June 2, 2011 [e-mailed to l-perran@wiu.edu]

Laura Perran

Dear Ms. Perran:

This letter is in response to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act. Your request was received on 5/23/11.

You have requested “the number of special education teachers working in high school settings in Illinois who are certified or qualified to teach students with autism spectrum disorders.”

The Learning Behavior Specialist I (LBSI) credential allows one to instruct students with autism spectrum disorders. There are currently 61,020 Illinois educators who hold a valid, registered certificate with an LBSI endorsement or certificate. The number of educators employed or who work with students with autism spectrum disorders is not known.

An additional 9,289 Illinois educators hold the LBSI approval which allows them to instruct students with autism spectrum disorders. The number of educators employed or who instruct students with autism spectrum disorders is not known.

If you have questions, contact Mark Wancket at 217-782-4648.

Sincerely,

Marcilene Dutton
Deputy General Counsel