency of applicants taking the tests, the  
11 years for which a score is valid, and appropriate special  
12 accommodations. The State Board of Education shall develop such  
13 rules as may be needed to ensure uniformity from year to year  
14 in the level of difficulty for each form of an assessment.

15 (Source: P.A. 98-361, eff. 1-1-14; 98-581, eff. 8-27-13;  
16 98-756, eff. 7-16-14; 99-58, eff. 7-16-15.)

17 (105 ILCS 5/21B-35)

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

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

25 (1) Hold a comparable and valid educator license or

1 certificate with similar grade level and subject matter  
2 credentials from another state. The State Board of  
3 Education shall have the authority to determine what  
4 constitutes similar grade level and subject matter  
5 credentials from another state. A comparable educator  
6 license or certificate is one that demonstrates that the  
7 license or certificate holder meets similar requirements  
8 as candidates entitled by an Illinois-approved educator  
9 preparation program in teaching or school support  
10 personnel areas concerning coursework aligned to standards  
11 concerning methods of instruction of the exceptional  
12 child, methods of reading and reading in the content area,  
13 and instructional strategies for English learners. An  
14 applicant who holds a comparable and valid educator license  
15 or certificate from another state must submit verification  
16 to the State Board of Education that the applicant has  
17 completed coursework concerning methods of instruction of  
18 the exceptional child, methods of reading and reading in  
19 the content area, and instructional strategies for English  
20 learners. ~~Have completed a comparable state-approved~~  
21 ~~education program, as defined by the State Superintendent~~  
22 ~~of Education.~~

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

1           (3) (Blank). ~~Teachers and school support personnel who~~  
2 ~~have not been entitled by an Illinois approved educator~~  
3 ~~preparation program at an Illinois institution of higher~~  
4 ~~education shall meet the same requirements concerning~~  
5 ~~courses in the methods of instruction of the exceptional~~  
6 ~~child as candidates entitled by an Illinois approved~~  
7 ~~educator preparation program in teaching and school~~  
8 ~~support personnel areas, as defined by rules.~~

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

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

25           (6) Have successfully met all Illinois examination  
26 requirements. Applicants who have successfully completed a

1 test of basic skills, as defined by rules, at the time of  
2 initial licensure in another state shall not be required to  
3 complete a test of basic skills. Applicants who have  
4 successfully completed a test of content, as defined by  
5 rules, at the time of initial licensure in another state  
6 shall not be required to complete a test of content.

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

13 (7) For applicants for a teaching endorsement, have  
14 completed student teaching or an equivalent experience or,  
15 for applicants for a school service personnel endorsement,  
16 have completed an internship or an equivalent experience.

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

1 ~~endorsement and must complete coursework in those areas~~  
2 ~~identified as deficient.~~

3 If one or more of the criteria in this subsection (a) are  
4 not met, then applicants who have not been entitled by an  
5 Illinois-approved educator preparation program at an Illinois  
6 institution of higher education who hold a valid, comparable  
7 certificate from another state may qualify for a provisional  
8 educator endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations,  
9 in accordance with Section 21B-20 of this Code.

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

13 (1) Have completed a comparable education program in  
14 another country.

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

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

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

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

23 (6) (Blank). ~~Have completed coursework in~~  
24 ~~instructional strategies for English learners.~~

25 (7) Have successfully met all State licensure  
26 examination requirements. Applicants who have successfully

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

13 (8) Have completed student teaching or an equivalent  
14 experience.

15 ~~Applicants trained in another country must submit~~  
16 ~~verification to the State Board of Education of having~~  
17 ~~completed coursework as required under items (4), (5), and (6)~~  
18 ~~of this subsection (b) prior to issuance of a Professional~~  
19 ~~Educator License. Individuals who are not able to verify~~  
20 ~~completion of the coursework as required under items (4), (5),~~  
21 ~~and (6) of this subsection (b) 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 (b) are~~  
26 ~~not met, then an applicant trained in another country may~~

1 ~~qualify for a provisional educator endorsement on an Educator~~  
2 ~~License with Stipulations in accordance with Section 21B-20 of~~  
3 ~~this Code.~~

4 (b-5) All applicants who have not been entitled by an  
5 Illinois-approved educator preparation program at an Illinois  
6 institution of higher education and applicants trained in  
7 another country applying for a Professional Educator License  
8 endorsed for principal or superintendent must meet all of the  
9 following requirements:

10 (1) Have completed an educator preparation program  
11 approved by another state or comparable educator program in  
12 another country leading to the receipt of a license or  
13 certificate for the Illinois endorsement sought.

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

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

26 A provisional educator endorsement to serve as a

1 superintendent or principal may be affixed to an Educator  
2 License with Stipulations in accordance with Section 21B-20 of  
3 this Code.

