



103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

SB3349

Introduced 2/7/2024, by Sen. Laura Ellman

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/2-3.169

Amends the School Code. In provisions concerning State Global Scholar Certification, provides that 6 units of credit shall be required to achieve State Global Scholar Certification (instead of not specifying how many units of credit are required). Provides for global collaboration or (instead of and) dialogue. Provides that the State Board of Education shall adopt such rules as may be necessary to provide students attending schools that do not currently offer State Global Scholar Certification the opportunity to earn State Global Scholar Certification remotely beginning with the 2026-2027 school year. Sets forth what those rules shall include and other requirements. Provides that a student enrolled in a school district or nonpublic school that awarded State Global Scholar Certification prior to the 2026-2027 school year and offered a course to complete the capstone project requirement prior to the 2026-2027 school year may not earn State Global Scholar Certification remotely.

LRB103 38145 RJT 68277 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. The School Code is amended by changing Section
5 2-3.169 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.169)

7 Sec. 2-3.169. State Global Scholar Certification.

8 (a) The State Global Scholar Certification Program is
9 established to recognized public and nonpublic high school
10 graduates who have attained global competence. State Global
11 Scholar Certification shall be awarded beginning with the
12 2017-2018 school year. School district or nonpublic school
13 participation in this certification is voluntary.

14 (b) The purposes of State Global Scholar Certification are
15 as follows:

16 (1) To recognize the value of a global education.

17 (2) To certify attainment of global competence.

18 (3) To provide employers with a method of identifying
19 globally competent employees.

20 (4) To provide colleges and universities with an
21 additional method to recognize applicants seeking
22 admission.

23 (5) To prepare students with 21st century skills.

1 (6) To encourage the development of a globally ready
2 workforce in the STEM (science, technology, engineering,
3 and mathematics), manufacturing, agriculture, and service
4 sectors.

5 (c) State Global Scholar Certification confirms attainment
6 of global competence, sufficient for meaningful use in college
7 and a career, by a graduating public or nonpublic high school
8 student.

9 (d) The State Board of Education shall adopt such rules as
10 may be necessary to establish the criteria that students must
11 achieve to earn State Global Scholar Certification, which
12 shall minimally include attainment of 6 units of credit in
13 globally focused courses, service learning experiences, global
14 collaboration or ~~and~~ dialogue, and passage of a capstone
15 project demonstrating global competency, as approved by the
16 participating school district or nonpublic school for this
17 purpose.

18 (e) The State Board of Education shall do both of the
19 following:

20 (1) Prepare and deliver to participating school
21 districts or nonpublic schools an appropriate mechanism
22 for designating State Global Scholar Certification on the
23 diploma and transcript of a student indicating that the
24 student has been awarded State Global Scholar
25 Certification by the State Board of Education.

26 (2) Provide other information the State Board of

1 Education deems necessary for school districts or
2 nonpublic schools to successfully participate in the
3 certification.

4 (f) A school district or nonpublic school that
5 participates in certification under this Section shall do both
6 of the following:

7 (1) Maintain appropriate records in order to identify
8 students who have earned State Global Scholar
9 Certification.

10 (2) Make the appropriate designation on the diploma
11 and transcript of each student who earns State Global
12 Scholar Certification.

13 (g) No fee may be charged to a student to receive the
14 designation pursuant to the Section. Notwithstanding this
15 prohibition, costs may be incurred by the student in
16 demonstrating proficiency.

17 (h) The State Board of Education shall adopt such rules as
18 may be necessary to provide students attending schools that do
19 not offer State Global Scholar Certification the opportunity
20 to earn State Global Scholar Certification remotely beginning
21 with the 2026-2027 school year. These rules shall include, but
22 are not be limited to, the following:

23 (1) A list of all school courses and course codes
24 derived from the State Board of Education's Illinois State
25 Course Catalog that are designated as and qualify as
26 globally focused coursework.

1 (2) A mechanism to provide students the opportunity to
2 complete the capstone project requirement as part of a
3 semester or year-long online course taught by a teacher
4 licensed to teach grades 9 through 12 under Article 21B.
5 The online course shall meet all of the criteria for the
6 capstone project as provided by rule and shall provide
7 students with opportunities to engage in service learning
8 and participate in global collaboration or dialogue as
9 provided in subsection (d). The online course shall be
10 made available to students beginning with the 2026-2027
11 school year.

12 If a provider of the online course determines and can
13 demonstrate that a student meets all of the criteria required
14 to earn State Global Scholar Certification, then the school
15 district or nonpublic school shall designate that the student
16 has earned State Global Scholar Certification on the student's
17 diploma and transcript.

18 A school district or nonpublic school shall provide, upon
19 the request of a student, evidence to the student that the
20 student has completed at least 6 units of credit in globally
21 focused courses required to earn State Global Scholar
22 Certification for the student to submit to the provider of the
23 online course.

24 A student enrolled in a school district or nonpublic
25 school that awarded State Global Scholar Certification prior
26 to the 2026-2027 school year and offered a course to complete

1 the capstone project requirement prior to the 2026-2027 school
2 year may not earn State Global Scholar Certification remotely
3 under this subsection (h).

4 (Source: P.A. 103-352, eff. 7-28-23.)