

AN ACT regarding schools.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,
represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The School Code is amended by adding Section
14-6.04 as follows:

(105 ILCS 5/14-6.04 new)

Sec. 14-6.04. Contracting for speech-language pathology
services.

(a) For purposes of this Section:

"Reasonable efforts" means performing all of the
following:

(1) placing at least 3 employment advertisements
for a speech-language pathologist published in the
newspaper of widest distribution within the school
district or cooperative;

(2) placing one employment listing in the placement
bulletin of a college or university that has a
speech-language pathology curriculum that is located in
the geographic area of the school district or
cooperative, if any; and

(3) posting the position for speech-language
pathologist on the Illinois Association of School
Administrators' job placement service for at least 30
days.

"Speech-language pathologist" means a person who:

(1) holds a master's or doctoral degree with a
major emphasis in speech-language pathology from an
institution whose course of study was approved or program
was accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation
in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology of the
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association or its

predecessor; and

(2) either (i) has completed a program of study prior to July 1, 2002 that includes course work and supervised clinical experience sufficient in breadth and depth to demonstrate knowledge and skills related to the specific problems, methods, and procedures applicable to students with disabilities in a school setting serving ages 3 to 21 or (ii) meets the content-area standards for speech-language pathologists adopted by the State Board of Education, in consultation with the State Teacher Certification Board.

"Speech-language pathology services" means the application of methods and procedures for identifying, measuring, testing, appraising, predicting, and modifying communication development and disorders or disabilities of speech, language, voice, swallowing, and other speech, language, and voice-related disorders for the purpose of counseling, consulting, and rendering services or participating in the planning, directing, or conducting of programs that are designed to modify communicative disorders and conditions in individuals or groups of individuals involving speech, language, voice, and swallowing functions.

(b) A school district or a cooperative must make reasonable efforts to employ a speech-language pathologist. While making those reasonable efforts or after unsuccessful reasonable efforts have been made, or both, a school district or cooperative may contract for speech-language pathology services with a speech-language pathologist or an entity that employs speech-language pathologists. A speech-language pathologist who provides speech-language pathology services pursuant to a contract must hold:

(1) a speech-language pathology license under the Illinois Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Practice Act; and

(2) a certificate under this Code with an endorsement in speech-language pathology.

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