

**HB3671**



**94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
**State of Illinois**  
**2005 and 2006**  
**HB3671**

Introduced 02/24/05, by Rep. Calvin L. Giles

**SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:**

105 ILCS 5/3-15.12

from Ch. 122, par. 3-15.12

Amends the School Code. Makes a technical change in a Section concerning a high school equivalency testing program.

LRB094 05776 RAS 35829 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 School Code is amended by changing Section  
5 3-15.12 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/3-15.12) (from Ch. 122, par. 3-15.12)

7 Sec. 3-15.12. High school equivalency testing program. The  
8 ~~The~~ regional superintendent of schools shall make available for  
9 qualified individuals residing within the region a High School  
10 Equivalency Testing Program. For that purpose the regional  
11 superintendent alone or with other regional superintendents  
12 may establish and supervise a testing center or centers to  
13 administer the secure forms of the high school level Test of  
14 General Educational Development to qualified persons. Such  
15 centers shall be under the supervision of the regional  
16 superintendent in whose region such centers are located,  
17 subject to the approval of the State Superintendent of  
18 Education.

19 An individual is eligible to apply to the regional  
20 superintendent of schools for the region in which he resides if  
21 he is: (a) a person who is 18 years of age or older, has  
22 maintained residence in the State of Illinois and is not a high  
23 school graduate, but whose high school class has graduated; (b)  
24 a member of the armed forces of the United States on active  
25 duty who is 17 years of age or older and who is stationed in  
26 Illinois or is a legal resident of Illinois; (c) a ward of the  
27 Department of Corrections who is 17 years of age or older or an  
28 inmate confined in any branch of the Illinois State  
29 Penitentiary or in a county correctional facility who is 17  
30 years of age or older; (d) a female who is 17 years of age or  
31 older who is unable to attend school because she is either  
32 pregnant or the mother of one or more children; (e) a male 17

1 years of age or older who is unable to attend school because he  
2 is a father of one or more children; (f) a person who is  
3 successfully completing an alternative education program under  
4 Section 2-3.81, Article 13A, or Article 13B; (g) a person who  
5 is enrolled in a youth education program sponsored by the  
6 Illinois National Guard; or (h) a person who is 17 years of age  
7 or older who has been a dropout for a period of at least one  
8 year. For purposes of this Section, residence is that abode  
9 which the applicant considers his home. Applicants may provide  
10 as sufficient proof of such residence a picture identification  
11 card and two pieces of correctly addressed and postmarked mail.  
12 Such regional superintendent shall determine if the applicant  
13 meets statutory and regulatory state standards. If qualified  
14 the applicant shall at the time of such application pay a fee  
15 established by the State Board of Education, which fee shall be  
16 paid into a special fund under the control and supervision of  
17 the regional superintendent. Such moneys received by the  
18 regional superintendent shall be used, first, for the expenses  
19 incurred in administering and scoring the examination, and next  
20 for other educational programs that are developed and designed  
21 by the regional superintendent of schools to assist those who  
22 successfully complete the high school level test of General  
23 Education Development in furthering their academic development  
24 or their ability to secure and retain gainful employment,  
25 including programs for the competitive award based on test  
26 scores of college or adult education scholarship grants or  
27 similar educational incentives. Any excess moneys shall be paid  
28 into the institute fund.

29 Any applicant who has achieved the minimum passing  
30 standards as established by the State Board of Education shall  
31 be notified in writing by the regional superintendent and shall  
32 be issued a high school equivalency certificate on the forms  
33 provided by the State Superintendent of Education. The regional  
34 superintendent shall then certify to the Office of the State  
35 Superintendent of Education the score of the applicant and such  
36 other and additional information that may be required by the

1 State Superintendent of Education. The moneys received  
2 therefrom shall be used in the same manner as provided for in  
3 this Section.

4 Any applicant who has attained the age of 18 years and  
5 maintained residence in the State of Illinois and is not a high  
6 school graduate but whose high school class has graduated or  
7 any ward of the Department of Corrections who has attained the  
8 age of 17 years, any inmate confined in any branch of the  
9 Illinois State Penitentiary or in a county correctional  
10 facility who has attained the age of 17 years, or any member of  
11 the armed forces of the United States on active duty who has  
12 attained the age of 17 years and who is stationed in Illinois  
13 or is a legal resident of Illinois, or any female who has  
14 attained the age of 17 years and is either pregnant or the  
15 mother of one or more children, or any male who has attained  
16 the age of 17 years and is the father of one or more children,  
17 or any person who has successfully completed an alternative  
18 education program under Section 2-3.81, Article 13A, or Article  
19 13B and meets the requirements prescribed by the State Board of  
20 Education, is eligible to apply for a high school equivalency  
21 certificate upon showing evidence that he has completed,  
22 successfully, the high school level General Educational  
23 Development Tests, administered by the United States Armed  
24 Forces Institute, official GED Centers established in other  
25 states, or at Veterans' Administration Hospitals or the office  
26 of the State Superintendent of Education administered for the  
27 Illinois State Penitentiary System and the Department of  
28 Corrections. Such applicant shall apply to the regional  
29 superintendent of the region wherein he has maintained  
30 residence, and upon payment of a fee established by the State  
31 Board of Education the regional superintendent shall issue a  
32 high school equivalency certificate, and immediately  
33 thereafter certify to the State Superintendent of Education the  
34 score of the applicant and such other and additional  
35 information as may be required by the State Superintendent of  
36 Education.

1           Notwithstanding the provisions of this Section, any  
2 applicant who has been out of school for at least one year may  
3 request the regional superintendent of schools to administer  
4 the restricted GED test upon written request of: The director  
5 of a program who certifies to the Chief Examiner of an official  
6 GED center that the applicant has completed a program of  
7 instruction provided by such agencies as the Job Corps, the  
8 Postal Service Academy or apprenticeship training program; an  
9 employer or program director for purposes of entry into  
10 apprenticeship programs; another State Department of Education  
11 in order to meet regulations established by that Department of  
12 Education, a post high school educational institution for  
13 purposes of admission, the Department of Professional  
14 Regulation for licensing purposes, or the Armed Forces for  
15 induction purposes. The regional superintendent shall  
16 administer such test and the applicant shall be notified in  
17 writing that he is eligible to receive the Illinois High School  
18 Equivalency Certificate upon reaching age 18, provided he meets  
19 the standards established by the State Board of Education.

20           Any test administered under this Section to an applicant  
21 who does not speak and understand English may at the discretion  
22 of the administering agency be given and answered in any  
23 language in which the test is printed. The regional  
24 superintendent of schools may waive any fees required by this  
25 Section in case of hardship.

26           In counties of over 3,000,000 population a GED certificate  
27 issued on or after July 1, 1994 shall contain the signatures of  
28 the State Superintendent of Education, the superintendent,  
29 president or other chief executive officer of the institution  
30 where GED instruction occurred and any other signatures  
31 authorized by the State Superintendent of Education.

32           (Source: P.A. 92-42, eff. 1-1-02.)