



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB3151

Introduced 2/18/2025, by Rep. David Friess

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/21B-20

Amends the School Code. Provides that a foreign language endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who provides satisfactory evidence that he or she meets specified requirements. Provides that the foreign language endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations is valid until June 30 following the fifth anniversary of the endorsement's issuance. Provides that an individual who holds a valid foreign language endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations may teach a course on the foreign language for which the foreign language endorsement is issued. Provides that an individual who holds a valid foreign language endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations but does not hold a bachelor's degree and who is 25 years of age or older may substitute teach in foreign language classrooms. Effective July 1, 2025.

LRB104 03530 LNS 13553 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 21B-20 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/21B-20)

7 Sec. 21B-20. Types of licenses. The State Board of
8 Education shall implement a system of educator licensure,
9 whereby individuals employed in school districts who are
10 required to be licensed must have one of the following
11 licenses: (i) a professional educator license; (ii) an
12 educator license with stipulations; (iii) a substitute
13 teaching license; or (iv) until June 30, 2028, a short-term
14 substitute teaching license. References in law regarding
15 individuals certified or certificated or required to be
16 certified or certificated under Article 21 of this Code shall
17 also include individuals licensed or required to be licensed
18 under this Article. The first year of all licenses ends on June
19 30 following one full year of the license being issued.

20 The State Board of Education, in consultation with the
21 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, may adopt such
22 rules as may be necessary to govern the requirements for
23 licenses and endorsements under this Section.

1 (1) Professional Educator License. Persons who (i)
2 have successfully completed an approved educator
3 preparation program and are recommended for licensure by
4 the Illinois institution offering the educator preparation
5 program, (ii) have successfully completed the required
6 testing under Section 21B-30 of this Code, (iii) have
7 successfully completed coursework on the psychology of,
8 the identification of, and the methods of instruction for
9 the exceptional child, including, without limitation,
10 children with learning disabilities, (iv) have
11 successfully completed coursework in methods of reading
12 and reading in the content area, and (v) have met all other
13 criteria established by rule of the State Board of
14 Education shall be issued a Professional Educator License.
15 All Professional Educator Licenses are valid until June 30
16 immediately following 5 years of the license being issued.
17 The Professional Educator License shall be endorsed with
18 specific areas and grade levels in which the individual is
19 eligible to practice. For an early childhood education
20 endorsement, an individual may satisfy the student
21 teaching requirement of his or her early childhood teacher
22 preparation program through placement in a setting with
23 children from birth through grade 2, and the individual
24 may be paid and receive credit while student teaching. The
25 student teaching experience must meet the requirements of
26 and be approved by the individual's early childhood

1 teacher preparation program.

2 Individuals can receive subsequent endorsements on the
3 Professional Educator License. Subsequent endorsements
4 shall require a minimum of 24 semester hours of coursework
5 in the endorsement area and passage of the applicable
6 content area test, unless otherwise specified by rule.

7 (2) Educator License with Stipulations. An Educator
8 License with Stipulations shall be issued an endorsement
9 that limits the license holder to one particular position
10 or does not require completion of an approved educator
11 program or both.

12 An individual with an Educator License with
13 Stipulations must not be employed by a school district or
14 any other entity to replace any presently employed teacher
15 who otherwise would not be replaced for any reason.

16 An Educator License with Stipulations may be issued
17 with the following endorsements:

18 (A) (Blank).

19 (B) Alternative provisional educator. An
20 alternative provisional educator endorsement on an
21 Educator License with Stipulations may be issued to an
22 applicant who, at the time of applying for the
23 endorsement, has done all of the following:

24 (i) Graduated from a regionally accredited
25 college or university with a minimum of a
26 bachelor's degree.

1 (ii) Successfully completed the first phase of
2 the Alternative Educator Licensure Program for
3 Teachers, as described in Section 21B-50 of this
4 Code.

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

7 The alternative provisional educator endorsement is
8 valid for 2 years of teaching and may be renewed for a
9 third year by an individual meeting the requirements set
10 forth in Section 21B-50 of this Code.

11 (C) Alternative provisional superintendent. An
12 alternative provisional superintendent endorsement on
13 an Educator License with Stipulations entitles the
14 holder to serve only as a superintendent or assistant
15 superintendent in a school district's central office.
16 This endorsement may only be issued to an applicant
17 who, at the time of applying for the endorsement, has
18 done all of the following:

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

22 (ii) Been employed for a period of at least 5
23 years in a management level position in a field
24 other than education.

25 (iii) Successfully completed the first phase
26 of an alternative route to superintendent

1 endorsement program, as provided in Section 21B-55
2 of this Code.

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

5 The endorsement is valid for 2 fiscal years in
6 order to complete one full year of serving as a
7 superintendent or assistant superintendent.

