



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB4066

Introduced 2/24/2026, by Sen. Willie Preston

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/27-815
105 ILCS 5/27-820

was 105 ILCS 5/27-24.2
was 105 ILCS 5/27-24.2a

Amends the Driver Education Act of the School Code. Provides that driver education course instruction shall demonstrate the proper actions to be taken during a law enforcement traffic stop by drivers and passengers (instead of just the proper actions to be taken during a law enforcement traffic stop). Provides that, beginning with the 2027-2028 school year, the traffic stop instruction shall include the constitutional rights of drivers and passengers during a traffic stop, including, but not limited to, the right to remain silent, the right to refuse consent to a vehicle search unless law enforcement has lawful cause, the right to respectfully ask if one is free to leave, and the right to refuse to answer questions regarding immigration status, citizenship, or national origin, which instruction may be offered in a culturally responsive manner that reflects and affirms the diverse backgrounds, experiences, and needs of students in order to enhance understanding and support safe, informed interactions during traffic stops.

LRB104 17087 LNS 30504 b

STATE MANDATES
ACT MAY REQUIRE
REIMBURSEMENT

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Sections
5 27-815 and 27-820 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/27-815) (was 105 ILCS 5/27-24.2)

7 Sec. 27-815. Safety education; driver education course.
8 Instruction shall be given in safety education in each of
9 grades one through 8, equivalent to one class period each
10 week, and any school district which maintains grades 9 through
11 12 shall offer a driver education course in any such school
12 which it operates. Its curriculum shall include content
13 dealing with Chapters 11, 12, 13, 15, and 16 of the Illinois
14 Vehicle Code, the rules adopted pursuant to those Chapters
15 insofar as they pertain to the operation of motor vehicles,
16 and the portions of the Litter Control Act relating to the
17 operation of motor vehicles. The course of instruction given
18 in grades 10 through 12 shall include an emphasis on the
19 development of knowledge, attitudes, habits, and skills
20 necessary for the safe operation of motor vehicles, including
21 motorcycles insofar as they can be taught in the classroom,
22 and instruction on distracted driving as a major traffic
23 safety issue. In addition, the course shall include

1 instruction on special hazards existing at and required safety
2 and driving precautions that must be observed at emergency
3 situations, highway construction and maintenance zones,
4 including worker safety in highway construction and
5 maintenance zones, and railroad crossings and the approaches
6 thereto. Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, the course
7 shall also include instruction concerning law enforcement
8 procedures for traffic stops, including a demonstration of the
9 proper actions to be taken during a traffic stop by drivers and
10 passengers and appropriate interactions with law enforcement
11 and, beginning with the 2027-2028 school year, instruction on
12 the constitutional rights of drivers and passengers during a
13 traffic stop, including, but not limited to, the right to
14 remain silent, the right to refuse consent to a vehicle search
15 unless law enforcement has lawful cause, the right to
16 respectfully ask if one is free to leave, and the right to
17 refuse to answer questions regarding immigration status,
18 citizenship, or national origin, which instruction may be
19 offered in a culturally responsive manner that reflects and
20 affirms the diverse backgrounds, experiences, and needs of
21 students in order to enhance understanding and support safe,
22 informed interactions during traffic stops. The course of
23 instruction required of each eligible student at the high
24 school level shall consist of a minimum of 30 clock hours of
25 classroom instruction and a minimum of 6 clock hours of
26 individual behind-the-wheel instruction in a dual control car

1 on public roadways taught by a driver education instructor
2 endorsed by the State Board of Education. A school district's
3 decision to allow a student to take a portion of the driver
4 education course through a distance learning program must be
5 determined on a case-by-case basis and must be approved by the
6 school's administration, including the student's driver
7 education teacher, and the student's parent or guardian. Under
8 no circumstances may the student take the entire driver
9 education course through a distance learning program. Both the
10 classroom instruction part and the practice driving part of a
11 driver education course shall be open to a resident or
12 non-resident student attending a non-public school in the
13 district wherein the course is offered. Each student attending
14 any public or non-public high school in the district must
15 receive a passing grade in at least 8 courses during the
16 previous 2 semesters prior to enrolling in a driver education
17 course, or the student shall not be permitted to enroll in the
18 course; provided that the local superintendent of schools
19 (with respect to a student attending a public high school in
20 the district) or chief school administrator (with respect to a
21 student attending a non-public high school in the district)
22 may waive the requirement if the superintendent or chief
23 school administrator, as the case may be, deems it to be in the
24 best interest of the student. A student may be allowed to
25 commence the classroom instruction part of such driver
26 education course prior to reaching age 15 if such student then

1 will be eligible to complete the entire course within 12
2 months after being allowed to commence such classroom
3 instruction.

