



Sen. Christopher Belt

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1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 2448

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend Senate Bill 2448 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 Public University Direct Admission Program Act.

6 Section 5. Findings. The General Assembly finds all of the
7 following:

8 (1) Illinois has a strong system of public higher
9 education, including public universities and community
10 colleges across the State.

11 (2) The Illinois economy thrives when Illinois
12 students choose to pursue postsecondary education at
13 Illinois institutions of higher education.

14 (3) According to the National Bureau of Economic
15 Research, two-thirds of graduates stay and work in the
16 state in which they matriculated.

1 (4) Students who have been historically underserved,
2 such as students who are the first in their families to go
3 to college, students who come from low-income families or
4 communities, students of color, and students from rural
5 communities, among others, often face the greatest
6 barriers to accessing higher education, in part because of
7 a lack of information.

8 (5) Every eligible high school senior in Illinois
9 should receive an offer to an Illinois institution of
10 higher education, including public universities and
11 community colleges.

12 (6) Every public community college student seeking a
13 transfer pathway who meets the requirements should receive
14 an offer to a public university in Illinois.

15 (7) Illinois can and should develop the tools and
16 technology and partner with vendors if appropriate to
17 dramatically simplify the public university and community
18 college application and admission process for Illinois
19 students.

20 Section 10. Definitions. As used in this Act:

21 "Direct admissions information" means a student's name,
22 home address, birth date, telephone number, student email
23 address, and cumulative grade point average.

24 "Public university" means the University of Illinois at
25 Springfield, Southern Illinois University, Chicago State

1 University, Eastern Illinois University, Governors State
2 University, Illinois State University, Northeastern Illinois
3 University, Northern Illinois University, Western Illinois
4 University, or any other public university established or
5 authorized by the General Assembly after the effective date of
6 this Act.

7 Section 15. Direct admission program.

8 (a) Beginning with the 2027-2028 academic year, the Board
9 of Higher Education, in collaboration with the Illinois
10 Community College Board, the Illinois Student Assistance
11 Commission, and the State Board of Education, shall establish
12 and administer a direct admission program. Consistent with the
13 federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, the
14 Illinois School Student Records Act, and the School Code, the
15 direct admission program shall automatically offer general
16 admission into a public university or community college to
17 qualified high school seniors in this State and to public
18 community college students in this State who qualify to
19 transfer to a public university.

20 (b) Each public university in the direct admission program
21 shall identify and provide its grade point average standards
22 for general admission for first time admission and for
23 transfer students to the Illinois Student Assistance
24 Commission by March 1 of each year. The Illinois Student
25 Assistance Commission in collaboration with the Board of

1 Higher Education and the Illinois Community College Board
2 shall determine which students meet the standards for general
3 admission for each public university in the direct admission
4 program, and that information shall be made available to the
5 Board of Higher Education. The Board of Higher Education or a
6 statewide student application portal, as provided in
7 subsections (g) and (h), shall notify the student and each
8 public university for which the student qualifies. Each public
9 university may also notify qualified students.

10 (c) Beginning July 1, 2026 and each July 1 thereafter, the
11 Illinois Student Assistance Commission shall use data
12 collected from school districts pursuant to Section 10-20.5a
13 and paragraph 16 of Section 34-18 of the School Code for
14 purposes of subsection (b) to determine which students meet
15 the standards for general admission and provide the data to
16 the Board of Higher Education.

17 (d) As all public community colleges in this State are
18 open-access institutions, high school student direct
19 admissions information shall be used to identify a student's
20 local public community college. All correspondence to a
21 student, pursuant to subsection (b), indicating the public
22 universities that offer the student direct admission shall
23 also indicate the student's acceptance to the community
24 college. The public community college may also notify students
25 within its district directly.

26 (e) Under the direct admission program, a public community

1 college shall offer admission to all students who are
2 residents of the community college district. Under the direct
3 admission program, a public university shall offer general
4 admission to any high school senior in this State who meets the
5 public university's standards for admission, as identified
6 under subsection (b), and to any public community college
7 transfer student transferring to a public university who meets
8 all of the following requirements:

9 (1) Is enrolled at a public community college in this
10 State.

11 (2) Has earned a minimum of 30 graded, transferable
12 semester hours.

13 (3) Meets the minimum grade point average requirement
14 as set by the public university and as reported to
15 Illinois Student Assistance Commission.

16 (f) By July 1 of each year, community college districts
17 shall provide, on an equal basis and consistent with the
18 federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, for
19 any student who has met the 30-hour transferable credit hour
20 requirement set forth in paragraph (2) of subsection (e),
21 access to community college student direct admissions
22 information to the Illinois Community College Board. The
23 Illinois Community College Board shall transmit this
24 information to the Illinois Student Assistance Commission for
25 the purpose of the direct admission program. Prior to
26 providing the student's direct admissions information and

1 transferable credit hours, each community college district
2 shall receive the written or electronic consent of the student
3 if the student is 18 years of age or older or the student's
4 parent or guardian if the student is younger than 18 years of
5 age. Community college students are encouraged to consult the
6 Illinois Articulation Initiative General Education Core
7 Curriculum course list and other resources at the State and
8 university level to determine course transferability for
9 purposes of paragraph (2) of subsection (e). Community college
10 students who have not completed a degree prior to transfer
11 shall be notified by the public university in which they are
12 enrolled to consult the Student Transfer Achievement Reform
13 Act to determine if they are eligible for reverse transfer of
14 credits for the purpose of obtaining an associate degree.

