



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB0187

Introduced 1/17/2025, by Sen. Michael W. Halpin

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/21B-20
105 ILCS 5/21B-30
105 ILCS 5/21B-40

Amends the Educator Licensure Article of the School Code. Provides that a social work associate endorsement on an Educator License with stipulations may be issued to an applicant who (i) holds a degree from a graduate program of social work that has been approved by the Council on Social Work Education and (ii) has an active license through the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation under the Clinical Social Work and Social Work Practice Act as either a licensed clinical social worker or licensed social worker. Provides that the holder of a social work associate endorsement is authorized to perform responsibilities associated with traditional social work practice, subject to the restrictions in the Clinical Social Work and Social Work Practice Act regarding independent clinical practice, including Tier 1 and Tier 2 interventions in a multi-tiered system of support. Provides that all responsibilities of the holder of a social work associate endorsement shall be performed in consultation with an individual who holds a Professional Educator License with a school support personnel endorsement in the area of school social work. Provides that the holder of a social work associate endorsement is not authorized to perform Tier 3 multi-tiered system of support interventions or participate in the individualized education program process or the federal Section 504 plan process for any student with a disability. Provides that the holder of a social work associate endorsement may not be employed by a school district or any other entity to replace any presently employed Professional Educator License holder with a school support personnel endorsement who otherwise would not be replaced for any reason. Provides that an applicant for a social work associate endorsement is not required to pass a content area test under the Code. Makes related changes. Effective immediately.

LRB104 07346 LNS 17386 b

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. Findings. The General Assembly finds that, to
5 address the increasing mental health and behavioral health
6 needs of students in our schools, a new social work associate
7 endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations is needed
8 to expand the availability of qualified social workers to work
9 within school settings. The new endorsement created under this
10 Act is designed for Master of Social Work professionals who
11 hold current licenses issued by the Department of Financial
12 and Professional Regulation under the Clinical Social Work and
13 Social Work Practice Act as either a licensed clinical social
14 worker or a licensed social worker. The intent of this Act is
15 to expand the availability of qualified social workers in our
16 schools, not to replace or supplant professional educator
17 license holders or to fill professional educator license
18 vacancies. This Act is also intended to encourage the holders
19 of social work associate endorsements to pursue a Professional
20 Educator License with a school support personnel endorsement
21 in the area of school social work.

22 Section 10. The School Code is amended by changing
23 Sections 21B-20, 21B-30, and 21B-40 as follows:

1 (105 ILCS 5/21B-20)

2 Sec. 21B-20. Types of licenses. The State Board of
3 Education shall implement a system of educator licensure,
4 whereby individuals employed in school districts who are
5 required to be licensed must have one of the following
6 licenses: (i) a professional educator license; (ii) an
7 educator license with stipulations; (iii) a substitute
8 teaching license; or (iv) until June 30, 2028, a short-term
9 substitute teaching license. References in law regarding
10 individuals certified or certificated or required to be
11 certified or certificated under Article 21 of this Code shall
12 also include individuals licensed or required to be licensed
13 under this Article. The first year of all licenses ends on June
14 30 following one full year of the license being issued.

15 The State Board of Education, in consultation with the
16 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, may adopt such
17 rules as may be necessary to govern the requirements for
18 licenses and endorsements under this Section.

19 (1) Professional Educator License. Persons who (i)
20 have successfully completed an approved educator
21 preparation program and are recommended for licensure by
22 the Illinois institution offering the educator preparation
23 program, (ii) have successfully completed the required
24 testing under Section 21B-30 of this Code, (iii) have
25 successfully completed coursework on the psychology of,

1 the identification of, and the methods of instruction for
2 the exceptional child, including, without limitation,
3 children with learning disabilities, (iv) have
4 successfully completed coursework in methods of reading
5 and reading in the content area, and (v) have met all other
6 criteria established by rule of the State Board of
7 Education shall be issued a Professional Educator License.
8 All Professional Educator Licenses are valid until June 30
9 immediately following 5 years of the license being issued.
10 The Professional Educator License shall be endorsed with
11 specific areas and grade levels in which the individual is
12 eligible to practice. For an early childhood education
13 endorsement, an individual may satisfy the student
14 teaching requirement of his or her early childhood teacher
15 preparation program through placement in a setting with
16 children from birth through grade 2, and the individual
17 may be paid and receive credit while student teaching. The
18 student teaching experience must meet the requirements of
19 and be approved by the individual's early childhood
20 teacher preparation program.

21 Individuals can receive subsequent endorsements on the
22 Professional Educator License. Subsequent endorsements
23 shall require a minimum of 24 semester hours of coursework
24 in the endorsement area and passage of the applicable
25 content area test, unless otherwise specified by rule.

