# Illinois Licensure, Endorsement, and Approval Requirements

(Revised 10/30/15)

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Requirements for Applicants Completing Illinois Programs

If you are completing an approved Illinois educator preparation program, the below requirements must be met for licensure. If you completed a program at an institution outside of Illinois, proceed to the next page.

- A passing score on a test of basic skills—defined as the Test of Academic Proficiency (TAP 400), an ACT Plus Writing composite score of at least 22 (and a minimum score of 19 on the combined English/writing sub area for tests taken August 2015 and earlier) or an SAT (critical reading and mathematics) composite score of 1030 (and a minimum score of 450 on the writing sub area) or an out-of-state test of basic skills that led to licensure in another state. A passing score on the test of basic skills is required for student teaching or before the last semester or term of the internship. Those who seek to add a subsequent endorsement and have already passed an Illinois or other state’s test of basic are not required to pass the test again. Click here to learn how to submit your ACT/SAT scores to ISBE. Test of basic skills scores are valid indefinitely.

- A passing score on the applicable content-area test(s) prior to student teaching (or the last semester or term of internship if completing an approved program leading to an administrative or school service personnel endorsement.) Content tests are valid for 10 years.

- A passing score on the Assessment of Professional Teaching (APT) test for program completion (teaching endorsements only) if student teaching was completed prior to August 31, 2015. Individuals completing student teaching September 1, 2015 or after will be required to pass the edTPA instead of the APT. APT/edTPA scores are valid for 10 years.

- Completion of an approved Illinois educator preparation program for the type of endorsement sought that includes coursework addressing:
  - Cross-categorical special education methods
  - Methods of reading and reading in the content area

Upon completion of the program, the Illinois institution will notify ISBE via ELIS that you qualify for a license and/or endorsement. This process is called “entitlement.” By entering this notification, the institution is confirming you have completed all coursework and testing requirements needed for the license/endorsement per current Illinois rules and regulations.

After your university enters the notification, you will see a badge on your ELIS home screen that alerts you to apply for your entitlement notification. Click this badge to submit the application and fee for your license or endorsement.

**Educators Completing an Alternative Preparation Program:** Requirements for the alternative provisional educator and alternative provisional superintendent endorsement on an educator license with stipulations may be found here.
Requirements for the Professional Educator License (PEL) for Applicants Trained Out of State or Country

The professional educator license is valid for five fiscal years and is renewable upon completion of professional development requirements. Endorsement options for the PEL are listed below. Click each endorsement to see the requirements for obtaining a PEL endorsed in that area. If you have not met the full requirements for the professional educator license, you may qualify for a provisional license. Proceed to page 4 to see requirements for the educator license with stipulations.

Teaching:

- Early Childhood Education (birth-grade 3)
- Elementary Education (K-9)
- Secondary Education (6-12)
- Special Teaching (K-12)*
- Special Education (PK-Age 21)

* A specific content area endorsement should be selected if you are applying for the Special Teaching (K-12) license. Scroll to page 10 of this document to see the content area endorsements that are available. The endorsement you select will be valid for teaching grades K-12.

Administrative:

- Teacher Leader (PK-12)
- General Administrative (K-12)
- Principal (PK-12)
- Superintendent (PK-12)
- Chief School Business Official (PK-12)
- Director of Special Education (PK-21)

School Support Personnel:

- School Social Worker (PK-21)
- School Counselor (PK-21)
- School Psychologist (PK-21)
- School Nurse (PK-21)
- Speech Language Pathologist- non teaching (PK-21)
Requirements for the Educator License with Stipulations (ELS) Endorsed as a Provisional Educator for Applicants Trained Out of State or Country

An educator license with stipulations endorsed as a provisional educator is valid for one full fiscal year and can be extended for an additional fiscal year if a test of basic skills and the appropriate content test have been passed. The license can be renewed for an additional two years if the educator has not been employed full-time on the license in a public or recognized non-public school. The educator should use this renewal period to complete the edTPA if necessary. After the two year renewal, the license will expire.

Before an educator license with stipulations endorsed as a provisional educator expires, the requirements for the professional educator license (PEL) should be met. Please view page 3 of this document to see the requirements for the PEL. If the PEL requirements are met within two years of the issuance of the original ELS, the ELS will be exchanged for the PEL for no additional fee. If an educator renews the provisional license, he/she will need to submit a new application for the PEL.

Requirements for the ELS are listed below.

- Valid, comparable out-of-state license
- Transcript from a regionally accredited institution of higher education demonstrating a bachelor’s degree (unless a master’s degree is required) with a minimum of 15 semester hours in content coursework
- Proof of completion of a comparable state-approved program (completion of a state-approved program is not required for issuance of the ELS, but it is recommended. Before the PEL can be issued, evidence of completing a state-approved program must be provided.)

Requirements to extend the license for an additional fiscal year are listed below.

