



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB4880

by Rep. Dan Ugaste

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/2-3.64a-5

Amends the School Code. In provisions concerning State goals and assessment, provides that a student may not be considered proficient in mathematics or English language arts with a score on the Illinois Assessment of Readiness that is lower than 750/850, nor may a student be considered proficient in science with a score on the Illinois Science Assessment that is lower than 812/850. Provides that for the assessment administered by the State Board of Education for the purpose of student application to or admission consideration by an institution of higher education, a student may not be considered proficient in mathematics with a score that is lower than 22 on the ACT or its recognized equivalent, nor may a student be considered proficient in English language arts with a score that is lower than 42 on the ACT or its recognized equivalent. Effective immediately.

LRB104 17831 LNS 31265 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 2-3.64a-5 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.64a-5)

7 Sec. 2-3.64a-5. State goals and assessment.

8 (a) For the assessment and accountability purposes of this
9 Section, "students" includes those students enrolled in a
10 public or State-operated elementary school, secondary school,
11 or cooperative or joint agreement with a governing body or
12 board of control, a charter school operating in compliance
13 with the Charter Schools Law, a school operated by a regional
14 office of education under Section 13A-3 of this Code, or a
15 public school administered by a local public agency or the
16 Department of Human Services.

17 (b) The State Board of Education shall establish the
18 academic standards that are to be applicable to students who
19 are subject to State assessments under this Section. The State
20 Board of Education shall not establish any such standards in
21 final form without first providing opportunities for public
22 participation and local input in the development of the final
23 academic standards. Those opportunities shall include a

1 well-publicized period of public comment and opportunities to
2 file written comments.

3 A student may not be considered proficient in mathematics
4 or English language arts with a score on the Illinois
5 Assessment of Readiness that is lower than 750/850, nor may a
6 student be considered proficient in science with a score on
7 the Illinois Science Assessment that is lower than 812/850.
8 For the assessment administered by the State Board of
9 Education for the purpose of student application to or
10 admission consideration by an institution of higher education,
11 a student may not be considered proficient in mathematics with
12 a score that is lower than 22 on the ACT or its recognized
13 equivalent, nor may a student be considered proficient in
14 English language arts with a score that is lower than 42 on the
15 ACT or its recognized equivalent.

16 (c) Beginning no later than the 2014-2015 school year, the
17 State Board of Education shall annually assess all students
18 enrolled in grades 3 through 8 in English language arts and
19 mathematics.

20 Beginning no later than the 2017-2018 school year, the
21 State Board of Education shall annually assess all students in
22 science at one grade in grades 3 through 5, at one grade in
23 grades 6 through 8, and at one grade in grades 9 through 12.

24 The State Board of Education shall annually assess schools
25 that operate a secondary education program, as defined in
26 Section 22-22 of this Code, in English language arts and

1 mathematics. The State Board of Education shall administer no
2 more than 3 assessments, per student, of English language arts
3 and mathematics for students in a secondary education program.
4 One of these assessments shall be recognized by this State's
5 public institutions of higher education, as defined in the
6 Board of Higher Education Act, for the purpose of student
7 application or admissions consideration. The assessment
8 administered by the State Board of Education for the purpose
9 of student application to or admissions consideration by
10 institutions of higher education must be administered on a
11 school day during regular student attendance hours, and
12 student profile information collected by the assessment shall,
13 if available, be made available to the State's public
14 institutions of higher education in a timely manner.

15 Students who do not take the State's final accountability
16 assessment or its approved alternate assessment may not
17 receive a regular high school diploma unless the student is
18 exempted from taking the State assessments under subsection
19 (d) of this Section because the student is enrolled in a
20 program of adult and continuing education, as defined in the
21 Adult Education Act, or the student is identified by the State
22 Board of Education, through rules, as being exempt from the
23 assessment.

24 The State Board of Education shall not assess students
25 under this Section in subjects not required by this Section.

26 Districts shall inform their students of the timelines and

1 procedures applicable to their participation in every yearly
2 administration of the State assessments. The State Board of
3 Education shall establish periods of time in each school year
4 during which State assessments shall occur to meet the
5 objectives of this Section.