4 A school district may offer a driver education course in a
5 school by contracting with a commercial driver training school
6 to provide both the classroom instruction part and the
7 practice driving part or either one without having to request
8 a modification or waiver of administrative rules of the State
9 Board of Education if the school district approves the action
10 during a public hearing on whether to enter into a contract
11 with a commercial driver training school. The public hearing
12 shall be held at a regular or special school board meeting
13 prior to entering into such a contract. If a school district
14 chooses to approve a contract with a commercial driver
15 training school, then the district must provide evidence to
16 the State Board of Education that the commercial driver
17 training school with which it will contract holds a license
18 issued by the Secretary of State under Article IV of Chapter 6
19 of the Illinois Vehicle Code and that each instructor employed
20 by the commercial driver training school to provide
21 instruction to students served by the school district holds a
22 valid teaching license issued under the requirements of this
23 Code and rules of the State Board of Education. Such evidence
24 must include, but need not be limited to, a list of each
25 instructor assigned to teach students served by the school
26 district, which list shall include the instructor's name,

1 personal identification number as required by the State Board
2 of Education, birth date, and driver's license number. Once
3 the contract is entered into, the school district shall notify
4 the State Board of Education of any changes in the personnel
5 providing instruction either (i) within 15 calendar days after
6 an instructor leaves the program or (ii) before a new
7 instructor is hired. Such notification shall include the
8 instructor's name, personal identification number as required
9 by the State Board of Education, birth date, and driver's
10 license number. If the school district maintains an Internet
11 website, then the district shall post a copy of the final
12 contract between the district and the commercial driver
13 training school on the district's Internet website. If no
14 Internet website exists, then the school district shall make
15 available the contract upon request. A record of all materials
16 in relation to the contract must be maintained by the school
17 district and made available to parents and guardians upon
18 request. The instructor's date of birth and driver's license
19 number and any other personally identifying information as
20 deemed by the federal Driver's Privacy Protection Act of 1994
21 must be redacted from any public materials.

22 Such a course may be commenced immediately after the
23 completion of a prior course. Teachers of such courses shall
24 meet the licensure requirements of this Code and regulations
25 of the State Board as to qualifications. Except for a contract
26 with a Certified Driver Rehabilitation Specialist, a school

1 district that contracts with a third party to teach a driver
2 education course under this Section must ensure the teacher
3 meets the educator licensure and endorsement requirements
4 under Article 21B and must follow the same evaluation and
5 observation requirements that apply to non-tenured teachers
6 under Article 24A. The teacher evaluation must be conducted by
7 a school administrator employed by the school district and
8 must be submitted annually to the district superintendent and
9 all school board members for oversight purposes.

10 Subject to rules of the State Board of Education, the
11 school district may charge a reasonable fee, not to exceed
12 \$50, to students who participate in the course, unless a
13 student is unable to pay for such a course, in which event the
14 fee for such a student must be waived. However, the district
15 may increase this fee to an amount not to exceed \$250 by school
16 board resolution following a public hearing on the increase,
17 which increased fee must be waived for students who
18 participate in the course and are unable to pay for the course.
19 The total amount from driver education fees and reimbursement
20 from the State for driver education must not exceed the total
21 cost of the driver education program in any year and must be
22 deposited into the school district's driver education fund as
23 a separate line item budget entry. All moneys deposited into
24 the school district's driver education fund must be used
25 solely for the funding of a high school driver education
26 program approved by the State Board of Education that uses

1 driver education instructors endorsed by the State Board of
2 Education.

3 (Source: P.A. 103-944, eff. 8-9-24; 104-391, eff. 8-15-25.)

4 (105 ILCS 5/27-820) (was 105 ILCS 5/27-24.2a)

5 Sec. 27-820. Non-public school driver education course.

6 Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, any non-public
7 school's driver education course shall include instruction
8 concerning law enforcement procedures for traffic stops,
9 including a demonstration of the proper actions to be taken
10 during a traffic stop by drivers and passengers and
11 appropriate interactions with law enforcement and, beginning
12 with the 2027-2028 school year, instruction on the
13 constitutional rights of drivers and passengers during a
14 traffic stop, including, but not limited to, the right to
15 remain silent, the right to refuse consent to a vehicle search
16 unless law enforcement has lawful cause, the right to
17 respectfully ask if one is free to leave, and the right to
18 refuse to answer questions regarding immigration status,
19 citizenship, or national origin, which instruction may be
20 offered in a culturally responsive manner that reflects and
21 affirms the diverse backgrounds, experiences, and needs of
22 students in order to enhance understanding and support safe,
23 informed interactions during traffic stops.

24 (Source: P.A. 104-391, eff. 8-15-25.)