- A passing score on a test of basic skills—the Test of Academic Proficiency (TAP 400), an out-of-state test of basic skills (use form 80-02 or form 80-03 [whichever is applicable] to verify passage), or acceptable ACT Plus Writing or SAT composite score and writing scores. Basic skills scores are valid indefinitely.
- A passing score on the applicable content-area test(s)—you may view the specific content test needed for each teaching, administrative, or school support personnel area by clicking the specific endorsement on page 3 of this document. Content tests can be no more than 10 years old at the time of application.
- To renew the ELS-PEDU for an additional two fiscal years, you and your ROE must complete ISBE Form #80-04: Request to Renew Educator License with Stipulations- Provisional Educator to verify you have not been employed full-time on the license.
Requirements for the Educator License with Stipulations (ELS) Endorsed for a Specific Field

To obtain one of the below endorsements, you must submit an application for an educator license with stipulations in your ELIS account. Click on an endorsement to be taken to a chart that lists the requirements for each endorsement.

Career and Technical Educator

Chief School Business Official

Provisional Career and Technical Educator

Part-Time Provisional Career and Technical Educator

Paraprofessional

Provisional Educator

Resident Teacher

Transitional Bilingual Educator

Requirements for the Substitute Teaching License

To qualify for the substitute teaching license, you must hold a bachelor’s degree from a regionally-accredited institution of higher education. The substitute teaching license is valid for five years and can be renewed when evidence of passing an Illinois test of basic skills or the ACT WorkKeys is presented. See the FAQ document section on renewing substitute teaching licenses for more information. To obtain this license, submit an application in your ELIS account.
Adding a New Endorsement to an Existing Illinois License

If you currently hold a PEL and have completed a state approved program to add a new administrative, school support personnel, or teaching endorsement, click the specific endorsement below to see the requirements. Please note two exceptions to the requirements listed for each area:

1. If you have already passed an acceptable test of basic skills, you are not required to pass the test again. Acceptable tests of basic skills are Test of Academic Proficiency (TAP 400), an ACT Plus Writing composite score of at least 22 (and a minimum score of 19 on the combined English/writing sub area for tests taken August 2015 and earlier) or an SAT (critical reading and mathematics) composite score of 1030 (and a minimum score of 450 on the writing sub area) or an out-of-state test of basic skills that led to licensure in another state.

2. Since you already hold a professional educator license, you are not required to complete coursework in special education methods, ESL/bilingual methods, reading methods, or reading in the content area.

Important: If you already hold a teaching license and seek to add a subject area endorsement within the B-3, K-4, middle school, or senior high grade range, please proceed to the next page to see requirements. The requirements below only apply to individuals who have completed a state-approved program. Example: If you currently hold a PEL endorsed for senior high English language arts, and you seek to add a senior high math endorsement or a middle school math endorsement, proceed to page 6.

Teaching:
- Early Childhood Education (birth- grade 3)
- Elementary Education (K-9)
- Secondary Education (6-12)
- Special Teaching (K-12)*
- Special Education (PK- Age 21)

* A specific content area endorsement should be selected if you are applying for the Special Teaching (K-12) endorsement. Scroll to page 10 of this document to see the content area endorsements that are available. The endorsement you select will be valid for teaching grades K-12.

Administrative:
- Teacher Leader (PK-12)
- General Administrative (K-12)
- Principal (PK-12)
- Superintendent (PK-12)
- Chief School Business Official (PK-12)
- Director of Special Education (PK-12)

School Support Personnel:
- School Social Worker (PK-21)
- School Counselor (PK-21)
- School Psychologist (PK-21)
- School Nurse (PK-21)
- Speech Language Pathologist- non teaching (PK-21)
# Content-Area Endorsement Structure

*Note: All grades for the endorsement coursework must be "C" or higher, and coursework must be at the 100-level or higher. All content tests must be less than 10 years old at the time of application. Descriptions for the endorsement areas marked with a * are located on page 13. Acceptable coursework for popular endorsement areas are on page 15.*

## Primary Endorsements:

To add a primary content endorsement, you must already hold an early childhood education (birth-grade 3), elementary education (K-9), or special (K-12 or PK-21) endorsement on your license.

If you hold a license endorsed for early childhood education, the primary endorsement grade range is Birth-Grade 3.

If you hold a license endorsed for elementary education or special (K-12 or PK-21) education, the primary endorsement grade range is K-4.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Endorsement</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bilingual Education (Language required)</td>
<td>18 semester hours with a distribution*, 100 clock hours (or 3 months teaching experience) in a bilingual setting, pass the appropriate Target Language Proficiency or English Language Proficiency test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English as a Second Language</td>
<td>18 semester hours with a distribution*, 100 clock hours (or 3 months teaching experience) in an ESL setting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Foreign Language (Language required)            | • If applicant already holds a foreign language endorsement, then a different foreign language endorsement may be added by passing the appropriate foreign language test.  
  • For applicants who do not already hold a foreign language endorsement, requirements include 24 semester hours in the foreign language and passing the appropriate foreign language test. |
| Library Information Specialist                  | 24 semester hours/12 upper division and the Library Information Specialist (175) test |
| Reading Teacher                                 | 24 semester hours with a distribution* and the Reading Teacher (177) or Reading Specialist (176) test; no upper division coursework required |
| Technology Specialist                           | 24 semester hours and the Technology Specialist (178) test; no upper division coursework required |
Middle School Endorsements

To add a middle school content endorsement, you must already hold an elementary education (K-9), secondary education (9-12), or special (K-12 or PK-21) endorsement on your license.

**Note:** All middle school endorsements require six semester hours of middle school professional education coursework in addition to the content requirements listed below.

