ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

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AUTHORITY: Implementing Articles 21 and 21B and Section 34-18.82 of the School Code [105 ILCS 5] and authorized by Section 2-3.6 of the School Code.

SOURCE: Rules and Regulations to Govern the Certification of Teachers adopted September 15, 1977; amended at 4 Ill. Reg. 28, p. 336, effective July 16, 1982; amended at 7 Ill. Reg. 5429, effective April 11, 1983; codified at 8 Ill. Reg. 1441; amended at 9 Ill. Reg. 1046, effective January 16, 1985; amended at 10 Ill. Reg. 12578, effective July 8, 1986; amended at 10 Ill. Reg. 15044, effective August 28, 1986; amended at 11 Ill. Reg. 12670, effective July 15, 1987; amended at 12 Ill. Reg. 3709, effective February 1, 1988; amended at 12 Ill. Reg. 16022, effective September 23, 1988; amended at 14 Ill. Reg. 1243, effective January 8, 1990; amended at 14 Ill. Reg. 17936, effective October 18, 1990; amended at 15 Ill. Reg. 17048, effective November 13, 1991; amended at 16 Ill. Reg. 18789, effective November 23, 1992; amended at 19 Ill. Reg. 16826, effective December 11, 1995; amended at 21 Ill. Reg. 11536, effective August 1, 1997; emergency amendment at 22 Ill. Reg. 5097, effective February 27, 1998, for a maximum of 150 days; amended at 22 Ill. Reg. 11767, effective June 25, 1998; amended at 22 Ill. Reg. 19745, effective October 30, 1998; amended at 23 Ill. Reg. 2843, effective February 26, 1999; amended at 23 Ill. Reg. 7231, effective June 14, 1999; amended at 24 Ill. Reg. 7206, effective May 1, 2000; emergency amendments at 24 Ill. Reg. 9915, effective June 21, 2000, for a maximum of 150 days; amended at 24 Ill. Reg. 12930, effective August 14, 2000; peremptory amendment at 24 Ill. Reg. 16109, effective October 12, 2000; peremptory amendment suspended at 25 Ill. Reg. 3718, effective February 21, 2001; peremptory amendment repealed by joint resolution of the General Assembly, effective May 31, 2001; emergency amendments at 25 Ill. Reg. 9360, effective July 1, 2001, for a maximum of 150 days; emergency expired November 27, 2001; emergency amendments at 25 Ill. Reg. 11935, effective August 31, 2001, for a maximum of 150 days; amended at 25 Ill. Reg. 16031, effective November 28, 2001; amended at 26 Ill. Reg. 348, effective January 1, 2002; amended at 26 Ill. Reg. 11867, effective July 19, 2002; amended at 26 Ill. Reg. 16167, effective October 21, 2002; amended at 27 Ill. Reg. 5744, effective March 21, 2003; amended at 27 Ill. Reg. 8071, effective April 28, 2003; emergency amendments at 27 Ill. Reg. 10482, effective June 26, 2003, for a maximum of 150 days; amended at 27 Ill. Reg. 12523, effective July 21, 2003; amended at 27 Ill. Reg. 16412, effective October 20, 2003; emergency amendment at 28 Ill. Reg. 2451, effective January 23, 2004, for a maximum of 150 days; amended at 28 Ill. Reg. 8556, effective June 1, 2004; emergency amendments at 28 Ill. Reg. 12438, effective August 20, 2004, for a maximum of 150 days; emergency expired January 16, 2005; amended at 29 Ill. Reg. 1212, effective January 4, 2005; amended at 29 Ill. Reg. 10068, effective June 30, 2005; amended at 29 Ill. Reg. 12374, effective July 28, 2005; emergency amendment at 29 Ill. Reg. 14547, effective September 16, 2005, for a maximum of 150 days; amended at 29 Ill. Reg. 15831, effective October 3, 2005; amended at 30 Ill. Reg. 1835, effective January 26, 2006; amended at 30 Ill. Reg. 2766, effective February 21, 2006; amended at 30 Ill. Reg. 8494, effective April 21, 2006; amended at 31 Ill. Reg. 10645, effective July 16, 2007; amended at 32 Ill. Reg. 3413, effective February 22, 2008; amended at 32 Ill. Reg. 13263, effective July 25, 2008; emergency amendment at 32 Ill. Reg. 18876,

effective November 21, 2008, for a maximum of 150 days; amended at 33 Ill. Reg. 5462, effective March 24, 2009; amended at 34 Ill. Reg. 1582, effective January 12, 2010; amended at 34 Ill. Reg. 15357, effective September 21, 2010; amended at 35 Ill. Reg. 4315, effective February 23, 2011; peremptory amendment at 35 Ill. Reg. 14663, effective August 22, 2011; amended at 35 Ill. Reg. 16755, effective September 29, 2011; amended at 36 Ill. Reg. 2191, effective January 24, 2012; amended at 36 Ill. Reg. 12455, effective July 23, 2012; emergency amendment at 36 Ill. Reg. 12903, effective July 24, 2012, for a maximum of 150 days; amended at 37 Ill. Reg. 199, effective December 19, 2012; amended at 37 Ill. Reg. 8379, effective June 12, 2013; amended at 37 Ill. Reg. 16729, effective October 2, 2013; amended at 38 Ill. Reg. 11261, effective May 6, 2014; amended at 38 Ill. Reg. 18933, effective September 8, 2014; amended at 38 Ill. Reg. 21788, effective November 3, 2014; amended at 39 Ill. Reg. 6649, effective April 27, 2015; amended at 39 Ill. Reg. 13722, effective October 5, 2015; amended at 40 Ill. Reg. 4940, effective March 2, 2016; amended at 40 Ill. Reg. 12346, effective August 9, 2016; amended at 41 Ill. Reg. 8813, effective June 28, 2017; emergency amendment at 41 Ill. Reg. 8949, effective June 28, 2017, for a maximum of 150 days; amended at 41 Ill. Reg. 14075, effective November 3, 2017; amended at 42 Ill. Reg. 8830, effective May 21, 2018; amended at 43 Ill. Reg. 14806, effective December 4, 2019; emergency amendment at 44 Ill. Reg. 8013, effective April 27, 2020, for a maximum of 150 days; emergency expired September 23, 2020; amended at 45 Ill. Reg. 879, effective January 4, 2021; amended at 45 Ill. Reg. 7269, effective June 3, 2021; emergency amendment at 45 Ill. Reg. 9485, effective July 9, 2021, for a maximum of 150 days; emergency expired December 5, 2021; emergency amendment at 45 Ill. Reg. 11225, effective August 26, 2021, for a maximum of 150 days; emergency expired January 22, 2022; amended at 46 Ill. Reg. 6326, effective April 11, 2022; amended at 46 Ill. Reg. 12973, effective July 13, 2022; expedited correction at 46 Ill. Reg. 18915, effective July 13, 2022; amended at 47 Ill. Reg. 5954, effective April 11, 2023; amended at 48 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____.

SUBPART A: DEFINITIONS

Section 25.10 Definitions

As used in this Part, the following terms have the meanings ascribed in this Section.

"Code" means the Illinois School Code [105 ILCS 5].

"ELS-CTE" means an educator license with stipulations endorsed for career and technical education.

"ECE" means early childhood education.

"ELIS" means the State Board's Educator Licensure Information System.

"ELS-APE" means an educator license with stipulations endorsed for alternative provisional educator.

"ELS-CTEP" means an educator license with stipulations endorsed for provisional career and technical educator.

"ELS-PARA" means an educator license with stipulations endorsed for paraprofessional.

"ELS-TBE" means an educator license with stipulations endorsed for transitional bilingual educator.

"ELS-VIT" means an educator license with stipulations endorsed for visiting international educator.

"EPP" means an educator preparation program.

"Institution" means either a regionally accredited institution of higher learning as specified in Section 21B-105 of the Code when referring to an institution located within the United States or a not-for-profit entity approved by the Illinois Board of Higher Education. Accordingly, any coursework required for, or counted towards fulfilling the requirements for, a credential issued pursuant to this Part shall be completed at or accepted by a regionally accredited institution or an approved not-for-profit entity. Approval of preparation programs under Subpart C shall be available only to regionally accredited institutions or approved not-for-profit entities. Coursework completed in another country shall be subject to the provisions of Section 25.425.

"PEL" means a professional educator license.

"PK-12" means pre-kindergarten through grade 12.

"Regionally accredited" means accredited by one of the following organizations: Higher Learning Commission (HLC), Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE), New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU), Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC), and the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC).

"ROE" means regional office of education.

"SEPLB" means the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board.

"State Board" means the Illinois State Board of Education.

"State Superintendent" means the State Superintendent of Education or a designee.

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

SUBPART B: LICENSES

Section 25.25 Requirements for the Professional Educator License

The requirements of this Section shall apply to the issuance of professional educator licenses (PELs). All professional education and content-area coursework that forms part of an application for licensure, endorsement, or approval submitted under this Part must have been passed with a grade no lower than "C-" or equivalent to be counted towards fulfillment of the applicable requirements. If the Governor declares a disaster due to a public health emergency under Section 7 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act [20 ILCS 3305], Illinois educator preparation providers shall be exempt from the "C-" or higher provision when entitling candidates for licensure if the candidates are already enrolled in an educator preparation course at the time the disaster declaration is issued.

a) Each applicant shall:

1) hold a bachelor's degree; and

2) satisfy one of the following requirements:

A) have completed an approved Illinois educator preparation program for the type of endorsement (i.e., teaching, administrative, or school support personnel) sought on the PEL (see Subpart C). (Thirty-two semester hours of content and pedagogy coursework, or a combination of experience and coursework, with no fewer than 18 hours of content coursework (or its equivalent experience) specific to the endorsement sought, are required for teaching endorsements.) Each applicant must complete a program

satisfaction survey on the Educator Licensure Information System, as well as coursework addressing:

i) *the psychology of, the identification of, and the methods of instruction for the exceptional child, including without limitation children with learning disabilities* (Section 21B-20(1) of the Code), which shall focus on the characteristics and methods of instruction for cross-categorical special education students so that all teachers:

- understand the impact that disabilities have on the cognitive, physical, emotional, social, and communication development of an individual and provide opportunities that support the intellectual, social, and personal development of all students;

- understand how students differ in their approaches to learning and create instructional opportunities that are adapted to diverse learners; and

- understand instructional planning and design instruction based on knowledge of the discipline, students, community, and curriculum goal;

ii) *methods of reading and reading in the content area* (Section 21B-20(1) of the Code), which for teachers and administrators shall address each of the following standards:

- varied instructional approaches used before, during, and after reading, including those that develop word knowledge, vocabulary, comprehension, fluency, and strategy used in the content areas;

- the construction of meaning through the interactions of the reader's background knowledge and experiences, the information in the text and the purpose of the reading situation;

- communication theory, language development, and the role of language in learning;

- the relationships among reading, writing, and oral communication and understanding how to integrate these components to increase content learning;

- the design, selection, modification, and evaluation of a wide range of materials for the content areas and the reading needs of the student;

- variety of formal and informal assessments to recognize and address the reading, writing, and oral communication needs of each student; and

- varied instructional approaches that develop word knowledge, vocabulary, comprehension, fluency, and strategy use in the content areas;

iii) *methods of reading and reading in the content area* (Section 21B-20(1) of the Code), which for school support personnel shall address each of the following standards:

- to understand how students acquire reading competency;

- to understand reading deficits and reading levels, and how they contribute to a student's ability to succeed in kindergarten through grade 12;

- to understand the correlation of behavior and classroom culture (discipline, management, control, influence on engagement) on reading development and reading acquisition; and

- to use the skills and strategies specific to their school support personnel specialty to support or enhance reading skill development, as applicable;

iv) instructional strategies for English learners, which shall address bilingual education or English as a Second Language; or

B) pursuant to Section 21B-35 of the Code, hold a valid, comparable certificate or license in another state or country, or have completed a comparable teaching or administrative preparation program in another state or country (see Section 25.425), including:

i) coursework in the *methods of instruction of the exceptional child* (Section 21B-35(a)(2)(A) of the Code) in cross-categorical special education that meets the requirements of subsection (a)(1)(A);

ii) coursework in *methods of reading and reading in the content area* (Section 21B-35(a)(2)(A) of the Code) that meets the requirements of subsection (a)(1)(B); and

iii) coursework in *instructional strategies for English learners* (Section 21B- 35(a)(2)(A) of the Code), which shall address bilingual education or English as a Second Language; or

C) pursuant to Section 21B-35 of the Code, hold a valid, comparable certificate or license in another state or country, or have completed a comparable school support personnel preparation program in another state or country (see Section 25.425), including college coursework in:

i) *the methods of instruction of the exceptional child* (Section 21B-35(a)(2)(A) of the Code) in cross-categorical special education, which shall meet the requirements outlined in subsection (a)(1)(A);

ii) *the methods of reading and reading in the content area* (Section 21B-35(a)(2)(A) of the Code), which shall meet the requirements outlined in subsection (a)(1)(C); and

iii) *instructional strategies for English learners* (Section 21B-35(a)(2)(A) of the Code), which shall align to standards for addressing second language acquisition and the diverse learner set forth in the Standards for the Speech-Language Pathologist (23 Ill. Adm. Code 28.230) or, for other school support personnel, the applicable standards in 23 Ill. Adm.