8 (D) (Blank).

9 (E) Career and technical educator. A career and
10 technical educator endorsement on an Educator License
11 with Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who
12 has a minimum of 60 semester hours of coursework from a
13 regionally accredited institution of higher education
14 or an accredited trade and technical institution and
15 has a minimum of 2,000 hours of experience outside of
16 education in each area to be taught.

17 The career and technical educator endorsement on
18 an Educator License with Stipulations is valid until
19 June 30 immediately following 5 years of the
20 endorsement being issued and may be renewed.

21 An individual who holds a valid career and
22 technical educator endorsement on an Educator License
23 with Stipulations but does not hold a bachelor's
24 degree may substitute teach in career and technical
25 education classrooms.

26 An individual who holds a valid career and

1 technical educator endorsement on an Educator License
2 with Stipulations is entitled to all of the rights and
3 privileges granted to a holder of a Professional
4 Educator License.

5 (F) (Blank).

6 (G) Transitional bilingual educator. A
7 transitional bilingual educator endorsement on an
8 Educator License with Stipulations may be issued for
9 the purpose of providing instruction in accordance
10 with Article 14C of this Code to an applicant who
11 provides satisfactory evidence that he or she meets
12 all of the following requirements:

13 (i) Possesses adequate speaking, reading, and
14 writing ability in the language other than English
15 in which transitional bilingual education is
16 offered.

17 (ii) Has the ability to successfully
18 communicate in English.

19 (iii) Either possessed, within 5 years
20 previous to his or her applying for a transitional
21 bilingual educator endorsement, a valid and
22 comparable teaching certificate or comparable
23 authorization issued by a foreign country or holds
24 a degree from an institution of higher learning in
25 a 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 A transitional bilingual educator endorsement
5 shall be valid for prekindergarten through grade 12,
6 is valid until June 30 immediately following 5 years
7 of the endorsement being issued, and shall not be
8 renewed.

9 Persons holding a transitional bilingual educator
10 endorsement shall not be employed to replace any
11 presently employed teacher who otherwise would not be
12 replaced for any reason.

13 (H) Language endorsement. In an effort to
14 alleviate the shortage of teachers speaking a language
15 other than English in the public schools, an
16 individual who holds an Educator License with
17 Stipulations may also apply for a language
18 endorsement, provided that the applicant provides
19 satisfactory evidence that he or she meets all of the
20 following requirements:

21 (i) Holds a transitional bilingual
22 endorsement.

23 (ii) Has demonstrated proficiency in the
24 language for which the endorsement is to be issued
25 by passing the applicable language content test
26 required by the State Board of Education.

1 (iii) Holds a bachelor's degree or higher from
2 a regionally accredited institution of higher
3 education or, for individuals educated in a
4 country other than the United States, holds a
5 degree from an institution of higher learning in a
6 foreign country that the State Educator
7 Preparation and Licensure Board determines to be
8 the equivalent of a bachelor's degree from a
9 regionally accredited institution of higher
10 learning in the United States.

11 (iv) (Blank).

12 A language endorsement on an Educator License with
13 Stipulations is valid for prekindergarten through
14 grade 12 for the same validity period as the
15 individual's transitional bilingual educator
16 endorsement on the Educator License with Stipulations
17 and shall not be renewed.

18 (I) Visiting international educator. A visiting
19 international educator endorsement on an Educator
20 License with Stipulations may be issued to an
21 individual who is being recruited by a particular
22 school district that conducts formal recruitment
23 programs outside of the United States to secure the
24 services of qualified teachers and who meets all of
25 the following requirements:

26 (i) Holds the equivalent of a minimum of a

1 bachelor's degree issued in the United States.

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

4 (iii) Has adequate content knowledge in the
5 subject to be taught.

6 (iv) Has an adequate command of the English
7 language.

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

18 A visiting international educator endorsement on
19 an Educator License with Stipulations is valid for 5
20 years and shall not be renewed.

21 (J) Paraprofessional educator. A paraprofessional
22 educator endorsement on an Educator License with
23 Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who holds a
24 high school diploma or its recognized equivalent and
25 (i) holds an associate's degree or a minimum of 60
26 semester hours of credit from a regionally accredited

1 institution of higher education; (ii) has passed a
2 paraprofessional competency test under subsection
3 (c-5) of Section 21B-30; or (iii) is at least 18 years
4 of age and will be using the Educator License with
5 Stipulations exclusively for grades prekindergarten
6 through grade 8, until the individual reaches the age
7 of 19 years and otherwise meets the criteria for a
8 paraprofessional educator endorsement pursuant to this
9 subparagraph (J). The paraprofessional educator
10 endorsement is valid until June 30 immediately
11 following 5 years of the endorsement being issued and
12 may be renewed through application and payment of the
13 appropriate fee, as required under Section 21B-40 of
14 this Code. An individual who holds only a
15 paraprofessional educator endorsement is not subject
16 to additional requirements in order to renew the
17 endorsement.