If you hold a license endorsed for elementary education, special teaching K-12, or special education PK-21, the middle school grade range is grades 5-8.

If you hold a license endorsed for secondary education, the middle school grade range is grades 6-8.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Endorsement</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Education</td>
<td>18 semester hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art</td>
<td>18 semester hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bilingual Education (Language required)</td>
<td>18 semester hours with a distribution*, 100 clock hours (or 3 months teaching experience) in a bilingual setting, pass the appropriate Target Language Proficiency or English Language Proficiency test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biological Science</td>
<td>18 semester hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business/Mktg/Mgmt</td>
<td>18 semester hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Applications</td>
<td>18 semester hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>18 semester hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dance</td>
<td>18 semester hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English as a Second Language</td>
<td>18 semester hours with a distribution*, 100 clock hours (or 3 months teaching experience) in an ESL setting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family &amp; Consumer Science</td>
<td>18 semester hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Foreign Language (Language required)  | • If applicant already holds a foreign language endorsement, then a different foreign language endorsement may be added by passing the appropriate foreign language test.  
• For applicants who do not already hold a foreign language endorsement, requirements include 24 semester hours in the foreign language and passing the appropriate foreign language test. |
<p>| General Science                      | 18 semester hours with coursework in physical &amp; biological sciences         |
| General Geography                    | 18 semester hours of physical or cultural geography                         |
| Health Education                     | 18 semester hours                                                           |
| Industrial Technology Ed.             | 18 semester hours                                                           |
| Language Arts                         | 18 semester hours                                                           |
| Library Information Specialist        | 24 semester hours/12 upper division and the Library Information Specialist (175) test |
| Mathematics                           | 18 semester hours with a distribution*                                     |
| Music                                 | 18 semester hours                                                           |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Endorsement</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td>18 semester hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Science</td>
<td>18 semester hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Teacher</td>
<td>24 semester hours with a distribution* and the Reading Teacher (177) or Reading Specialist (176) test; no upper division coursework required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Science</td>
<td>18 semester hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speech</td>
<td>18 semester hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speech/Theatre</td>
<td>18 semester hours of coursework in both Speech and Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology Specialist</td>
<td>24 semester hours and the Technology Specialist (178) test; no upper division coursework required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Computer Related)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theatre/Drama</td>
<td>18 semester hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*See page 13 for specific distribution areas for selected content-area endorsements

See page 15 for a list of acceptable coursework for popular endorsements.
### Senior High School Endorsements

To add a senior high school content endorsement, you must already hold an elementary education (K-9), secondary education (9-12), or special (K-12 or PK-21) endorsement on your license. If you only hold an elementary education (K-9) endorsement, the senior high content endorsement will be valid for 9th grade only.