15 (g) The Illinois Student Assistance Commission may gather
16 data and develop the technology to automatically notify high
17 school seniors in this State and public community college
18 transfer students of the direct admission program for the
19 public universities for which those students qualify, based on
20 the standards submitted under subsection (b) or, in the case
21 of public community colleges, based on the community college
22 district where those students reside.

23 (h) The Illinois Student Assistance Commission may use the
24 services of a statewide student application portal and
25 aggregator to provide the automatic notification in subsection
26 (g). The notification shall include the student's local public

1 community college, consistent with the requirements in
2 subsection (d).

3 (i) The direct admission program shall provide admitted
4 high school seniors in this State and public community college
5 transfer students with the website address for the Illinois
6 Student Assistance Commission to find information regarding
7 State grant programs, support for financial aid application
8 completion, scholarship searches, and other financial
9 aid-related information and shall encourage students to
10 determine their eligibility for financial aid by completing
11 the Free Application for Federal Student Aid or, if
12 applicable, an application for State financial aid.

13 (j) A public university or community college may verify
14 applicant information, including transcripts, Illinois
15 residency, and high school graduation in determining
16 eligibility for enrollment. A public university or community
17 college may revoke admission if an applicant does not meet the
18 public university's or community college's direct admission
19 criteria as specified in this Act before enrolling at the
20 public university or community college.

21 (k) Students who apply to a public university or community
22 college pursuant to this Act must not be required to pay an
23 application fee by any public university or community college
24 as part of the direct admission program.

25 (l) The Illinois Student Assistance Commission, the Board
26 of Higher Education, the Illinois Community College Board,

1 public universities, and community colleges may enter into
2 data sharing agreements as necessary for the implementation of
3 this Section.

4 (m) The Board of Higher Education, the Illinois Student
5 Assistance Commission, and the Illinois Community College
6 Board may adopt joint rules to develop procedures for the
7 implementation of this Section.

8 Section 20. Access and outreach campaign. Beginning with
9 the 2027-2028 academic year, the Board of Higher Education, in
10 collaboration with the Illinois Student Assistance Commission
11 and the State Board of Education, shall develop, in
12 consultation with the University of Illinois at Chicago and
13 the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, an access and
14 outreach campaign to inform qualifying State high school
15 juniors and seniors about the opportunity to apply to the
16 University of Illinois at Chicago or the University of
17 Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Qualifying students shall be
18 identified and encouraged to apply in the following manner:

19 (1) The University of Illinois at Chicago and the
20 University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign shall determine
21 the criteria by which students shall be identified for the
22 access and outreach campaign. The University of Illinois
23 at Chicago and the University of Illinois at
24 Urbana-Champaign shall provide the qualifying criteria to
25 the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, as long as the

1 qualifying criteria is based on data available to the
2 Illinois Student Assistance Commission, by February 1 each
3 year.

4 (2) The University of Illinois at Chicago and the
5 University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign shall provide
6 the Illinois Student Assistance Commission with the
7 content of the communication to be shared with students
8 describing how to request information on how to apply. The
9 Illinois Student Assistance Commission may use the same
10 portal or mechanisms for this communication as used for
11 offers of direct admission under Section 15.

12 (3) The Illinois Student Assistance Commission, in
13 collaboration with the Board of Higher Education and the
14 State Board of Education, shall provide the University of
15 Illinois at Chicago and the University of Illinois at
16 Urbana-Champaign with the direct admissions information of
17 the students who meet the qualifying criteria defined by
18 the University of Illinois at Chicago or the University of
19 Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

20 (4) The Board of Higher Education and the Illinois
21 Student Assistance Commission may adopt any rules
22 necessary to administer this Section.

23 Section 25. Direct admission program and access and
24 outreach campaign report.

25 (a) In establishing the direct admission program, the Board

1 of Higher Education, in collaboration with the Illinois
2 Community College Board, shall specifically evaluate the
3 impact on enrollment of low-income students, students of
4 color, first generation students, students from populations
5 underserved in higher education, and students from rural areas
6 of this State.

7 (b) The Board of Higher Education shall submit a report on
8 the direct admission program and the access and outreach
9 campaign to the Governor and General Assembly by August 1,
10 2029 and each August 1 thereafter. The report shall include,
11 but is not limited to, information related to implementation
12 of the direct admission program, the demographic, as collected
13 and available, and geographic data of students offered direct
14 admission and the public university or community college to
15 which direct admission was offered, the demographic, as
16 collected and available, and geographic data of students who
17 qualified for the access and outreach campaign by the
18 University of Illinois at Chicago and the University of
19 Illinois at Urbana-Champaign under Section 20, those who
20 applied, and those who were offered admission, the
21 demographic, as collected and available, and geographic data
22 of high school seniors and public community college transfer
23 students who accepted direct admission and enrolled in the
24 public university or public community college that offered
25 that direct admission, changes in admissions and enrollment
26 over time of high school seniors and public community college

1 transfer students through the direct admission program, and
2 recommendations to improve the direct admission program. The
3 Board of Higher Education shall collaborate with the Illinois
4 Community College Board, the State Board of Education, the
5 Illinois Student Assistance Commission, and public
6 universities to collect data necessary to fulfill the
7 reporting requirements of this Section.

8 (c) The Board of Higher Education, the Illinois Student
9 Assistance Commission, and the Illinois Community College
10 Board, may adopt any rules necessary to administer this
11 Section.

