

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-30 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/21B-30)

7 Sec. 21B-30. Educator testing.

8 (a) (Blank).

9 (b) The State Board of Education, in consultation with the
10 State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, shall design
11 and implement a system of examinations, which shall be
12 required prior to the issuance of educator licenses. These
13 examinations and indicators must be based on national and
14 State professional teaching standards, as determined by the
15 State Board of Education, in consultation with the State
16 Educator Preparation and Licensure Board. The State Board of
17 Education may adopt such rules as may be necessary to
18 implement and administer this Section.

19 (c) (Blank).

20 (c-5) The State Board must adopt rules to implement a
21 paraprofessional competency test. This test would allow an
22 applicant seeking an Educator License with Stipulations with a
23 paraprofessional educator endorsement to obtain the

1 endorsement if he or she passes the test and meets the other
2 requirements of subparagraph (J) of paragraph (2) of Section
3 21B-20 other than the higher education requirements.

4 (d) All applicants seeking a State license shall be
5 required to pass a test of content area knowledge for each area
6 of endorsement for which there is an applicable test. There
7 shall be no exception to this requirement. No candidate shall
8 be allowed to student teach or serve as the teacher of record
9 until he or she has passed the applicable content area test.

10 (e) (Blank).

11 (f) Except as otherwise provided in this Article,
12 beginning on September 1, 2015, all candidates completing
13 teacher preparation programs in this State and all candidates
14 subject to Section 21B-35 of this Code are required to pass a
15 teacher performance assessment approved by the State Board of
16 Education, in consultation with the State Educator Preparation
17 and Licensure Board. Subject to appropriation, an individual
18 who holds a Professional Educator License and is employed for
19 a minimum of one school year by a school district designated as
20 Tier 1 under Section 18-8.15 may, after application to the
21 State Board, receive from the State Board a refund for any
22 costs associated with completing the teacher performance
23 assessment under this subsection.

24 (g) The content area knowledge test and the teacher
25 performance assessment shall be the tests that from time to
26 time are designated by the State Board of Education, in

1 consultation with the State Educator Preparation and Licensure
2 Board, and may be tests prepared by an educational testing
3 organization or tests designed by the State Board of
4 Education, in consultation with the State Educator Preparation
5 and Licensure Board. The test of content area knowledge shall
6 assess content knowledge in a specific subject field. The
7 tests must be designed to be racially neutral to ensure that no
8 person taking the tests is discriminated against on the basis
9 of race, color, national origin, or other factors unrelated to
10 the person's ability to perform as a licensed employee. The
11 score required to pass the tests shall be fixed by the State
12 Board of Education, in consultation with the State Educator
13 Preparation and Licensure Board. The tests shall be
14 administered not fewer than 3 times a year at such time and
15 place as may be designated by the State Board of Education, in
16 consultation with the State Educator Preparation and Licensure
17 Board.

18 The State Board shall implement a test or tests to assess
19 the speaking, reading, writing, and grammar skills of
20 applicants for an endorsement or a license issued under
21 subdivision (G) of paragraph (2) of Section 21B-20 of this
22 Code in the English language and in the language of the
23 transitional bilingual education program requested by the
24 applicant.

25 (h) Except as provided in Section 34-6 of this Code, the
26 provisions of this Section shall apply equally in any school

1 district subject to Article 34 of this Code.

2 (i) The rules developed to implement and enforce the
3 testing requirements under this Section shall include without
4 limitation provisions governing test selection, test
5 validation and determination of a passing score,
6 administration of the tests, frequency of administration,
7 applicant fees, frequency of applicants taking the tests, the
8 years for which a score is valid, and appropriate special
9 accommodations. The State Board of Education shall develop
10 such rules as may be needed to ensure uniformity from year to
11 year in the level of difficulty for each form of an assessment.

12 (j) Beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, in order to
13 obtain a license under this Article, a student teacher
14 candidate may not be required to videotape himself or herself
15 or his or her students in a classroom setting.

16 (Source: P.A. 100-596, eff. 7-1-18; 100-863, eff. 8-14-18;
17 100-932, eff. 8-17-18; 101-81, eff. 7-12-19; 101-220, eff.
18 8-7-19; 101-594, eff. 12-5-19.)

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