



## 104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

### 2025 and 2026

#### HB4411

Introduced 1/14/2026, by Rep. Laura Faver Dias

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/10-20.88 new

105 ILCS 5/21B-25

105 ILCS 5/27-605

105 ILCS 5/34-18.88 new

was 105 ILCS 5/27-22

Amends the School Code. Requires, beginning with the 2027-2028 school year, school boards to report specified data to the State Board of Education regarding computer science courses in schools maintaining any of grades kindergarten through 8. Requires the State Board to make the data publicly available. With respect to a Professional Educator License, provides that the State Board shall create an introductory content area endorsement for teaching computer science in grades 5 through 12 that allows licensed educators to teach introductory computer science courses. In provisions concerning required high school courses, provides that a computer science course (rather than an Advanced Placement computer science course) qualifies under the mathematics requirement. Requires each pupil entering the 9th grade beginning with the 2028-2029 school year to successfully complete one year of high school computer science and artificial intelligence as a prerequisite to receiving a high school diploma, which may be taken in any of grades 7 through 12 and shall count toward the fulfillment of certain other high school graduation requirements. Requires the State Board to create guidelines for school districts. Provides that the computer science course requirement does not apply to a pupil transferring to a high school in this State from another state after the pupil's 11th grade year. Allows a school to enter into a cooperative resource sharing agreement to ensure that its students can enroll in a computer science course. Makes other changes.

LRB104 16739 LNS 30146 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 adding Sections  
5 10-20.88 and 34-18.88 and by changing Sections 21B-25 and  
6 27-605 as follows:

7 (105 ILCS 5/10-20.88 new)

8 Sec. 10-20.88. Computer science course reporting.

9 (a) Beginning with the 2027-2028 school year, the school  
10 board of a school district that maintains any of grades  
11 kindergarten through 8 shall report, for each school  
12 maintaining any of grades kindergarten through 5, the  
13 following data to the State Board of Education:

14 (1) the computer science content offered in those  
15 grades, including the minutes of instructional time  
16 dedicated to computer science, descriptions of  
17 instructional content, and, if available, which State  
18 learning standards for computer science are covered in the  
19 instruction; and

20 (2) the students receiving computer science  
21 instruction in those grades and the grade level, gender,  
22 race and ethnicity, eligibility for free or reduced-price  
23 school meals, disability and individualized education

1 program or federal Section 504 plan status, and English  
2 learner status of those students.

3 (b) Beginning with the 2027-2028 school year, the school  
4 board of a school district that maintains any of grades  
5 kindergarten through 8 shall report, for each school  
6 maintaining any of grades 6 through 8, the following data to  
7 the State Board of Education:

8 (1) the computer science courses or content offered in  
9 those grades, including the course codes, if any,  
10 descriptions, and, if available, which State learning  
11 standards for computer science are covered in each course;  
12 and

13 (2) the students in those grades enrolled in computer  
14 science courses and the grade level, gender, race and  
15 ethnicity, eligibility for free or reduced-price school  
16 meals, disability and individualized education program or  
17 federal Section 504 plan status, and English learner  
18 status of those students.

19 (c) The State Board of Education shall disaggregate the  
20 data collected under paragraph (2) of subsection (a) and  
21 paragraph (2) of subsection (b) by grade level, gender, race  
22 and ethnicity, eligibility for free or reduced-price school  
23 meals, disability and individualized education program or  
24 federal Section 504 plan status, and English learner status  
25 and make the data available publicly, along with the data  
26 collected under paragraph (1) of subsection (a) and paragraph

1 (1) of subsection (b).

2 (105 ILCS 5/21B-25)

3 Sec. 21B-25. Endorsement on licenses. All licenses issued  
4 under paragraph (1) of Section 21B-20 of this Code shall be  
5 specifically endorsed by the State Board of Education for each  
6 content area, school support area, and administrative area for  
7 which the holder of the license is qualified. Recognized  
8 institutions approved to offer educator preparation programs  
9 shall be trained to add endorsements to licenses issued to  
10 applicants who meet all of the requirements for the  
11 endorsement or endorsements, including passing any required  
12 tests. The State Superintendent of Education shall randomly  
13 audit institutions to ensure that all rules and standards are  
14 being followed for entitlement or when endorsements are being  
15 recommended.