12 Section 30. The School Code is amended by changing
13 Sections 2-3.64a-5, 10-20.5a, and 34-18 as follows:

14 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.64a-5)

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

16 (a) For the assessment and accountability purposes of this
17 Section, "students" includes those students enrolled in a
18 public or State-operated elementary school, secondary school,
19 or cooperative or joint agreement with a governing body or
20 board of control, a charter school operating in compliance
21 with the Charter Schools Law, a school operated by a regional
22 office of education under Section 13A-3 of this Code, or a
23 public school administered by a local public agency or the
24 Department of Human Services.

1 (b) The State Board of Education shall establish the
2 academic standards that are to be applicable to students who
3 are subject to State assessments under this Section. The State
4 Board of Education shall not establish any such standards in
5 final form without first providing opportunities for public
6 participation and local input in the development of the final
7 academic standards. Those opportunities shall include a
8 well-publicized period of public comment and opportunities to
9 file written comments.

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

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

18 The State Board of Education shall annually assess schools
19 that operate a secondary education program, as defined in
20 Section 22-22 of this Code, in English language arts and
21 mathematics. The State Board of Education shall administer no
22 more than 3 assessments, per student, of English language arts
23 and mathematics for students in a secondary education program.
24 One of these assessments shall be recognized by this State's
25 public institutions of higher education, as defined in the
26 Board of Higher Education Act, for the purpose of student

1 application or admissions consideration. The assessment
2 administered by the State Board of Education for the purpose
3 of student application to or admissions consideration by
4 institutions of higher education must be administered on a
5 school day during regular student attendance hours, and
6 student profile information collected by the assessment shall,
7 if available, be made available to the State's public
8 institutions of higher education in a timely manner.

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

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

20 Districts shall inform their students of the timelines and
21 procedures applicable to their participation in every yearly
22 administration of the State assessments. The State Board of
23 Education shall establish periods of time in each school year
24 during which State assessments shall occur to meet the
25 objectives of this Section.

26 The requirements of this subsection do not apply if the

1 State Board of Education has received a waiver from the
2 administration of assessments from the U.S. Department of
3 Education.

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

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

19 All students determined to be English learners shall
20 participate in the State assessments. The scores of those
21 students who have been enrolled in schools in the United
22 States for less than 12 months may not be used for the purposes
23 of accountability. Any student determined to be an English
24 learner shall receive appropriate assessment accommodations,
25 including language supports, which shall be established by
26 rule. Approved assessment accommodations must be provided

1 until the student's English language skills develop to the
2 extent that the student is no longer considered to be an
3 English learner, as demonstrated through a State-identified
4 English language proficiency assessment.

5 (e) The results or scores of each assessment taken under
6 this Section shall be made available to the parents of each
7 student.

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

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

19 (g) All schools in this State that are part of the sample
20 drawn by the National Center for Education Statistics, in
21 collaboration with their school districts and the State Board
22 of Education, shall administer the academic assessments under
23 the National Assessment of Educational Progress carried out
24 under Section 411(b)(2) of the federal National Education
25 Statistics Act of 1994 (20 U.S.C. 9010) if the U.S. Secretary
26 of Education pays the costs of administering the assessments.

1 (h) (Blank).

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

14 The State Board of Education shall review the use of all
15 assessment item types in order to ensure that they are valid
16 and reliable indicators of student performance aligned to the
17 learning standards being assessed and that the development,
18 administration, and scoring of these item types are
19 justifiable in terms of cost.

20 (j) The State Superintendent of Education shall appoint a
21 committee of no more than 21 members, consisting of parents,
22 teachers, school administrators, school board members,
23 assessment experts, regional superintendents of schools, and
24 citizens, to review the State assessments administered by the
25 State Board of Education. The Committee shall select one of
26 its members as its chairperson. The Committee shall meet on an

1 ongoing basis to review the content and design of the
2 assessments (including whether the requirements of subsection
3 (i) of this Section have been met), the time and money expended
4 at the local and State levels to prepare for and administer the
5 assessments, the collective results of the assessments as
6 measured against the stated purpose of assessing student
7 performance, and other issues involving the assessments
8 identified by the Committee. The Committee shall make periodic
9 recommendations to the State Superintendent of Education and
10 the General Assembly concerning the assessments.

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

13 (Source: P.A. 103-204, eff. 1-1-24.)

14 (105 ILCS 5/10-20.5a) (from Ch. 122, par. 10-20.5a)

15 Sec. 10-20.5a. Access to high school campus.

16 (a) In this Section:

17 "Direct admissions information" means a student's name,
18 home address, birth date, telephone number, student email, and
19 cumulative grade point average.

20 "Directory information" means a high school student's
21 name, home address, birth date, and telephone number.

22 "Public institution of higher education" has the meaning
23 given to that term in the Board of Higher Education Act.

24 (a-3) For school districts maintaining grades 10 through
25 12, to provide, on an equal basis, and consistent with the

1 federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974,
2 access to a high school campus and student directory
3 information to the official recruiting representatives of the
4 armed forces of Illinois and the United States, to the
5 Illinois Student Assistance Commission, and to State public
6 institutions of higher education for the purpose of informing
7 students of educational and career opportunities if the board
8 has provided such access to persons or groups whose purpose is
9 to acquaint students with educational or occupational
10 opportunities available to them. The board is not required to
11 give greater notice regarding the right of access to
12 recruiting representatives than is given to other persons and
13 groups. ~~In this Section, "directory information" means a high~~
14 ~~school student's name, address, and telephone number.~~

15 (a-5) For a school district maintaining grades 10 through
16 12, to provide, on an equal basis and consistent with the
17 federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 and
18 the Illinois School Student Records Act, access to student
19 direct admissions information to the Illinois Student
20 Assistance Commission for the purpose of the direct admission
21 program.