26 (2) Educator License with Stipulations. An Educator

1 License with Stipulations shall be issued an endorsement
2 that limits the license holder to one particular position
3 or does not require completion of an approved educator
4 program or both.

5 An individual with an Educator License with
6 Stipulations must not be employed by a school district or
7 any other entity to replace any presently employed teacher
8 who otherwise would not be replaced for any reason.

9 An Educator License with Stipulations may be issued
10 with the following endorsements:

11 (A) (Blank).

12 (B) Alternative provisional educator. An
13 alternative provisional educator endorsement on an
14 Educator License with Stipulations may be issued to an
15 applicant who, at the time of applying for the
16 endorsement, has done all of the following:

17 (i) Graduated from a regionally accredited
18 college or university with a minimum of a
19 bachelor's degree.

20 (ii) Successfully completed the first phase of
21 the Alternative Educator Licensure Program for
22 Teachers, as described in Section 21B-50 of this
23 Code.

24 (iii) Passed a content area test, as required
25 under Section 21B-30 of this Code.

26 The alternative provisional educator endorsement is

1 valid for 2 years of teaching and may be renewed for a
2 third year by an individual meeting the requirements set
3 forth in Section 21B-50 of this Code.

4 (C) Alternative provisional superintendent. An
5 alternative provisional superintendent endorsement on
6 an Educator License with Stipulations entitles the
7 holder to serve only as a superintendent or assistant
8 superintendent in a school district's central office.
9 This endorsement may only be issued to an applicant
10 who, at the time of applying for the endorsement, has
11 done all of the following:

12 (i) Graduated from a regionally accredited
13 college or university with a minimum of a master's
14 degree in a management field other than education.

15 (ii) Been employed for a period of at least 5
16 years in a management level position in a field
17 other than education.

18 (iii) Successfully completed the first phase
19 of an alternative route to superintendent
20 endorsement program, as provided in Section 21B-55
21 of this Code.

22 (iv) Passed a content area test required under
23 Section 21B-30 of this Code.

24 The endorsement is valid for 2 fiscal years in
25 order to complete one full year of serving as a
26 superintendent or assistant superintendent.

1 (D) (Blank).

2 (E) Career and technical educator. A career and
3 technical educator endorsement on an Educator License
4 with Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who
5 has a minimum of 60 semester hours of coursework from a
6 regionally accredited institution of higher education
7 or an accredited trade and technical institution and
8 has a minimum of 2,000 hours of experience outside of
9 education in each area to be taught.

10 The career and technical educator endorsement on
11 an Educator License with Stipulations is valid until
12 June 30 immediately following 5 years of the
13 endorsement being issued and may be renewed.

14 An individual who holds a valid career and
15 technical educator endorsement on an Educator License
16 with Stipulations but does not hold a bachelor's
17 degree may substitute teach in career and technical
18 education classrooms.

19 An individual who holds a valid career and
20 technical educator endorsement on an Educator License
21 with Stipulations is entitled to all of the rights and
22 privileges granted to a holder of a Professional
23 Educator License.

24 (F) (Blank).

25 (G) Transitional bilingual educator. A
26 transitional bilingual educator endorsement on an

1 Educator License with Stipulations may be issued for
2 the purpose of providing instruction in accordance
3 with Article 14C of this Code to an applicant who
4 provides satisfactory evidence that he or she meets
5 all of the following requirements:

6 (i) Possesses adequate speaking, reading, and
7 writing ability in the language other than English
8 in which transitional bilingual education is
9 offered.

10 (ii) Has the ability to successfully
11 communicate in English.

12 (iii) Either possessed, within 5 years
13 previous to his or her applying for a transitional
14 bilingual educator endorsement, a valid and
15 comparable teaching certificate or comparable
16 authorization issued by a foreign country or holds
17 a degree from an institution of higher learning in
18 a foreign country that the State Educator
19 Preparation and Licensure Board determines to be
20 the equivalent of a bachelor's degree from a
21 regionally accredited institution of higher
22 learning in the United States.

23 A transitional bilingual educator endorsement
24 shall be valid for prekindergarten through grade 12,
25 is valid until June 30 immediately following 5 years
26 of the endorsement being issued, and shall not be

1 renewed.

2 Persons holding a transitional bilingual educator
3 endorsement shall not be employed to replace any
4 presently employed teacher who otherwise would not be
5 replaced for any reason.

6 (H) Language endorsement. In an effort to
7 alleviate the shortage of teachers speaking a language
8 other than English in the public schools, an
9 individual who holds an Educator License with
10 Stipulations may also apply for a language
11 endorsement, provided that the applicant provides
12 satisfactory evidence that he or she meets all of the
13 following requirements:

14 (i) Holds a transitional bilingual
15 endorsement.

