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AUTHORITY: Implementing Article 21 and Section 14C-8 and authorized by Section 2-3.6 of the School Code [105 ILCS 5/Art. 21, 14C-8, and 2-3.6].


NOTE: Capitalization denotes statutory language.

SUBPART B: CERTIFICATES

Section 25.20 Requirements for Initial Elementary Certificate

a) Each applicant shall either:

1) have completed an approved Illinois teacher preparation program or a comparable program in another state or country (see Sections 25.425 and 25.495 of this Part); or

2) hold a valid certificate issued by Illinois or another state and have less than four years of teaching experience as defined in Section 25.11(g) of this Part.
b) Each applicant shall have completed pre-student teaching clinical experiences (see Section 25.610 of this Part), except that applicants with teaching experience at the K-9 level, as verified by the employer, need not complete pre-student teaching clinical experience.

c) Each applicant shall have completed student teaching in conformance with the requirements of Section 25.620 of this Part, except that applicants presenting the required credit in student teaching and evidence of teaching experience, as verified by the employer, need not complete another student teaching experience.

d) Each applicant shall be required to pass the test of basic skills and the applicable test of subject matter knowledge (see Subpart I of this Part). Each individual submitting an application on or after October 1, 2003, shall also be required to pass the assessment of professional teaching (APT) relevant to the elementary certificate, which shall be based upon the standards set forth in 23 Ill. Adm. Code 24 (Standards for All Illinois Teachers). Beginning July 1, 2003, 2004, the test of subject matter knowledge shall be based upon the applicable standards set forth in 23 Ill. Adm. Code 26 (Standards for Certification in Early Childhood Education and in Elementary Education).

(Source: Amended at 26 Ill. Reg. ____ , effective __________)

Section 25.30 Requirements for Initial Secondary Certificate

a) Each applicant shall either:

1) have completed an approved Illinois teacher preparation program or a comparable program in another state or country (see Sections 25.425 and 25.495 of this Part); or

2) hold a valid certificate issued by Illinois or another state and have less than four years of teaching experience as defined in Section 25.11(g) of this Part.
b) Each applicant shall have completed pre-student teaching clinical experiences (see Section 25.610 of this Part), except that applicants with teaching experience at the 6-12 level, as verified by the employer, need not complete pre-student teaching clinical experience.

c) Each applicant shall have completed student teaching in conformance with the requirements of Section 25.620 of this Part, except that applicants presenting the required credit in student teaching and evidence of teaching experience, as verified by the employer, need not complete another student teaching experience.

d) One major area of specialization totaling 32 semester hours is shall be required through June 30, 2003. Coursework that meets the institution’s general education requirements may also be counted for certification in the major and/or minor field of specialization.

e) Each applicant shall be required to pass the test of basic skills and the applicable test of subject-matter knowledge (see Subpart I of this Part). Each individual submitting an application on or after October 1, 2003, shall also be required to pass the assessment of professional teaching (APT) relevant to the elementary certificate, which shall be based upon the standards set forth in 23 Ill. Adm. Code 24 (Standards for All Illinois Teachers). Beginning July 1, 2003, 2004, the test of subject matter knowledge shall be based upon the applicable standards set forth in 23 Ill. Adm. Code 27 (Standards for Certification in Specific Teaching Fields).

(Source: Amended at 26 Ill. Reg. _____, effective ____________)

Section 25.40 Requirements for Initial Special K-12 Certificate

a) Each applicant shall either:

1) have completed an approved Illinois teacher preparation program or a comparable program in another state or country (see Sections 25.425 and 25.495 of this Part); or
2) hold a valid certificate issued by Illinois or another state and have less than four years of teaching experience as defined in Section 25.11(g) of this Part.

b) Through June 30, 2003, the professional education requirements for the initial special K-12 certificate (in semester hours) are:

1) Educational Psychology, including Human Growth and Development 2

2) Methods and Techniques of Teaching in the area of specialization 2

3) History and/or Philosophy of Education 2

4) Pre-student Teaching Clinical Experiences at the Elementary and Secondary Levels Equivalent to 100 Clock Hours in the Area of Specialization

5) Coursework, equivalent to three semester hours, on the psychology of exceptional children, identification of exceptional children, and methods of teaching exceptional children; Learning Disabilities must be explicitly included in this coursework.