22 (b) If a student or his or her parent or guardian submits a
23 signed, written request to the high school before the end of
24 the student's sophomore year (or if the student is a transfer
25 student, by another time set by the high school) that
26 indicates that the student or his or her parent or guardian

1 does not want the student's directory information to be
2 provided to official recruiting representatives, to the
3 Illinois Student Assistance Commission, or to public
4 institutions of higher education under subsection (a-3) ~~(a)~~ of
5 this Section, the high school may not provide access to the
6 student's directory information to these recruiting
7 representatives, the Illinois Student Assistance Commission,
8 or public institutions of higher education. The high school
9 shall notify its students and their parents or guardians of
10 the provisions of this subsection (b).

11 (b-5) If a student who is 18 years of age or older or the
12 parent or guardian of a student who is under 18 years of age
13 submits a signed, written or electronic request that indicates
14 that the student or his or her parent or guardian does permit
15 the student's direct admissions information to be provided
16 under subsection (a-5), the high school shall provide the
17 student's direct admissions information to the Illinois
18 Student Assistance Commission. The Illinois Student Assistance
19 Commission shall provide opt-in language to school districts
20 no later than June 30, 2025. The high school shall notify its
21 students and their parents or guardians of the provisions of
22 this subsection (b-5) and, at the time of school registration
23 or at other appropriate times prior to the end of a student's
24 junior year, give its students and their parents or guardians
25 the option for a student's direct admissions information to be
26 shared for the purpose of the direct admission program.

1 (c) A high school may require official recruiting
2 representatives of the armed forces of Illinois and the United
3 States to pay a fee for copying and mailing a student's
4 directory information in an amount that is not more than the
5 actual costs incurred by the high school.

6 (d) Information received by an official ~~recruiting~~
7 ~~representative~~ under this Section may be used only to provide
8 information to students concerning educational and career
9 opportunities and to assist in designating State Scholars
10 under Section 25 of the Higher Education Student Assistance
11 Act. Information may not be released to a person who is not
12 involved in recruiting students for the armed forces of
13 Illinois or the United States or providing educational
14 opportunity information for the Board of Higher Education, the
15 Illinois Community College Board, the Illinois Student
16 Assistance Commission, or public State institutions of higher
17 education.

18 (e) By July 1, 2026 and each July 1 thereafter, each school
19 district under this Section shall make high school ~~January 1,~~
20 ~~2024,~~ student directory information ~~shall be made~~
21 electronically accessible through a secure centralized data
22 system for official recruiting representatives of the armed
23 forces of Illinois and the United States, as well as to the
24 Illinois Student Assistance Commission and ~~State~~ public
25 institutions of higher education.

26 (f) By July 1, 2026 and each July 1 thereafter, each school

1 district under this Section shall make student direct
2 admissions information, for students graduating in the next
3 year, electronically accessible through a secure, centralized
4 data system for the Illinois Student Assistance Commission for
5 the purpose of the direct admission program.

6 (g) The Board of Higher Education, the Illinois Community
7 College Board, the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, and
8 the State Board of Education may adopt any rules necessary to
9 administer this Section.

10 (Source: P.A. 103-204, eff. 1-1-24.)

11 (105 ILCS 5/34-18) (from Ch. 122, par. 34-18)

12 Sec. 34-18. Powers of the board. The board shall exercise
13 general supervision and jurisdiction over the public education
14 and the public school system of the city, and, except as
15 otherwise provided by this Article, shall have power:

16 1. To make suitable provision for the establishment
17 and maintenance throughout the year or for such portion
18 thereof as it may direct, not less than 9 months and in
19 compliance with Section 10-19.05, of schools of all grades
20 and kinds, including normal schools, high schools, night
21 schools, schools for defectives and delinquents, parental
22 and truant schools, schools for the blind, the deaf, and
23 persons with physical disabilities, schools or classes in
24 manual training, constructural and vocational teaching,
25 domestic arts, and physical culture, vocation and

1 extension schools and lecture courses, and all other
2 educational courses and facilities, including
3 establishing, equipping, maintaining and operating
4 playgrounds and recreational programs, when such programs
5 are conducted in, adjacent to, or connected with any
6 public school under the general supervision and
7 jurisdiction of the board; provided that the calendar for
8 the school term and any changes must be submitted to and
9 approved by the State Board of Education before the
10 calendar or changes may take effect, and provided that in
11 allocating funds from year to year for the operation of
12 all attendance centers within the district, the board
13 shall ensure that supplemental general State aid or
14 supplemental grant funds are allocated and applied in
15 accordance with Section 18-8, 18-8.05, or 18-8.15. To
16 admit to such schools without charge foreign exchange
17 students who are participants in an organized exchange
18 student program which is authorized by the board. The
19 board shall permit all students to enroll in
20 apprenticeship programs in trade schools operated by the
21 board, whether those programs are union-sponsored or not.
22 No student shall be refused admission into or be excluded
23 from any course of instruction offered in the common
24 schools by reason of that student's sex. No student shall
25 be denied equal access to physical education and
26 interscholastic athletic programs supported from school

