

**SB0672**



**95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**State of Illinois**

**2007 and 2008**

**SB0672**

Introduced 2/8/2007, by Sen. Edward D. Maloney

**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.

LRB095 10839 NHT 31103 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 President of the Illinois  
18 Community College Board.

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)

1 a member of the armed forces of the United States on active  
2 duty who is 17 years of age or older and who is stationed in  
3 Illinois or is a legal resident of Illinois; (c) a ward of the  
4 Department of Corrections who is 17 years of age or older or an  
5 inmate confined in any branch of the Illinois State  
6 Penitentiary or in a county correctional facility who is 17  
7 years of age or older; (d) a female who is 17 years of age or  
8 older who is unable to attend school because she is either  
9 pregnant or the mother of one or more children; (e) a male 17  
10 years of age or older who is unable to attend school because he  
11 is a father of one or more children; (f) a person who is  
12 successfully completing an alternative education program under  
13 Section 2-3.81, Article 13A, or Article 13B; (g) a person who  
14 is enrolled in a youth education program sponsored by the  
15 Illinois National Guard; or (h) a person who is 17 years of age  
16 or older who has been a dropout for a period of at least one  
17 year. For purposes of this Section, residence is that abode  
18 which the applicant considers his home. Applicants may provide  
19 as sufficient proof of such residence a picture identification  
20 card and two pieces of correctly addressed and postmarked mail.  
21 Such regional superintendent shall determine if the applicant  
22 meets statutory and regulatory state standards. If qualified  
23 the applicant shall at the time of such application pay a fee  
24 established by the Illinois Community College Board, which fee  
25 shall be paid into a special fund under the control and  
26 supervision of the regional superintendent. Such moneys

1 received by the regional superintendent shall be used, first,  
2 for the expenses incurred in administering and scoring the  
3 examination, and next for other educational programs that are  
4 developed and designed by the regional superintendent of  
5 schools to assist those who successfully complete the high  
6 school level test of General Education Development in  
7 furthering their academic development or their ability to  
8 secure and retain gainful employment, including programs for  
9 the competitive award based on test scores of college or adult  
10 education scholarship grants or similar educational  
11 incentives. Any excess moneys shall be paid into the institute  
12 fund.

13 Any applicant who has achieved the minimum passing  
14 standards as established by the Illinois Community College  
15 Board shall be notified in writing by the regional  
16 superintendent and shall be issued a high school equivalency  
17 certificate on the forms provided by the Illinois Community  
18 College Board. The regional superintendent shall then certify  
19 to the Illinois Community College Board the score of the  
20 applicant and such other and additional information that may be  
21 required by the Illinois Community College Board. The moneys  
22 received therefrom shall be used in the same manner as provided  
23 for in this Section.

24 Any applicant who has attained the age of 18 years and  
25 maintained residence in the State of Illinois and is not a high  
26 school graduate but whose high school class has graduated, any

1 ward of the Department of Corrections who has attained the age  
2 of 17 years, any inmate confined in any branch of the Illinois  
3 State Penitentiary or in a county correctional facility who has  
4 attained the age of 17 years, any member of the armed forces of  
5 the United States on active duty who has attained the age of 17  
6 years and who is stationed in Illinois or is a legal resident  
7 of Illinois, any female who has attained the age of 17 years  
8 and is either pregnant or the mother of one or more children,  
9 any male who has attained the age of 17 years and is the father  
10 of one or more children, or any person who has successfully  
11 completed an alternative education program under Section  
12 2-3.81, Article 13A, or Article 13B is eligible to apply for a  
13 high school equivalency certificate (if he or she meets the  
14 requirements prescribed by the Illinois Community College  
15 Board) upon showing evidence that he or she has completed,  
16 successfully, the high school level General Educational  
17 Development Tests, administered by the United States Armed  
18 Forces Institute, official GED Centers established in other  
19 states, or at Veterans' Administration Hospitals or the office  
20 of the State Superintendent of Education administered for the  
21 Illinois State Penitentiary System and the Department of  
22 Corrections. Such applicant shall apply to the regional  
23 superintendent of the region wherein he has maintained  
24 residence, and upon payment of a fee established by the  
25 Illinois Community College Board the regional superintendent  
26 shall issue a high school equivalency certificate, and

1 immediately thereafter certify to the Illinois Community  
2 College Board the score of the applicant and such other and  
3 additional information as may be required by the Illinois  
4 Community College Board.

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

25 Any test administered under this Section to an applicant  
26 who does not speak and understand English may at the discretion

1 of the administering agency be given and answered in any  
2 language in which the test is printed. The regional  
3 superintendent of schools may waive any fees required by this  
4 Section in case of hardship.

5 In counties of over 3,000,000 population a GED certificate  
6 shall contain the signatures of the President of the Illinois  
7 Community College Board, the superintendent, president or  
8 other chief executive officer of the institution where GED  
9 instruction occurred and any other signatures authorized by the  
10 Illinois Community College Board.

11 The regional superintendent of schools shall furnish the  
12 Illinois Community College Board with any information that the  
13 Illinois Community College Board requests with regard to  
14 testing and certificates under this Section.

15 (Source: P.A. 94-108, eff. 7-1-05.)