6) Student Teaching in Area of Specialization and at K-12 Level 5

7) Electives to Total 16 Semester Hours 5 (may include additional coursework in the areas enumerated in this subsection (b) and/or in guidance, tests and measurements, methods of teaching reading, and instructional materials).
c) Applicants with teaching experience in the field of specialization, as verified by the employer, need not complete pre-student teaching clinical experience.

d) Applicants presenting the required credit in student teaching and evidence of teaching experience, as verified by the employer, need not complete another student teaching experience.

e) One major area of specialization totaling 32 semester hours is also shall be required through June 30, 2003. Coursework that meets the institution's general education requirements may also be counted for certification in the major and/or minor field of specialization.

f) Each applicant shall be required to pass the test of basic skills and the applicable test of subject matter knowledge (see Subpart I of this Part). Each individual submitting an application on or after October 1, 2003, shall also be required to pass the assessment of professional teaching (APT) relevant to the elementary certificate, which shall be based upon the standards set forth in 23 Ill. Adm. Code 24 (Standards for All Illinois Teachers). Beginning July 1, 2003, 2004, the test of subject matter knowledge shall be based upon the relevant standards set forth in 23 Ill. Adm. Code 27 (Standards for Certification in Specific Teaching Fields).

(Source: Amended at 26 Ill. Reg. _____, effective ____________)

Section 25.80 Requirements for Initial Early Childhood Certificate

a) Each applicant shall either:

1) have completed an approved Illinois teacher preparation program or a comparable program in another state or country (see Sections 25.425 and 25.495 of this Part); or

2) hold a valid certificate issued by Illinois or another state and have less than four years of teaching experience as defined in Section 25.11(g) of this Part.
b) Through June 30, 2003, the professional education requirements for the initial early childhood certificate (in semester hours) are:

1) Child growth and development with emphasis on the young child  3

2) History and philosophy of early childhood education  3

3) Types of instructional methods, including types of activity/learning centers, individualization, educational play, and media and their utilization in extending the child's understanding of art, music, literature, reading instruction, mathematics, natural and social science  4

4) Methods of teaching reading, with emphasis on the young child  2

5) Techniques and methodologies of teaching language arts, mathematics, science and social studies at the primary level  4

6) The development and acquisition of language in young children  2

7) Child, family and community relationships  3

8) Coursework, equivalent to three semester hours, on the psychology of exceptional children, identification of exceptional children and methods of teaching exceptional children. Learning disabilities must be explicitly included in this coursework  3
9) Pre-student teaching clinical experiences equivalent to 100 clock hours, including experience with infants/toddlers, preschool/kindergarten children, and primary school students.

10) Student teaching 5

11) Electives in professional education 3

c) Those who have had five semester hours of student teaching at the primary grade level (K-3) and who have had teaching experience are not required to take another practicum at the preschool level. Applicants seeking this waiver shall secure official letters from the employing school district and/or the college or university documenting the nature and duration of their teaching and the grade level of their student teaching assignment.

d) Each applicant shall be required to pass the test of basic skills and the applicable test of subject matter knowledge (see Subpart I of this Part). Each individual submitting an application on or after October 1, 2003, shall also be required to pass the assessment of professional teaching (APT) relevant to the elementary certificate, which shall be based upon the standards set forth in 23 Ill. Adm. Code 24 (Standards for All Illinois Teachers). Beginning July 1, 2003, the test of subject matter knowledge shall be based upon the applicable standards set forth in 23 Ill. Adm. Code 26 (Standards for Certification in Early Childhood Education and in Elementary Education).

(Source: Amended at 26 Ill. Reg. ____ , effective ____________ )

Section 25.85 Special Provisions for Endorsement in Foreign Language for Individuals Currently Certified

The provisions of this Section shall apply when individuals who hold Illinois certification in one or more fields wish to teach a foreign language but either lack certification appropriate to the grade level of the assignment or have not completed 20 hours of
The provisions of this subsection (a) shall apply to each individual who holds a certificate endorsed for a particular language but whose certification does not extend to other grade levels as needed for an available assignment. (Example: A holder of a secondary (6-12) certificate endorsed for French who wishes to teach French in the fourth grade.)

1) An individual to whom this subsection (a) applies may receive an endorsement valid for teaching the specified language at the remaining grade levels, provided that he or she applies for the endorsement on or before December 31, 2003.

2) Beginning January 1, 2004, an individual to whom this subsection (a) applies may receive an endorsement valid for teaching the specified language at the remaining grade levels by:

   A) submitting the required application for the endorsement, and
   
   B) passing the assessment of professional teaching relevant to the remaining grade levels.