1 district funds or denied participation in comparable
2 physical education and athletic programs solely by reason
3 of the student's sex. Equal access to programs supported
4 from school district funds and comparable programs will be
5 defined in rules promulgated by the State Board of
6 Education in consultation with the Illinois High School
7 Association. Notwithstanding any other provision of this
8 Article, neither the board of education nor any local
9 school council or other school official shall recommend
10 that children with disabilities be placed into regular
11 education classrooms unless those children with
12 disabilities are provided with supplementary services to
13 assist them so that they benefit from the regular
14 classroom instruction and are included on the teacher's
15 regular education class register;

16 2. To furnish lunches to pupils, to make a reasonable
17 charge therefor, and to use school funds for the payment
18 of such expenses as the board may determine are necessary
19 in conducting the school lunch program;

20 3. To co-operate with the circuit court;

21 4. To make arrangements with the public or
22 quasi-public libraries and museums for the use of their
23 facilities by teachers and pupils of the public schools;

24 5. To employ dentists and prescribe their duties for
25 the purpose of treating the pupils in the schools, but
26 accepting such treatment shall be optional with parents or

1 guardians;

2 6. To grant the use of assembly halls and classrooms
3 when not otherwise needed, including light, heat, and
4 attendants, for free public lectures, concerts, and other
5 educational and social interests, free of charge, under
6 such provisions and control as the principal of the
7 affected attendance center may prescribe;

8 7. To apportion the pupils to the several schools;
9 provided that no pupil shall be excluded from or
10 segregated in any such school on account of his color,
11 race, sex, or nationality. The board shall take into
12 consideration the prevention of segregation and the
13 elimination of separation of children in public schools
14 because of color, race, sex, or nationality. Except that
15 children may be committed to or attend parental and social
16 adjustment schools established and maintained either for
17 boys or girls only. All records pertaining to the
18 creation, alteration or revision of attendance areas shall
19 be open to the public. Nothing herein shall limit the
20 board's authority to establish multi-area attendance
21 centers or other student assignment systems for
22 desegregation purposes or otherwise, and to apportion the
23 pupils to the several schools. Furthermore, beginning in
24 school year 1994-95, pursuant to a board plan adopted by
25 October 1, 1993, the board shall offer, commencing on a
26 phased-in basis, the opportunity for families within the

1 school district to apply for enrollment of their children
2 in any attendance center within the school district which
3 does not have selective admission requirements approved by
4 the board. The appropriate geographical area in which such
5 open enrollment may be exercised shall be determined by
6 the board of education. Such children may be admitted to
7 any such attendance center on a space available basis
8 after all children residing within such attendance
9 center's area have been accommodated. If the number of
10 applicants from outside the attendance area exceed the
11 space available, then successful applicants shall be
12 selected by lottery. The board of education's open
13 enrollment plan must include provisions that allow
14 low-income students to have access to transportation
15 needed to exercise school choice. Open enrollment shall be
16 in compliance with the provisions of the Consent Decree
17 and Desegregation Plan cited in Section 34-1.01;

18 8. To approve programs and policies for providing
19 transportation services to students. Nothing herein shall
20 be construed to permit or empower the State Board of
21 Education to order, mandate, or require busing or other
22 transportation of pupils for the purpose of achieving
23 racial balance in any school;

24 9. Subject to the limitations in this Article, to
25 establish and approve system-wide curriculum objectives
26 and standards, including graduation standards, which

1 reflect the multi-cultural diversity in the city and are
2 consistent with State law, provided that for all purposes
3 of this Article courses or proficiency in American Sign
4 Language shall be deemed to constitute courses or
5 proficiency in a foreign language; and to employ
6 principals and teachers, appointed as provided in this
7 Article, and fix their compensation. The board shall
8 prepare such reports related to minimal competency testing
9 as may be requested by the State Board of Education and, in
10 addition, shall monitor and approve special education and
11 bilingual education programs and policies within the
12 district to ensure that appropriate services are provided
13 in accordance with applicable State and federal laws to
14 children requiring services and education in those areas;

15 10. To employ non-teaching personnel or utilize
16 volunteer personnel for: (i) non-teaching duties not
17 requiring instructional judgment or evaluation of pupils,
18 including library duties; and (ii) supervising study
19 halls, long distance teaching reception areas used
20 incident to instructional programs transmitted by
21 electronic media such as computers, video, and audio,
22 detention and discipline areas, and school-sponsored
23 extracurricular activities. The board may further utilize
24 volunteer nonlicensed personnel or employ nonlicensed
25 personnel to assist in the instruction of pupils under the
26 immediate supervision of a teacher holding a valid

1 educator license, directly engaged in teaching subject
2 matter or conducting activities; provided that the teacher
3 shall be continuously aware of the nonlicensed persons'
4 activities and shall be able to control or modify them.
5 The general superintendent shall determine qualifications
6 of such personnel and shall prescribe rules for
7 determining the duties and activities to be assigned to
8 such personnel;

9 10.5. To utilize volunteer personnel from a regional
10 School Crisis Assistance Team (S.C.A.T.), created as part
11 of the Safe to Learn Program established pursuant to
12 Section 25 of the Illinois Violence Prevention Act of
13 1995, to provide assistance to schools in times of
14 violence or other traumatic incidents within a school
15 community by providing crisis intervention services to
16 lessen the effects of emotional trauma on individuals and
17 the community; the School Crisis Assistance Team Steering
18 Committee shall determine the qualifications for
19 volunteers;