4 (b-10) All applicants who have not been entitled by an  
5 Illinois-approved educator preparation program at an Illinois  
6 institution of higher education applying for a Professional  
7 Educator License endorsed for chief school business official  
8 must meet all of the following requirements:

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

11 (2) Have successfully completed an internship in  
12 school business management or have 2 years of experience as  
13 a school business administrator.

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

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

22 A provisional educator endorsement to serve as a chief  
23 school business official may be affixed to an Educator License  
24 with Stipulations.

25 (c) The State Board of Education, in consultation with the  
26 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, may adopt such



1 rules as may be necessary to implement this Section.

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

3 (105 ILCS 5/21B-40)

4 Sec. 21B-40. Fees.

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

8 (1) A \$75 application fee for a Professional Educator  
9 License or an Educator License with Stipulations ~~and for~~  
10 ~~individuals seeking a Substitute Teaching License.~~  
11 However, beginning on January 1, 2015, the application fee  
12 for a Professional Educator License and, Educator License  
13 with Stipulations, ~~or Substitute Teaching License~~ shall be  
14 \$100.

15 (1.5) A \$50 application fee for a Substitute Teaching  
16 License.

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

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

25 (4) A \$10 per year registration fee for the course of

1 the validity cycle to register the license, which shall be  
2 paid to the regional office of education having supervision  
3 and control over the school in which the individual holding  
4 the license is to be employed. If the individual holding  
5 the license is not yet employed, then the license may be  
6 registered in any county in this State. The registration  
7 fee must be paid in its entirety the first time the  
8 individual registers the license for a particular validity  
9 period in a single region. No additional fee may be charged  
10 for that validity period should the individual  
11 subsequently register the license in additional regions.  
12 An individual must register the license (i) immediately  
13 after initial issuance of the license and (ii) at the  
14 beginning of each renewal cycle if the individual has  
15 satisfied the renewal requirements required under this  
16 Code.

17 (b) All application fees paid pursuant to subdivisions (1)  
18 through (3) of subsection (a) of this Section shall be  
19 deposited into the Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving Fund and  
20 shall be used, subject to appropriation, by the State Board of  
21 Education to provide the technology and human resources  
22 necessary for the timely and efficient processing of  
23 applications and for the renewal of licenses. Funds available  
24 from the Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving Fund may also be  
25 used by the State Board of Education to support the recruitment  
26 and retention of educators, to support educator preparation

1 programs as they seek national accreditation, and to provide  
2 professional development aligned with the requirements set  
3 forth in Section 21B-45 of this Code. A majority of the funds  
4 in the Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving Fund must be dedicated  
5 to the timely and efficient processing of applications and for  
6 the renewal of licenses. The Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving  
7 Fund is not subject to administrative charge transfers,  
8 authorized under Section 8h of the State Finance Act, from the  
9 Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving Fund into any other fund of  
10 this State, and moneys in the Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving  
11 Fund shall not revert back to the General Revenue Fund at any  
12 time.

13 The regional superintendent of schools shall deposit the  
14 registration fees paid pursuant to subdivision (4) of  
15 subsection (a) of this Section into the institute fund  
16 established pursuant to Section 3-11 of this Code.

17 (c) The State Board of Education and each regional office  
18 of education are authorized to charge a service or convenience  
19 fee for the use of credit cards for the payment of license  
20 fees. This service or convenience fee shall not exceed the  
21 amount required by the credit card processing company or vendor  
22 that has entered into a contract with the State Board or  
23 regional office of education for this purpose, and the fee must  
24 be paid to that company or vendor.

25 (d) If, at the time a certificate issued under Article 21  
26 of this Code is exchanged for a license issued under this

1 Article, a person has paid registration fees for any years of  
2 the validity period of the certificate and these years have not  
3 expired when the certificate is exchanged, then those fees must  
4 be applied to the registration of the new license.

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

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 licensure renewal requirements as  
10 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 (ii) the demonstration of proficiency by  
24 completing 9 semester hours of coursework from a regionally  
25 accredited institution of higher education in the content area

1 that most aligns with one or more of the educator's endorsement  
2 areas. Any and all back fees, including without limitation  
3 registration fees owed from the time of expiration of the  
4 license until the date of reinstatement, shall be paid and kept  
5 in accordance with the provisions in Article 3 of this Code  
6 concerning an institute fund and the provisions in Article 21B  
7 of this Code concerning fees and requirements for registration.  
8 Licenses not registered in accordance with Section 21B-40 of  
9 this Code shall lapse after a period of 6 months from the  
10 expiration of the last year of registration. An unregistered  
11 license is invalid after September 1 for employment and  
12 performance of services in an Illinois public or State-operated  
13 school or cooperative and in a charter school. Any license or  
14 endorsement may be voluntarily surrendered by the license  
15 holder. A voluntarily surrendered license, except a substitute  
16 teaching license issued under Section 21B-20 of this Code,  
17 shall be treated as a revoked license. An Educator License with  
18 Stipulations with only a paraprofessional endorsement does not  
19 lapse.