Code 23 (Standards for School Support Personnel Endorsements).

b) Each applicant for a PEL endorsed in a teaching field shall have completed student teaching in conformance with the requirements of Section 25.620, except in the following circumstances:

1) Applicants awarded credit in student teaching on a transcript issued by a regionally accredited institution of higher education need not complete another student teaching experience.

2) One full year's teaching experience on a valid certificate, a license, or an approval in the PK-12 schools shall be accepted in lieu of student teaching.

3) Applicants holding a bachelor's degree and a valid, comparable certificate or license from another state or country do not need to provide evidence of student teaching.

c) For the purposes of this Part:

1) A~~a~~ "valid, comparable certificate or license" means a current (not expired) certificate or license endorsed in the specific content area and grade levels for which Illinois licensure is sought that is equivalent to an Illinois PEL.~~;~~

2) "One~~one~~ full year's teaching experience" means the equivalent of two semesters of scheduled full-time teaching, which may, however, be accumulated in any combination of increments. ~~-~~That is, it need not be accumulated through full-time teaching.~~; and~~

3) An "approval" is a credential valid for serving in a specific education area and grade range. Approvals can be issued on an existing educator license or may stand alone, as applicable to the particular approval.

4) An “approved educator preparation program” means a program approved for recognition under Subpart C or completion of specified coursework, testing, and experiences aligned to State and national standards, as specified and verified by the State Superintendent, in consultation with the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, that qualifies an individual for the professional educator license.

d) Evidence of teaching experience, as may be required under this Part, may be satisfied in one of the following ways:

1) For teachers employed in Illinois public schools, verification of the teacher's experience obtained from ELIS may be used.

2) The chief administrator or other designated official of the employing school district or nonpublic school (or other employing entity, if applicable to the holder of a PEL endorsed for early childhood; also see subsection (d)(4)) may submit a letter documenting the nature and duration of the applicant's teaching.

3) A letter signed by an official of the state education agency in another state may be substituted for an employer's letter when the latter cannot be secured.

4) Early childhood teaching experience shall be understood as contributing to the fulfillment of this requirement if gained in a position for which a PEL endorsed for early childhood was required pursuant to the rules of the State Board at 23 Ill. Adm. Code 235 (Early Childhood Block Grant).

5) Experience gained while teaching in a home school shall not be applicable to the fulfillment of this requirement.

e) Each applicant for a PEL endorsed in an administrative or school support personnel field shall meet the applicable requirements of Subpart D or E, respectively.

f) The PEL shall be endorsed in accordance with this Part.

g) Each applicant shall be required to pass the tests required for the PEL as specified in Section 21B-30 of the Code and Section 25.720 of this Part.

h) Until August 4, 2023 (the effective date of Public Act 103-488), and beginning again on September 1, 2025, if~~I~~f a candidate has completed all of the requirements for an Illinois-approved educator preparation program at an Illinois institution of higher education as listed in subsection (h)(1), but has not successfully passed a teacher performance assessment (edTPA), the candidate may be entitled for an educator license with stipulations endorsed for a provisional in-State educator by the institution where the program was completed.

1) The candidate must have:

A) at least a bachelor's degree;

B) completed all components of an approved educator preparation program, excluding passing the edTPA;

C) passed the applicable content test, as required by Section 21B-30 of the Code; and

D) attempted an edTPA and received a minimum score on that assessment, as established by the State Board in consultation with SEPLB.

2) The provisional in-State educator endorsement on an educator license with stipulations is valid for one full fiscal year after the date of issuance and may not be renewed.

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 25.37 Acquisition of Subsequent Endorsements on a Professional Educator License

The provisions of this Section shall apply when an individual who already holds a professional educator license (PEL) with one or more teaching endorsements wishes to receive an additional endorsement in a teaching field or a grade level.

a) An individual who wishes to add subsequent content area endorsements or grade levels to a PEL shall meet the applicable requirements of this Part specific to the content area of the endorsement sought and provide evidence of having passed the applicable content-area test required under Section 25.720.

b) A candidate not meeting the criteria of subsection (a) who wishes to receive subsequent content area endorsement in an area of special education (i.e., ~~Learning Behavior Specialist I,~~ Learning Behavior Specialist II, Deaf or Hard of Hearing, Blind or Visually Impaired, or Early Childhood Special Education), reading specialist, elementary mathematics specialist, or gifted education specialist shall submit official transcripts and evidence of teaching experience to an Illinois institution of higher education operating a program approved pursuant to Subpart C that prepares candidates for the endorsement sought.

1) The institution may, at its discretion, compare the coursework and clinical experiences already completed by the applicant to the standards for the endorsement sought and, based on this comparison, may identify for the candidate a "focused program" consisting of coursework and experiences that the candidate must complete in order to meet those standards.

A) In formulating this type of program, the institution shall ensure that the candidate has broad and deep knowledge of the subject matter, develops the knowledge and skills that are needed to work with students in the age and grade ranges encompassed by the endorsement sought, and is knowledgeable about pedagogical approaches that are suitable for that age group.

B) The institution may revise an individual's focused program to include additional or fewer components as it may deem appropriate based upon the results of internal performance assessments that form part of the institution's assessment system (see Section 25.120) or other assessments that are directly related to the standards for the endorsement sought.

C) Each institution shall make available a description of the method to be used by the educational unit in assessing the degree to which the work previously completed by candidates for focused programs has addressed relevant standards and in identifying the coursework and experiences these candidates will be required to complete in order to qualify for subsequent endorsements. -An institution that uniformly requires all candidates seeking subsequent teaching endorsements to complete certain coursework or field experiences, or to complete a full program without acknowledgment of prior courses or experiences, shall publish and make available a written statement to this effect, describing those requirements.

2) A candidate who completes a focused program shall be considered as having completed the institution's approved program for the endorsement sought and shall be eligible to be recommended for the endorsement by entitlement, signifying that the candidate has met all applicable standards.

c) An individual not meeting the criteria of subsection (a) or (b) may provide evidence of holding a valid, comparable out-of-state license in the endorsement area and grade range sought.

d) An individual who holds a ~~(~~PEL~~)~~ endorsed in a school support personnel area listed in Subpart D or any of the administrative positions outlined in Subpart E and who wishes to obtain a teaching endorsement shall meet the requirements of Section 25.100(e)(2)(C).

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 25.38 Subsequent Endorsements on a Professional Educator License for Employees Under Article 34 of the School Code (Pilot Program)

a) Pursuant to Section 34-18.82 of the Code (Public Act 103-157), beginning July 1, 2024, *subsequent teaching endorsements may be granted* by a school district organized under Article 34 of the Code *to employees licensed under Article 21B of* the *Code for specific content areas and grade levels as part of a pilot program.* An endorsement in a specific content area may be issued to individuals who:

1) hold a professional educator license endorsed in a teaching field;

2) have passed the applicable content area test for the subsequent endorsement sought;

3) have successfully completed a State Board-approved professional development sequence, equivalent to 18 semester hours of coursework in the area of the subsequent endorsement sought; and

4) are currently employed by a school district organized under Article 34 of the Code.

b) Under the pilot program, professional development sequences for up to seven hard-to-staff endorsement areas shall be submitted to the State Superintendent for approval on a format provided by the State Board and shall include the following components for each endorsement area sequence:

1) a description of the sequence and each of its components;

2) justification for selecting the particular endorsement content area for the pilot program, which must include district data and may include State data demonstrating that positions requiring this endorsement are difficult to staff;

3) *a comprehensive review of relevant State learning standards;*

4) alignment to *the applicable State content--test framework;*

5) if *applicable*, alignment to *relevant educator preparation standards* (see Section 34-18.82 of the Code);

6) a description of how the sequence's outcomes were determined to be comparable to the knowledge gained in 18 semester hours of coursework from a regionally accredited institution of higher education;

7) the assessment methods by which the participant will demonstrate successful completion of the sequence; and the criteria for and process through which the employer will determine successful completion of the sequence;

8) the mode of delivery;

10) projected timeline for participant completion of the sequence and each of its components;

11) a description of the data collection and analysis process the school district will complete during the pilot program to determine program; effectiveness;

12) cost of program to participants;

13) number of professional development hours toward license renewal that will be granted to program participants; and

14) a list of faculty or staff who will lead each component of the sequence and their qualifications.

c) The professional development sequences submitted under subsection (b) will be reviewed and either denied or approved by the State Superintendent in collaboration with the SEPLB. (See Section 34-18.82 of the Code.) Program participants must complete the required professional development sequence by June 30, 2028. Endorsements under this Section shall not be available for application on or after July 1, 2028.

d) Beginning August 1, 2025, and annually thereafter until August 1, 2028, program participants shall provide the State Board with a report detailing the following information:

1) names and Illinois Educator Identification Numbers of individuals who enrolled in the pilot program between July 1 and June 30 of the preceding year;

2) the date of enrollment in the professional development sequence for each participant, and if applicable, the date of completion of the sequence;

3) a record of which enrollees completed, withdrew, or are still in progress of completing the pilot program, which includes both the professional development sequence and passing the content area test required under Section 21B-30 of the Code; and

4) reasons for candidates' withdrawal from the program, if applicable.

e) By September 1, 2029, the State Board will publish a report that includes teacher retention rates of pilot program completers compared to overall district teacher retention rates and overall State teacher retention rates, and other criteria, to determine the pilot program's effectiveness:

(Source: Added at 48 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 25.43 Endorsements for Special Education Teachers

a) An endorsement in special education shall be available to individuals who:

1) meet the requirements of Section 25.25 and meet the requirements of subsection (b); or

2) hold a PEL endorsed in a teaching field and meet the requirements of subsection (e).

b) The applicable special education endorsement on a PEL shall be issued to an individual who completes an approved program and demonstrates attainment of the relevant standards by passing the test required pursuant to Section 25.720 applicable to endorsement as:

1) Learning Behavior Specialist I (LBS I) (23 Ill. Adm. Code 28.200);

2) Teacher of Students who are Blind or Visually Impaired (23 Ill. Adm. Code 28.210);

3) Teacher of Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing (23 Ill. Adm. Code 28.220); or

4) Early Childhood Special Education Teacher (23 Ill. Adm. Code 28.240).

c) A holder of an LBS I endorsement on the PEL shall not serve students in early childhood special education programs unless the holder has also acquired an early childhood special education approval pursuant to 23 Ill. Adm. Code 226.810~~(f) (Special Education Teaching Approval)~~. ~~-~~This requirement shall not apply to teachers of students who are blind or visually impaired or deaf or hard of hearing or to speech-language pathologists.

d) A subsequent endorsement (Learning Behavior Specialist II (LBS II)) shall be available to holders of the PEL endorsed for any of the endorsements set forth in subsections (b)(1) through (4). ~~-~~This shall be an optional credential issued to candidates who complete programs approved in accordance with Subpart C and who meet the standards applicable to one or more of the areas of specialization identified in 23 Ill. Adm. Code 28.310 through 28.370:

1) LBS II/Transition Specialist;

2) LBS II/Technology Specialist;

3) LBS II/Bilingual Special Education Specialist;

4) LBS II/Deaf-Blind Specialist;

5) LBS II/Behavior Intervention Specialist;

6) LBS II/Curriculum Adaptation Specialist; or

7) LBS II/Multiple Disabilities Specialist.

e) An individual who holds a valid PEL with an early childhood, elementary, middle grades, secondary, or special teaching endorsement, or a valid educator license with stipulations endorsed for transitional bilingual educator shall receive an LBS I endorsement to teach in special education if that individual has successfully

completed college-level coursework addressing each of the following areas and demonstrates attainment of the relevant standards by passing the test required pursuant to Section 25.720:

1) Survey of exceptional children;

2) Characteristics of special education students;

3) Methods of teaching special education; and

4) Psychological assessment for children with disabilities.

