

## **TEACHER LEADER ENDORSEMENT**

### **Institutions Providing the Teacher Leader Endorsement**

Each institution's "specially designed strand of Teacher Leadership courses" must include a range of graduate level courses addressing:

- subject-specific content knowledge,
- subject-specific content pedagogy,
- professional development in curriculum design, and
- subject-specific curriculum implementation.

So that an individual's prior preparation or experience in these areas is not duplicated, the institution will select the specific courses from the approved strand that will make up the required program for each individual.

An institution must complete and submit the Application for Teacher Leader Endorsement ([ISBE Form: Teacher Leader Endorsement Strand ISBE # 77-39](#)) to the State Superintendent of Education in order to receive approval for its proposed strand of coursework.

The form requires the institution to provide a description that:

- A) identifies the group of courses that will make up the strand;
- B) describes the institution's method for selecting coursework and experiences from the approved strand for particular individuals in light of those individuals' prior preparation and achievements, in order to ensure that recipients of the Teacher Leader Endorsement are prepared to understand and interpret research in their individual fields, exercise leadership in curriculum development and implementation, and provide professional development to other teachers to assist them in strengthening their teaching practice; and
- C) indicates how the institution will determine that individuals who complete the Teacher Leader Endorsement strand have demonstrated the dispositions necessary to become effective instructional leaders.

An institution may be asked to clarify or revise aspects of its proposal as necessary. The State Superintendent of Education will seek a recommendation from the State Teacher Certification Board regarding approval of the proposal, will present the recommendation to the State

Board of Education, and provide a response to the institution within 90 days after receipt of the proposal or the last revisions to it.

If the State Board of Education disapproves the proposal, the State Superintendent's response will identify the specific deficiencies upon which disapproval is based. When the State Board has approved a proposal, the institution will be authorized to recommend individuals who complete its Teacher Leadership strand for the Teacher Leader Endorsement with the individuals' original subject-area designations, as well as any additional subject-area designations for which individuals qualify.

When an institution recommends an individual for the Teacher Leader Endorsement based on his or her completion of an approved strand of coursework, the recommendation must signify that the institutional representative has also verified either:

- 1) that the applicant's name appears on the composite list of teachers who hold certification from the National Board for Professional Teacher Standards (NBPTS) that is posted by the NBPTS; **OR**
- 2) that an official transcript or, in the case of an individual prepared at an institution outside the United States, a statement from an approved evaluation service shows that the applicant holds a master's degree in any field and that the individual has presented evidence that he or she qualifies as a "proven teacher leader."

The institution may recommend an individual who completes its Teacher Leadership strand for the Teacher Leader Endorsement with one or more additional subject-area designations for which the individual qualifies. If the determination is made based upon the candidate being "highly qualified" in a specific content area using Illinois HOUSSE, the university must first verify with ISBE Professional Preparation & Recertification Division that the required documentation was reviewed and approved for that individual.