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

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

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

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

21           (2) professional development aligns to the licensee's  
22 performance;

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

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

26           (5) higher education coursework.

1           (e) For each renewal cycle, each professional educator  
2 licensee shall engage in professional development activities.  
3 Prior to renewal, the licensee shall enter electronically into  
4 the Educator Licensure Information System (ELIS) the name,  
5 date, and location of the activity, the number of professional  
6 development hours, and the provider's name. The following  
7 provisions shall apply concerning professional development  
8 activities:

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

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

22           (3) Any licensee with an administrative endorsement  
23 who is working in a position requiring such endorsement or  
24 an individual with a Teacher Leader endorsement serving in  
25 an administrative capacity at least 50% of the day shall  
26 complete one Illinois Administrators' Academy course, as

1 described in Article 2 of this Code, each fiscal year in  
2 addition to 100 hours of professional development per  
3 5-year renewal cycle in accordance with this Code.

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

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

15 (6) Licensees who are retired and qualify for benefits  
16 from a State retirement system shall notify the State Board  
17 of Education using ELIS, and the license shall be  
18 maintained in retired status. For any renewal cycle in  
19 which a licensee retires during the renewal cycle, the  
20 licensee must complete professional development activities  
21 on a prorated basis depending on the number of years during  
22 the renewal cycle the educator held an active license. If a  
23 licensee retires during a renewal cycle, the licensee must  
24 notify the State Board of Education using ELIS that the  
25 licensee wishes to maintain the license in retired status  
26 and must show proof of completion of professional



1       development activities on a prorated basis for all years of  
2       that renewal cycle for which the license was active. An  
3       individual with a license in retired status shall not be  
4       required to complete professional development activities  
5       or pay registration fees until returning to a position that  
6       requires educator licensure. Upon returning to work in a  
7       position that requires the Professional Educator License,  
8       the licensee shall immediately pay a registration fee and  
9       complete renewal requirements for that year. A license in  
10      retired status cannot lapse. Beginning on the effective  
11      date of this amendatory Act of the 99th General Assembly  
12      through December 31, 2017, any licensee who has retired and  
13      whose license has lapsed for failure to renew as provided  
14      in this Section may reinstate that license and maintain it  
15      in retired status upon providing proof to the State Board  
16      of Education using ELIS that the licensee is retired and is  
17      not working in a position that requires a Professional  
18      Educator License.

19           (7) For any renewal cycle in which professional  
20      development hours were required, but not fulfilled, the  
21      licensee shall complete any missed hours to total the  
22      minimum professional development hours required in this  
23      Section prior to September 1 of that year. For any fiscal  
24      year or renewal cycle in which an Illinois Administrators'  
25      Academy course was required but not completed, the licensee  
26      shall complete any missed Illinois Administrators' Academy

1 courses prior to September 1 of that year. The licensee may  
2 complete all deficient hours and Illinois Administrators'  
3 Academy courses while continuing to work in a position that  
4 requires that license until September 1 of that year.

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

11 (9) If professional development opportunities were  
12 unavailable to a licensee, proof that opportunities were  
13 unavailable and request for an extension of time beyond  
14 August 31 to complete the renewal requirements may be  
15 submitted from April 1 through June 30 of that year to the  
16 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board. If an  
17 extension is approved, the license shall remain valid  
18 during the extension period.

19 (10) Individuals who hold exempt licenses prior to  
20 December 27, 2013 (the effective date of Public Act 98-610)  
21 ~~this amendatory Act of the 98th General Assembly~~ shall  
22 commence the annual renewal process with the first  
23 scheduled registration due after December 27, 2013 (the  
24 effective date of Public Act 98-610) ~~this amendatory Act of~~  
25 ~~the 98th General Assembly~~.

26 (f) At the time of renewal, each licensee shall respond to

1 the required questions under penalty of perjury.

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

5 (1) The State Board of Education.

6 (2) Regional offices of education and intermediate  
7 service centers.

8 (3) Illinois professional associations representing  
9 the following groups that are approved by the State  
10 Superintendent of Education:

11 (A) school administrators;

12 (B) principals;

13 (C) school business officials;

14 (D) teachers, including special education  
15 teachers;

16 (E) school boards;

17 (F) school districts;

18 (G) parents; and

19 (H) school service personnel.