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 25.60 Alternative Educator Licensure Program for Teachers

This Section establishes requirements in addition to those set forth in Section 21B-50 of the Code for an institution of higher education or a not-for-profit entity recognized and approved to offer educator preparation programs under Subpart C to provide an alternative approach to obtaining a PEL.

a) General Requirements
Each alternative educator licensure program shall:

1) include a program of study that addresses the content enumerated in Section 21B-50(b)(1) of the Code. ~~-~~For purposes of this subsection (a)(1), instruction relative to special education, English learners, and reading shall meet the criteria set forth in Section 25.25(a)~~(1) and, for English learners, the criteria found in 23 Ill. Adm. Code 24 (Standards for All Illinois Educators)~~.

2) provide up to two years of residency pursuant to Section 21B-50(b)(2) ~~and (3)~~ of the Code during which the candidate is assigned to teach full time for at least one year~~two school years~~ as the teacher of record or a co-teacher.

A) During the first school year of the residency, the program shall assign a mentor teacher to each candidate.

i) The mentor shall:

- hold a PEL and be employed by the school district where the candidate is serving the residency;

- have three years of full-time teaching experience in the 10 years immediately preceding assignment as a mentor; and

- have achieved a performance evaluation rating of proficient or higher in the two most recent evaluations.

ii) In a preschool educational program that meets the criteria established in Section 2-3.71 of the Code, each candidate shall be assigned a mentor or qualified equivalent of a mentor.

B) During the second year of residency, if applicable, the program shall assign a teacher who meets the requirements of subsection (a)(2)(A) to serve as a coach for each candidate, providing consultation and support, as needed.

3) involve a partnership of the institution or not-for-profit entity offering the alternative educator program with a public school district or nonpublic school that meets the criteria set forth in Section 21B-50(d) of the Code or a preschool educational program that meets the criteria established in Section 2-3.71 of the Code. ~~-~~Candidates also may serve:

A) in the case of early childhood endorsements, in a position for which a PEL endorsed for early childhood is required pursuant to the rules of the State Board at 23 Ill. Adm. Code 235~~ (Early Childhood Block Grant)~~;

B) in a facility operated by a provider approved by the State Superintendent to contract with school districts for the provision of special education services pursuant to Section 14-7.02 of the Code and 23 Ill. Adm. Code 401~~ (Special Education Facilities Under Section 14-7.02 of the Code)~~; or

C) in a charter school.

4) At the conclusion of the first or second year of residency, administer a comprehensive assessment to gauge the candidate's teaching effectiveness. The assessment shall be conducted by the principal~~,~~ or, in a preschool educational program that meets the criteria established in Section 2-3.71 of the Code, a principal or qualified equivalent of the school to which the candidate is assigned, and the coordinator of the alternative educator program appointed by the institution or not-for-profit entity. *If there is disagreement about the candidate's teaching effectiveness at the end of the first year of residency, a second year of residency shall be required. If there is disagreement between the two evaluators at the end of the second year of residency, a third year of residency shall be completed under a professional development plan developed by the principal and preparation program.* ~~(~~(See Section 21B-50(b)(4) and (d) of the Code.)

b) Candidate Qualifications

~~1)~~ ~~In order to enroll in the program, each candidate shall pass the content-area test for which licensure is sought, as required by Section 21B-30 of the Code and Section 25.720 of this Part. (See Section 21B-50(c)(5) of the Code.)~~

1~~2~~) In order to participate in the first year of residency, the candidate shall:

A) apply for an ELS-APE~~educator license with stipulations endorsed for provisional alternative educator~~, which shall be issued upon the presentation of evidence of having met the requirements set forth in Section 21B-50(c) of the Code and payment of the fee required under Section 21B-40 of the Code; ~~and~~

B) complete the course of study required under subsection (a)(1); and~~.~~

C) pass the content area test for area in which licensure is sought, as required by Section 21B-30(d) of the Code and Section 25.720. Subsequent endorsements may be added to the ELS-APE at the time of issuance if the candidate has completed all required coursework and passed the content test for each subsequent endorsement, as required under Section 25.100.

2~~3~~) During the first year of residency~~In order to participate in the second year of residency~~, the candidate shall:

A) Completecomplete any additional coursework relative to the standards set forth in 23 Ill. Adm. Code 24 (Standards for All Illinois Educators) and the content-area standards for the teaching field of the endorsement, as required under Section 25.120;

B) Until August 4, 2023 (the effective date of Public Act 103-488), and beginning again on September 1, 2025, pass a teacher performance assessment; and no later than the end of the first semester of the second year of residency; and

C) Upon finishing the first year of residency, be recommended for either the professional educator license or a second year of residency in accordance with the program's process established pursuant to subsection (c)(6)(C).

3) If necessary, a candidate may complete any additional coursework relative to the standards set forth in 23 Ill. Adm. Code 24 and the content-area standards for the teaching field of the endorsement, as required under Section 25.120, during the second year of residency or after the first year of residency; however, the coursework must be complete prior to receiving licensure.

4) If necessary, a candidate may complete a third year of residency pursuant to Section 21B-50(b)(4) of the Code.

c) Proposal Requirements

1) Each proposal shall describe the role and responsibilities of the institution or not-for-profit entity and of the school district or nonpublic school with which the institution or entity will partner. The proposal also shall identify the program coordinator to be assigned by the institution or entity to oversee the candidates in the alternative program.

A) The proposal shall include a plan to ensure that the program coordinator visits the classroom in which each candidate is placed for an average of one day a week during the school year. Visits may occur in-person or virtually.

B) Any program coordinator assigned to the candidates under this subsection (c)(1) shall meet the requirement for training under subsection (c)(7).

2) Each proposal shall demonstrate how the program will evaluate the congruence of a candidate's baccalaureate education, the candidate's employment experience in a field requiring application of that education, and the teaching area for which the candidate seeks preparation and licensure.

3) For candidates who have not completed a major in the particular content area of the endorsement sought, as required under Section 21B-50(c) of the Code, the institution or not-for-profit entity shall describe the process and criteria it will use to determine whether the candidates' coursework and prior experience align to the standards for the content area of the endorsement. Coursework, or a combination of experience and coursework, must be equivalent to at least 9 semester hours in the endorsement areas for entry into the program, and at least 32 semester hours of credit in the areas required under Section 25.25(a)(2)(A) prior to entitlement for the PEL. At least 18 of the 32 hours must be in the specific endorsement area (e.g., biology or political science).

A) Any transcript evaluation the program conducts pursuant to this subsection (c)(3) shall be provided to the State Superintendent for approval no later than 45 days before the candidate is to be admitted into the program.

B) For candidates seeking an endorsement in early childhood, elementary, or special education, a *major in the content area of one of the sciences* (Section 21B-50(c)(3) of the Code) shall be understood to mean any of the biological, physical, or social sciences.

4) Each proposal shall provide an assurance that all candidates will be required to pass a teacher performance assessment no later than the end of the first semester of their second year of residency, if required by this Section or Section 21B-30 of the Code.

5) Each proposal shall describe the proposed course of study.

A) Each proposal shall demonstrate how candidates will acquire knowledge of content and skills equivalent to the content and skills contained in a preparation program approved pursuant to Subpart C with regard to:

i) *instructional planning*;

ii) *instructional strategies, including* those meeting the criteria for instruction relative to *special education, reading, and English language learning* set forth in Section 25.25(b);

iii) *classroom management*; and

iv) *the assessment of students and use of data to drive instruction*. (Section 21B-50(b)(1) of the Code)

B) Each proposal shall include provisions for determining the amount of time individual candidates will need in order to complete the proposed course of study, based upon factors, such as their experience and the type of program offered.

C) Each proposal shall describe the field experiences in which candidates will participate before beginning their first year of residency.

D) Each program shall include a preservice assessment of each candidate's performance, to be conducted by the institution or not-for-profit entity responsible for the program at the conclusion of the course of study in order to determine the candidate's readiness for the two-year teaching assignment. Each proposal shall state the criteria for the institution's or entity's determination of candidates' readiness.

6) Each proposal shall describe the proposed arrangements for candidates' teaching assignments under this Section and shall provide for these to be set forth in a formal, written agreement between the participating entity responsible for the program and the school districts, early childhood or nonpublic special education facility, or charter school where candidates will practice. Each agreement shall address:

A) the nature and intensity of the support to be provided to candidates by the mentor, as well as any experienced teachers and other staff members of the district, including:

i) the qualifications and experience of the mentor and any of the assisting teachers and staff;

ii) the estimated amount of time the mentor and any assisting teachers and staff will devote to advising and assisting candidates; and

iii) the specific roles of the mentor and any assisting teachers and staff;

B) provisions enabling candidates to compensate for teaching time lost due to emergencies; and

C) the process and criteria to be used by the principal, or qualified equivalent, of the school where the candidate is placed and the program coordinator to recommend the candidate for a professional educator license after one year of residency or ~~candidate's~~ placement in a second year of residency. ~~-~~(Section 21B-50(b)(2) of the Code)

7) Each proposal shall describe the proposed method of comprehensively assessing candidates' teaching performance at the conclusion of the first or second year of residency. This method shall, at a minimum, meet the requirements set forth in 23 Ill. Adm. Code 50.120 ~~(Professional Practice Components for Teachers)~~ and be conducted by an individual who has successfully completed the prequalification process and passed the required assessment authorized by Section 24A-3 of the Code. ~~-~~The assessment methods shall be set forth in a formal, written agreement between the participating entity responsible for the program and the school districts where candidates will practice. ~~-~~Each agreement shall describe:

A) the roles of the principal and program coordinator who will participate in the evaluation of candidates;

B) assessment methods capable of demonstrating whether a candidate is:

i) knowledgeable about specific subject matter and strategies for teaching that subject matter to students with differing needs; and

ii) skilled in managing and monitoring students' learning; ~~and~~

C) the professional development process to be used either for those candidates who receive a "needs improvement" rating at the conclusion of the assessment process or in instances when the principal and program coordinator cannot agree. This process shall address the candidate's weaknesses and deficiencies identified during the assessment and assist the candidate in making improvement during the third year of residency relative to those weaknesses and deficiencies. The option for professional development and a third year of residency shall not be afforded to any candidate who receives "unsatisfactory" ratings from both the principal and program coordinator or for anyone who receives an "unsatisfactory" rating from either the principal or program coordinator and a "needs improvement" rating from either the principal or program coordinator; and ~~.~~

D) *assurances from the partner school districts to provide intensive mentoring and supports through at least the end of the second full year of teaching* (through the first year of teaching on the professional educator license) *for educators who completed the Alternative Educators Licensure Program in less than two years.*

8) Each proposal shall delineate any criteria, in addition to a candidate's receiving a rating of "proficient" or higher at the conclusion of the comprehensive assessment required under subsection (c)(7), by which candidates will be recommended for the PEL endorsed in the content area and grade level of the candidate's residency practice by the participating entity responsible for the program.