16 (ii) Has demonstrated proficiency in the
17 language for which the endorsement is to be issued
18 by passing the applicable language content test
19 required by the State Board of Education.

20 (iii) Holds a bachelor's degree or higher from
21 a regionally accredited institution of higher
22 education or, for individuals educated in a
23 country other than the United States, holds a
24 degree from an institution of higher learning in a
25 foreign country that the State Educator
26 Preparation and Licensure Board determines to be

1 the equivalent of a bachelor's degree from a
2 regionally accredited institution of higher
3 learning in the United States.

4 (iv) (Blank).

5 A language endorsement on an Educator License with
6 Stipulations is valid for prekindergarten through
7 grade 12 for the same validity period as the
8 individual's transitional bilingual educator
9 endorsement on the Educator License with Stipulations
10 and shall not be renewed.

11 (I) Visiting international educator. A visiting
12 international educator endorsement on an Educator
13 License with Stipulations may be issued to an
14 individual who is being recruited by a particular
15 school district that conducts formal recruitment
16 programs outside of the United States to secure the
17 services of qualified teachers and who meets all of
18 the following requirements:

19 (i) Holds the equivalent of a minimum of a
20 bachelor's degree issued in the United States.

21 (ii) Has been prepared as a teacher at the
22 grade level for which he or she will be employed.

23 (iii) Has adequate content knowledge in the
24 subject to be taught.

25 (iv) Has an adequate command of the English
26 language.

1 A holder of a visiting international educator
2 endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations
3 shall be permitted to teach in bilingual education
4 programs in the language that was the medium of
5 instruction in his or her teacher preparation program,
6 provided that he or she passes the English Language
7 Proficiency Examination or another test of writing
8 skills in English identified by the State Board of
9 Education, in consultation with the State Educator
10 Preparation and Licensure Board.

11 A visiting international educator endorsement on
12 an Educator License with Stipulations is valid for 5
13 years and shall not be renewed.

14 (J) Paraprofessional educator. A paraprofessional
15 educator endorsement on an Educator License with
16 Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who holds a
17 high school diploma or its recognized equivalent and
18 (i) holds an associate's degree or a minimum of 60
19 semester hours of credit from a regionally accredited
20 institution of higher education; (ii) has passed a
21 paraprofessional competency test under subsection
22 (c-5) of Section 21B-30; or (iii) is at least 18 years
23 of age and will be using the Educator License with
24 Stipulations exclusively for grades prekindergarten
25 through grade 8, until the individual reaches the age
26 of 19 years and otherwise meets the criteria for a

1 paraprofessional educator endorsement pursuant to this
2 subparagraph (J). The paraprofessional educator
3 endorsement is valid until June 30 immediately
4 following 5 years of the endorsement being issued and
5 may be renewed through application and payment of the
6 appropriate fee, as required under Section 21B-40 of
7 this Code. An individual who holds only a
8 paraprofessional educator endorsement is not subject
9 to additional requirements in order to renew the
10 endorsement.

11 (K) Chief school business official. A chief school
12 business official endorsement on an Educator License
13 with Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who
14 qualifies by having a master's degree or higher, 2
15 years of full-time administrative experience in school
16 business management or 2 years of university-approved
17 practical experience, and a minimum of 24 semester
18 hours of graduate credit in a program approved by the
19 State Board of Education for the preparation of school
20 business administrators and by passage of the
21 applicable State tests, including an applicable
22 content area test.

23 The chief school business official endorsement may
24 also be affixed to the Educator License with
25 Stipulations of any holder who qualifies by having a
26 master's degree in business administration, finance,

1 accounting, or public administration and who completes
2 an additional 6 semester hours of internship in school
3 business management from a regionally accredited
4 institution of higher education and passes the
5 applicable State tests, including an applicable
6 content area test. This endorsement shall be required
7 for any individual employed as a chief school business
8 official.

9 The chief school business official endorsement on
10 an Educator License with Stipulations is valid until
11 June 30 immediately following 5 years of the
12 endorsement being issued and may be renewed if the
13 license holder completes renewal requirements as
14 required for individuals who hold a Professional
15 Educator License endorsed for chief school business
16 official under Section 21B-45 of this Code and such
17 rules as may be adopted by the State Board of
18 Education.

19 The State Board of Education shall adopt any rules
20 necessary to implement Public Act 100-288.

21 (L) Provisional in-state educator. A provisional
22 in-state educator endorsement on an Educator License
23 with Stipulations may be issued to a candidate who has
24 completed an Illinois-approved educator preparation
25 program at an Illinois institution of higher education
26 and who has not successfully completed an

1 evidence-based assessment of teacher effectiveness but
2 who meets all of the following requirements:

3 (i) Holds at least a bachelor's degree.