20 (4) Regionally accredited institutions of higher  
21 education that offer Illinois-approved educator  
22 preparation programs and public community colleges subject  
23 to the Public Community College Act.

24 (5) Illinois public school districts, charter schools  
25 authorized under Article 27A of this Code, and joint  
26 educational programs authorized under Article 10 of this

1 Code for the purposes of providing career and technical  
2 education or special education services.

3 (6) A not-for-profit organization that, as of December  
4 31, 2014 (the effective date of Public Act 98-1147) ~~this~~  
5 ~~amendatory Act of the 98th General Assembly~~, has had or has  
6 a grant from or a contract with the State Board of  
7 Education to provide professional development services in  
8 the area of English Learning to Illinois school districts,  
9 teachers, or administrators.

10 (7) State agencies, State boards, and State  
11 commissions.

12 (8) ~~(7)~~ Museums as defined in Section 10 of the Museum  
13 Disposition of Property Act.

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

17 (1) increase the knowledge and skills of school and  
18 district leaders who guide continuous professional  
19 development;

20 (2) improve the learning of students;

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

23 (4) deepen educator's content knowledge;

24 (5) provide educators with research-based  
25 instructional strategies to assist students in meeting  
26 rigorous academic standards;

1           (6) prepare educators to appropriately use various  
2 types of classroom assessments;

3           (7) use learning strategies appropriate to the  
4 intended goals;

5           (8) provide educators with the knowledge and skills to  
6 collaborate; or

7           (9) prepare educators to apply research to  
8 decision-making.

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

11           (1) align professional development activities to the  
12 State-approved national standards for professional  
13 learning;

14           (2) meet the professional development criteria for  
15 Illinois licensure renewal;

16           (3) produce a rationale for the activity that explains  
17 how it aligns to State standards and identify the  
18 assessment for determining the expected impact on student  
19 learning or school improvement;

20           (4) maintain original documentation for completion of  
21 activities; and

22           (5) provide license holders with evidence of  
23 completion of activities.

24           (j) The State Board of Education shall conduct annual  
25 audits of approved providers, except for school districts,  
26 which shall be audited by regional offices of education and

1 intermediate service centers. The State Board of Education  
2 shall complete random audits of licensees.

3 (1) Approved providers shall annually submit to the  
4 State Board of Education a list of subcontractors used for  
5 delivery of professional development activities for which  
6 renewal credit was issued and other information as defined  
7 by rule.

8 (2) Approved providers shall annually submit data to  
9 the State Board of Education demonstrating how the  
10 professional development activities impacted one or more  
11 of the following:

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

14 (B) educator and student social and emotional  
15 growth; or

16 (C) alignment to district or school improvement  
17 plans.

18 (3) The State Superintendent of Education shall review  
19 the annual data collected by the State Board of Education,  
20 regional offices of education, and intermediate service  
21 centers in audits to determine if the approved provider has  
22 met the criteria and should continue to be an approved  
23 provider or if further action should be taken as provided  
24 in rules.

25 (k) Registration fees shall be paid for the next renewal  
26 cycle between April 1 and June 30 in the last year of each

1 5-year renewal cycle using ELIS. If all required professional  
2 development hours for the renewal cycle have been completed and  
3 entered by the licensee, the licensee shall pay the  
4 registration fees for the next cycle using a form of credit or  
5 debit card.

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

20 (m) Appeals to the State Educator Preparation and Licensure  
21 Board must be made within 30 days after receipt of notice from  
22 the State Superintendent of Education that a license will not  
23 be renewed based upon failure to complete the requirements of  
24 this Section. A licensee may appeal that decision to the State  
25 Educator Preparation and Licensure Board in a manner prescribed  
26 by rule.

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

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

13           (A) the regional superintendent of education's  
14 rationale for recommending nonrenewal of the license,  
15 if applicable;

16           (B) any evidence submitted to the State  
17 Superintendent along with the individual's electronic  
18 statement of assurance for renewal; and

19           (C) the State Superintendent's rationale for  
20 nonrenewal of the license.

21           (3) The State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board  
22 shall notify the licensee of its decision regarding license  
23 renewal by certified mail, return receipt requested, no  
24 later than 30 days after reaching a decision. Upon receipt  
25 of notification of renewal, the licensee, using ELIS, shall  
26 pay the applicable registration fee for the next cycle



1 using a form of credit or debit card.

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

4 (Source: P.A. 98-610, eff. 12-27-13; 98-1147, eff. 12-31-14;  
5 99-58, eff. 7-16-15; 99-130, eff. 7-24-15; revised 10-21-15.)

6 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
7 becoming law.