16 (1) The State Board of Education, in consultation with  
17 the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, shall  
18 establish, by rule, the grade level and subject area  
19 endorsements to be added to the Professional Educator  
20 License. These rules shall outline the requirements for  
21 obtaining each endorsement.

22 (1.5) The State Board of Education, in consultation  
23 with the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board,  
24 shall create an introductory content area endorsement for  
25 teaching computer science in grades 5 through 12 that

1 allows licensed educators to teach introductory computer  
2 science courses, as defined by the State Board. This  
3 endorsement shall require no more than 8 credit hours of  
4 graduate-level preparation and include instruction in  
5 introductory computer science concepts and computer  
6 science pedagogy. Educators seeking the introductory  
7 content area endorsement for teaching computer science may  
8 substitute a State Board-approved, one-week professional  
9 development program in introductory high school computer  
10 science education for 4 credit hours of the graduate-level  
11 preparation. This one-week professional development  
12 program may count as 4 credit hours toward the full  
13 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) (Blank).

20 (B) Principal endorsement. A principal endorsement  
21 shall be affixed to a Professional Educator License of  
22 any holder who qualifies by having all of the  
23 following:

24 (i) Successful completion of a principal  
25 preparation program approved in accordance with  
26 Section 21B-60 of this Code and any applicable

1 rules.

2 (ii) At least 4 total years of teaching or 4  
3 total years of working in the capacity of school  
4 support personnel in an Illinois public school or  
5 nonpublic school recognized by the State Board of  
6 Education, in a school under the supervision of  
7 the Department of Corrections, or in an  
8 out-of-state public school or out-of-state  
9 nonpublic school meeting out-of-state recognition  
10 standards comparable to those approved by the  
11 State Superintendent of Education; however, the  
12 State Board of Education, in consultation with the  
13 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board,  
14 shall allow, by rules, for fewer than 4 years of  
15 experience based on meeting standards set forth in  
16 such rules, including without limitation a review  
17 of performance evaluations or other evidence of  
18 demonstrated qualifications.

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

21 (C) Chief school business official endorsement. A  
22 chief school business official endorsement shall be  
23 affixed to the Professional Educator License of any  
24 holder who qualifies by having a master's degree or  
25 higher, 2 years of full-time administrative experience  
26 in school business management or 2 years of

1 university-approved practical experience, and a  
2 minimum of 24 semester hours of graduate credit in a  
3 program approved by the State Board of Education for  
4 the preparation of school business administrators and  
5 by passage of the applicable State tests. The chief  
6 school business official endorsement may also be  
7 affixed to the Professional Educator License of any  
8 holder who qualifies by having a master's degree in  
9 business administration, finance, accounting, or  
10 public administration and who completes an additional  
11 6 semester hours of internship in school business  
12 management from a regionally accredited institution of  
13 higher education and passes the applicable State  
14 tests. This endorsement shall be required for any  
15 individual employed as a chief school business  
16 official.

17 (D) Superintendent endorsement. A superintendent  
18 endorsement shall be affixed to the Professional  
19 Educator License of any holder who has completed a  
20 program approved by the State Board of Education for  
21 the preparation of superintendents of schools, has had  
22 at least 2 years of experience employed full-time in a  
23 general administrative position or as a full-time  
24 principal, director of special education, or chief  
25 school business official in the public schools or in a  
26 State-recognized nonpublic school in which the chief

1 administrator is required to have the licensure  
2 necessary to be a principal in a public school in this  
3 State and where a majority of the teachers are  
4 required to have the licensure necessary to be  
5 instructors in a public school in this State, and has  
6 passed the required State tests; or of any holder who  
7 has completed a program that is not an  
8 Illinois-approved educator preparation program at an  
9 Illinois institution of higher education and that has  
10 recognition standards comparable to those approved by  
11 the State Superintendent of Education and holds the  
12 general administrative, principal, or chief school  
13 business official endorsement and who has had 2 years  
14 of experience as a principal, director of special  
15 education, or chief school business official while  
16 holding a valid educator license or certificate  
17 comparable in validity and educational and experience  
18 requirements and has passed the appropriate State  
19 tests, as provided in Section 21B-30 of this Code. The  
20 superintendent endorsement shall allow individuals to  
21 serve only as a superintendent or assistant  
22 superintendent.