4 (ii) Has completed an approved educator
5 preparation program at an Illinois institution.

6 (iii) Has passed an applicable content area
7 test, as required by Section 21B-30 of this Code.

8 (iv) Has attempted an evidence-based
9 assessment of teacher effectiveness and received a
10 minimum score on that assessment, as established
11 by the State Board of Education in consultation
12 with the State Educator Preparation and Licensure
13 Board.

14 A provisional in-state educator endorsement on an
15 Educator License with Stipulations is valid for one
16 full fiscal year after the date of issuance and may not
17 be renewed.

18 (M) (Blank).

19 (N) Specialized services. A specialized services
20 endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations
21 may be issued as defined and specified by rule.

22 (O) Provisional career and technical educator. A
23 provisional career and technical educator endorsement
24 on an Educator License with Stipulations may be issued
25 to an applicant who has a minimum of 8,000 hours of
26 work experience in the skill for which the applicant

1 is seeking the endorsement. Each employing school
2 board and regional office of education shall provide
3 verification, in writing, to the State Superintendent
4 of Education at the time the application is submitted
5 that no qualified teacher holding a Professional
6 Educator License or an Educator License with
7 Stipulations with a career and technical educator
8 endorsement is available to teach and that actual
9 circumstances require such issuance.

10 A provisional career and technical educator
11 endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations
12 is valid until June 30 immediately following 5 years
13 of the endorsement being issued and may be renewed.

14 An individual who holds a provisional career and
15 technical educator endorsement on an Educator License
16 with Stipulations may teach as a substitute teacher in
17 career and technical education classrooms.

18 An individual who holds a provisional career and
19 technical educator endorsement on an Educator License
20 with Stipulations is entitled to all of the rights and
21 privileges granted to a holder of a Professional
22 Educator License.

23 (P) Social work associate. A social work associate
24 endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations
25 may be issued to an applicant who meets all of the
26 following requirements:

1 (i) Holds a degree from a graduate program of
2 social work that has been approved by the Council
3 on Social Work Education.

4 (ii) Has an active license through the
5 Department of Financial and Professional
6 Regulation under the Clinical Social Work and
7 Social Work Practice Act as either a licensed
8 clinical social worker or a licensed social
9 worker.

10 The holder of a social work associate endorsement
11 under this subparagraph (P) is authorized to perform
12 responsibilities associated with traditional social
13 work practice, subject to the restrictions in the
14 Clinical Social Work and Social Work Practice Act
15 regarding independent clinical practice, including
16 Tier 1 and Tier 2 interventions in a multi-tiered
17 system of support (MTSS). All responsibilities of the
18 holder of a social work associate endorsement shall be
19 performed in consultation with an individual who holds
20 a Professional Educator License with a school support
21 personnel endorsement in the area of school social
22 work. The holder of a social work associate
23 endorsement is not authorized to perform Tier 3 MTSS
24 interventions or participate in the individualized
25 education program process or the federal Section 504
26 plan process for any student with a disability.

1 The holder of a social work associate endorsement
2 under this subparagraph (P) may not be employed by a
3 school district or any other entity to replace any
4 presently employed Professional Educator License
5 holder with a school support personnel endorsement who
6 otherwise would not be replaced for any reason.

7 An applicant for a social work associate
8 endorsement under this subparagraph (P) is not
9 required to pass a content area test under Section
10 21B-30 of this Code.

11 (3) Substitute Teaching License. A Substitute Teaching
12 License may be issued to qualified applicants for
13 substitute teaching in all grades of the public schools,
14 prekindergarten through grade 12. Substitute Teaching
15 Licenses are not eligible for endorsements. Applicants for
16 a Substitute Teaching License must hold a bachelor's
17 degree or higher from a regionally accredited institution
18 of higher education or must be enrolled in an approved
19 educator preparation program in this State and have earned
20 at least 90 credit hours.

21 Substitute Teaching Licenses are valid for 5 years.

22 Substitute Teaching Licenses are valid for substitute
23 teaching in every county of this State. If an individual
24 has had his or her Professional Educator License or
25 Educator License with Stipulations suspended or revoked,
26 then that individual is not eligible to obtain a

