



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB4397

Introduced 1/14/2026, by Rep. Michael Crawford

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

See Index

Amends the Children with Disabilities Article of the School Code. Provides that "school psychologist" means a psychologist who, along with other qualifications, has graduated with a specialist degree, an equivalent degree with the completion of a minimum of 60 graduate semester hours, or a higher degree in school psychology (rather than a master's degree or higher degree in psychology or educational psychology) from an institution of higher learning and has had at least 1,200 clock hours of supervised experience (rather than one school year of full-time supervised experience) in the delivery of school psychological services. Makes changes to provide that school psychological services provided by qualified specialists who hold a Professional Educator License endorsed for school psychology may include, but are not limited to: (1) providing assessments; (2) creating and implementing prevention and intervention services that support student learning; (3) providing mental and behavioral health services; (4) acting as liaisons between public schools and community agencies; (5) evaluating program effectiveness; (6) providing crisis prevention, response, and intervention within the school setting; (7) providing consultation and collaboration; (8) supervising school psychologist interns enrolled in school psychology programs; (9) screening school enrollments to identify children who should be referred for individual study; and (10) developing any other necessary programs and services. Provides that a school psychologist may not provide school psychological services outside of his or her employment to any student in any school district that employs the school psychologist. Makes other changes.

LRB104 16299 AAS 29684 b

STATE MANDATES
ACT MAY REQUIRE
REIMBURSEMENT

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning education.

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

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Sections
5 14-1.09 and 14-1.09.1 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/14-1.09) (from Ch. 122, par. 14-1.09)

7 Sec. 14-1.09. School psychologist. "School psychologist"
8 means a psychologist who meets the following qualifications:

9 (1) The psychologist:

10 (A) has graduated with a specialist degree, an
11 equivalent degree with the completion of a minimum of
12 60 graduate semester hours, ~~master's~~ or a higher
13 degree in school psychology ~~or educational psychology~~
14 from an institution of higher learning that maintains
15 equipment, courses of study, and standards of
16 scholarship approved by the State Board of Education,
17 has had at least 1,200 clock hours of ~~one school year~~
18 ~~of full-time~~ supervised experience in the delivery of
19 school psychological services of a character approved
20 by the State Superintendent of Education, at least 600
21 hours of which were in a school setting, and has such
22 additional qualifications as may be required by the
23 State Board of Education; or

1 (B) holds a valid Nationally Certified School
2 Psychologist (NCSP) credential.

3 (2) The psychologist holds a Professional Educator
4 License with a school psychologist endorsement issued
5 pursuant to Section 21B-25 of this Code. Persons so
6 licensed may use the title "school psychologist" and may
7 offer school psychological services which are limited to
8 those services set forth in 23 Ill. Adm. Code 226, Special
9 Education, pertaining to children between the ages of 3 to
10 21, promulgated by the State Board of Education.

11 School psychologists may make evaluations, recommendations
12 or interventions regarding the placement of children in
13 educational programs or special education classes. However, a
14 school psychologist shall not provide such services outside
15 his or her employment to any student in the district or
16 districts which employ such school psychologist.

17 (Source: P.A. 100-750, eff. 8-10-18.)

18 (105 ILCS 5/14-1.09.1)

19 Sec. 14-1.09.1. School psychological services.

20 (a) In the public schools, school psychological services
21 provided by qualified specialists who hold a Professional
22 Educator License endorsed for school psychology issued by the
23 State Board of Education may include, but are not limited to:

24 (1) providing assessments, including the following:

25 (A) administering and interpreting ~~(i)~~

1 ~~administration and interpretation of~~ psychological,
2 ~~and~~ educational, psychoeducational, cognitive,
3 emotional, and behavioral evaluations;

4 (B) administering universal screenings; and

5 (C) using various other data-collection methods
6 that (i) identify and address student academic,
7 social, emotional, developmental, mental, and
8 behavioral health needs, (ii) provide information
9 about an individual's eligibility for special
10 educational services, (iii) assess the risk of harm to
11 an individual or to others, and (iv) evaluate the
12 effectiveness of educational services and practices;

13 (2) creating and implementing prevention and
14 intervention services that support student learning,
15 promote safe learning environments, and address other
16 barriers to learning, including the following: ~~(ii)~~

17 (A) developing school-based prevention programs,
18 including violence prevention programs; and

19 (B) facilitating the delivery of curricula,
20 instructional strategies, and school-wide, group, and
21 individual interventions that support student
22 achievement, student wellness, and student mental and
23 behavioral health;

24 (3) providing mental and behavioral health services,
25 including the following: ~~(iii)~~

26 (A) conducting individual and group counseling

1 with students, parents, and teachers on educational
2 and mental health issues;

3 (B) developing and implementing school-wide,
4 group, and individual services that promote
5 social-emotional, mental, and behavioral health, as
6 well as pro-social and positive behaviors; and

7 (C) conducting behavior assessments and
8 interventions;

9 (4) ~~(iv)~~ acting as liaisons between public schools and
10 community agencies;

11 (5) ~~(v)~~ evaluating program effectiveness;

12 (6) ~~(vi)~~ providing crisis prevention, response, and
13 intervention within the school setting;

14 (7) providing consultation and collaboration,
15 including the following: ~~(vii)~~

16 (A) helping teachers, parents, and others involved
17 in the educational process to provide optimum teaching
18 and learning conditions for all students; and

19 (B) engaging in collaborative problem-solving on
20 an individual or systematic level in order to plan,
21 implement, and evaluate academic, mental health, and
22 behavioral health services, which may include
23 psychoeducation for students, families, school
24 personnel, and other relevant parties;

25 (8) ~~(viii)~~ supervising school psychologist interns
26 enrolled in school psychology programs that meet the

1 standards established by the State Board of Education; ~~and~~
2 (9) ~~(ix)~~ screening of school enrollments to identify
3 children who should be referred for individual study; and
4 (10) developing any other necessary programs and
5 services, including the following:

6 (A) designing, implementing, and evaluating safe
7 and supportive learning environments that are
8 educationally and psychologically sound;

9 (B) acting as a catalyst for educator and family
10 engagement in adaptations and innovations; and

11 (C) facilitating the psychoeducational development
12 of individual families and groups.

13 Nothing in this Section prohibits other qualified
14 professionals from providing those services listed for which
15 they are appropriately trained.

16 (b) The provision of school psychological services may
17 include the promotion of students' strengths, as well as the
18 identification and treatment of mental health disorders and
19 disabilities but may not include the prescription,
20 administration, or monitoring of pharmacological
21 interventions.

22 (c) A school psychologist may not provide school
23 psychological services outside of his or her employment to any
24 student in any school district that employs the school
25 psychologist.

26 (Source: P.A. 102-894, eff. 5-20-22.)

1 INDEX

2 Statutes amended in order of appearance

3 105 ILCS 5/14-1.09 from Ch. 122, par. 14-1.09

4 105 ILCS 5/14-1.09.1