All senior high endorsements are valid for grades 9-12.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Endorsement</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Education</td>
<td>24 semester hours/12 upper division or graduate level &amp; Agricultural Education (170) test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bilingual Education (Language required)</td>
<td>18 semester hours with a distribution*, 100 clock hours (or 3 months teaching experience) in a bilingual setting, pass the appropriate Target Language Proficiency or English Language Proficiency test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business, Marketing, and Computer Education</td>
<td>24 semester hours/12 upper division or graduate level &amp; Business, Marketing, and Computer Education (171) test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business, Marketing and Computer Education – Business Computer Programming</td>
<td>24 semester hours/12 upper division or graduate level, 9 semester hours in Business Computer Programming, &amp; Business, Marketing, and Computer Education (171) test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Applications</td>
<td>32 semester hours (there is no test that is available); no upper division coursework required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>24 semester hours/12 upper division or graduate level &amp; Computer Science (038) test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dance</td>
<td>24 semester hours/12 upper division or graduate level &amp; Dance (140) test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drama/Theatre Arts</td>
<td>24 semester hours/12 upper division or graduate level &amp; Drama/Theatre Arts (141) test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English/Language Arts</td>
<td>24 semester hours/12 upper division or graduate level &amp; English Language Arts (111) test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English as a New Language</td>
<td>24 semester hours/12 upper division or graduate level &amp; English as a New Language (125) test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English as a New Language – Bilingual Education (language listed)</td>
<td>24 semester hours/12 upper division or graduate level &amp; English as a New Language (125) test and appropriate Target Language Proficiency or English Language Proficiency test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English as a Second Language</td>
<td>18 semester hours with a distribution*, 100 clock hours (or 3 months teaching experience) in an ESL setting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family and Consumer Science - Apparel and Textiles</td>
<td>24 semester hours, 9 semester hours in Apparel and Textiles, &amp; Family and Consumer Sciences (172) test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family and Consumer Science – Living Environments</td>
<td>24 semester hours, 9 semester hours in Living Environments, &amp; Family and Consumer Sciences (172) test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family and Consumer Science – Nutrition, Wellness, and Hospitality</td>
<td>24 semester hours, 9 semester hours in Nutrition, Wellness, and Hospitality, &amp; Family and Consumer Sciences (172) test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Language (Language required)</td>
<td>• If applicant already holds a foreign language</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endorsement</td>
<td>Requirement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>endorsement, then a different foreign language endorsement may be added by passing the appropriate foreign language test.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• For applicants who do not already hold a foreign language endorsement, requirements include 24 semester hours in the foreign language and passing the appropriate foreign language test.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Education</td>
<td>24 semester hours/12 upper division or graduate level &amp; Health Education (142) test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Information Specialist</td>
<td>24 semester hours/12 upper division and the Library Information Specialist (175) test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>24 semester hours/12 upper division or graduate level &amp; Mathematics (115) test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music</td>
<td>24 semester hours/12 upper division or graduate level &amp; Music (143) test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td>24 semester hours/12 upper division or graduate level &amp; Physical Education (144) test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Teacher</td>
<td>24 semester hours with a distribution* and the Reading Teacher (177) or Reading Specialist (176) test; no upper division coursework required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety and Driver's Education</td>
<td>24 semester hours/12 upper division/distribution*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science - Biology</td>
<td>32 semester hours in science, 12 semester hours in Biology, coursework in 2 other science designations, &amp; the Science – Biology (105) test; no upper division coursework required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science - Chemistry</td>
<td>32 semester hours in science, 12 semester hours in Chemistry, coursework in 2 other science designations (including Biological Science), &amp; the Science – Chemistry (106) test; no upper division coursework required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science – Earth &amp; Space Science</td>
<td>32 semester hours in science, 12 semester hours in Earth &amp; Space, coursework in 2 other science designations (including Biological Science), &amp; the Science – Earth &amp; Space Science (108) test; no upper division coursework required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science – Environmental Science</td>
<td>32 semester hours in science, 12 semester hours in Environmental Science, coursework in 2 other science designations, &amp; the Science – Environmental Science (112) test; no upper division coursework required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science - Physics</td>
<td>32 semester hours in science, 12 semester hours in Physics, coursework in 2 other science designations (including Biological Science), &amp; the Science – Physics (116) test; no upper division coursework required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Science - Economics</td>
<td>32 semester hours in social science, 12 semester hours in Economics, coursework in 2 other social science designations, &amp; the Social Science – Economics (109) test; no upper division coursework required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Science - Geography</td>
<td>32 semester hours in social science, 12 semester</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Endorsement</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Science - History</td>
<td>32 semester hours in social science, 12 semester hours in History, coursework in 2 other social science designations, &amp; the Social Science – History (114) test; no upper division coursework required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Science – Political Science</td>
<td>32 semester hours in social science, 12 semester hours in Political Science, coursework in 2 other social science designations, &amp; the Social Science – Political Science (117) test; no upper division coursework required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Science - Psychology</td>
<td>32 semester hours in social science, 12 semester hours in Psychology, coursework in 2 other social science designations, &amp; the Social Science – Psychology (118) test; no upper division coursework required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Science – Sociology and Anthropology</td>
<td>32 semester hours in social science, 12 semester hours in Sociology and/or Anthropology, coursework in 2 other social science designations, &amp; the Social Science – Sociology and Anthropology (121) test; no upper division coursework required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology Education (Industrial Arts)</td>
<td>24 semester hours/12 upper division or graduate level &amp; Technology Education (174) test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology Specialist (Computer Related)</td>
<td>24 semester hours and the Technology Specialist (178) test; no upper division coursework required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual Arts</td>
<td>24 semester hours/12 upper division or graduate level &amp; Visual Arts (145) test</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Applicants receiving a 2nd designation in the senior high school sciences or social sciences must **either** complete 12 semester hours of coursework in the designation and pass the test required for the designation **or** complete a major in the content area of the designation. No upper division coursework is required.

*See page 15 for a list of acceptable coursework for popular endorsements.*

**Specific distribution areas for selected content-area endorsements**

**Bilingual Education** coursework:
- Foundations of bilingual education
- Assessment of bilingual students
- Methods and materials for teaching limited-English-proficient students in bilingual programs (this is a bilingual methods course)
- Cross-cultural studies for teaching limited-English-proficient students
- Methods and materials for teaching English as a Second Language
- Elective (an additional bilingual or ESL course)

**English as a Second Language (ESL)** coursework:
- Linguistics
- Theoretical foundations of teaching ESL
- Assessment of the bilingual student
- Methods and materials for teaching ESL
- Cross-cultural studies for teaching limited-English proficient students
- Elective (an additional ESL or bilingual course)

**Reading Teacher coursework:**

- Foundations of reading
- Content area reading
- Assessment and diagnosis of reading problems
- Developmental and remedial reading instruction and support
- Developmental and remedial materials and resources
- Literature appropriate to students across all grade ranges
- Reading practicum

**Middle School Mathematics coursework:**

- 3 semester hours in the methods of teaching mathematics in middle school
- 15 semester hours to be selected from four of the following areas:
  - Math content courses for elementary teachers
  - Calculus
  - Modern algebra or number theory
  - Geometry
  - Computer science
  - Probability and statistics
  - History of mathematics

**Safety and Driver's Education coursework:**

- 3 semester hours in injury prevention or safety
- 12 semester hours in driver education that include:
  - Driving task analysis (introduction to driver education)
  - Teaching driver education in the classroom
  - Advanced driver education and emergency evasive driving
  - Teaching the laboratory portion of the driver education course, including:
    - On-street teaching under the supervision of a qualified driver education teacher
    - The equivalent of at least one semester hour's preparation in the use of driving simulation
    - The equivalent of at least one semester hour's preparation in and use of multiple-car programs
- 3 semester hours in first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation
- 6 semester hours chosen in any combination from
  - The use of technology in instruction
  - Safety issues related to alcohol and drugs
  - Driver education for students with disabilities
  - Any other safety-related area
Acceptable Areas of Coursework for Common Endorsements

All coursework must be 100-level or higher to be used toward an endorsement.
All coursework must also be passed with a grade of “C” or higher.