23 (E) Teacher leader endorsement. It shall be the  
24 policy of this State to improve the quality of  
25 instructional leaders by providing a career pathway  
26 for teachers interested in serving in leadership

1 roles, but not as principals. The State Board of  
2 Education, in consultation with the State Educator  
3 Preparation and Licensure Board, may issue a teacher  
4 leader endorsement under this subdivision (E). Persons  
5 who meet and successfully complete the requirements of  
6 the endorsement shall be issued a teacher leader  
7 endorsement on the Professional Educator License for  
8 serving in schools in this State. Teacher leaders may  
9 qualify to serve in such positions as department  
10 chairs, coaches, mentors, curriculum and instruction  
11 leaders, or other leadership positions as defined by  
12 the district. The endorsement shall be available to  
13 those teachers who (i) hold a Professional Educator  
14 License, (ii) hold a master's degree or higher from a  
15 regionally accredited institution, (iii) have  
16 completed a program of study that has been approved by  
17 the State Board of Education, in consultation with the  
18 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, and  
19 (iv) have successfully demonstrated competencies as  
20 defined by rule.

21 A teacher who meets the requirements set forth in  
22 this Section and holds a teacher leader endorsement  
23 may evaluate teachers pursuant to Section 24A-5 of  
24 this Code, provided that the individual has completed  
25 the evaluation component required by Section 24A-3 of  
26 this Code and a teacher leader is allowed to evaluate

1 personnel under the respective school district's  
2 collective bargaining agreement.

3 The State Board of Education, in consultation with  
4 the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board,  
5 may adopt such rules as may be necessary to establish  
6 and implement the teacher leader endorsement program  
7 and to specify the positions for which this  
8 endorsement shall be required.

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

- 16 (i) Learning Behavior Specialist I;
- 17 (ii) Learning Behavior Specialist II;
- 18 (iii) Speech Language Pathologist;
- 19 (iv) Blind or Visually Impaired;
- 20 (v) Deaf-Hard of Hearing;
- 21 (vi) Early Childhood Special Education; and
- 22 (vii) Director of Special Education.

23 Notwithstanding anything in this Code to the contrary,  
24 the State Board of Education, in consultation with the  
25 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, may  
26 add additional areas of special education by rule.

1 (G) School support personnel endorsement. School  
2 support personnel endorsement areas shall include, but  
3 are not limited to, school counselor, marriage and  
4 family therapist, school psychologist, school speech  
5 and language pathologist, school nurse, and school  
6 social worker. This endorsement is for individuals who  
7 are not teachers or administrators, but still require  
8 licensure to work in an instructional support position  
9 in a public or State-operated elementary school,  
10 secondary school, or cooperative or joint agreement  
11 with a governing body or board of control or a charter  
12 school operating in compliance with the Charter  
13 Schools Law. The school support personnel endorsement  
14 shall be affixed to the Professional Educator License  
15 and shall meet all of the requirements established in  
16 any rules adopted to implement this subdivision (G).  
17 The holder of such an endorsement is entitled to all of  
18 the rights and privileges granted holders of any other  
19 Professional Educator License, including teacher  
20 benefits, compensation, and working conditions.

21 (Source: P.A. 100-13, eff. 7-1-17; 100-267, eff. 8-22-17;  
22 100-288, eff. 8-24-17; 100-596, eff. 7-1-18; 100-780, eff.  
23 1-1-19; 100-863, eff. 8-14-18; 101-81, eff. 7-12-19; 101-220,  
24 eff. 8-7-19.)

25 (105 ILCS 5/27-605) (was 105 ILCS 5/27-22)

1           Sec. 27-605. Required high school courses.

2           (a) (Blank).