9) Proposals shall be submitted electronically to the State Superintendent or designee.

d) Program Approval
Proposals for the establishment of alternative programs for teacher licensure meeting the specifications of this Section and Section 21B-50 of the Code shall be approved by the State Superintendent pursuant to the requirements set forth in Section 25.120. Programs shall be reviewed in consultation with SEPLB.

e) *Successful completion of the program shall be deemed to satisfy any other practice or student teaching and content matter requirements established by law*.

(Section 21B-50(b) of the Code) -A candidate successfully completing the program shall receive a PEL endorsed in the content area and grade levels of the residency practice upon application and payment of the fee required under Section 21B-40 of the Code.

f) Each alternative program established pursuant to this Section shall be subject to the review process and reporting requirements described in Subpart C.

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 25.90 Endorsement for Transitional Bilingual Educator

An individual holding an ELS-TBE can only serve students who are English learners in Transitional Bilingual Education settings. Requirements for the ELS-TBE~~educator license with stipulations endorsed for transitional bilingual educator~~, issued pursuant to Section 21B-20(2)(G) of the Code, shall be as follows:

a) Requirements of Prior Education or Certification or Licensure. The applicant shall:

1) have possessed, within five years prior to the date of application, a valid teaching certificate, license, or comparable legal authorization issued by a foreign country or by a state or possession or territory of the United States; or

2) hold a bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally accredited institution of higher education in the United States or *a degree from an institution of higher learning in a foreign country that SEPLB determines to be the equivalent of a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher learning in the United States* (Section 21B-20(2)(G) of the Code). The applicant must submit an official transcript from the U.S. institution or a certified transcript from the foreign institution. -The State Superintendent will determine equivalency by comparing the applicant's course of study to that required for a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher learning in the United States on factors including:

A) the applicant's length of study at the foreign institution (which shall be equivalent to four years of postsecondary study);

B) the number of credit hours or similar units of instruction that the

applicant has successfully completed (which shall be the equivalent of 120 semester hours);

C) the content of the applicant's courses and the distribution of courses among the various disciplines constituting a bachelor's degree program in the United States, which shall include the equivalent of a 32-semester-hour major field of study;

D) the applicant's grades or similar evidence of successful academic performance; and

E) the foreign institution's accreditation status, if any.

b) Language Requirements

1) The applicant must demonstrate adequate speaking, reading, and writing, including grammar, skills in a non-English language in which transitional bilingual education is offered in Illinois. This requirement may be fulfilled in one of the following ways:

A) The applicant presents evidence of having graduated from a teacher preparation institution or an institution of higher education in which the medium of instruction was in a non-English language in which transitional bilingual education is offered in Illinois and for which licensure is sought.

B) The applicant successfully completes the required test (see Section 25.710) in the non-English language in which transitional bilingual education is offered in Illinois and for which licensure is sought. If no test for transitional bilingual education in the target language is listed in Section 25.710, the required test shall be another test approved by the State Superintendent. The selection, development, and administration of each test not listed in Section 25.710 shall conform to the requirements of Section 25.715 to the extent feasible in light of the rate of incidence of the target language in Illinois.

C) The applicant holds an Illinois State Seal of Biliteracy or has obtained working fluency or higher on the Global Seal of Biliteracy in the language that coincides with the endorsement sought on the license.

2) The applicant must demonstrate adequate speaking, reading, and writing, including grammar skills, in English. This requirement may be fulfilled in one of the following ways:

A) The applicant presents evidence of having graduated from an institution of higher education in which the medium of instruction was English.

B) The applicant successfully completes the English Language Proficiency Test (see Section 25.710).

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 25.92 Endorsement for Visiting International Educator

The procedure and requirements described in this Section shall apply when Illinois school districts conduct formal recruitment programs outside the United States to secure the services of qualified teachers. ~~All teachers recruited for employment on a J-1 visa shall apply for and be evaluated for the ELS-VIT.~~

a) The school district that is seeking to recruit teachers shall enter into a written agreement with the State Board regarding its recruitment program, shall provide assurances as the State Board may require regarding compliance with applicable procedures, training of representatives, and support for candidates employed under the program. ~~-~~In accordance with Section 21B-20(2)(I) of the Code, the school district also shall be responsible for preliminary verification that each candidate:

1) *holds the equivalent of a minimum of a bachelor's degree issued in the United States*;

2) *has been prepared as a teacher at the grade level for which* the candidate *will be employed*;

3) *has adequate content knowledge in the subject matter to be taught; and*

4) *has an adequate command of the English language*.

b) A representative of the recruiting school district shall review the equivalence of each candidate's degree to a bachelor's degree earned in the United States, the

concentration of the candidate's coursework in the area of potential teaching assignment, and the grade levels for which the candidate has been prepared, using foreign credential evaluation reports provided by State Board-approved evaluation companies, pursuant to Section 25.425(c).

c) A representative of the recruiting school district who has been trained by the State Board or its designee in the use of the required instruments shall confirm evidence of each candidate's English proficiency in one of the following ways:

1) A candidate's degree from an institution of higher education in which the mode of instruction was English;

2) A candidate's major in the English language; or

3) Passing scores on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL iBT), the Cambridge English Assessment with Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR), or any other English language exam approved by the State Superintendent in consultation with the SEPLB.

d) The recruiting school district shall provide a report to the State Superintendent outlining the district's conclusions regarding each candidate whose eligibility it considers to have been verified. This report shall provide or summarize at least:

1) the information that has led the district to conclude that the individual's degree should be considered the equivalent of a bachelor's degree earned in the United States;

2) how the district has identified the grade levels for which the individual has been prepared;

3) the information that has led the district to conclude that the coursework completed by the individual is at least comparable to a major in the field of specialization and that the individual has passed a test that provides evidence of subject-matter competency; and

4) evidence of English language proficiency.

e) Either the recruiting district or the candidate shall furnish to one of the evaluation services identified in Section 25.425(d) the candidate's university transcript, the diploma reflecting the degree granted, and the results from the comprehensive

terminal examination or the periodic formal examinations required by the university where the candidate completed teacher preparation, as applicable, along with translations of all these materials into English. -Approved evaluation service providers shall submit official translated evaluation reports, inclusive of the criteria required in Section 25.425(c)(1), to the State Superintendent.

f) The recruiting school district shall affirm:

1) that the individual has been issued a DS-2019 form by the State Superintendent or designee or another program sponsor approved by the State Superintendent and the U.S. Department of State to sponsor J-1 teachers in Illinois~~J-1 visa by the U.S. Department of State in accordance with federal law~~;

2) that each potential candidate is of good character, as defined in Section 21B-15 of the Code; and

3) that the district will require the candidate to undergo State and federal background checks and employment history reviews, as specified in Section 10-21.9 or 34-18.5 and Section 22-94 of the Code, prior to employment in the district.

g) Upon receipt and verification of the information and documents identified in subsections (c), (d), and (f), confirmation of the individual's eligibility from the evaluation service to which credentials were submitted under subsection (e), and an application for the educator license with stipulations endorsed for visiting international educator from the individual, accompanied by the fee required by Section 21B-40 of the Code, the State Board shall issue an educator license with stipulations endorsed for visiting international educator in the content-area, grade levels, bilingual language, and foreign language the individual is qualified to teach. -The individual shall not be required to pass any test that forms part of the Illinois Licensure Testing System (see Subpart I) in order to qualify for this license. -An individual with an educator license with stipulations endorsed for visiting international educator may teach that individual's native language without formal preparation as a teacher of that language, provided that it was the language of instruction in the program completed.

h) The educator license with stipulations endorsed for visiting international educator shall be valid until June 30 immediately following five years after the endorsement being issued and shall not be renewable. -The licensee shall pay the

fee required by Section 21B-40 of the Code to register the license with the regional superintendent in the region where the teaching will be done.

i) A holder of an educator license with stipulations endorsed for visiting international educator shall be permitted to teach in bilingual education programs in the language that was the medium of instruction in the holder's teacher preparation program.

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 25.96 Endorsement for Early Childhood Education (Birth through Grade 2)

The requirements set forth in this Section apply to the receipt of an ECE endorsement (valid for teaching self-contained general education) issued for birth to grade 2.

a) The endorsement for ECE shall be affixed to the PEL.

b) Each candidate for a PEL endorsed in ECE shall complete the requirements set forth in Section 25.25.

c) Each candidate enrolled in an Illinois approved program shall complete field experiences, as defined in Section 25.610, in addition to one student teaching experience, as required under Section 25.620, that together include opportunities to work in at least two of the three early childhood age groupings of birth through age 3, age 3 through 5 years, and age 5 through 8 years. -The student teaching experience may satisfy work in one of the three early childhood age groupings and at least one field experience must be completed in one of the two remaining areas.

d) An individual who holds a valid PEL with an elementary education, middle grades, secondary, or special teaching endorsement shall receive an ECE endorsement if the individual has successfully completed 18 semester hours of college-level coursework addressing each of the following areas specific to or inclusive of ECE and by passing the test required by Section 25.720. -Additional coursework addressing topics in subsection (d)(2) or (d)(3) shall be taken if needed to total 18 semester hours.

1) Child growth and development.

2) Planning and assessment.

3) Methods and content pedagogy.

4) Literacy methods.

5) Collaborative relationships with family or communities.

e) Any candidate completing an ECE program that meets the requirements of 23 Ill. Adm. Code 26.110(d) is eligible for a Gateways ECE Level 5 credential for two years after completing the program and may apply for the credential by using the process set forth at https://www.ilgateways.com/credentials ~~http://www.ilgateways.com/en/ credentials~~. Candidates are not required to obtain the Gateways ECE Level 5 credential to receive the ECE endorsement under this Section.

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 25.100 Teaching Endorsements on the Professional Educator License

Appendix E provides a list of the available endorsements and shows for each endorsement the related endorsements that were issued before July 1, 2013. Any semester hours of credit presented toward fulfillment of the requirements of this Section shall be posted on the candidate's official transcript and may be taken in on-line or electronically-mediated courses, provided that college credit is provided for the coursework by a regionally accredited institution of higher education. All professional education and content-area coursework that forms part of an application for licensure, endorsement, or approval must have been passed with a grade no lower than "C-" or equivalent and be posted on the individual's official transcript in order to be counted towards fulfillment of the applicable requirements. If the Governor declares a disaster due to a public health emergency under Section 7 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, Illinois educator preparation providers shall be exempt from the "C-" or higher provision when entitling candidates for licensure if the candidates are already enrolled in an educator preparation course.

a) Secondary Education Science and Social Science Endorsements

1) Content-specific endorsements (e.g., science − biology, social science − economics) shall be required in conjunction with some endorsements, as shown in Appendix E. Except in the case of world language, a licensee shall be authorized to teach all the subjects encompassed by a particular endorsement, regardless of the content-specific endorsement or endorsements received in conjunction with that endorsement. However, a licensee may not teach honors courses, as defined by the employing

district, or Advanced Placement courses in a subject for which the licensee does not hold the content-specific endorsement. For example, a secondary science teacher with a content-specific endorsement for science − biology may not teach honors physics or chemistry unless that teacher holds a content-specific endorsement in science − physics or science − chemistry.

2) At least 12 semester hours must be in the specific science or social science area sought (e.g. biology or political science), and 6 semester hours must be taken in at least one other science or social science area (as applicable to the endorsement sought.) Applicants for a science endorsement must complete coursework in both the biological sciences (biology, ecology/environmental science) and physical sciences (chemistry, earth & space science, physics.)

b) Science and Social Science Endorsements Issued Prior to July 1, 2004. The provisions of subsection (a) do not apply to endorsements in a particular content area available prior to July 1, 2004 that were not exchanged for the endorsement currently available. Individuals holding these endorsements shall teach only the specific content encompassed by the endorsement issued. For instance, an individual who holds an endorsement in biology (rather than "sciences" with a content-area endorsement in science − biology) shall teach only biology and no other science content. An individual who wishes to teach other subjects in the same field or grade levels shall be required to apply for the relevant new endorsement in keeping with Section 21B-40 of the Code and meet the applicable requirements of this Section.

c) Endorsements at Time of Issuance of the Professional Educator License

1) Pursuant to Section 21B-25 of the Code, each PEL *shall be specifically endorsed by the State Board of Education for each content area* and grade-level range *for which the holder of the license is qualified* to teach and for which application has been made.