- **Business, Marketing, & Computer Education**: Acceptable coursework includes business, business math, accounting, business communication, business law, economics, marketing, finance, business management, business computer programming, international business, entrepreneurship, consumer economics, business computer applications, and methods of teaching business subjects.

- **Business, Marketing, & Computer Education- Business and Computer Programming**: Acceptable coursework includes business computer programming, operating systems, computer networking, and database management.

- **Computer Applications**: Acceptable computer applications coursework includes courses addressing how to use a computer, how to use computer software products (such as Microsoft Word, Excel, or PowerPoint), web page construction and maintenance, and using computers in education.

- **Computer Science**: Acceptable computer science coursework includes principles, concepts, and methods of computing; problem solving in computing and programming techniques; algorithms and data structures; and programming and computer languages. Coursework in how to use a computer, computer applications, or using computers in teaching will not be applicable.

- **Drama/Theatre Arts**: Acceptable coursework includes drama, theatre, acting, play production, stage design, stage makeup, voice and movement techniques, directing, story-making and playwriting, and dramatic literature (contemporary and historic).

- **English Language Arts/Language Arts**: Acceptable coursework includes composition and rhetoric including grammar, language components (semantics, syntax, phonemes, morphemes); literary forms (poetry, fiction, drama, etc.); American and British literature; speech; journalism; proofreading and editing; and reading including methods, materials, diagnostic courses, and practicums.

- **General Science (middle school)**: Acceptable general science coursework includes physical science (such as chemistry, earth & space science, and physics) and biological science (such as biology, ecology, and environmental science.) Coursework must be completed in both biological science and physical science.

- **Health Education**: Acceptable health education coursework includes theories and concepts of health, school health programs, community health, health curriculum, disease prevention, sex education and sexually transmitted diseases, drug and chemical use and abuse, mental and emotional health, environmental health, nutrition, consumer health, safety and injury control, and personal health.
- **Library Information Specialist**: Acceptable coursework includes library administration, reference, cataloging and classification, research and accessing information resources, and selection of library materials appropriate to the population to be served. Electives include instructional media, online searching, developing educational software, media services and production, professional and ethical issues, and use and management of learning technology systems.

- **Mathematics (High School Only)**: High school mathematics methods, Euclidean and non-Euclidean geometry, trigonometry, finite mathematics, calculus, computer science (mathematical aspects), differential equations, abstract algebra, linear algebra, discrete structures, statistics, history of mathematics, and upper-level courses such as Fourier analysis, applied matrix theory, and regression analysis. Coursework must be offered through the mathematics department, and should be distributed across the standards for mathematics.

- **Mathematics (Middle School)**: Acceptable mathematics coursework includes calculus, geometry, trigonometry, history of mathematics, probability, statistics, computer science, modern algebra, number theory, linear algebra, finite mathematics, differential equations, and math content for elementary education. Fifteen semester hours in at least four of the above topic areas must be completed.

  Three semester hours of coursework addressing teaching mathematics in the middle grades must also be taken. Middle school mathematics methods courses must address teaching math in grades 5-8 or grades 6-8 and are normally titled, "Teaching Math in the Middle School", "Methods of Teaching Middle School Mathematics," or similar titles. Methods of teaching secondary (high school mathematics) coursework will also be honored.

- **Physical Education**: Acceptable coursework includes health-related fitness, rhythm and dance, individual and team sports, human anatomy and physiology, exercise physiology, kinesiology, biomechanics, motor learning/behavior and development, physical education curriculum design, physical education for special populations, and physical education methods, assessment, and evaluation.

- **Social Science (middle school)**: Acceptable social science coursework includes economics, cultural or economic geography, history, political science, psychology, sociology, and anthropology. Educational psychology is not applicable.

- **Technology Education/Industrial Technology Education**: Acceptable coursework includes construction (carpentry, plumbing, and masonry), drafting/design, auto body repair, heating/ventilation/air conditioning, manufacturing (machine tool, tool and die, welding, production machine operation), electronics, and transportation technology.

- **Theatre/Drama**: Drama, theatre, acting, play production, stage design, stage makeup, voice and movement techniques, directing, story-making and playwriting, and dramatic literature (contemporary and historic). Coursework should be distributed across the standards for drama/theatre arts.
- **Technology Specialist (computer related):** Technology infrastructure, systems analysis and design, curriculum design with computers, long distance learning, networking including servers and routers, managing TCP/IP networks, administration of technological equipment, hardware configuration and maintenance, computer operating systems, database management, web page construction and maintenance, legal implications for technology, and selection, design, and maintenance of software. Coursework should be distributed across the standards for technology specialist.
Requirements for the Learning Behavior Specialist I (LBS I) Endorsement

The endorsement is available for the following grade levels:

- **Grade K-Grade 3** (for educators who already hold an early childhood education endorsement)
- **Grade K-9** (for educators who already hold an elementary education endorsement)
- **Grade 6-12** (for educators who already hold a secondary education endorsement)
- **Grade K-12** (for educators who already hold a special teaching (K-12) or special education (PK-21) endorsement)

The LBS I endorsement requires a passing score on the LBS I (155) test and completion of coursework addressing the following topics:

- Survey of the exceptional child
- General characteristics of children with disabilities within the LBS I scope
- General methods for teaching children with disabilities within the LBS I scope
- Psychological assessment of children with disabilities within the LBS I scope

Some Illinois colleges/universities only require one course for each of the above areas; others require the completion of multiple courses for each area. Be sure to check with the institution where you plan to complete your coursework so you fully understand what courses are needed for the endorsement.