1 Substitute Teaching License.

2 A substitute teacher may only teach in the place of a
3 licensed teacher who is under contract with the employing
4 board. If, however, there is no licensed teacher under
5 contract because of an emergency situation, then a
6 district may employ a substitute teacher for no longer
7 than 30 calendar days per each vacant position in the
8 district if the district notifies the appropriate regional
9 office of education within 5 business days after the
10 employment of the substitute teacher in that vacant
11 position. A district may continue to employ that same
12 substitute teacher in that same vacant position for 90
13 calendar days or until the end of the semester, whichever
14 is greater, if, prior to the expiration of the
15 30-calendar-day period then current, the district files a
16 written request with the appropriate regional office of
17 education for a 30-calendar-day extension on the basis
18 that the position remains vacant and the district
19 continues to actively seek qualified candidates and
20 provides documentation that it has provided training
21 specific to the position, including training on meeting
22 the needs of students with disabilities and English
23 learners if applicable. Each extension request shall be
24 granted in writing by the regional office of education. An
25 emergency situation is one in which an unforeseen vacancy
26 has occurred and (i) a teacher is unexpectedly unable to

1 fulfill his or her contractual duties or (ii) teacher
2 capacity needs of the district exceed previous indications
3 or vacancies are unfilled due to a lack of qualified
4 candidates, and the district is actively engaged in
5 advertising to hire a fully licensed teacher for the
6 vacant position.

7 There is no limit on the number of days that a
8 substitute teacher may teach in a single school district,
9 provided that no substitute teacher may teach for longer
10 than 120 days beginning with the 2021-2022 school year
11 through the 2022-2023 school year, otherwise 90 school
12 days for any one licensed teacher under contract in the
13 same school year. A substitute teacher who holds a
14 Professional Educator License or Educator License with
15 Stipulations shall not teach for more than 120 school days
16 for any one licensed teacher under contract in the same
17 school year. The limitations in this paragraph (3) on the
18 number of days a substitute teacher may be employed do not
19 apply to any school district operating under Article 34 of
20 this Code.

21 A school district may not require an individual who
22 holds a valid Professional Educator License or Educator
23 License with Stipulations to seek or hold a Substitute
24 Teaching License to teach as a substitute teacher.

25 (4) Short-Term Substitute Teaching License. Beginning
26 on July 1, 2018 and until June 30, 2028, applicants may

1 apply to the State Board of Education for issuance of a
2 Short-Term Substitute Teaching License. A Short-Term
3 Substitute Teaching License may be issued to a qualified
4 applicant for substitute teaching in all grades of the
5 public schools, prekindergarten through grade 12.
6 Short-Term Substitute Teaching Licenses are not eligible
7 for endorsements. Applicants for a Short-Term Substitute
8 Teaching License must hold an associate's degree or have
9 completed at least 60 credit hours from a regionally
10 accredited institution of higher education.

11 Short-Term Substitute Teaching Licenses are valid for
12 substitute teaching in every county of this State. If an
13 individual has had his or her Professional Educator
14 License or Educator License with Stipulations suspended or
15 revoked, then that individual is not eligible to obtain a
16 Short-Term Substitute Teaching License.

17 The provisions of Sections 10-21.9 and 34-18.5 of this
18 Code apply to short-term substitute teachers.

19 An individual holding a Short-Term Substitute Teaching
20 License may teach no more than 15 consecutive days per
21 licensed teacher who is under contract. For teacher
22 absences lasting 6 or more days per licensed teacher who
23 is under contract, a school district may not hire an
24 individual holding a Short-Term Substitute Teaching
25 License, unless the Governor has declared a disaster due
26 to a public health emergency pursuant to Section 7 of the

1 Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act. An individual
2 holding a Short-Term Substitute Teaching License must
3 complete the training program under Section 10-20.67 or
4 34-18.60 of this Code to be eligible to teach at a public
5 school. Short-Term Substitute Teaching Licenses under this
6 Section are valid for 5 years.

7 (Source: P.A. 102-711, eff. 1-1-23; 102-712, eff. 4-27-22;
8 102-713, eff. 1-1-23; 102-717, eff. 4-29-22; 102-894, eff.
9 5-20-22; 103-111, eff. 6-29-23; 103-154, eff. 6-30-23;
10 103-193, eff. 1-1-24; 103-564, eff. 11-17-23; 103-617, eff.
11 7-1-24.)

12 (105 ILCS 5/21B-30)

13 Sec. 21B-30. Educator testing.

14 (a) (Blank).

15 (b) The State Board of Education, in consultation with the
16 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, shall design
17 and implement a system of examinations, which shall be
18 required prior to the issuance of educator licenses. These
19 examinations and indicators must be based on national and
20 State professional teaching standards, as determined by the
21 State Board of Education, in consultation with the State
22 Educator Preparation and Licensure Board. The State Board of
23 Education may adopt such rules as may be necessary to
24 implement and administer this Section.

25 (c) (Blank).

1 (c-5) The State Board must adopt rules to implement a
2 paraprofessional competency test. This test would allow an
3 applicant seeking an Educator License with Stipulations with a
4 paraprofessional educator endorsement to obtain the
5 endorsement if he or she passes the test and meets the other
6 requirements of subparagraph (J) of paragraph (2) of Section
7 21B-20 other than the higher education requirements.