2) The PEL issued shall be endorsed in keeping with the program completed and the related content-area test passed by the candidate and for any other subject in which the individual:

A) meets the requirements of subsection (d), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j) or (k); or

B) has accumulated 18 semester hours of college credit demonstrably related to the subject area, either as a subset of an approved program at an Illinois institution or from one or more regionally accredited institutions of higher education and has passed the applicable content-area test.

d) Endorsements with No Tests

Certain endorsements or content-specific endorsements listed in Appendix E have no corresponding content-area test (see Section 25.710). The provisions of this subsection (d) shall apply to the issuance of these endorsements and content-specific endorsements.

1) For an applicant who is receiving an Illinois PEL endorsed for a teaching field, the institution that offered the approved program completed by the applicant shall indicate that the applicant has met the standards applicable to the endorsement or the particular content-specific endorsement, except that the requirements of subsection (h) shall apply to the issuance of endorsements in safety and driver education.

2) An applicant prepared out of state, or an applicant who is already licensed in Illinois and is seeking to add a new endorsement or a content-specific endorsement in one of these subjects, other than an endorsement in safety and driver education, shall present evidence of completion of 18 semester hours of coursework (subject to further limitations as set forth in this Section) in the area covered by the endorsement or content-specific endorsement sought.

3) An applicant prepared out of state or an applicant who is already licensed in Illinois and is seeking to add a new endorsement in safety and driver education shall be subject to the requirements set forth in subsection (h).

e) Addition of Endorsements to Currently Held PELs
An individual who holds a valid PEL shall apply for additional endorsements using the ELIS and pay the fee required under Section 21B-40 of the Code.

1) When an applicant qualifies for an endorsement, its issuance shall be reflected on ELIS.

2) Subject of Endorsement

A) An endorsement will be issued for any subject in which the individual:

i) holds a valid PEL with an early childhood, elementary, middle grades, secondary, or special teaching endorsement and meets the requirements of subsection (d), (f), (g), (h), (i), (k), or (l); or

ii) for other content areas not referenced in subsection (e)(2)(A)(i), holds a valid PEL with an early childhood, elementary, middle grades, secondary, or special teaching endorsement and:

- has accumulated 18 semester hours of college credit demonstrably related to the subject area, from one or more regionally accredited institutions of higher education; and

- has passed the applicable content-area test.

B) Individuals who hold one senior high science or social science endorsement may add additional senior high endorsements in the same subject (i.e., science or social science) by completing 12 semester hours of content specific coursework or by passing the applicable content-area test.

C) An individual who holds a PEL endorsed for an area outside of teaching shall receive any of the teaching endorsements identified in this Part by:

i) passing the tests required by Section 25.720;

ii) completing a State-approved program in the subject area sought or a comparable program, as defined in Section 25.425(a), offered out of state;

iii) completing a student teaching experience that meets the requirements of Section 25.620; and

iv) completing applicable subject area requirements outlined in this Section.

f) Requirements for Reading Teacher and Reading Specialist Endorsements
Special provisions shall apply to the issuance of endorsements for reading teachers and reading specialists. A reading teacher is a teacher whose assignment involves teaching reading to students. A reading specialist is a teacher whose assignment involves the provision of technical assistance or professional development to other teachers and may also include teaching reading to students.

1) Reading Teacher
This endorsement shall not be issued alone as an individual's first teaching credential. An individual who holds an Illinois PEL and who receives an endorsement for some teaching field other than reading shall be eligible to receive this additional endorsement on that license when the individual presents evidence of:

A) having passed the applicable content-area test (i.e., reading teacher or reading specialist) required by Section 25.720; and

B) having completed 18 semester hours of graduate or undergraduate coursework in reading (as posted on the individual's official transcript), including a practicum, at one or more regionally accredited institutions of higher education, provided that all the following areas were addressed:

i) foundations of reading;

ii) content-area reading;

iii) assessment and diagnosis of reading problems;

iv) developmental and remedial reading instruction, support, materials, and resources; and

v) literature appropriate to students across all grade ranges.

2) Reading Specialist

A) Each candidate for the reading specialist endorsement shall present evidence of two years of teaching experience either on an educator license in an Illinois school or on a comparable out-of-state certificate or license valid for teaching at any of the grade levels of

early childhood, elementary, middle, secondary, or special K-12. Each candidate shall be eligible to receive the reading specialist endorsement on the PEL when that candidate presents evidence of having completed the teaching experience required under this subsection (f)(2)(A).

B) Each candidate shall hold a master's degree or higher awarded by a regionally accredited institution of higher education.

C) Each candidate shall have completed a K-12 reading specialist preparation program approved pursuant to Subpart C, or a comparable program, as defined in Section 25.425(a), offered out of state, that includes clinical experiences with five or more students at both the elementary (i.e., kindergarten through grade 8) and secondary levels and leads to the issuance of a master's or higher degree, provided that a person who holds one master's degree shall not be required to obtain a second one. For purposes of the clinical experiences, a candidate shall work with at least one student enrolled in elementary grades and at least one student enrolled in secondary grades and may work with students one on one or in a group. Each candidate shall have been recommended for the endorsement by the institution offering the program.

D) Each candidate for a PEL endorsed for reading specialist shall meet the requirements set forth in Section 25.25.

g) Requirements for Early Childhood, Elementary, Middle Grades, and Bilingual Education Endorsements

1) The requirements of Section 25.97, rather than the requirements of this Section, shall apply to credentials and assignments in the elementary grades.

2) The requirements of Section 25.99, rather than the requirements of this Section, shall apply to credentials and assignments in the middle grades, except that Section 25.99 shall be read in conjunction with this Section with respect to reading teacher, reading specialist, gifted education teacher, gifted education specialist, and library information specialist assignments in the middle grades.

3) The requirements of 23 Ill. Adm. Code 1.780, 1.781, and 1.782, rather than the requirements of this Section, shall apply to credentials and assignments in the areas of bilingual education and English as a Second Language.

4) The requirements of Section 25.96, rather than the requirements of this Section, shall apply to credentials and assignments in ECE.

h) Requirements for Safety and Driver Educator Endorsements
An endorsement in safety and driver education shall be issued when the applicant provides evidence of having completed 18 semester hours of college credit in the field, distributed as follows:

1) 3 semester hours in injury prevention or general safety;

2) 9 semester hours in driver education that include:

A) driving task analysis (introduction to driver education);

B) teaching driver education in the classroom;

C) teaching the laboratory portion of the driver education course, including on-street teaching under the supervision of a qualified driver education teacher, advanced driver education, and emergency evasive driving maneuvers; and

3) 6 semester hours chosen from at least two of the following areas:

A) first aid;

B) psychology of adolescents or young adults;

C) any safety-related issue relevant to driver education;

D) advanced driver education in the use of simulation and multiple car programs;

E) health and wellness;

F) care and prevention of injuries;

G) issues related to alcohol or drug abuse; or

H) driver education for students with disabilities.

i) Requirements for Gifted Education and Gifted Education Specialist Endorsements Special provisions shall apply to the issuance of endorsements for gifted education teachers and gifted education specialists. A gifted education teacher is a teacher whose assignment involves teaching gifted students. A gifted education specialist is a teacher whose assignment involves the provision of technical assistance or professional development to other teachers and may also include teaching gifted students.

1) Gifted Education Teacher
This endorsement shall not be issued alone as an individual's first teaching credential. An individual who holds an Illinois PEL endorsed at any of the grade levels of early childhood, elementary, middle, or secondary, or for special teaching, shall be eligible to receive this additional endorsement on that license when that individual presents evidence of:

A) having passed the applicable content-area test required by Section 25.720; and

B) having completed 18 semester hours of undergraduate or graduate coursework in gifted education (as posted on the individual's official transcript), including a practicum, at one or more regionally accredited institutions of higher education, provided that all the following areas were addressed:

i) characteristics of the field of gifted education as it pertains to gifted children, including their cognitive, creative, and affective development;

ii) 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

iii) 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.

2) Gifted Education Specialist
Each candidate for the gifted education specialist endorsement shall hold a PEL endorsed at any of the grade levels of early childhood, elementary, middle, or secondary, or for special, and have at least two years of teaching experience on that license, or on a comparable out-of-state certificate or license, involving the education of gifted students.

A) Each candidate shall hold a master's degree or higher degree awarded by a regionally accredited institution of higher education.

B) Each candidate shall have completed a gifted education specialist preparation program for PK-12 approved pursuant to Subpart C, or a comparable program, as defined in Section 25.425(a), offered out of state, that aligns to the standards set forth at 23 Ill. Adm. Code 27.480 (Gifted Education Specialist). The program shall include clinical experiences with five or more students in both prekindergarten through grade 8 and grades 9 through 12 and lead to the issuance of a master's or higher degree, provided that a person who holds one master's degree shall not be required to obtain a second one. For purposes of the clinical experiences, a candidate shall work with at least one student enrolled in prekindergarten through grade 8 and at least one student enrolled in grades 9 through 12 and may work with a student one on one or in a group. The clinical experience shall also include coaching or mentoring one or more teachers on the topic of gifted education. Each candidate shall have been entitled for the endorsement by the institution offering the program.

C) Each candidate shall be required to pass the content-area test for gifted education specialist.

D) An individual who qualifies for the gifted education specialist endorsement may receive the endorsement on a PEL for assignment in any of grades PK-12.

j) Requirements for Dual Credit Endorsements
A dual credit endorsement, as described in Section 20 of the Dual Credit Quality Act [110 ILCS 27], shall be added to the PEL of qualified instructors who request the endorsement in ELIS and submit evidence of qualification in a format specified by the State Board.

1) Qualified instructors must hold a qualifying master's degree and have completed 18 semester hours of graduate coursework appropriate to the subject being taught, as defined in 23 Ill. Adm. Code 1009.30(a)(2)(A)(i) and 1501.313(a)(2)(A).

2) Endorsements are valid for teaching dual credit courses in grades 11 and 12.

3) Dual credit endorsements are available in the following content areas:

A) Biology.

B) Calculus.

C) English Compositions.

D) English Literature.

E) General Math.

F) History.

G) Psychology.

H) Speech.

I) Statistics.

4) Dual credit endorsements are not required to provide instruction for dual-credit courses.

k) Requirements for Elementary Mathematics Specialist Endorsements
Special provisions shall apply to the issuance of endorsements for elementary mathematics specialists. An elementary mathematics specialist is a teacher whose assignment involves the provision of technical assistance or professional development to other teachers, supporting the improvement of mathematics teaching and learning, and may also include teaching mathematics to students in grades 1 through 6.

1) Each candidate for the elementary mathematics specialist endorsement shall present evidence of two years of teaching experience, either on an educator license issued by the State Board of Education or on a comparable out-of-state certificate or license valid for teaching at any of the grade levels of early childhood, elementary, middle, secondary, or special K-12.

2) Each candidate shall hold a master's degree or higher awarded by a regionally accredited institution of higher education.

3) Each candidate shall have completed a grade 1-6 elementary mathematics specialist preparation program approved pursuant to Subpart C, or a comparable program, as defined in Section 25.425(a), offered out of state.

4) Each candidate for a PEL endorsed for elementary mathematics specialist shall meet the requirements set forth in Section 25.25.

5) As part of an elementary mathematics specialist program, each candidate must complete 18 semester hours of coursework in mathematics (as posted on the individual's official transcript), including fieldwork and a practicum, at one or more regionally accredited institutions of higher education, provided that all the following areas were addressed in the coursework:

   A) mathematical content knowledge;

   B) mathematical practices;

   C) development of mathematical understanding in elementary education;

   D) elementary mathematics pedagogy and assessment; and

   E) leadership and adult learning.