The **LBS I approval** (valid for three calendar years) will be issued to educators who have completed all necessary coursework for the endorsement but have not yet passed the LBS I (155) test. LBS I approvals will not be issued on or after September 1, 2015.

Requirements for the Learning Behavior Specialist II (LBS II) Endorsements

LBS II endorsements are optional, advanced credentials that are issued through entitlement by an Illinois higher education institution upon completion of an approved Learning Behavior Specialist I, Teacher of Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing, Teacher of Students who are Blind or Visually Impaired, or Speech-Language Pathologist program. To qualify for one of these additional endorsements, you must meet specific standards outline in Illinois statute.

The following LBS II endorsements are available:

- Curriculum Adaptation Specialist
- Multiple Disabilities Specialist
- Behavior Intervention Specialist
- Deaf-Blind Specialist
- Bilingual Special Education Specialist
- Technology Specialist
- Transition Specialist
Gifted Education Teacher

The endorsement is available for the following grade levels: (B-3, K-4, 5-8, 6-8, or 9-12)

Requirements:

- Must already hold an Illinois professional educator license endorsed in a teaching field
- Must pass the NES Gifted Education (312) content test
- Must complete a state-approved gifted education teacher program at a regionally-accredited institution of higher education-- use ISBE form 80-02 to verify program completion
  - Program must consist of at least 24 semester hours of undergraduate or graduate coursework in gifted education
  - Program must include a practicum
  - Program must include coursework in the following areas:
    1. characteristics of the field of gifted education as it pertains to gifted children, including their cognitive, creative and affective development;
    2. the wide range of ways in which a child is gifted; issues and practices in identifying and serving gifted children; and the manner in which assessment data shape decisions about identification, learning progress and outcomes; and
    3. theoretical and research-based data necessary for the development of programs, curriculum and instructional sequences for gifted children, especially those serving gifted students from diverse populations.
Gifted Education Specialist

The endorsement is valid for grades PK-12.

Requirements:

- Must already hold an Illinois professional educator license endorsed in a teaching field
- Must present evidence of two years of teaching experience on the Illinois professional educator license or a comparable out-of-state license involving the education of gifted students
- Must hold a master’s degree or higher degree awarded by a regionally-accredited institution of higher education
- Must pass the gifted specialist content test
- Must complete a state-approved K-12 gifted education specialist program at a regionally-accredited institution of higher education-- use ISBE form 80-02 to verify program completion
  - Program must include clinical experiences with five or more students in both PK-grade 8 AND grades 9-12, and the candidate must work with at least one student enrolled in PK-grade 8 and one student enrolled in grades 9-12.
Reading Specialist

The endorsement is valid for grades K-12.

Requirements:

- Must already hold an Illinois professional educator license
- Must present evidence of two years of full-time teaching experience either on the Illinois professional educator license or an a comparable out-of-state license
- Must hold a master’s degree or higher from a regionally-accredited institution of higher education
- Must have completed a K-12 reading specialist preparation program—use ISBE form 80-02 to verify program completion
- Must pass the reading specialist (177) content test
- Must pass a test of basic skills—defined as the Test of Academic Proficiency (TAP 400), an ACT Plus Writing composite score of at least 22 (and a minimum score of 19 on the combined English/writing sub area for tests taken August 2015 and earlier) or an SAT (critical reading and mathematics) composite score of 1030 (and a minimum score of 450 on the writing sub area) or an out-of-state test of basic skills that led to licensure in another state.
Requirements for Approvals

The following approvals are available. Approvals marked with * do not require an Illinois professional educator license or educator license with stipulations. To see requirements, click on a specific approval.

Adaptive PE
Bilingual Special Education
Cued Speech Interpreter*
Early Childhood Special Education
English as a Second Language Special Education
Interim Sign Language Interpreter*
Interim Approval for School Counselor Intern*
School Nurse Intern*
School Psychologist Intern*
Short-Term Emergency *(for special education)*
Sign Language Interpreter*
Social Worker Intern*
Teacher Coordinator
Vocational Coordinator

Adaptive PE Approval:
Adapted PE is physical education that has been modified to be appropriate for individuals with disabilities.

1. You must hold an Illinois license with a PE endorsement. The PE endorsement may be for any grade range.
2. To apply for the adaptive PE approval, submit an application in your ELIS account and complete ISBE form 73-42: Request for Approval of Other Special Education Personnel. Officials from your school district must sign the form before it is submitted to ISBE.