8 (d) All applicants seeking a State license shall be
9 required to pass a test of content area knowledge for each area
10 of endorsement for which there is an applicable test. However,
11 no applicant for a Professional Educator License under the
12 short-term approval program for school support personnel under
13 Section 25.432 of Title 23 of the Illinois Administrative Code
14 is required to pass a test of content area knowledge as a
15 requirement for short-term approval, and an applicant for a
16 social work associate endorsement on an Educator License with
17 Stipulations is not required to pass a content area test.
18 ~~There shall be no exception to this requirement.~~

19 (d-5) The State Board shall consult with any applicable
20 vendors within 90 days after July 28, 2023 (the effective date
21 of Public Act 103-402) to develop a plan to transition the test
22 of content area knowledge in the endorsement area of
23 elementary education, grades one through 6, by July 1, 2026 to
24 a content area test that contains testing elements that cover
25 bilingualism, biliteracy, oral language development,
26 foundational literacy skills, and developmentally appropriate

1 higher-order comprehension and on which a valid and reliable
2 language and literacy subscore can be determined. The State
3 Board shall base its rules concerning the passing subscore on
4 the language and literacy portion of the test on the
5 recommended cut-score determined in the formal
6 standard-setting process. Candidates need not achieve a
7 particular subscore in the area of language and literacy. The
8 State Board shall aggregate and publish the number of
9 candidates in each preparation program who take the test and
10 the number who pass the language and literacy portion.

11 (e) (Blank).

12 (f) Beginning on August 4, 2023 (the effective date of
13 Public Act 103-488) through August 31, 2025, no candidate
14 completing a teacher preparation program in this State or
15 candidate subject to Section 21B-35 of this Code is required
16 to pass a teacher performance assessment. Except as otherwise
17 provided in this Article, beginning on September 1, 2015 until
18 August 4, 2023 (the effective date of Public Act 103-488) and
19 beginning again on September 1, 2025, all candidates
20 completing teacher preparation programs in this State and all
21 candidates subject to Section 21B-35 of this Code are required
22 to pass a teacher performance assessment approved by the State
23 Board of Education, in consultation with the State Educator
24 Preparation and Licensure Board. A candidate may not be
25 required to submit test materials by video submission. Subject
26 to appropriation, an individual who holds a Professional

1 Educator License and is employed for a minimum of one school
2 year by a school district designated as Tier 1 under Section
3 18-8.15 may, after application to the State Board, receive
4 from the State Board a refund for any costs associated with
5 completing the teacher performance assessment under this
6 subsection.

7 (f-5) The Teacher Performance Assessment Task Force is
8 created to evaluate potential performance-based and objective
9 teacher performance assessment systems for implementation
10 across all educator preparation programs in this State, with
11 the intention of ensuring consistency across programs and
12 supporting a thoughtful and well-rounded licensure system.
13 Members appointed to the Task Force must reflect the racial,
14 ethnic, and geographic diversity of this State. The Task Force
15 shall consist of all of the following members:

16 (1) One member of the Senate, appointed by the
17 President of the Senate.

18 (2) One member of the Senate, appointed by the
19 Minority Leader of the Senate.

20 (3) One member of the House of Representatives,
21 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

22 (4) One member of the House of Representatives,
23 appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of
24 Representatives.

25 (5) One member who represents a statewide professional
26 teachers' organization, appointed by the State

1 Superintendent of Education.

2 (6) One member who represents a different statewide
3 professional teachers' organization, appointed by the
4 State Superintendent of Education.

5 (7) One member from a statewide organization
6 representing school principals, appointed by the State
7 Superintendent of Education.

8 (8) One member from a statewide organization
9 representing regional superintendents of schools,
10 appointed by the State Superintendent of Education.

11 (9) One member from a statewide organization
12 representing school administrators, appointed by the State
13 Superintendent of Education.

14 (10) One member representing a school district
15 organized under Article 34 of this Code, appointed by the
16 State Superintendent of Education.

17 (11) One member of an association representing rural
18 and small schools, appointed by the State Superintendent
19 of Education.

20 (12) One member representing a suburban school
21 district, appointed by the State Superintendent of
22 Education.

23 (13) One member from a statewide organization
24 representing school districts in the southern suburbs of
25 the City of Chicago, appointed by the State Superintendent
26 of Education.

1 (14) One member from a statewide organization
2 representing large unit school districts, appointed by the
3 State Superintendent of Education.

4 (15) One member from a statewide organization
5 representing school districts in the collar counties of
6 the City of Chicago, appointed by the State Superintendent
7 of Education.

8 (16) Three members, each representing a different
9 public university in this State and each a current member
10 of the faculty of an approved educator preparation
11 program, appointed by the State Superintendent of
12 Education.