3) With regard to major teaching assignments (i.e., at least 50 percent of the school day) in departmentalized grades 5 through 8, the requirements of 23 Ill. Adm. Code 1.720 (Minimum Requirements for Teachers of Middle Grades) shall apply to any individual who has not passed an assessment of professional teaching relevant to a certificate other than the early childhood certificate.

The provisions of this subsection (b) shall apply to each individual who holds an elementary, secondary, special K-12, or special preschool-age 21 certificate and wishes to teach a language in which he or she has not completed 20 semester hours of coursework. (Example: A holder of a
secondary (6-12) certificate endorsed for mathematics who wishes to teach Korean.)

1) In order to qualify under this subsection (b), an individual shall submit an application for an endorsement in the specified language at the grade levels of his or her certificate and shall be required to have passed the test relative to that language as listed in Section 25.710 of this Part or, if the language is not listed in that Section, another test identified by the State Board of Education. If the language is listed more than once in that Section, the required test shall be the test not listed under “Transitional Bilingual Education”. (Example: Spanish).

2) An individual who has received an endorsement pursuant to this subsection (b) may receive an endorsement for other grade levels as provided in subsection (a)(1) or (a)(2) of this Section.

(Source: Added at __ Ill. Reg. _____, effective ____________.)

Section 25.86 Special Provisions for Endorsement in Foreign Language for Individuals Prepared as Teachers But Not Currently Certified

a) The provisions of this Section shall apply when an individual who does not hold an Illinois initial, standard, or master certificate:

1) has completed a teacher preparation program, whether for the specified language or not, in another state or country,

2) holds a degree that is at least the equivalent of a bachelor’s degree issued in the United States (see Section 25.90 of this Part), and

3) passes the test of basic skills, the applicable language proficiency test required under subsection (d) of this Section, and, beginning October 1, 2003,
b) An individual to whom subsection (a) of this Section applies and who meets the requirements of Section 21-1 of the School Code may obtain certification valid for teaching a specified language to which either of the following applies:

1) no test relative to the language is listed in Section 25.710 of this Part; or

2) a test relative to the language is listed only under “Transitional Bilingual Education” in Section 25.710 of this Part.

c) The individual shall receive an Illinois certificate valid for the grade levels applicable to the program completed (see Section 25.425 of this Part) and shall receive either an initial or a standard certificate, as applicable to the individual’s years of teaching experience (see Section 25.11 of this Part).

d) Applicable language proficiency test(s)

1) If English was the language of instruction at the institution the individual attended, he or she shall be required to pass the relevant test of language proficiency listed under “Transitional Bilingual Education” in Section 25.710 of this Part or, if the language is not listed, another test of language proficiency administered by the State Board of Education.

2) If the language to be taught was the language of instruction at the institution the individual attended, he or she shall be required to pass the test of English language proficiency identified in Section 25.710 of this Part.

3) If neither English nor the language to be taught was the language of instruction at the institution the individual attended, he or she shall be required to
pass both the tests identified in subsections (d)(1) and (d)(2) of this Section.

(Source: Added at __ Ill. Reg. _____, effective _______________)

SUBPART C: APPROVING PROGRAMS THAT PREPARE PROFESSIONAL EDUCATORS IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

Section 25.135 Interim Provisions for Continuing Accreditation and Approval -- July 1, 2000, through Fall Visits of 2001

The requirements set forth in this Section shall apply to the continuing accreditation of educational units and the continuing approval of teacher preparation programs subject to Fifth-Year Review on or after July 1, 2000, but before December 31, 2001. In addition to complying with the requirements of this Section, institutions seeking to achieve or retain NCATE accreditation shall submit to NCATE such reports and other documents as that organization may require, according to the timelines established by NCATE. As an alternative to meeting the requirements of this Section, institutions whose Fifth-Year Reviews are scheduled for the fall of 2001 may elect to comply with the requirements of Sections 25.136 and 25.140 of this Part.

a) Institutions Seeking Initial NCATE Accreditation or Not Seeking NCATE Accreditation

1) Not later than 90 days before the scheduled date of the review visit, the institution shall submit to the State Superintendent 30 copies of a written description of the educational unit including:

A) its mission, purposes, or goals, its authority and responsibilities for professional education, and its coordination of the institution’s various teacher preparation programs,

B) identification of the dean, chair, or director who is officially designated to represent the educational unit and is assigned the authority and responsibility for its overall administration and operation, and
C) the written policies and procedures which guide the operations of the educational unit.