6 The requirements of this subsection do not apply if the
7 State Board of Education has received a waiver from the
8 administration of assessments from the U.S. Department of
9 Education.

10 (d) Every individualized educational program as described
11 in Article 14 shall identify if the State assessment or
12 components thereof require accommodation for the student. The
13 State Board of Education shall develop rules governing the
14 administration of an alternate assessment that may be
15 available to students for whom participation in this State's
16 regular assessments is not appropriate, even with
17 accommodations as allowed under this Section.

18 Students receiving special education services whose
19 individualized educational programs identify them as eligible
20 for the alternative State assessments nevertheless shall have
21 the option of also taking this State's regular final
22 accountability assessment, which shall be administered in
23 accordance with the eligible accommodations appropriate for
24 meeting these students' respective needs.

25 All students determined to be English learners shall
26 participate in the State assessments. The scores of those

1 students who have been enrolled in schools in the United
2 States for less than 12 months may not be used for the purposes
3 of accountability. Any student determined to be an English
4 learner shall receive appropriate assessment accommodations,
5 including language supports, which shall be established by
6 rule. Approved assessment accommodations must be provided
7 until the student's English language skills develop to the
8 extent that the student is no longer considered to be an
9 English learner, as demonstrated through a State-identified
10 English language proficiency assessment.

11 (e) The results or scores of each assessment taken under
12 this Section shall be made available to the parents of each
13 student.

14 In each school year, the scores attained by a student on
15 the final accountability assessment must be placed in the
16 student's permanent record pursuant to rules that the State
17 Board of Education shall adopt for that purpose in accordance
18 with Section 3 of the Illinois School Student Records Act. In
19 each school year, the scores attained by a student on the State
20 assessments administered in grades 3 through 8 must be placed
21 in the student's temporary record.

22 (f) All schools shall administer the State's academic
23 assessment of English language proficiency to all children
24 determined to be English learners.

25 (g) All schools in this State that are part of the sample
26 drawn by the National Center for Education Statistics, in

1 collaboration with their school districts and the State Board
2 of Education, shall administer the academic assessments under
3 the National Assessment of Educational Progress carried out
4 under Section 411(b)(2) of the federal National Education
5 Statistics Act of 1994 (20 U.S.C. 9010) if the U.S. Secretary
6 of Education pays the costs of administering the assessments.

7 (h) (Blank).

8 (i) For the purposes of this subsection (i), "academically
9 based assessments" means assessments consisting of questions
10 and answers that are measurable and quantifiable to measure
11 the knowledge, skills, and ability of students in the subject
12 matters covered by the assessments. All assessments
13 administered pursuant to this Section must be academically
14 based assessments. The scoring of academically based
15 assessments shall be reliable, valid, and fair and shall meet
16 the guidelines for assessment development and use prescribed
17 by the American Psychological Association, the National
18 Council on Measurement in Education, and the American
19 Educational Research Association.

20 The State Board of Education shall review the use of all
21 assessment item types in order to ensure that they are valid
22 and reliable indicators of student performance aligned to the
23 learning standards being assessed and that the development,
24 administration, and scoring of these item types are
25 justifiable in terms of cost.

26 (j) The State Superintendent of Education shall appoint a

1 committee of no more than 21 members, consisting of parents,
2 teachers, school administrators, school board members,
3 assessment experts, regional superintendents of schools, and
4 citizens, to review the State assessments administered by the
5 State Board of Education. The Committee shall select one of
6 its members as its chairperson. The Committee shall meet on an
7 ongoing basis to review the content and design of the
8 assessments (including whether the requirements of subsection
9 (i) of this Section have been met), the time and money expended
10 at the local and State levels to prepare for and administer the
11 assessments, the collective results of the assessments as
12 measured against the stated purpose of assessing student
13 performance, and other issues involving the assessments
14 identified by the Committee. The Committee shall make periodic
15 recommendations to the State Superintendent of Education and
16 the General Assembly concerning the assessments.

17 (k) The State Board of Education may adopt rules to
18 implement this Section.

19 (Source: P.A. 103-204, eff. 1-1-24; 104-15, eff. 6-30-25.)

20 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
21 becoming law.