

HB4264



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB4264

Introduced 1/14/2026, by Rep. Jay Hoffman

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 426/30

Amends the Private Business and Vocational Schools Act of 2012. Provides that an educational institution that offers instruction or programs of study for which the participant or student is not charged any tuition or fees other than a nominal fee to cover the costs of books, tools, and similar materials shall not be considered a private business and vocational school.

LRB104 15990 LNS 29238 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning education.

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

4 Section 5. The Private Business and Vocational Schools Act
5 of 2012 is amended by changing Section 30 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 426/30)

7 Sec. 30. Exemptions. For purposes of this Act, the
8 following shall not be considered to be a private business and
9 vocational school:

10 (1) Any institution devoted entirely to the teaching
11 of religion or theology.

12 (2) Any in-service program of study and subject
13 offered by an employer, provided that no tuition is
14 charged and the instruction is offered only to employees
15 of the employer.

16 (3) Any educational institution that (A) enrolls a
17 majority of its students in degree programs and has
18 maintained an accredited status with a regional
19 accrediting agency that is recognized by the U.S.
20 Department of Education or (B) enrolls students in one or
21 more bachelor-level programs, enrolls a majority of its
22 students in degree programs, and is accredited by a
23 national or regional accrediting agency that is recognized

1 by the U.S. Department of Education or that (i) is
2 regulated by the Board under the Private College Act or
3 the Academic Degree Act or is exempt from such regulation
4 under either the Private College Act or the Academic
5 Degree Act solely for the reason that the educational
6 institution was in operation on the effective date of
7 either the Private College Act or the Academic Degree Act
8 or (ii) is regulated by the State Board of Education.

9 (4) Any institution and the franchisees of that
10 institution that exclusively offer a program of study in
11 income tax theory or return preparation at a total
12 contract price of no more than \$400, provided that the
13 total annual enrollment of the institution for all such
14 courses of instruction exceeds 500 students and further
15 provided that the total contract price for all instruction
16 offered to a student in any one calendar year does not
17 exceed \$3,000.

18 (5) Any person or organization selling mediated
19 instruction products through a media, such as tapes,
20 compact discs, digital video discs, or similar media, so
21 long as the instruction is not intended to result in the
22 acquisition of training for a specific employment field,
23 is not intended to meet a qualification for licensure or
24 certification in an employment field, or is not intended
25 to provide credit that can be applied toward a certificate
26 or degree program.

1 (6) Schools with no physical presence in this State.
2 Schools offering instruction or programs of study, but
3 that have no physical presence in this State, are not
4 required to receive Board approval. Such an institution
5 must not be considered not to have a physical presence in
6 this State unless it has received a written finding from
7 the Board that it has no physical presence. In determining
8 whether an institution has no physical presence, the Board
9 shall require all of the following:

10 (A) Evidence of authorization to operate in at
11 least one other state and that the school is in good
12 standing with that state's authorizing agency.

13 (B) Evidence that the school has a means of
14 receiving and addressing student complaints in
15 compliance with any federal or state requirements.

16 (C) Evidence that the institution is providing no
17 instruction in this State.

18 (D) Evidence that the institution is not providing
19 core academic support services, including, but not
20 limited to, admissions, evaluation, assessment,
21 registration, financial aid, academic scheduling, and
22 faculty hiring and support in this State.

23 (7) A school or program within a school that
24 exclusively provides yoga instruction, yoga teacher
25 training, or both.

26 (8) Organizations that receive funding from the

1 Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity for
2 workforce development preparation programs as provided for
3 in the Energy Transition Act and the Illinois Works Jobs
4 Program Act in which participants are not charged tuition.
5 This paragraph does not include public institutions of
6 higher education or private institutions of higher
7 education, as defined in the Board of Higher Education
8 Act, or community colleges, as defined in the Public
9 Community College Act. For purposes of this paragraph, the
10 Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity shall
11 provide the Board of Higher Education a complete list of
12 all qualifying organizations under this paragraph on July
13 1 of each year.

14 (9) Labor organizations, as defined in Section 10 of
15 the Collective Bargaining Freedom Act, that sponsor a
16 United States Department of Labor registered
17 apprenticeship program.

18 (10) An educational institution that offers
19 instruction or programs of study for which the participant
20 or student is not charged any tuition or fees other than a
21 nominal fee to cover the costs of books, tools, and
22 similar materials. For the purposes of this paragraph,
23 "tuition" does not include donations, grants, or other
24 sources of funding paid to the educational institution by
25 a third party to support the instruction or program of
26 study.

1 (Source: P.A. 102-1046, eff. 6-7-22; 103-595, eff. 6-26-24.)