2) Not later than 60 days before the scheduled date of the review visit, the institution shall submit to the State Superintendent 30 copies of a narrative showing how the educational unit meets or plans to address each of the standards referred to in Section 25.115(b) of this Part.

3) Not later than 60 days before the scheduled date of the review visit, the institution shall submit to the State Superintendent five copies of:

A) a report containing an analysis of the changes that will be needed in the individual teacher preparation programs in order to meet the applicable content standards established by the State Board of Education, and the status of any changes already made in those programs; and

B) for one program selected by the institution, a sample curriculum portfolio that contains:

i) an overview of the knowledge base, philosophy of preparation, and goals and objectives of the program;

ii) a description of the course of study, including field experiences, student teaching, and internships for candidates;

iii) a description of how the program meets the applicable content standards established by the State Board of Education;

iv) the program’s faculty and its organizational location within the professional education unit; and

v) the number of graduates from the program over the most recent three years.
b) Institutions Seeking Continued NCATE Accreditation

1) Not later than 60 days before the scheduled date of the review visit, the institution shall submit to the State Superintendent 30 copies, and to NCATE the number of copies required by NCATE, of a report summarizing:

A) changes and new initiatives for each category of the standards referred to in Section 25.115(b) of this Part; and

B) the unit’s plans for developing and improving its professional education programs during the next five years.

2) Not later than 60 days before the scheduled date of the review visit, the institution shall submit to the State Superintendent five copies of the material specified in subsection (a)(3) of this Section.

c) All Institutions

1) The requirements of subsection (a)(3)(B) of this Section may be met, at the institution’s option, by presenting a portfolio that has already been prepared for review as part of NCATE’s program review process.

2) A review team shall be empanelled as described in Section 25.125(d) of this Part. The review team shall visit the institution, verify the information provided, prepare a report, provide that report to the institution, make corrections as necessary, and provide its final report to the institution and to the State Superintendent of Education as provided in Section 25.125(e) and (f) of this Part.

3) Within 30 days after receipt of the final report, the institution shall submit to the State Superintendent either a letter stating agreement with the report’s findings or a rejoinder to those findings.
4) Staff of the State Board of Education shall convey to the State Teacher Certification Board the institutional report, the review team’s report, the institution’s letter of agreement or rejoinder, and a statement as to whether the status report and program report comply with the applicable requirements of subsection (a) or (b) of this Section, as well as NCATE’s accreditation decision regarding the educational unit if applicable and available.

5) After consideration of the material submitted, and based upon whether the report of the review team indicates that the unit meets the standards referred to in Section 25.115(b) of this Part or has a time-specific plan for meeting those standards no later than June 30, 2003, the Certification Board shall convey to the State Superintendent its recommendation that the State Board of Education:

A) Continue accreditation of the educational unit and approval of the affected teacher education program(s), thereby authorizing the educational unit to conduct the approved program(s) and to recommend candidates for certification by entitlement; or

B) Require the submission of additional information and/or correction of specified weaknesses within a timeframe not to exceed 18 months before continuing the unit’s accreditation or the approval of the affected program(s).

d) Actions following upon the recommendation of the State Teacher Certification Board shall be as described in Section 25.160 of this Part.

(Source: Amended at 26 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____________)

Section 25.147 Approval of Programs for Foreign Language Beginning September 1, 2002
Beginning July 1, 2003, approval of programs for foreign language shall no longer be specific to individual languages. That is, as of that date, an institution with an approved program in any language shall be considered as having approval for any combination of languages, subject to the provisions of this Section.

1) An institution with an approved foreign language program may add one or more languages to that program at the discretion of the educational unit, provided that the institution shall notify the State Superintendent of Education to this effect in writing no later than three months before instruction in that language is to begin, except when notification is required further in advance under subsection (a)(2) of this Section. The State Superintendent shall provide this information to the State Teacher Certification Board at the next available meeting of the Certification Board.

2) An institution that intends to add one or more languages to its approved program for which no examination is listed in Section 25.710 of this Part shall notify the State Superintendent of Education no later than six months before instruction in that language is to begin, in order to allow time for the identification of an appropriate language proficiency examination if needed.

3) An institution that intends to delete one or more languages from its approved foreign language program shall be subject to the requirements of Section 25.165(a) of this Part.

