

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 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the  
5 Illinois Instructional Mandates Overview and Alignment Act.

6 Section 5. Purpose. The purpose of this Act is to:

7 (1) Require the State Board of Education to conduct a  
8 comprehensive review of the mandated units of study  
9 whenever new standards for student learning are adopted or  
10 every 10 years, whichever happens first.

11 (2) Ensure that mandated instructional mandates align  
12 with current societal needs, scientific advancements, and  
13 educational best practices.

14 (3) Identify and address gaps in the instructional  
15 mandates to support student development.

16 Section 10. Definitions. As used in this Act:

17 "Comprehensive instructional mandates overview" refers to  
18 a systematic review and evaluation of the mandated units of  
19 study, including stakeholder engagement and analysis of  
20 instructional outcomes.

21 "Mandated units of study" refers to all topics and  
22 subjects required by State law to be included in public school

1 curricula.

2 Section 15. Comprehensive instructional mandates overview  
3 requirements.

4 (a) Beginning January 1, 2026, the State Board of  
5 Education shall conduct a comprehensive review of all mandated  
6 units of study whenever new standards for student learning are  
7 adopted or every 10 years, whichever happens first.

8 (b) The review shall include:

9 (1) Alignment of mandated units of study with State  
10 and national educational standards.

11 (2) Identification of redundancies or overlapping  
12 content across grades and subjects.

13 (3) Evaluation of the inclusivity and cultural  
14 relevance of the instructional mandates.

15 (4) Assessment of new areas of societal or  
16 technological importance that may warrant inclusion, such  
17 as digital citizenship, artificial intelligence, and  
18 emerging global issues.

19 (5) A thorough study of all graduation requirements  
20 offered in State public schools to ensure that they meet  
21 the needs of students in comparison to other states.

22 (6) A specific evaluation of financial education and  
23 provide recommendations for potential improvement.

24 (7) A review of newly passed laws that mandate  
25 additional instructional topics but have not yet been

1 implemented in the units of study. This may include, but  
2 not be limited to, assessing the feasibility, resources  
3 required, and potential impact of incorporating these  
4 topics into the instructional mandates.

5 (c) The State Board of Education shall include in its  
6 review a focused section titled "Encompassing National  
7 Review", which:

8 (1) Compares the State's instructional mandate  
9 offerings with those of other top-performing states in the  
10 nation.

11 (2) Identifies best practices in instructional mandate  
12 design and implementation adopted by these states.

13 (3) Evaluates areas where the State can improve to  
14 position itself in the top tier of state education  
15 systems.

16 (4) Highlights gaps in essential skills, such as  
17 financial literacy, STEM readiness, global competency, and  
18 workforce preparedness.

19 (d) The review process shall incorporate feedback from  
20 educators and administrators, parents and guardians, students,  
21 and subject matter experts and community organizations.

22 (e) The State Board of Education shall publish a public  
23 report summarizing findings and recommendations from the  
24 instructional mandates overview.

25 The report shall include a comparative analysis of the  
26 State's instructional mandate requirements with those of other

1 states, highlighting the strengths and opportunities in  
2 financial education and other identified gaps.

3 The report shall include recommendations for implementing  
4 newly mandated instructional topics not yet incorporated into  
5 the instructional mandates.

6 The report shall be presented to the Governor and the  
7 General Assembly and be made publicly available on the State  
8 Board of Education's website.

9 Section 20. Implementation and monitoring.

10 (a) Following each instructional mandates overview, the  
11 State Board of Education shall, if needed:

12 (1) Develop an action plan to address identified gaps  
13 or areas for improvement.

14 (2) Provide professional development for educators on  
15 updates or changes.

16 (3) Monitor the implementation of instructional  
17 mandate updates and assess their impact on student  
18 outcomes.

19 (b) The State Board of Education shall allocate  
20 appropriate resources to support the instructional mandate  
21 review process and subsequent updates.

22 Section 25. State Board authority. The State Board of  
23 Education shall carry out the requirements of this Act,  
24 including stakeholder engagement activities and research

1 initiatives.

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