Bilingual Special Education Approval:
Apply for this approval by submitting an application online in your ELIS account. To qualify for this approval, you must meet all of the requirements in one of the following four options:

Option 1:
- Hold an Illinois teaching license endorsed in a special education teaching field or a license with a special education approval
- Complete the language proficiency assessment in the target language
- Complete a theoretical foundations of bilingual/ESL education course
- Complete a bilingual methods course
- Complete an assessment of the bilingual student course

Option 2:
- Hold a license endorsed in early childhood, elementary, secondary, or special education and bilingual education
- Complete a course addressing characteristics of exceptional children
- Complete a course addressing cross-categorical special education methods
- Complete a course addressing psychological diagnosis for exceptional students

Option 3:
- Hold a license with a transitional bilingual educator endorsement and have two years of
successful teaching experience
• Complete a course addressing characteristics of exceptional children
• Complete a course addressing cross-categorical special education methods
• Complete a survey of exceptional children course
• Complete theoretical foundations of bilingual/ESL education course
• Complete an assessment of the bilingual student course

Option 4:
• Hold a license endorsed in a school support personnel area
• Successfully complete the bilingual language exam
• Complete an assessment of the bilingual student course

Cued Speech Interpreter Approval:
Apply for this approval by submitting an application in your ELIS account. This approval allows the holder to serve students with hearing loss. The approval is valid for five years and may be renewed if professional development requirements are met. Requirements for the cued speech interpreter approval are:

• One of the following:
  o Hold a high school diploma or recognized equivalent OR
  o Have completed 60 semester hours of college credit from one or more regionally accredited institutions of higher education OR
  o Hold an associate degree issued by a regionally accredited institution of higher education OR
  o Have achieved a passing score on the ParaPro test (offered by Educational Testing Service [ETS]) OR
  o Have achieved a passing score on the written examination administered by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID)
• Have attained Transliteration Skills Certification at level 3 or above
• After receiving the cued speech interpreter approval, complete ISBE form 73-53: Educational Interpreter Log as you participate in necessary activities.

Early Childhood Special Education Approval:
This approval enables the holder to teach special education in pre-kindergarten. Apply for this approval online in your ELIS account.

1. You must hold an Illinois license endorsed in early childhood education or LBS I (PK-21).
2. You must complete coursework in the following four areas:
   a. Early childhood special education assessment
   b. Methods of instruction in early childhood special education
   c. Development of language in the young child
   d. Child, family, and community relationships

English as a Second Language (ESL) Special Education Approval
Apply for this approval by submitting an application online in your ELIS account. To qualify for this approval, you must meet the requirements in one of the following three options:

Option 1:
• Hold a license endorsed in a special education teaching field or a license with a special education approval
• Complete a theoretical foundations of bilingual/ESL education course
• Complete an ESL methods course
• Complete a bilingual assessment course

Option 2:
• Hold a license endorsed in early childhood, elementary, secondary, or special education and ESL
• Complete a course addressing characteristics of exceptional children
• Complete a course addressing cross-categorical special education methods
• Complete a course addressing psychological diagnosis for exceptional students

Option 3:
• Hold a license endorsed in school support personnel (except school nurse)
• Complete a bilingual assessment course

Interim Sign Language Interpreter:
If you have not met the full requirements for the sign language interpreter approval, you may qualify for an interim approval that is valid until June 30 immediately following two years of it being issued. Before this approval expires, you should fulfill the requirements needed for the full sign language interpreter approval. Apply for this approval online in your ELIS account.

1. Hold a high school diploma or recognized equivalent
2. One of the following:
   a. Have completed 60 semester hours of college credit from one or more regionally accredited institutions of higher education OR
   b. Hold an associate degree issued by a regionally accredited institution of higher education OR
   c. Have achieved a passing score on the ParaPro test (offered by Educational Testing Service [ETS]) OR
   d. Have achieved a passing score on the written examination administered by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID).
3. Attained a rating of level 3.0 on the Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA)
4. After receiving the interim sign language interpreter approval, complete ISBE form 73-53: Educational Interpreter Log as you participate in necessary activities.

School Counselor Intern Approval:
This approval is only awarded through entitlement from an Illinois institution of higher education, which means an Illinois institution must recommend you for this approval. You cannot apply for this approval in your ELIS account until your institution has entered a notification recommending you for the approval. The approval is valid until June 30 immediately following three years of it being issued. One of the two requirements below must be met for the approval:

1. Have completed, as part of an approved program, coursework addressing:
   a. The structure, organization, and operation of the education system, with emphasis on P-12 schools
   b. The growth and development of children and youth, and their implications for counseling in schools
   c. The diversity of Illinois students and the laws and programs that have been designed to meet their unique needs
   d. Effective management of the classroom and the learning process OR
2. Hold a master’s or higher degree in the field of community counseling and be working toward completion of all requirements necessary for a school counselor endorsement

School Nurse Intern Approval:
Students in an approved Illinois School Nurse program must serve an internship before completing their program. Please work with your institution to determine when you should apply for the approval.
1. After receiving guidance from your institution, apply for the approval online in your ELIS account.
2. Complete ISBE form 73-44: Notification of School Support Personnel Intern Eligibility Status. The form must be signed by officials from your school district and your higher education institution before it is sent to ISBE.
3. The approval issue date will reflect the date the last item (online application or form 73-44) was posted in ELIS.