3           (b) (Blank).

4           (c) (Blank).

5           (d) (Blank).

6           (e) Through the 2023-2024 school year, as a prerequisite  
7 to receiving a high school diploma, each pupil entering the  
8 9th grade must, in addition to other course requirements,  
9 successfully complete all of the following courses:

10                 (1) Four years of language arts.

11                 (2) Two years of writing intensive courses, one of  
12 which must be English and the other of which may be English  
13 or any other subject. When applicable, writing-intensive  
14 courses may be counted towards the fulfillment of other  
15 graduation requirements.

16                 (3) Three years of mathematics, one of which must be  
17 Algebra I, one of which must include geometry content, and  
18 one of which may be an Advanced Placement computer science  
19 course. A mathematics course that includes geometry  
20 content may be offered as an integrated, applied,  
21 interdisciplinary, or career and technical education  
22 course that prepares a student for a career readiness  
23 path.

24                 (3.5) For pupils entering the 9th grade in the  
25 2022-2023 school year and 2023-2024 school year, one year  
26 of a course that includes intensive instruction in

1 computer literacy, which may be English, social studies,  
2 or any other subject and which may be counted toward the  
3 fulfillment of other graduation requirements.

4 (4) Two years of science.

5 (5) Two years of social studies, of which at least one  
6 year must be history of the United States or a combination  
7 of history of the United States and American government  
8 and, beginning with pupils entering the 9th grade in the  
9 2016-2017 school year and each school year thereafter, at  
10 least one semester must be civics, which shall help young  
11 people acquire and learn to use the skills, knowledge, and  
12 attitudes that will prepare them to be competent and  
13 responsible citizens throughout their lives. Civics course  
14 content shall focus on government institutions, the  
15 discussion of current and controversial issues, service  
16 learning, and simulations of the democratic process.  
17 School districts may utilize private funding available for  
18 the purposes of offering civics education. Beginning with  
19 pupils entering the 9th grade in the 2021-2022 school  
20 year, one semester, or part of one semester, may include a  
21 financial literacy course.

22 (6) One year chosen from (A) music, (B) art, (C)  
23 foreign language, which shall be deemed to include  
24 American Sign Language, (D) vocational education, or (E)  
25 forensic speech (speech and debate). A forensic speech  
26 course used to satisfy the course requirement under

1 subdivision (1) may not be used to satisfy the course  
2 requirement under this subdivision (6).

3 (e-5) Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, as a  
4 prerequisite to receiving a high school diploma, each pupil  
5 entering the 9th grade must, in addition to other course  
6 requirements, successfully complete all of the following  
7 courses:

8 (1) Four years of language arts.

9 (2) Two years of writing intensive courses, one of  
10 which must be English and the other of which may be English  
11 or any other subject. If applicable, writing-intensive  
12 courses may be counted toward the fulfillment of other  
13 graduation requirements.

14 (3) Three years of mathematics, one of which must be  
15 Algebra I, one of which must include geometry content, and  
16 one of which may be a ~~an Advanced Placement~~ computer  
17 science course. A mathematics course that includes  
18 geometry content may be offered as an integrated, applied,  
19 interdisciplinary, or career and technical education  
20 course that prepares a student for a career readiness  
21 path.

22 (3.5) One year of a course that includes intensive  
23 instruction in computer literacy, which may be English,  
24 social studies, or any other subject and which may be  
25 counted toward the fulfillment of other graduation  
26 requirements.

1 (4) Two years of laboratory science.

2 (5) Two years of social studies, of which at least one  
3 year must be history of the United States or a combination  
4 of history of the United States and American government  
5 and at least one semester must be civics, which shall help  
6 young people acquire and learn to use the skills,  
7 knowledge, and attitudes that will prepare them to be  
8 competent and responsible citizens throughout their lives.  
9 Civics course content shall focus on government  
10 institutions, the discussion of current and controversial  
11 issues, service learning, and simulations of the  
12 democratic process. School districts may utilize private  
13 funding available for the purposes of offering civics  
14 education. One semester, or part of one semester, may  
15 include a financial literacy course.