20 11. To provide television studio facilities in not to
21 exceed one school building and to provide programs for
22 educational purposes, provided, however, that the board
23 shall not construct, acquire, operate, or maintain a
24 television transmitter; to grant the use of its studio
25 facilities to a licensed television station located in the
26 school district; and to maintain and operate not to exceed

1 one school radio transmitting station and provide programs
2 for educational purposes;

3 12. To offer, if deemed appropriate, outdoor education
4 courses, including field trips within the State of
5 Illinois, or adjacent states, and to use school
6 educational funds for the expense of the said outdoor
7 educational programs, whether within the school district
8 or not;

9 13. During that period of the calendar year not
10 embraced within the regular school term, to provide and
11 conduct courses in subject matters normally embraced in
12 the program of the schools during the regular school term
13 and to give regular school credit for satisfactory
14 completion by the student of such courses as may be
15 approved for credit by the State Board of Education;

16 14. To insure against any loss or liability of the
17 board, the former School Board Nominating Commission,
18 Local School Councils, the Chicago Schools Academic
19 Accountability Council, or the former Subdistrict Councils
20 or of any member, officer, agent, or employee thereof,
21 resulting from alleged violations of civil rights arising
22 from incidents occurring on or after September 5, 1967 or
23 from the wrongful or negligent act or omission of any such
24 person whether occurring within or without the school
25 premises, provided the officer, agent, or employee was, at
26 the time of the alleged violation of civil rights or

1 wrongful act or omission, acting within the scope of his
2 or her employment or under direction of the board, the
3 former School Board Nominating Commission, the Chicago
4 Schools Academic Accountability Council, Local School
5 Councils, or the former Subdistrict Councils; and to
6 provide for or participate in insurance plans for its
7 officers and employees, including, but not limited to,
8 retirement annuities, medical, surgical and
9 hospitalization benefits in such types and amounts as may
10 be determined by the board; provided, however, that the
11 board shall contract for such insurance only with an
12 insurance company authorized to do business in this State.
13 Such insurance may include provision for employees who
14 rely on treatment by prayer or spiritual means alone for
15 healing, in accordance with the tenets and practice of a
16 recognized religious denomination;

17 15. To contract with the corporate authorities of any
18 municipality or the county board of any county, as the
19 case may be, to provide for the regulation of traffic in
20 parking areas of property used for school purposes, in
21 such manner as is provided by Section 11-209 of the
22 Illinois Vehicle Code;

23 16. In this paragraph 16:

24 "Direct admissions information" means a student's
25 name, home address, birth date, telephone number, student
26 email address, and cumulative grade point average.

1 "Directory information" means a high school student's
2 name, home address, birth date, and telephone number.

3 "Public institution of higher education" has the
4 meaning given to that term in the Board of Higher
5 Education Act.

6 (a) To provide, on an equal basis and consistent with
7 the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of
8 1974 and the Illinois School Student Records Act, access
9 to a high school campus and student directory information
10 to the official recruiting representatives of the armed
11 forces of Illinois and the United States, to the Illinois
12 Student Assistance Commission, and to public institutions
13 of higher education for the purposes of informing students
14 of ~~the~~ educational and career opportunities ~~available in~~
15 ~~the military~~ if the board has provided such access to
16 persons or groups whose purpose is to acquaint students
17 with educational or occupational opportunities available
18 to them. The board is not required to give greater notice
19 regarding the right of access to recruiting
20 representatives than is given to other persons and groups.
21 ~~In this paragraph 16, "directory information" means a high~~
22 ~~school student's name, address, and telephone number.~~

23 (a-5) To provide, on an equal basis and consistent
24 with the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
25 of 1974 and the Illinois School Student Records Act,
26 access to student direct admissions information to the

1 Illinois Student Assistance Commission for the purpose of
2 the direct admission program.

3 (b) If a student or his or her parent or guardian
4 submits a signed, written request to the high school
5 before the end of the student's sophomore year (or if the
6 student is a transfer student, by another time set by the
7 high school) that indicates that the student or his or her
8 parent or guardian does not want the student's directory
9 information to be provided to official recruiting
10 representatives, to the Illinois Student Assistance
11 Commission, and to public institutions of higher education
12 under subparagraph ~~subsection~~ (a) of this paragraph 16 of
13 this Section, the high school may not provide access to
14 the student's directory information to these recruiting
15 representatives, the Illinois Student Assistance
16 Commission, and public institutions of higher education.
17 The high school shall notify its students and their
18 parents or guardians of the provisions of this
19 subparagraph ~~subsection~~ (b).

20 (b-5) If a student who is 18 years of age or older or
21 the parent or guardian of a student under 18 years of age
22 submits a signed, written or electronic request that
23 indicates that the student or his or her parent or
24 guardian does permit the student's direct admissions
25 information to be provided, the high school shall provide
26 the student's direct admissions information to the

1 Illinois Student Assistance Commission. The Illinois
2 Student Assistance Commission shall provide opt-in
3 language to school districts no later than June 30, 2025.
4 The high school shall notify its students and their
5 parents or guardians of the provisions of this
6 subparagraph (b-5) and, at the time of school registration
7 or at other appropriate times prior to the end of a
8 student's junior year, give its students and their parents
9 or guardians the option for the student information to be
10 shared for the purpose of the direct admission program.

11 (c) A high school may require official recruiting
12 representatives of the armed forces of Illinois and the
13 United States to pay a fee for copying and mailing a
14 student's directory information in an amount that is not
15 more than the actual costs incurred by the high school.