6) Each candidate shall be required to pass the content-area test for elementary mathematics specialist.

l) World Language Endorsements

1) Individuals who hold one world language endorsement may add additional world language endorsements by passing the applicable content-area test, holding the Illinois State Seal of Biliteracy that coincides with the endorsement sought, or by achieving working fluency or higher on the Global Seal of Biliteracy that coincides with the endorsement sought.

2) Individuals who hold a bilingual education endorsement may add a world language endorsement in the same language by passing the applicable content-area test, by holding the Illinois State Seal of Biliteracy in the target language, or by achieving working fluency or higher on the Global Seal of Biliteracy in the target language.

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

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

Section 25.115 Educator Preparation Providers

In order for an institution to offer one or more programs that prepare professional educators, that institution (educator preparation provider (EPP)) must be recognized by the State Superintendent in consultation with SEPLB. Each program that is offered by a recognized institution must also be individually approved by the State Superintendent in consultation with SEPLB. Electronic transmission of written materials pursuant to this Subpart C is required.

a) In order to be considered for recognition, a degree-granting institution of higher education shall:

1) be regionally accredited;

2) be approved by the Illinois Board of Higher Education to operate as a postsecondary degree-granting institution under the provisions of the ~~Private College Act [110 ILCS 1005] and the~~ Academic Degree Act [110 ILCS 1010] or, if the out-of-state institution is not required to seek authorization to operate from the Illinois Board of Higher Education, be approved to offer educator preparation programs by the state that granted it operating authority; and

3) sponsor a course of study leading to a license issued under Article 21B of the Code and this Part.

b) In order to be considered for recognition, an eligible not-for-profit EPP shall conduct or propose to conduct at least one approved program that will prepare professional educators and leads to a license issued pursuant to Article 21B of the Code and this Part, and the not-for-profit EPP shall meet the definition of "institution" set forth in Section 25.110.

c) In the case of a not-for-profit entity, all advertising materials, candidate handbooks, catalogues, and candidate contracts shall display prominently the fact that the entity does not offer higher education credit and that there is no guarantee that the Illinois license or any endorsement affixed to that license earned by the candidate will be honored or accepted for exchange in another state.

d) The procedures set forth in this subsection ~~(d)~~ shall apply to initial recognition of an institution and the concurrent recognition of the EPP. The initial approval of the educator preparation programs within that institution shall follow the procedures set forth in Section 25.120.

1) An institution shall notify the State Board of its desire to initiate the initial recognition process by submitting a letter of intent to the State Superintendent. ~~-~~Within 30 days after receipt of the notification, the State Superintendent shall respond to the institution, identifying the staff member who will be responsible for assisting the institution and inviting the institution to submit an institutional report to that individual.

2) The institution shall submit an institutional report to the State Superintendent, in the quantity and format specified by the State Superintendent, that includes:

A) evidence indicating that the institution meets the conditions described in subsection (a) or (b);

B) a written description that addresses each of the components set forth in this subsection (d)(2)(B):

i) identification of the EPP; its mission, purposes, or goals; its authority and responsibilities for professional education; and its coordination of the institution's various educator preparation programs;

ii) identification of the dean, chair, or director who is officially designated to represent the EPP and is assigned

the authority and responsibility for its overall administration and operation;

iii) evidence of the institution's commitment and resources for the proposed program, to include the EPP's operational budget, and evidence that the institution's president or provost supports the educator programs being proposed;

iv) a chart of the administrative and organizational structure of the EPP;

v) the written policies and procedures that guide the operations of the EPP;

vi) the EPP's policies for monitoring and evaluating its operations, the quality of its offerings, performance of candidates, and effectiveness of its graduates; and

vii) the EPP's published criteria for admission to and exit from all preparation programs for professional educators, and process for development and submission of summary reports of candidate performance at the time they exit the program.

3) State Board staff shall review the institutional report and, within 60 days, either:

A) find the institutional report to be adequate and invite the institution to submit a proposal that meets the requirements of Section 25.120 for each of the programs the institution wishes to implement; or

B) find the institutional report not to be adequate, at which time no further review of the institution shall occur unless the institution submits a revised institutional report addressing the deficiencies identified.

4) The State Superintendent may authorize the scheduling of an on-site review visit to the institution at the mutual convenience of the affected institution and State Board staff when the program proposal required under Section 25.120 is submitted and found adequate. If the program proposal is found not to be adequate, a site visit may be scheduled to

determine if the deficiencies identified are such that it is unlikely the institution will be recognized.

A) For visits conducted in Illinois, the institution will be required to provide housing (including a work room) for the personnel conducting the review visit; or

B) For visits conducted out of state, the institution will be required to provide housing (including a work room), transportation, and meals for the personnel conducting the review visit.

e) From a pool of individuals (i.e., State Board staff and, if applicable, others external to the agency) who have been trained in the applicable standards and procedures, rules, and statutes, the State Superintendent shall empanel a team to conduct the review to verify the information provided by the institution as required by subsection (d)(2). If the team members are not employees of the State Board, a staff member of the State Board or designee (individual who State Board staff requests to serve as a reviewer who is trained to perform duties that could constitute a conflict of interest for State Board staff) shall accompany the team to ensure that applicable standards, procedures, rules, and statutes are addressed.

f) The team may gather necessary information via an in-person visit or via virtual means. The review team shall prepare a draft report within 30 business days after the conclusion of the review, and the institution shall have 30 business days to correct any factual errors. The team shall review the institution's suggested revisions and make appropriate changes. The review team shall provide the final report to the State Superintendent within 30 business days after receipt of the institution's factual corrections. The State Superintendent shall provide the final report to the institution within 10 business days after receiving it.

g) Within 30 business 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, if not in agreement, a rebuttal to those findings.

1) The rebuttal must indicate the grounds for disagreement with one or more of the review team's findings and include documentation to support the institution's position.

2) All documentation must describe conditions that existed at the time of the review visit. (Changes made by the EPP after the review will not be considered.)

3) All documentation must relate directly to the standards, rules and procedures that applied at the time of the review.

h) No later than 30 days after receipt of the rebuttal, the review team shall submit to the State Superintendent a response to the institution's rebuttal. The State Superintendent shall provide to the institution the response to the rebuttal no later than 10 business days after receiving it. Staff of the State Board shall convey to SEPLB a recommendation, accompanied by the review team's final site visit report; the institution's letter of agreement or rebuttal; a response to that rebuttal provided by the review team; and any other relevant documentation that was available to the staff.

i) SEPLB, after reviewing all the relevant materials, shall convey its recommendation to the State Superintendent that the State Superintendent take one of the following actions:

1) Recognize the institution and EPP; or

2) Deny recognition of the institution and EPP.

j) Actions following upon the recommendation of SEPLB to the State Superintendent shall be as described in Section 25.160.

k) After recognition of an institution and EPP, SEPLB shall review one or more proposed educator preparation programs as described in Section 25.120.

l) A recognized EPP shall obtain approval of at least one educator preparation program within three years after the date it gained initial recognition. EPPs that do not obtain approval of at least one educator preparation program shall no longer be considered recognized and must reapply for recognition.

m) As a final step prior to receiving recognition, an EPP must participate in an SBE-conducted training to orient it to policies, rules and procedures for licensure and entitlement in Illinois. All recognized EPPs shall enter each candidate for licensure into ELIS upon entry into the preparation program. Candidates shall be placed in a pre-completion status until recommended for licensure.

n) If all of an EPP's educator preparation programs are discontinued, the EPP shall no longer be considered recognized and must reapply for recognition.

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 25.127 Requirements for Annual Reporting, Program Reauthorization, and Entitlement Audits

a) Annual Program Reporting
Each EPP shall submit to the State Board the data and information set forth in this subsection (a) annually. The data and information shall be used by the State Board as part of its review of an EPP and its programs for State reauthorization.

1) No later than April 30 annually, each State-reauthorized EPP shall submit data and other information relative to the domain and indicators of the EPP Continuous Improvement and Accountability System listed in subsections (a)(1)(A) through (E) for the prior reporting year (i.e., September 1 through August 31).

A) Candidate Selection and Completion

i) Academic Strength − Candidate and completer grade point average (GPA)

ii) Candidate and Completer Diversity and Demographics − Proportion of diverse candidates and completers

iii) Teaching Promise − Candidate score on disposition assessment (assessment is to be determined and data not yet collected)

B) Knowledge and Skills for Teaching

i) Mastery of Teaching Subjects − Candidate performance on Illinois Content Area Tests described in Section 25.720

ii) General Teaching Skill − If applicable, candidate~~Candidate~~ performance on Teacher Performance Assessment described in Section 25.720

iii) Preparedness − Completer, Novice Teacher, and Supervisor perception of preparation for role as an educator

C) Performance as Classroom Teachers

Demonstrated Teaching Skill − Aggregate data on completer effectiveness from the performance evaluations conducted under Article 24A of the Code

D) Contribution to State Needs

i) Completers in High Needs Subjects − Completers who received an initial license in State identified high needs subjects

ii) Placement − Completers who received an initial license who are employed in an Illinois public school

iii) Persistence − Completers who persist in being employed in an Illinois public school

E) Other domains and indicators as deemed necessary by the State Board

2) Each institution shall make program completers' pass rates on tests required for receipt of professional educator licensure pursuant to this Part and other information required by Title II of the Higher Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1027) readily available to the public on an annual basis and shall include it in or with publications routinely sent to potential applicants, school counselors, and prospective employers of the institution's program completers.

3) Each EPP shall include in its annual report to the State Board its policy on Teacher Performance Assessment plagiarism and cheating, including the EPP's options for disciplinary action.

4) State Board staff may visit a recognized institution at any time, with one day's advance notice, and may ask to speak with faculty, candidates, or administrators. All records shall be made available to State Board staff upon request.

b) The State Board shall annually notify programs of ratings received in the Continuous Improvement Accountability System and of the status of their reauthorization. Programs shall receive an overall rating of Exemplary (Reauthorized with Distinction), Commendable (Reauthorized), Developing (Conditional Reauthorization), and Needs Improvement (Probationary

Reauthorization). Programs that receive an overall rating lower than commendable shall submit action plans to be reviewed by State Board staff and SEPLB for feedback.

c) Changes to Approved Programs

1) Using a format identified by the State Superintendent, an EPP may request changes to one or more currently approved programs by submitting documentation of the proposed changes no later than 60 days prior to the date the changes will take effect.

2) State Board staff shall review the proposed changes and, within 30 days, approve or deny the changes.

d) Audit of Licensure Entitlements

1) Pursuant to Section 21B-25 of the Code, the State Board shall conduct audits of recognized institution licensure entitlements.

2) An audit of each institution shall be conducted at least once every five years in accordance with Section 21B-25 of the Code. Data and information from the audits shall be used to determine if the EPP has met the requirements of Section 21B-100 of the Code and this Subpart.

A) Institutions undergoing an entitlement audit must submit requested documentation to the State Board staff within six weeks after the request is made.

B) State Board~~board~~ staff must review evidence submitted by the institution and, no later 60 days after receipt of the report, must either:

i) Find the evidence submitted to be adequate and notify the institution that no further action is required; or

ii) Find the evidence submitted to be inadequate and submit to the institution a report of initial inadequacies.

C) No later than 30 days after receipt of the report, institutions with initial inadequacies shall supply State Board staff with additional evidence addressing the deficiencies identified in the report.

D) State Board staff must review the additional evidence submitted by the institution and, no later than 30 days after receipt of the submittal, must either:

i) Find the evidence submitted to be adequate and notify the institution that no further action is required; or

ii) Find the evidence submitted to be inadequate.

E) In the event that a determination is made that the requirements set forth in Section 21B-100 of the Code or this Part have not been met, the provisions of Section 25.130 shall apply.

F) State Board staff may visit a recognized institution at any time with one day's advance notice and may ask to speak with licensure officers, candidates, or administrators if they find a deficiency or any other problem during the audit that needs to be addressed. All records shall be made available to State Board staff upon request.