13 (17) Three members, each representing a different
14 4-year nonpublic university or college in this State and
15 each a current member of the faculty of an approved
16 educator preparation program, appointed by the State
17 Superintendent of Education.

18 (18) One member of the Board of Higher Education,
19 appointed by the State Superintendent of Education.

20 (19) One member representing a statewide policy
21 organization advocating on behalf of multilingual students
22 and families, appointed by the State Superintendent of
23 Education.

24 (20) One member representing a statewide organization
25 focused on research-based education policy to support a
26 school system that prepares all students for college, a

1 career, and democratic citizenship, appointed by the State
2 Superintendent of Education.

3 (21) Two members representing an early childhood
4 advocacy organization, appointed by the State
5 Superintendent of Education.

6 (22) One member representing a statewide organization
7 that partners with educator preparation programs and
8 school districts to support the growth and development of
9 preservice teachers, appointed by the State Superintendent
10 of Education.

11 (23) One member representing a statewide organization
12 that advocates for educational equity and racial justice
13 in schools, appointed by the State Superintendent of
14 Education.

15 (24) One member representing a statewide organization
16 that represents school boards, appointed by the State
17 Superintendent of Education.

18 (25) One member who has, within the last 5 years,
19 served as a cooperating teacher, appointed by the State
20 Superintendent of Education.

21 Members of the Task Force shall serve without
22 compensation. The Task Force shall first meet at the call of
23 the State Superintendent of Education, and each subsequent
24 meeting shall be called by the chairperson of the Task Force,
25 who shall be designated by the State Superintendent of
26 Education. The State Board of Education shall provide

1 administrative and other support to the Task Force.

2 On or before October 31, 2024, the Task Force shall report
3 on its work, including recommendations on a teacher
4 performance assessment system in this State, to the State
5 Board of Education and the General Assembly. The Task Force is
6 dissolved upon submission of this report.

7 (g) The content area knowledge test and the teacher
8 performance assessment shall be the tests that from time to
9 time are designated by the State Board of Education, in
10 consultation with the State Educator Preparation and Licensure
11 Board, and may be tests prepared by an educational testing
12 organization or tests designed by the State Board of
13 Education, in consultation with the State Educator Preparation
14 and Licensure Board. The test of content area knowledge shall
15 assess content knowledge in a specific subject field. The
16 tests must be designed to be racially neutral to ensure that no
17 person taking the tests is discriminated against on the basis
18 of race, color, national origin, or other factors unrelated to
19 the person's ability to perform as a licensed employee. The
20 score required to pass the tests shall be fixed by the State
21 Board of Education, in consultation with the State Educator
22 Preparation and Licensure Board. The State Board of
23 Education's rules for scoring the content area knowledge test
24 may include scoring and retaking of each test section
25 separately and independently. The tests shall be administered
26 not fewer than 3 times a year at such time and place as may be

1 designated by the State Board of Education, in consultation
2 with the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board.

3 The State Board shall implement a test or tests to assess
4 the speaking, reading, writing, and grammar skills of
5 applicants for an endorsement or a license issued under
6 subdivision (G) of paragraph (2) of Section 21B-20 of this
7 Code in the English language and in the language of the
8 transitional bilingual education program requested by the
9 applicant.

10 (h) Except as provided in Section 34-6 of this Code, the
11 provisions of this Section shall apply equally in any school
12 district subject to Article 34 of this Code.

13 (i) The rules developed to implement and enforce the
14 testing requirements under this Section shall include, without
15 limitation, provisions governing test selection, test
16 validation, and determination of a passing score,
17 administration of the tests, frequency of administration,
18 applicant fees, frequency of applicants taking the tests, the
19 years for which a score is valid, and appropriate special
20 accommodations. The State Board of Education shall develop
21 such rules as may be needed to ensure uniformity from year to
22 year in the level of difficulty for each form of an assessment.

23 (Source: P.A. 102-301, eff. 8-26-21; 103-402, eff. 7-28-23;
24 103-488, eff. 8-4-23; 103-605, eff. 7-1-24; 103-780, eff.
25 8-2-24; 103-811, eff. 8-9-24; 103-846, eff. 8-9-24.)

1 (105 ILCS 5/21B-40)

2 Sec. 21B-40. Fees.

3 (a) Beginning with the start of the new licensure system
4 established pursuant to this Article, the following fees shall
5 be charged to applicants:

6 (1) A \$100 application fee for a Professional Educator
7 License or an Educator License with Stipulations.