16 (d) Information received by an official ~~recruiting~~
17 ~~representative~~ under this Section may be used only to
18 provide information to students concerning educational and
19 career opportunities ~~available in the military~~ and to
20 assist in designating State Scholars under Section 25 of
21 the Higher Education Student Assistance Act. Information
22 may not be released to a person who is not involved in
23 recruiting students for the armed forces of Illinois or
24 the United States or providing educational opportunity
25 information for the Board of Higher Education, the
26 Illinois Community College Board, the Illinois Student

1 Assistance Commission, or public institutions of higher
2 education.

3 (e) By July 1, 2026 and each July 1 thereafter, the
4 school district shall make student directory information
5 electronically accessible for official recruiting
6 representatives of the armed forces of Illinois or the
7 United States, to the Illinois Student Assistance
8 Commission, and to public institutions of higher
9 education;

10 (f) By July 1, 2026 and each July 1 thereafter, the
11 school district shall make student direct admissions
12 information electronically accessible through a secure,
13 centralized data system to the Illinois Student Assistance
14 Commission for the purpose of the direct admission
15 program.

16 (g) The Board of Higher Education, the Illinois
17 Community College Board, the Illinois Student Assistance
18 Commission, and the State Board of Education may adopt any
19 rules necessary to administer this paragraph 16.

20 17. (a) To sell or market any computer program
21 developed by an employee of the school district, provided
22 that such employee developed the computer program as a
23 direct result of his or her duties with the school
24 district or through the utilization of school district
25 resources or facilities. The employee who developed the
26 computer program shall be entitled to share in the

1 proceeds of such sale or marketing of the computer
2 program. The distribution of such proceeds between the
3 employee and the school district shall be as agreed upon
4 by the employee and the school district, except that
5 neither the employee nor the school district may receive
6 more than 90% of such proceeds. The negotiation for an
7 employee who is represented by an exclusive bargaining
8 representative may be conducted by such bargaining
9 representative at the employee's request.

10 (b) For the purpose of this paragraph 17:

11 (1) "Computer" means an internally programmed, general
12 purpose digital device capable of automatically accepting
13 data, processing data and supplying the results of the
14 operation.

15 (2) "Computer program" means a series of coded
16 instructions or statements in a form acceptable to a
17 computer, which causes the computer to process data in
18 order to achieve a certain result.

19 (3) "Proceeds" means profits derived from the
20 marketing or sale of a product after deducting the
21 expenses of developing and marketing such product;

22 18. To delegate to the general superintendent of
23 schools, by resolution, the authority to approve contracts
24 and expenditures in amounts of \$35,000 or less;

25 19. Upon the written request of an employee, to
26 withhold from the compensation of that employee any dues,

1 payments, or contributions payable by such employee to any
2 labor organization as defined in the Illinois Educational
3 Labor Relations Act. Under such arrangement, an amount
4 shall be withheld from each regular payroll period which
5 is equal to the pro rata share of the annual dues plus any
6 payments or contributions, and the board shall transmit
7 such withholdings to the specified labor organization
8 within 10 working days from the time of the withholding;

9 19a. Upon receipt of notice from the comptroller of a
10 municipality with a population of 500,000 or more, a
11 county with a population of 3,000,000 or more, the Cook
12 County Forest Preserve District, the Chicago Park
13 District, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, the
14 Chicago Transit Authority, or a housing authority of a
15 municipality with a population of 500,000 or more that a
16 debt is due and owing the municipality, the county, the
17 Cook County Forest Preserve District, the Chicago Park
18 District, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, the
19 Chicago Transit Authority, or the housing authority by an
20 employee of the Chicago Board of Education, to withhold,
21 from the compensation of that employee, the amount of the
22 debt that is due and owing and pay the amount withheld to
23 the municipality, the county, the Cook County Forest
24 Preserve District, the Chicago Park District, the
25 Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, the Chicago
26 Transit Authority, or the housing authority; provided,

1 however, that the amount deducted from any one salary or
2 wage payment shall not exceed 25% of the net amount of the
3 payment. Before the Board deducts any amount from any
4 salary or wage of an employee under this paragraph, the
5 municipality, the county, the Cook County Forest Preserve
6 District, the Chicago Park District, the Metropolitan
7 Water Reclamation District, the Chicago Transit Authority,
8 or the housing authority shall certify that (i) the
9 employee has been afforded an opportunity for a hearing to
10 dispute the debt that is due and owing the municipality,
11 the county, the Cook County Forest Preserve District, the
12 Chicago Park District, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation
13 District, the Chicago Transit Authority, or the housing
14 authority and (ii) the employee has received notice of a
15 wage deduction order and has been afforded an opportunity
16 for a hearing to object to the order. For purposes of this
17 paragraph, "net amount" means that part of the salary or
18 wage payment remaining after the deduction of any amounts
19 required by law to be deducted and "debt due and owing"
20 means (i) a specified sum of money owed to the
21 municipality, the county, the Cook County Forest Preserve
22 District, the Chicago Park District, the Metropolitan
23 Water Reclamation District, the Chicago Transit Authority,
24 or the housing authority for services, work, or goods,
25 after the period granted for payment has expired, or (ii)
26 a specified sum of money owed to the municipality, the

1 county, the Cook County Forest Preserve District, the
2 Chicago Park District, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation
3 District, the Chicago Transit Authority, or the housing
4 authority pursuant to a court order or order of an
5 administrative hearing officer after the exhaustion of, or
6 the failure to exhaust, judicial review;