G) Institutions identified as in violation of Section 21B-100 of the Code must submit a remediation plan no later than June 30 of the audit year.

i) The plan shall include remedies identified by State Board staff and SEPLB, as well as internal procedures for improvement;

ii) The plan shall include a timeline for implementation; and

iii) The plan and timeline shall be approved by State Board staff prior to implementation.

H) When subsection (d)(2)(D)(ii) is applicable, an institution shall not enter any additional entitlements until evidence that remedies issues identified by State Board staff have been implemented.

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 25.165 Discontinuation of Programs

a) An EPP that intends to discontinue an approved program or cease offering preparation programs altogether shall so notify the State Superintendent no later than 30 days prior to taking that action, except that voluntary discontinuation of a program shall also be subject to the following additional requirements:

1) The institution shall assure the State Superintendent that all candidates currently enrolled in any program scheduled for discontinuation will have an opportunity to complete the program by providing a detailed teach-out plan in a format identified by the State Board.

2) The institution shall supply to the State Superintendent the names and Illinois Educator Identification Numbers (IEINs) of all candidates currently enrolled in any program scheduled for discontinuation.

b) When a program is revoked, the State Board may require the continued operation of the affected programs for three additional academic years to permit currently enrolled candidates either to complete the program or to seek enrollment in another institution for that purpose. ~~-~~However, if the State Board determines in consultation with SEPLB that the program is unable to offer candidates learning opportunities that contribute to their competence as professional educators, the Board shall require that the program cease operating at the end of the then-current semester. ~~-~~The institution shall supply to the State Superintendent the names, anticipated dates of completion, and IEINs of all candidates currently enrolled in any program whose approval is revoked. A recognized EPP that has had the reauthorization of one or more of its programs revoked may seek re-approval of the programs after three years by completing the process outlined in Section 25.120.

~~c)~~ ~~A program in which no candidates have been enrolled for a consecutive three-year period shall be considered to have been discontinued by the State Board. An institution desiring to resume offering the program shall be required to comply with the requirements for initial approval stated in Section 25.120.~~

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

SUBPART D: SCHOOL SUPPORT PERSONNEL

Section 25.225 Endorsement for School Counselors

a) The school counselor endorsement shall be affixed to a PEL.

b) Each individual seeking a PEL endorsed for school counselor shall complete the requirements set forth in Section 25.25.

c) Each individual seeking the school support personnel endorsement for school counselor shall hold a master's or higher degree awarded by a regionally accredited institution of higher education in school counseling or a related field.

d) Each individual shall:

1) complete an Illinois program approved for the preparation of school counselors pursuant to Subpart C or a comparable approved program in another state or country (including an internship); or

2) hold a comparable certificate or license issued by another state or country (see Section 25.425).

e) If completing an Illinois approved program, each individual must complete a supervised counseling practicum of at least 100 clock hours that provided interaction with individuals and groups of school age and included at least 40 hours of direct service work. Each individual must also complete a structured and supervised internship that is part of an approved program.

1) The internship shall be of a length that is determined by the approved program to be adequate to enable candidates to meet the standards set forth at 23 Ill. Adm. Code 23.110 but shall entail at least 600 hours and last no less than one semester, during which the candidate shall engage in the performance of various aspects of the counseling role and shall be gradually introduced to the full range of responsibilities associated with that role. However, the internship for an individual with at least two years of teaching experience may, at the discretion of the institution offering the approved program, consist of no fewer than 400 hours. In each case, at least 240 hours of the internship shall involve direct service work with individuals and groups of school age.

2) The internship shall occur in a school setting except that, at the discretion of the institution, a maximum of one-third of the hours required may be credited for experiences in other related settings such as hospitals or day care settings that, in the judgment of the institution, expose the candidate to the needs of school-aged children and prepare the candidate to function as a school counselor.

3) As part of an approved program, each individual shall complete coursework addressing:

A) the structure, organization and operation of the educational system, with emphasis on PK-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; and

D) effective management of the classroom and the learning process.

f) The following experience shall be honored in lieu of an internship:

1) one year of professional experience as a school counselor on a valid, comparable out-of-state certificate or license that allows the holder to work as a school counselor in that state's public schools; or

2) one year of full-time experience working as a school counselor on a short-term approval and a proficient or higher evaluation rating.

g) Each candidate shall be required to pass the applicable content-area test (see Section 25.710) subject to the provisions of Section 25.720.

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

SUBPART F: GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 25.411 Voluntary Removal of Endorsements and Approvals

This Section sets forth the conditions upon which a licensee may voluntarily remove one or more endorsements issued on a professional educator license or an educator license with stipulations or one or more approvals.

a) A licensee may request the removal of an endorsement or approval only between January 1 and May 1 of each calendar year, with the endorsement or approval being removed by no later than July 1 of the same calendar year.

b) A licensee shall not request removal of any endorsement from a professional educator license or an educator license with stipulations or removal of any approval if the licenseehe or she is subject to an ongoing investigation conducted by the State Board of Education or there is other evidence or allegations of misconduct.

c) Any licensee not subject to the provisions set forth in subsection (b) of this Section shall provide written notification to the State Board of Education, using a form provided for this purpose, of the licensee'shis or her intent to remove one or more endorsements or approvals. The notification shall include the licensee's full name as recorded in ELIS, the licensee'shis or her license number, and the name of each credential to be removed. The notice shall be submitted to:

Chief Legal OfficerGeneral Counsel
Illinois State Board of Education
555 W. Monroe Street, Suite 900100 W. Randolph Street, CH14-300
Chicago, Illinois 60661 60601

d) Confirmation noting the date that the endorsement or approval was removed from the license shall be sent to the individual within 30 days after receipt of the request. Removal of the endorsement or approvalfrom the individual's license shall be reflected in ELIS.

e) A licensee may reapply for an endorsement or approval (excluding one-time issued short-term approvals) removed under this Section by paying the fee required in Section 21B-40 of the School Code, provided that:

1) at least 10 years has passed since the endorsement or approval was removed;

2) the licensee passes all tests required for the endorsement or approval as set forth in Section 21B-30 of the School Code and Section 25.720 of this Part; and

3) the licensee provides evidence of meeting all other requirements in effect for the endorsement or approval, as set forth in Article 21B of the Code and this Part, at the time the licenseehe or she makes application for the endorsement or approval.

f) A licensee shall not request the removal of the same endorsement or approval ~~from his or her professional educator license or educator license with stipulations~~ more than once every 10 years.

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 25.425 Individuals Prepared in Out-of-State Institutions

a) In accordance with Section 21B-35 of the Code, an applicant who was prepared in another state or country may be granted an Illinois professional educator license endorsed in the area (i.e., teaching, administrative, or school support personnel) that corresponds to the completed program if that applicant meets all the generally applicable requirements of Article 21B of the Code (e.g., age and good character) and the requirements for the license and the endorsement sought, as specified in the applicable Sections of this Part. ~~-~~As used in each of those Sections, a "comparable program" is one that leads to eligibility for service in the same specific capacity in the public schools of the state where the program was completed.

1) Each out-of-state applicant shall have passed each of the tests required for the PEL and the endorsement sought, as set forth in Section 21B-30 of the Code and Section 25.720.

2) In accordance with Section 21B-30(f) of the Code, beginning September 1, 2025~~2015~~, each applicant who has not been entitled by an Illinois-approved institution of higher education for a PEL endorsed in a teaching field shall pass the teacher performance assessment (edTPA) (see Section 25.720(c) of this Part). If the applicant has not met the requirement to pass the edTPA, the applicant may:

A) enroll in the student teaching portion of an educator preparation program offered by an Illinois institution of higher education approved to offer a program pursuant to Subpart C, during which time the edTPA shall be completed; or

B) for purposes of meeting both the requirements of Section 21B-30(f) of the Code and this subsection (a)(4), an applicant who provides evidence with an application of having at least one year of full-time teaching experience and having achieved a "proficient" or higher rating, or the equivalent, on the most recent performance evaluation shall not be required to pass the edTPA.

b) An individual may receive additional endorsements on a PEL endorsed for teaching by meeting the applicable requirements of Sections 25.37 and 25.100.

c) A candidate whose credentials were earned at an institution outside the United States shall submit the documents prepared by the foreign institution to a service whose evaluations are accepted by the State Board pursuant to subsection (d) to determine if the candidate has met the requirements of Section 21B-35(b) of the Code.

1) After reviewing the documents submitted, the service shall provide to the State Superintendent an official translated evaluation report identifying the degree held by the individual and indicating whether the individual has been prepared as an educator. The service shall also provide a list of the courses completed, with the credits earned equated to semester hours.

2) The evaluation report provided by the service pursuant to subsection (c)(1) shall be reviewed to determine whether the individual qualifies for a PEL and the endorsements for which application was made; if so, the individual shall receive the license and the endorsements indicated by the coursework completed.

3) If the review of the individual's transcript indicates that the individual does not qualify for a PEL and the endorsements for which application was made, the individual shall receive a notification of the deficiencies for the license and the endorsement requested.

d) Evaluation services shall be approved to review foreign credentials for purposes of Illinois licensure if they demonstrate experience working on behalf of either the National Association of Foreign Student Affairs or the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers. However, the State Board may discontinue acceptance of evaluations from any service based on evidence of material inconsistencies in reviews. The State Board shall maintain an up-to-date list of all organizations whose reviews are being accepted and shall make this list readily available.

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 25.444 Illinois Teaching Excellence Program

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

The annual payments and incentives established under Section 21B-70 of the Code shall be subject to the requirements of this Section and shall be contingent upon the appropriation of sufficient funds (see subsection (a)). When permitted or required by the State Superintendent, documentation called for in this Section may be submitted via electronic means.

a) When the funding available in any fiscal year is inadequate to cover all the payments requested by "qualified educators", as defined in Section 21B-70(a) of the Code, payments shall be paid on a first-come, first-served basis, regardless of the type of payment being requested, but shall be subject to any limitations established for a particular payment type under Section 21B-70 of the Code. Therefore, although a qualified educator, as defined in Section 21B-70(a) of the Code, is someone who meets the requirements for a particular payment, not all qualifying educators in any given year will be assured of receiving the applicable payments.

b) A qualified educator shall qualify for a payment as called for in Section 21B-70(c)(1), (c)(2), (c)(3), or (d)(1) of the Code when that educator is employed by a school district or other public entity providing early childhood, elementary, or secondary education, including special education, as the individual originally assigned to a full-time position whose functions:

1) are specifically authorized by the grade levels and content-area endorsements on the PEL and include the provision of instruction to students;

2) are specifically authorized by a school support personnel endorsement for school counselor on a PEL and include the provision of counseling services to students; or

3) are specifically authorized by the grade levels and content-area endorsements on an ELS-CTE, ELS-CTEP, or ELS-PCTE and include the provision of instruction to students.

c) Qualification for Payments

1) A qualified educator shall qualify for one or more incentive payments under Section 21B-70(c)(5) of the Code for each year during which:

A) that educator is either:

i) employed by a school district or other public entity providing early childhood, elementary, or secondary education, including special education, in a full-time position whose functions meet the requirements of subsection (b), as verified by the employer using a format specified by the State Superintendent; or

ii) retired (i.e., drawing an annuity from either the Teachers' Retirement System of the State of Illinois pursuant to Article 16 of the Illinois Pension Code [40 ILCS 5/Art. 16] or the Public School Teachers' Pension and Retirement Fund − Cities Over 500,000 Inhabitants pursuant to Article 17 of the Illinois Pension Code [40 ILCS 5/Art. 17]); and

B) the educator *agrees, in writing,* using a format prescribed by the State Superintendent of Education, *to provide up to* ~~*45*~~*30 hours of mentoring or National Board for Professional Teaching Standards* (NBPTS) *professional development or both during the school year to classroom teachers or school counselors* as described in Section 21B-70(c)(5) of the Code. ~~-~~(Section 21B-70(c)(5) of the Code)

2) Funds may also be used to provide instructional leadership training for qualified educators interested in supporting implementation of the Illinois Learning Standards or teaching and learning priorities identified by the State Board. *Funds may also be used for professional development training provided by the National Board Resource Center* (see Section 21B-70(c) of the Code).

