

SB1520



103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

SB1520

Introduced 2/8/2023, by Sen. Meg Loughran Cappel

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/21B-20

Amends the Educator Licensure Article of the School Code. In provisions regarding the types of licenses, provides that applicants for a Substitute Teaching License must hold an associate degree (instead of a bachelor's degree) or higher from a regionally accredited institution of higher education or must be enrolled in an approved educator preparation program in this State and have earned at least 90 credit hours. Effective July 1, 2023.

LRB103 27608 RJT 53984 b

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 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, 2023, 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 (F) (Blank).

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

8 (i) Possesses adequate speaking, reading, and
9 writing ability in the language other than English
10 in which transitional bilingual education is
11 offered.

12 (ii) Has the ability to successfully
13 communicate in English.

14 (iii) Either possessed, within 5 years
15 previous to his or her applying for a transitional
16 bilingual educator endorsement, a valid and
17 comparable teaching certificate or comparable
18 authorization issued by a foreign country or holds
19 a degree from an institution of higher learning in
20 a foreign country that the State Educator
21 Preparation and Licensure Board determines to be
22 the equivalent of a bachelor's degree from a
23 regionally accredited institution of higher
24 learning in the United States.

25 A transitional bilingual educator endorsement
26 shall be valid for prekindergarten through grade 12,

1 is valid until June 30 immediately following 5 years
2 of the endorsement being issued, and shall not be
3 renewed.

4 Persons holding a transitional bilingual educator
5 endorsement shall not be employed to replace any
6 presently employed teacher who otherwise would not be
7 replaced for any reason.

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

16 (i) Holds a transitional bilingual
17 endorsement.

18 (ii) Has demonstrated proficiency in the
19 language for which the endorsement is to be issued
20 by passing the applicable language content test
21 required by the State Board of Education.

22 (iii) Holds a bachelor's degree or higher from
23 a regionally accredited institution of higher
24 education or, for individuals educated in a
25 country other than the United States, holds a
26 degree from an institution of higher learning in a

1 foreign country that the State Educator
2 Preparation and Licensure Board determines to be
3 the equivalent of a bachelor's degree from a
4 regionally accredited institution of higher
5 learning in the United States.

6 (iv) (Blank).

7 A language endorsement on an Educator License with
8 Stipulations is valid for prekindergarten through
9 grade 12 for the same validity period as the
10 individual's transitional bilingual educator
11 endorsement on the Educator License with Stipulations
12 and shall not be renewed.

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

21 (i) Holds the equivalent of a minimum of a
22 bachelor's degree issued in the United States.

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

25 (iii) Has adequate content knowledge in the
26 subject to be taught.

1 (iv) Has an adequate command of the English
2 language.

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

13 A visiting international educator endorsement on
14 an Educator License with Stipulations is valid for 5
15 years and shall not be renewed.

16 (J) Paraprofessional educator. A paraprofessional
17 educator endorsement on an Educator License with
18 Stipulations may be issued to an applicant who holds a
19 high school diploma or its recognized equivalent and
20 (i) holds an associate's degree or a minimum of 60
21 semester hours of credit from a regionally accredited
22 institution of higher education; (ii) has passed a
23 paraprofessional competency test under subsection
24 (c-5) of Section 21B-30; or (iii) is at least 18 years
25 of age and will be using the Educator License with
26 Stipulations exclusively for grades prekindergarten

1 through grade 8, until the individual reaches the age
2 of 19 years and otherwise meets the criteria for a
3 paraprofessional educator endorsement pursuant to this
4 subparagraph (J). The paraprofessional educator
5 endorsement is valid until June 30 immediately
6 following 5 years of the endorsement being issued and
7 may be renewed through application and payment of the
8 appropriate fee, as required under Section 21B-40 of
9 this Code. An individual who holds only a
10 paraprofessional educator endorsement is not subject
11 to additional requirements in order to renew the
12 endorsement.

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

25 The chief school business official endorsement may
26 also be affixed to the Educator License with

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

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

21 The State Board of Education shall adopt any rules
22 necessary to implement Public Act 100-288.

23 (L) Provisional in-state educator. A provisional
24 in-state educator endorsement on an Educator License
25 with Stipulations may be issued to a candidate who has
26 completed an Illinois-approved educator preparation

1 program at an Illinois institution of higher education
2 and who has not successfully completed an
3 evidence-based assessment of teacher effectiveness but
4 who meets all of the following requirements:

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

6 (ii) Has completed an approved educator
7 preparation program at an Illinois institution.

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

10 (iv) Has attempted an evidence-based
11 assessment of teacher effectiveness and received a
12 minimum score on that assessment, as established
13 by the State Board of Education in consultation
14 with the State Educator Preparation and Licensure
15 Board.

16 A provisional in-state educator endorsement on an
17 Educator License with Stipulations is valid for one
18 full fiscal year after the date of issuance and may not
19 be renewed.

20 (M) (Blank).

21 (N) Specialized services. A specialized services
22 endorsement on an Educator License with Stipulations
23 may be issued as defined and specified by rule.

24 (3) Substitute Teaching License. A Substitute Teaching
25 License may be issued to qualified applicants for
26 substitute teaching in all grades of the public schools,

1 prekindergarten through grade 12. Substitute Teaching
2 Licenses are not eligible for endorsements. Applicants for
3 a Substitute Teaching License must hold an associate ~~a~~
4 ~~bachelor's~~ degree or higher from a regionally accredited
5 institution of higher education or must be enrolled in an
6 approved educator preparation program in this State and
7 have earned at least 90 credit hours.

8 Substitute Teaching Licenses are valid for 5 years.

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

15 A substitute teacher may only teach in the place of a
16 licensed teacher who is under contract with the employing
17 board. If, however, there is no licensed teacher under
18 contract because of an emergency situation, then a
19 district may employ a substitute teacher for no longer
20 than 30 calendar days per each vacant position in the
21 district if the district notifies the appropriate regional
22 office of education within 5 business days after the
23 employment of the substitute teacher in the emergency
24 situation. An emergency situation is one in which an
25 unforeseen vacancy has occurred and (i) a teacher is
26 unable to fulfill his or her contractual duties or (ii)

1 teacher capacity needs of the district exceed previous
2 indications, and the district is actively engaged in
3 advertising to hire a fully licensed teacher for the
4 vacant position.

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

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

23 (4) Short-Term Substitute Teaching License. Beginning
24 on July 1, 2018 and until June 30, 2023, the State Board of
25 Education may issue a Short-Term Substitute Teaching
26 License. A Short-Term Substitute Teaching License may be

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

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

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

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

1 complete the training program under Section 10-20.67 or
2 34-18.60 of this Code to be eligible to teach at a public
3 school. This paragraph (4) is inoperative on and after
4 July 1, 2023.

5 (Source: P.A. 101-81, eff. 7-12-19; 101-220, eff. 8-7-19;
6 101-594, eff. 12-5-19; 101-643, eff. 6-18-20; 102-711, eff.
7 1-1-23; 102-712, eff. 4-27-22; 102-713, eff. 1-1-23; 102-717,
8 eff. 4-29-22; 102-894, eff. 5-20-22; revised 12-13-22.)

9 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,
10 2023.