7 20. The board is encouraged to employ a sufficient
8 number of licensed school counselors to maintain a
9 student/counselor ratio of 250 to 1. Each counselor shall
10 spend at least 75% of his work time in direct contact with
11 students and shall maintain a record of such time;

12 21. To make available to students vocational and
13 career counseling and to establish 5 special career
14 counseling days for students and parents. On these days
15 representatives of local businesses and industries shall
16 be invited to the school campus and shall inform students
17 of career opportunities available to them in the various
18 businesses and industries. Special consideration shall be
19 given to counseling minority students as to career
20 opportunities available to them in various fields. For the
21 purposes of this paragraph, minority student means a
22 person who is any of the following:

23 (a) American Indian or Alaska Native (a person having
24 origins in any of the original peoples of North and South
25 America, including Central America, and who maintains
26 tribal affiliation or community attachment).

1 (b) Asian (a person having origins in any of the
2 original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the
3 Indian subcontinent, including, but not limited to,
4 Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan,
5 the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam).

6 (c) Black or African American (a person having origins
7 in any of the black racial groups of Africa).

8 (d) Hispanic or Latino (a person of Cuban, Mexican,
9 Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish
10 culture or origin, regardless of race).

11 (e) Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (a
12 person having origins in any of the original peoples of
13 Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands).

14 Counseling days shall not be in lieu of regular school
15 days;

16 22. To report to the State Board of Education the
17 annual student dropout rate and number of students who
18 graduate from, transfer from, or otherwise leave bilingual
19 programs;

20 23. Except as otherwise provided in the Abused and
21 Neglected Child Reporting Act or other applicable State or
22 federal law, to permit school officials to withhold, from
23 any person, information on the whereabouts of any child
24 removed from school premises when the child has been taken
25 into protective custody as a victim of suspected child
26 abuse. School officials shall direct such person to the

1 Department of Children and Family Services or to the local
2 law enforcement agency, if appropriate;

3 24. To develop a policy, based on the current state of
4 existing school facilities, projected enrollment, and
5 efficient utilization of available resources, for capital
6 improvement of schools and school buildings within the
7 district, addressing in that policy both the relative
8 priority for major repairs, renovations, and additions to
9 school facilities and the advisability or necessity of
10 building new school facilities or closing existing schools
11 to meet current or projected demographic patterns within
12 the district;

13 25. To make available to the students in every high
14 school attendance center the ability to take all courses
15 necessary to comply with the Board of Higher Education's
16 college entrance criteria effective in 1993;

17 26. To encourage mid-career changes into the teaching
18 profession, whereby qualified professionals become
19 licensed teachers, by allowing credit for professional
20 employment in related fields when determining point of
21 entry on the teacher pay scale;

22 27. To provide or contract out training programs for
23 administrative personnel and principals with revised or
24 expanded duties pursuant to this Code in order to ensure
25 they have the knowledge and skills to perform their
26 duties;

1 28. To establish a fund for the prioritized special
2 needs programs, and to allocate such funds and other lump
3 sum amounts to each attendance center in a manner
4 consistent with the provisions of part 4 of Section
5 34-2.3. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to
6 require any additional appropriations of State funds for
7 this purpose;

8 29. (Blank);

9 30. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act or
10 any other law to the contrary, to contract with third
11 parties for services otherwise performed by employees,
12 including those in a bargaining unit, and to lay off
13 ~~layoff~~ those employees upon 14 days' ~~days~~ written notice
14 to the affected employees. Those contracts may be for a
15 period not to exceed 5 years and may be awarded on a
16 system-wide basis. The board may not operate more than 30
17 contract schools, provided that the board may operate an
18 additional 5 contract turnaround schools pursuant to item
19 (5.5) of subsection (d) of Section 34-8.3 of this Code,
20 and the governing bodies of contract schools are subject
21 to the Freedom of Information Act and Open Meetings Act;

22 31. To promulgate rules establishing procedures
23 governing the layoff or reduction in force of employees
24 and the recall of such employees, including, but not
25 limited to, criteria for such layoffs, reductions in force
26 or recall rights of such employees and the weight to be

1 given to any particular criterion. Such criteria shall
2 take into account factors, including, but not limited to,
3 qualifications, certifications, experience, performance
4 ratings or evaluations, and any other factors relating to
5 an employee's job performance;

6 32. To develop a policy to prevent nepotism in the
7 hiring of personnel or the selection of contractors;

8 33. (Blank); and

9 34. To establish a Labor Management Council to the
10 board comprised of representatives of the board, the chief
11 executive officer, and those labor organizations that are
12 the exclusive representatives of employees of the board
13 and to promulgate policies and procedures for the
14 operation of the Council.

15 The specifications of the powers herein granted are not to
16 be construed as exclusive, but the board shall also exercise
17 all other powers that may be requisite or proper for the
18 maintenance and the development of a public school system, not
19 inconsistent with the other provisions of this Article or
20 provisions of this Code which apply to all school districts.

21 In addition to the powers herein granted and authorized to
22 be exercised by the board, it shall be the duty of the board to
23 review or to direct independent reviews of special education
24 expenditures and services. The board shall file a report of
25 such review with the General Assembly on or before May 1, 1990.

26 (Source: P.A. 102-465, eff. 1-1-22; 102-558, eff. 8-20-21;

1 102-894, eff. 5-20-22; 103-8, eff. 1-1-24; revised 7-17-24.)

2 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
3 becoming law.".