**School Psychologist Intern Approval:**
Students in an approved Illinois School Psychologist program must serve an internship before completing their program. Please work with your institution to determine when you should apply for the approval.

1. After receiving guidance from your institution, apply for the approval online in your ELIS account.
2. Complete ISBE form 73-44: Notification of School Support Personnel Intern Eligibility Status. The form must be signed by officials from your school district and your higher education institution before it is sent to ISBE.
3. The approval issue date will reflect the date the last item (online application or form 73-44) was posted in ELIS.

**Short-Term Emergency Approval:**
Individuals holding this approval are eligible to serve students with the following disabilities: learning disabilities, social emotional disorders, mental retardation, physical disabilities, autism, and traumatic brain injuries. The approval is valid for three years, and before it expires, you should obtain the LBS I endorsement or approval. If you already hold an LBS I endorsement or approval, you are not eligible for the short-term emergency approval. The short-term emergency approval will no longer be issued beginning September 1, 2018.

1. Submit an application online in your ELIS account. You must already hold an Illinois professional educator license endorsed for a teaching field or an educator license with stipulations endorsed for transitional bilingual educator.
2. Complete ISBE form 73-86: Short-Term Emergency in Special Education. Your school district, regional superintendent, and higher education institution where you are taking your coursework must sign the form before it is sent to ISBE.
3. Additional documentation to be provided by the applicant:
   a. Official transcripts showing completion of coursework in survey of exceptional children and at least one of the other three areas of coursework required for the LBS I approval
   b. Applicant’s plan of study identifying enrollment in an educator preparation institution and coursework to be completed to qualify for the LBS I approval or endorsement within the three-year validity period of the short-term emergency approval
4. Documentation to be provided by the employing district (public or non-public)
   a. Detailed description of the duties/responsibilities to be performed by the candidate—not a generic job description
   b. Description of the disabilities, type of classes, and age ranges of the population to be served by the candidate
   c. Description of supervision, including the name, IEIN (Illinois Educator Identification Number), and the position title of the supervisor— The supervisor must hold a general administrative and LBS I (PK-21) endorsement, or an LBS I (PK-21) supervisory endorsement
   d. Description of the district’s efforts to locate a fully qualified individual for the
5. Documentation to be provided by the college/university:
   a. Verification from the licensure officer that the candidate is enrolled in a preparation program leading to an LBS I approval or endorsement and that the candidate’s educational plan can be completed within the three-year validity period of the short-term emergency approval

6. Documentation may be mailed to the Illinois State Board of Education, Educator Licensure Division, 100 N. First St., Springfield, IL 62777.

### Sign Language Interpreter Approval:

Apply for this approval by submitting an application in your ELIS account. This approval allows the holder to serve students with hearing loss. The approval is valid for five years and may be renewed if professional development requirements are met. Requirements for the sign language interpreter approval are:

- Hold a high school diploma or recognized equivalent
- One of the following:
  - Have completed 60 semester hours of college credit from one or more regionally accredited institutions of higher education OR
  - Hold an associate degree issued by a regionally accredited institution of higher education OR
  - Have achieved a passing score on the ParaPro test (offered by Educational Testing Service [ETS]) OR
  - Have achieved a passing score on the written examination administered by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID)
- One of the following:
  - Attained a rating of Level 3.5 or above on the Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (IEPA) OR
  - Maintained a valid certification from the RID OR
  - Maintained a valid Illinois Board for Evaluation of Interpreters (IL BEI) Basic Certification or higher issued by the Illinois Deaf and Hard of Hearing Commission
- After receiving the sign language interpreter approval, complete ISBE form 73-53: Educational Interpreter Log as you participate in necessary activities.

### Social Worker Intern Approval:

Students in an approved Illinois School Social Worker program must serve an internship before completing their program. Please work with your institution to determine when you should apply for the approval.

1. After receiving guidance from your institution, apply for the approval online in your ELIS account.
2. Complete ISBE form 73-44: Notification of School Support Personnel Intern Eligibility Status. The form must be signed by officials at your higher education institution and your school district before it is sent to ISBE.
3. The approval issue date will reflect the date the last item (online application or form 73-44) was posted in ELIS.

### Teacher Coordinator of Vocational Education Approval

Apply for this approval in your ELIS account.

1. Must hold a license endorsed in PK-21 special education or LBSI grades 6-12 (secondary education LBSI)
2. Have completed coursework addressing vocational programming for students with
disabilities

3. Have completed one of the following:
   o Coursework in guidance and counseling
   o Coursework in vocational and technical education
   o One year of cumulative work experience outside education

**Vocational Coordinator Approval**

Apply for this approval in your **ELIS** account.

1. Have two years of teaching experience
2. Hold a license endorsed for LBSI PK-21 or secondary education
3. Have completed at least 16 semester hours of college coursework, which shall at least include each of the areas identified in subsections (A) through (D) and may include one or more of the areas identified in subsections (E) through (I) of this section:
   A. Survey of the exceptional child
   B. Characteristics of the mentally retarded student
   C. Characteristics of the socially and/or emotionally maladjusted student
   D. Vocational programming for students with disabilities
   E. Characteristics of exceptionalities
   F. Methods course in special education
   G. Guidance and counseling
   H. Educational and psychological diagnosis
   I. Vocational and technical education