4) An institution without an approved program in foreign language may apply for approval of a new program under Section 25.145 of this Part. Such an application shall indicate which language(s) the program will initially offer. After initial approval of the program, the institution may add or delete languages as provided in this Section.

b) Each foreign language program shall, as a requirement for program completion on or after July 1, 2004, require its
candidates for certification, other than candidates in Latin and Classical Greek, to complete the Oral Proficiency Interview described in “ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines – Speaking” (1999), published by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL), 6 Executive Plaza, Yonkers, NY 10701 (no later amendments to or editions of these standards are incorporated by this Section) and to attain a score at the “intermediate high” level. As an alternative to the ACTFL interview, a program may administer another measure of oral proficiency, provided that approval for that measure is first obtained from the State Board of Education based on evidence that it permits identification of proficiency equivalent to the “intermediate high” level on the ACTFL interview.

c) Pursuant to the standards set forth in 23 Ill. Adm. Code 27.340 (Foreign Language), beginning July 1, 2003, each approved preparation program in foreign language shall lead to candidates’ eligibility for a special K-12 certificate. Beginning July 1, 2004, each individual completing an Illinois approved program shall be required to take and pass the assessment of professional teaching relevant to the special certificate. However, passage of the APT relevant to the secondary certificate prior to July 1, 2004, will be accepted for issuance of a special K-12 certificate. The provisions of Section 25.725 of this Part shall apply to each individual already certified in Illinois who seeks an additional certificate in order to teach a foreign language.

d) Beginning October 1, 2003, out-of-state applicants certified at the K-12 level shall be required to take and pass the assessment of professional teaching relevant to the special certificate. Beginning October 1, 2003, out-of-state applicants certified at the secondary level may take and pass either the APT relevant to the secondary certificate or the APT relevant to the special certificate and, if eligible, shall receive the applicable certificate. The validity of secondary certification in the language to be taught may be extended to the elementary level pursuant to Section 25.85(a)(2) of this Part.
Section 25.620 Student Teaching

a) The State Teacher Certification Board recognizes and accepts student teaching only when it is earned after completion of the sophomore year.

b) Student teaching shall be structured as part of comprehensive field experiences and clinical practice, in accordance with the standards referred to in Section 25.115(b) of this Part.

c) Student teaching shall be completed at the grade level(s) and in the area of specialization appropriate to the certificate sought. Additional student teaching may occur in areas for which the candidate meets the relevant requirements related to staff qualifications in 23 Ill. Adm. Code 1.

d) Except as provided in Section 25.630(d) of this Part, student teaching must be done under the active supervision of a cooperating teacher who is certificated and qualified to teach in the area and who is directly engaged in teaching subject matter or conducting learning activities in the area of student teaching.

e) In order for a recognized Illinois teacher education institution to award credit for student teaching, the following requirements must be met:

1) The student teacher must be enrolled in a student teaching course at the institution;

2) The student teaching placement and plans must have the prior approval of a designated representative of the teacher education institution; and

3) Plans for the student teaching experience must have been previously discussed and approved by the
cooperating teacher, unless Section 25.630(d) of this Part applies.

f) The student teacher shall not be used as a teacher or substitute teacher, except as provided in Section 25.630(c) of this Part.

(Source: Amended at 26 Ill. Reg. _____, effective __________)

Section 25.630 Pay for Student Teaching

a) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this Section, if an employed teacher is to receive credit for student teaching, the student teaching must be performed at a time for which the teacher is not paid. Student teachers are not permitted to be paid while student teaching.

b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this Section, no student engaged in pre-student teaching clinical experiences or student teaching may receive remuneration for any work performed in connection with such experiences.

c) A teacher may receive credit for student teaching and/or for pre-student teaching clinical experiences while being paid as a teacher, provided that he or she:

1) completes any such clinical experience as a supervised part of a teacher preparation program approved pursuant to Subpart C of this Part;

2) holds a transitional bilingual certificate, a provisional vocational certificate, a temporary provisional vocational certificate, or a substitute certificate; and

3) is not subject to the teaching limitations set forth in Section 21-9(b) of the School Code [105 ILCS 5/21-9(b)].

d) The supervision of a cooperating teacher specified in Section 25.620(d) of this Part shall not be required for
any teacher who is subject to the provisions of subsection (c) of this Section.

(Source: Amended at 26 Ill. Reg. _____, effective ___________ )