8 (1.5) A \$50 application fee for a Substitute Teaching
9 License. If the application for a Substitute Teaching
10 License is made and granted after July 1, 2017, the
11 licensee may apply for a refund of the application fee
12 within 18 months of issuance of the new license and shall
13 be issued that refund by the State Board of Education if
14 the licensee provides evidence to the State Board of
15 Education that the licensee has taught pursuant to the
16 Substitute Teaching License at least 10 full school days
17 within one year of issuance.

18 (1.7) A \$25 application fee for a Short-Term
19 Substitute Teaching License. The Short-Term Substitute
20 Teaching License must be registered in at least one region
21 in this State, but does not require a registration fee.
22 The licensee may apply for a refund of the application fee
23 within 18 months of issuance of the new license and shall
24 be issued that refund by the State Board of Education if
25 the licensee provides evidence to the State Board of
26 Education that the licensee has taught pursuant to the

1 Short-Term Substitute Teaching License at least 10 full
2 school days within one year of issuance. The application
3 fee for a Short-Term Substitute Teaching License shall be
4 waived when the Governor has declared a disaster due to a
5 public health emergency pursuant to Section 7 of the
6 Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act.

7 (2) A \$150 application fee for individuals who have
8 not been entitled by an Illinois-approved educator
9 preparation program at an Illinois institution of higher
10 education and are seeking any of the licenses set forth in
11 subdivision (1) of this subsection (a) or for a social
12 work associate endorsement on an Educator License with
13 Stipulations.

14 (3) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this
15 subsection (a), a ~~A~~ \$50 application fee for each
16 endorsement or approval.

17 (4) A \$10 per year registration fee for the course of
18 the validity cycle to register the license, which shall be
19 paid to the regional office of education having
20 supervision and control over the school in which the
21 individual holding the license is to be employed. If the
22 individual holding the license is not yet employed, then
23 the license may be registered in any county in this State.
24 The registration fee must be paid in its entirety the
25 first time the individual registers the license for a
26 particular validity period in a single region. No

1 additional fee may be charged for that validity period
2 should the individual subsequently register the license in
3 additional regions. An individual must register the
4 license (i) immediately after initial issuance of the
5 license and (ii) at the beginning of each renewal cycle if
6 the individual has satisfied the renewal requirements
7 required under this Code.

8 Beginning on July 1, 2017, at the beginning of each
9 renewal cycle, individuals who hold a Substitute Teaching
10 License may apply for a reimbursement of the registration
11 fee within 18 months of renewal and shall be issued that
12 reimbursement by the State Board of Education from funds
13 appropriated for that purpose if the licensee provides
14 evidence to the State Board of Education that the licensee
15 has taught pursuant to the Substitute Teaching License at
16 least 10 full school days within one year of renewal.

17 (5) The license renewal fee for an Educator License
18 with Stipulations with a paraprofessional educator
19 endorsement is \$25.

20 (b) All application fees paid pursuant to subdivisions (1)
21 through (3) of subsection (a) of this Section shall be
22 deposited into the Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving Fund and
23 shall be used, subject to appropriation, by the State Board of
24 Education to provide the technology and human resources
25 necessary for the timely and efficient processing of
26 applications and for the renewal of licenses. Funds available

1 from the Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving Fund may also be
2 used by the State Board of Education to support the
3 recruitment and retention of educators, to support educator
4 preparation programs as they seek national accreditation, and
5 to provide professional development aligned with the
6 requirements set forth in Section 21B-45 of this Code. A
7 majority of the funds in the Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving
8 Fund must be dedicated to the timely and efficient processing
9 of applications and for the renewal of licenses. The Teacher
10 Certificate Fee Revolving Fund is not subject to
11 administrative charge transfers, authorized under Section 8h
12 of the State Finance Act, from the Teacher Certificate Fee
13 Revolving Fund into any other fund of this State, and moneys in
14 the Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving Fund shall not revert
15 back to the General Revenue Fund at any time.

16 The regional superintendent of schools shall deposit the
17 registration fees paid pursuant to subdivision (4) of
18 subsection (a) of this Section into the institute fund
19 established pursuant to Section 3-11 of this Code.

20 (c) The State Board of Education and each regional office
21 of education are authorized to charge a service or convenience
22 fee for the use of credit cards for the payment of license
23 fees. This service or convenience fee shall not exceed the
24 amount required by the credit card processing company or
25 vendor that has entered into a contract with the State Board or
26 regional office of education for this purpose, and the fee

1 must be paid to that company or vendor.

2 (d) If, at the time a certificate issued under Article 21
3 of this Code is exchanged for a license issued under this
4 Article, a person has paid registration fees for any years of
5 the validity period of the certificate and these years have
6 not expired when the certificate is exchanged, then those fees
7 must be applied to the registration of the new license.

8 (Source: P.A. 101-81, eff. 7-12-19; 101-570, eff. 8-23-19;
9 102-867, eff. 5-13-22.)

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