16 (6) One year chosen from (A) music, (B) art, (C)  
17 foreign language, which shall be deemed to include  
18 American Sign Language, (D) career and technical  
19 education, or (E) forensic speech (speech and debate). A  
20 forensic speech course used to satisfy the course  
21 requirement under subdivision (1) may not be used to  
22 satisfy the course requirement under this subdivision (6).

23 (e-10) Beginning with the 2028-2029 school year, as a  
24 prerequisite to receiving a high school diploma, each pupil  
25 entering the 9th grade must, in addition to other course  
26 requirements, successfully complete 2 years of foreign

1 language courses, which may include American Sign Language. A  
2 pupil may choose a third year of foreign language to satisfy  
3 the requirement under subdivision (6) of subsection (e-5).

4 (e-15) Beginning with the 2028-2029 school year, as a  
5 prerequisite to receiving a high school diploma, each pupil  
6 entering the 9th grade must successfully complete one year of  
7 high school computer science and artificial intelligence,  
8 which may be taken in any of grades 7 through 12 and shall  
9 count toward the fulfillment of either (i) one year of the  
10 foreign language requirement under subsection (e-10), (ii) the  
11 third year of mathematics requirement under subdivision (3) of  
12 subsection (e-5), or (iii) the requirement under subdivision  
13 (6) of subsection (e-5). A computer science course counted  
14 toward the fulfillment of a requirement under item (i), (ii),  
15 or (iii) of this subsection (e-15) may also be used to fulfill  
16 the computer literacy requirement under subdivision (3.5) of  
17 subsection (e-5).

18 (1) The State Board of Education shall create  
19 guidelines for school districts regarding which courses  
20 fulfill a requirement under item (i) or (ii) of this  
21 subsection (e-15). Eligible courses must include  
22 instruction in evolving computer science technologies,  
23 such as artificial intelligence, including what artificial  
24 intelligence is, how artificial intelligence works, and  
25 ethical considerations related to the use of artificial  
26 intelligence.

1           (2) Any computer science course taken by students in  
2           grade 7 or 8 that is used for credit toward the requirement  
3           must be taught by an educator with an introductory content  
4           area endorsement for teaching computer science under  
5           Section 21B-25.

6           (3) If a student uses a computer science course to  
7           fulfill the foreign language requirement under item (i) of  
8           this subsection (e-15), then the school board must  
9           designate that computer science course as equivalent to a  
10           high school foreign language course and must denote on the  
11           student's transcript that the computer science course  
12           qualifies as a foreign language course for students under  
13           item (i) of this subsection (e-15) for the purpose of  
14           admission to an institution of higher education in this  
15           State.

16           (4) If a student uses a computer science course to  
17           fulfill the mathematics requirement under item (ii) of  
18           this subsection (e-15), then the school board must  
19           designate that computer science course as equivalent to a  
20           high school mathematics course and must denote on the  
21           student's transcript that the computer science course  
22           qualifies as a mathematics-based, quantitative course for  
23           students in accordance with subdivision (3) of subsection  
24           (e-5).

25           (5) By June 30, 2027, the State Board of Education  
26           shall update its existing list of course titles

1 recommended for computer science under Section 2-3.185  
2 with a list of courses that can be used to satisfy the  
3 requirements of this subsection (e-15); however, each  
4 school district shall ensure that such courses align with  
5 the State learning standards for computer science and the  
6 State Board shall include on the list only courses that  
7 meet the definition of computer science under Section  
8 10-17a. The State Board shall update its list of  
9 qualifying courses as needed to reflect changing State and  
10 regional economic and educational needs.

11 (6) The requirements of this subsection (e-15) do not  
12 apply to a pupil transferring to a high school in this  
13 State from another state after the pupil's 11th grade  
14 year.

15 (7) A school may enter into a cooperative resource  
16 sharing agreement to ensure that its students can enroll  
17 in a computer science course under this subsection (e-15).

18 (f) The State Board of Education shall develop and inform  
19 school districts of standards for writing-intensive  
20 coursework.