18 (K) Chief school business official. A chief school
19 business official endorsement on an Educator License
20 with Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who
21 qualifies by having a master's degree or higher, 2
22 years of full-time administrative experience in school
23 business management or 2 years of university-approved
24 practical experience, and a minimum of 24 semester
25 hours of graduate credit in a program approved by the
26 State Board of Education for the preparation of school

1 business administrators and by passage of the
2 applicable State tests, including an applicable
3 content area test.

4 The chief school business official endorsement may
5 also be affixed to the Educator License with
6 Stipulations of any holder who qualifies by having a
7 master's degree in business administration, finance,
8 accounting, or public administration and who completes
9 an additional 6 semester hours of internship in school
10 business management from a regionally accredited
11 institution of higher education and passes the
12 applicable State tests, including an applicable
13 content area test. This endorsement shall be required
14 for any individual employed as a chief school business
15 official.

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

26 The State Board of Education shall adopt any rules

1 necessary to implement Public Act 100-288.

2 (L) Provisional in-state educator. A provisional
3 in-state educator endorsement on an Educator License
4 with Stipulations may be issued to a candidate who has
5 completed an Illinois-approved educator preparation
6 program at an Illinois institution of higher education
7 and who has not successfully completed an
8 evidence-based assessment of teacher effectiveness but
9 who meets all of the following requirements:

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

11 (ii) Has completed an approved educator
12 preparation program at an Illinois institution.

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

15 (iv) Has attempted an evidence-based
16 assessment of teacher effectiveness and received a
17 minimum score on that assessment, as established
18 by the State Board of Education in consultation
19 with the State Educator Preparation and Licensure
20 Board.

21 A provisional in-state educator endorsement on an
22 Educator License with Stipulations is valid for one
23 full fiscal year after the date of issuance and may not
24 be renewed.

25 (M) (Blank).

26 (N) Specialized services. A specialized services

1 endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations
2 may be issued as defined and specified by rule.

3 (O) Provisional career and technical educator. A
4 provisional career and technical educator endorsement
5 on an Educator License with Stipulations may be issued
6 to an applicant who has a minimum of 8,000 hours of
7 work experience in the skill for which the applicant
8 is seeking the endorsement. Each employing school
9 board and regional office of education shall provide
10 verification, in writing, to the State Superintendent
11 of Education at the time the application is submitted
12 that no qualified teacher holding a Professional
13 Educator License or an Educator License with
14 Stipulations with a career and technical educator
15 endorsement is available to teach and that actual
16 circumstances require such issuance.

17 (P) Foreign language endorsement. A foreign
18 language endorsement on an Educator License with
19 Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who
20 provides satisfactory evidence that he or she meets
21 all of the following requirements:

22 (i) Possesses adequate speaking, reading, and
23 writing ability in a language other than English.

24 (ii) Has the ability to successfully
25 communicate in English.

26 (iii) Has demonstrated proficiency in the

1 language for which the endorsement is to be issued
2 by passing the applicable language content test
3 required by the State Board of Education; however,
4 if the language for which the endorsement is to be
5 issued is the applicant's first language, the
6 applicant shall not be required to pass the
7 applicable language content test in order to
8 receive the foreign language endorsement under
9 this subparagraph (P).

10 The foreign language endorsement on an Educator
11 License with Stipulations is valid until June 30
12 following the fifth anniversary of the endorsement's
13 issuance.

14 An individual who holds a valid foreign language
15 endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations
16 may teach a course on the foreign language for which
17 the foreign language endorsement is issued.

18 An individual who holds a valid foreign language
19 endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations
20 but does not hold a bachelor's degree and who is 25
21 years of age or older may substitute teach in foreign
22 language classrooms.

23 A provisional career and technical educator
24 endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations
25 is valid until June 30 immediately following 5 years
26 of the endorsement being issued and may be renewed.

1 An individual who holds a provisional career and
2 technical educator endorsement on an Educator License
3 with Stipulations may teach as a substitute teacher in
4 career and technical education classrooms.

5 An individual who holds a provisional career and
6 technical educator endorsement on an Educator License
7 with Stipulations is entitled to all of the rights and
8 privileges granted to a holder of a Professional
9 Educator License.

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

20 Substitute Teaching Licenses are valid for 5 years.

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

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

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

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

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

24 (4) Short-Term Substitute Teaching License. Beginning
25 on July 1, 2018 and until June 30, 2028, applicants may
26 apply to the State Board of Education for issuance of a

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

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

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

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

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

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

11 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,
12 2025.