21 (f-5) If a school district offers a an ~~Advanced Placement~~  
22 computer science course to high school students, then the  
23 school board must designate that course as equivalent to a  
24 high school mathematics course and must denote on the  
25 student's transcript that the ~~Advanced Placement~~ computer  
26 science course qualifies as a mathematics-based, quantitative

1 course for students in accordance with ~~subdivision (3) of~~  
2 ~~subsection (e) of~~ this Section.

3 (g) Public Act 83-1082 does not apply to pupils entering  
4 the 9th grade in 1983-1984 school year and prior school years  
5 or to students with disabilities whose course of study is  
6 determined by an individualized education program.

7 Public Act 94-676 does not apply to pupils entering the  
8 9th grade in the 2004-2005 school year or a prior school year  
9 or to students with disabilities whose course of study is  
10 determined by an individualized education program.

11 Subdivision (3.5) of subsection (e) does not apply to  
12 pupils entering the 9th grade in the 2021-2022 school year or a  
13 prior school year or to students with disabilities whose  
14 course of study is determined by an individualized education  
15 program.

16 Subsection (e-5) does not apply to pupils entering the 9th  
17 grade in the 2023-2024 school year or a prior school year or to  
18 students with disabilities whose course of study is determined  
19 by an individualized education program. Subsection (e-10) does  
20 not apply to pupils entering the 9th grade in the 2027-2028  
21 school year or a prior school year or to students with  
22 disabilities whose course of study is determined by an  
23 individualized education program. Subsection (e-15) does not  
24 apply to pupils entering the 9th grade in the 2027-2028 school  
25 year or a prior school year or to students with disabilities  
26 whose course of study is determined by an individualized

1 education program.

2 (h) The provisions of this Section are subject to the  
3 provisions of Sections 14A-32 and 27-610 of this Code and the  
4 Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness Act.

5 (i) The State Board of Education may adopt rules to modify  
6 the requirements of this Section for any students enrolled in  
7 grades 9 through 12 if the Governor has declared a disaster due  
8 to a public health emergency pursuant to Section 7 of the  
9 Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act.

10 (Source: P.A. 103-154, eff. 6-30-23; 103-743, eff. 8-2-24;  
11 104-387, eff. 8-15-25; 104-391, eff. 8-15-25; revised  
12 9-24-25.)

13 (105 ILCS 5/34-18.88 new)

14 Sec. 34-18.88. Computer science course reporting.

15 (a) Beginning with the 2027-2028 school year, the board  
16 shall report, for each school maintaining any of grades  
17 kindergarten through 5, the following data to the State Board  
18 of Education:

19 (1) the computer science content offered in those  
20 grades, including the minutes of instructional time  
21 dedicated to computer science, descriptions of  
22 instructional content, and, if available, which State  
23 learning standards for computer science are covered in the  
24 instruction; and

25 (2) the students receiving computer science

1 instruction in those grades and the grade level, gender,  
2 race and ethnicity, eligibility for free or reduced-price  
3 school meals, disability and individualized education  
4 program or federal Section 504 plan status, and English  
5 learner status of those students.

6 (b) Beginning with the 2027-2028 school year, the board  
7 shall report, for each school maintaining any of grades 6  
8 through 8, the following data to the State Board of Education:

9 (1) the computer science courses or content offered in  
10 those grades, including the course codes, if any,  
11 descriptions, and, if available, which State learning  
12 standards for computer science are covered in each course;  
13 and

14 (2) the students enrolled in computer science courses  
15 in those grades and the grade level, gender, race and  
16 ethnicity, eligibility for free or reduced-price school  
17 meals, disability and individualized education program or  
18 federal Section 504 plan status, and English learner  
19 status of those students.

20 (c) The State Board of Education shall disaggregate the  
21 data collected under paragraph (2) of subsection (a) and  
22 paragraph (2) of subsection (b) by grade level, gender, race  
23 and ethnicity, eligibility for free or reduced-price school  
24 meals, disability and individualized education program or  
25 federal Section 504 plan status, and English learner status  
26 and make the data available publicly, along with the data

1 collected under paragraph (1) of subsection (a) and paragraph  
2 (1) of subsection (b).