3) If adequate funds are available after distribution to all qualified educators, incentives under Section 21B-70(d) of the Code may be provided to National Board-certified teacher rural, remote, distant, diverse, or candidate cohort facilitators, ~~and~~ to National Board-certified teacher rural, remote, distant, diverse, or candidate liaisons, or to hard-to-staff schools as retention bonuses, as defined by Section 21B-70(a) of the Code.

d) Requirements for Professional Development and Assistance to NBPTS Candidates

1) To verify eligibility for the applicable incentive payment, a qualified educator who provides professional development to new or experienced teachers or school counselors under subsection (c) shall submit to the State

Superintendent a written log of the assistance provided, using a format specified by the State Superintendent, demonstrating that the educator addressed one or more of the standards set forth in 23 Ill. Adm. Code 24.130 (The Illinois Professional Teaching Standards) or 23 Ill Adm. Code 24. 140 (The Illinois Professional Educator Standards) as relevant to the classroom-based needs of the recipient teachers, or one or more of the standards set forth in 23 Ill. Adm. Code 23.110 (Standards for the School Counselor), as applicable. Each recipient of professional development shall be identified by name, shall be working in an Illinois public educational setting, and shall sign the log as verification of the dates and hours of service indicated.

2) To verify eligibility for the applicable incentive payment, a qualified educator who assists other Illinois educators in preparing for certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards under subsection (c) shall submit to the State Superintendent a written log of the assistance provided, using a format specified by the State Superintendent. This record shall identify the activities performed and verify that these activities addressed specific requirements candidates must meet for NBPTS certification.

e) Requirements for Mentoring or NBPTS Professional Development

1) Mentoring or professional development provided in accordance with subsection (c) shall be conducted either:

A) as part of and in conformance with a mentoring or professional development program formally established by a school district; or

B) under the terms of a written agreement among the mentor, the building administrator, mentor coordinator, or other responsible official of the school district employing one or more recipients, and those recipients, that describes the goals of the mentoring or professional development, the duration of the mentor's involvement, and the amount of time expected to be devoted to each recipient.

2) Mentoring or professional development may be provided to recipients either individually or in groups, provided that the mentor must address areas of practice relevant to the needs of each recipient.

3) An individual who provides mentoring or professional development under this Section shall notify the individuals employing district (if different from that of the recipients) to this effect and, to verify eligibility for the applicable incentive payment, shall submit to the State Superintendent a written log that:

A) meets the requirements of subsection (e)(1); and

B) discusses how the mentoring or professional development was related to the academic needs of the recipient teachers' students or the needs of the students served by the recipient counselors, as applicable.

f) Licensed teachers shall receive incentive payments only for providing mentoring and professional development to other teachers, and educator licensed school counselors shall receive incentive payments only for providing mentoring and professional development to other school counselors.

g) Instructional Leadership Training
In any fiscal year in which money remains after funding the categories in subsections (a) through (c), the State Superintendent shall announce no later than June 1 the amount of funding that will be devoted to training for qualified educators. The announcement shall indicate the:

1) specific purposes, from among those specified in Section 21B-70 of the Code of the training to be conducted;

2) amount of any stipend awarded for participating in the training;

3) limitations on the qualified educators who may participate (e.g., school demographics, including student characteristics and achievement levels; school district location); and

4) process a qualified educator would use to apply for a stipend under this subsection (g).

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 25.480 Supplemental Documentation and Review of Certain License Applications

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

This Section sets forth the requirements for supplemental documentation and other information that an applicant must submit when the applicant has provided an affirmative response or indicated noncompliance with any of the requirements set forth in Sections 25.485 through 25.4921 or has knowingly misrepresented any qualifications to obtain a license pursuant to Section 21B-15 of the Code. An application for issuance, renewal, reinstatement, or registration of a license shall not be processed until all supplemental documentation has been received. References to "license" in this Section and any of Sections 25.485 through 25.4912 shall be understood to mean "certificate" if the sanction affected (or the violation occurred when an individual held) a teaching, administrative, school service personnel or substitute teaching certificate previously issued by the State Board.

a) Personal Statement
When a personal statement is required to be submitted, the applicant shall provide the information required under this subsection (a). A personal statement shall not be afforded full weight by the committee reviewing the application and supplemental documentation if the statement fails to adequately address each of the requirements of this subsection (a) to the degree necessary to enable the review committee to make a determination of whether the applicant has been rehabilitated and should be licensed as a professional educator. Each personal statement shall:

1) be written in the applicant's own words (statements written by an attorney or someone other than the applicant shall be considered a letter of reference);

2) provide a detailed description of the conduct and circumstances that led to the knowing misrepresentation of the applicant's qualifications to obtain a license or a detailed description of the conduct and circumstances for the license sanction, or criminal conviction, or the indicated report of child abuse or neglect, or adjudication or finding of sexual misconduct, as defined under Section 22-85.5 of the Code (whichever is applicable);

3) provide evidence that the applicant has been rehabilitated, including an explanation of why the applicant believes the applicant is of good character, merits receipt of an educator license, and would be an asset to the field of professional educators; and

4) provide any other information that is requested by the State Board that is relevant to the agency's review and understanding of the reasons for the knowing misrepresentation of the applicant's qualifications to obtain a license, the license sanction, or the circumstances of the criminal

conviction, ~~or~~ the indicated report of child abuse or neglect, or adjudication or finding of sexual misconduct, as defined under Section 22-85.5 of the Code (whichever is applicable).

b) Character References
When character references are required, the applicant shall provide at least three letters that meet the requirements set forth in this subsection ~~(b)~~. ~~-~~A character reference shall not be afforded full weight by the committee reviewing the application and supplemental documentation if the reference fails to adequately address each of the requirements of this subsection ~~(b)~~ to the degree necessary to enable the review committee to make a determination of whether the applicant has been rehabilitated and should be licensed as a professional educator. ~~-~~Each character reference shall:

1) be written by a colleague of the applicant who is employed in an educational field or by a faculty member of the applicant's educator preparation program who has first-hand knowledge of or experience working with the applicant; if the applicant has no prior education-related experience, then an employer of the applicant may submit a character reference;

2) state that the purpose of the letter is to assist the applicant in obtaining an educator license and acknowledge the specific conduct and circumstances that led to the applicant's license sanction, ~~or~~ the conviction, ~~or~~ report of child abuse or neglect, or adjudication or finding of sexual misconduct, as defined under Section 22-85.5 of the Code (whichever is applicable);

3) state the author's relationship (e.g., former instructor, employer, or school colleague) with the applicant and the length of time the author has known the applicant;

4) explain in detail why the author believes that, in spite of the reason for the applicant's license sanction, ~~or~~ the conviction, ~~or a~~ report of child abuse or neglect, or adjudication or finding of sexual misconduct, as defined under Section 22-85.5 of the Code (whichever is applicable), the applicant has been rehabilitated and why the applicant would be an asset to the field of professional educators; and

5) be signed by the author and include the telephone number or email address to be used should the committee reviewing the character reference have

questions or need additional information and, as applicable, be presented on the letterhead of the author's place of employment.

c) Application Review Process

1) The application and supplemental documentation shall be reviewed by a committee made up of staff from the State Board's licensure departmentdivision. The committee may contact the applicant if additional information is needed. Upon conclusion of the committee's review, the committee shall notify the applicant of the agency's decision to deny or its intent to deny an application, by certified mail, return receipt requested mailed to the address shown on the application. A decision to issue the license will be recorded in ELIS and an electronic notification to that effect will be sent to the applicant.

2) If the agency intends to deny an application on character grounds pursuant to Section 21B-15 of the Code], the applicant shall be notified pursuant to subsection (c)(1) of this Section of the opportunity to request a credibility hearing. The applicant's request for a credibility hearing shall be submitted in writing to the agency no later than 10 days after the applicant's receipt of the agency's notification. Requests shall be sent to the Educator Licensure DepartmentDivision, 100 North First Street, E-240S-306, Springfield, Illinois 62777, or to educatorcredibility@isbe.net. Failure to request a credibility hearing within the 10-day timeframe will result in a denial of the application.

A) Credibility hearings may be held via video conference or in-person and will not be held if the applicant has not submitted all required documentation at least 72 hours prior to the hearing. At this hearing, the applicant may present a statement or provide documentary evidence and present character witnesses who wish to make a statement on behalf of the applicant; however, if the applicant does not submit this documentary evidence within 72 hours prior to the hearing, the hearing may be postponed by the committee until all documentary evidence can be reviewed by the committee.

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B) The applicant shall not be permitted to pose questions to the review committee. An applicant may be represented by counsel at

this hearing, but the applicant's attorney will not be permitted to address or pose questions to the review committee.

C) No later than 30 days after the conclusion of the credibility hearing, the review committee shall issue to the applicant its decision to grant or deny the application. The decision of the review committee is a final decision and is reviewable pursuant to the Administrative Review Law [735 ILCS 5/Art. III], as provided in Section 21B-90 of the Code. A timely filed action for administrative review shall act as a stay of enforcement of the denial.

d) Eligibility to Reapply
An applicant who was denied an initial license or denied the renewal, registration or reinstatement of a license on the grounds that the applicant does not have good character or that the applicant knowingly misrepresented any qualifications to obtain a license pursuant to Section 21B-15 of the Code is ineligible to apply for any educator license or endorsement on any currently held license for a period of up to five calendar years from the date of the denial as determined by the review committee. If an application is submitted during the period of ineligibility, the application shall be denied and the application fee will not be refunded.

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 25.485 Licensure of Persons with Prior Certificate or License Sanctions

A previous denial of licensure or another action against an individual's license may indicate that issuance, renewal, reinstatement, or registration of a license would also currently be inappropriate. Accordingly, each applicant for the issuance, renewal, reinstatement, or registration of an Illinois professional educator license, an educator license with stipulations, or substitute teaching license or for the addition of another credential (e.g., endorsement, approval, or designation), including any credential issued under Subpart G, shall be required to indicate on the relevant form whether the applicant has ever had a professional license of any kind or teaching certificate or license denied, suspended, or revoked in Illinois or any other state, country or jurisdiction.

a) Each individual providing an affirmative response to this question shall be required to submit a copy of the notice issued by the responsible agency in the state where the action occurred that includes:

1) the date of the action;

2) the reasons for the action;

3) any penalties that were imposed; ~~and~~

4) the ending date of each penalty, if applicable; and

5) if requested by the State Superintendent, a personal statement and character references pursuant to Sections 25.480(a) and (b).~~.~~

b) Subject to subsection (c) or (d), the State Superintendent shall review the information submitted pursuant to subsection (a) and shall determine whether issuance, renewal, reinstatement, or registration of a license or issuance of one or more additional credentials, as applicable, is appropriate in light of the circumstances surrounding the previous denial or suspension (including the applicant's age and the background of the applicant at the time of the action), any penalty that was imposed, and any evidence the applicant has provided concerning the applicant's good character that may mitigate the defect in the record. (Also see Sections 25.480(a) and (b).)

c) The State Superintendent may review any other license held by the applicant to determine if, based on the severity of the actions that led to the prior license denial, suspension, or revocation, the revocation or suspension of any additional license issued by the State Board is warranted.

d) An application shall not be evaluated from an individual whose previous denial occurred five or fewer years from the date of application.

e) An application from an individual whose educator license is revoked at the time of application either in Illinois or another state shall not be considered except that the provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any individual who voluntarily surrendered a license pursuant to Section 21B-45 of the Code, or similar provision in another state, provided that the voluntary surrender was unrelated to misconduct.

~~f) An application from an individual whose license had been suspended shall not be evaluated for a period of time that is equal to the length of the suspension. The start date of this waiting period shall begin on the day following the date on which the suspension was lifted. The provisions of this subsection (f) shall not apply to:~~

~~1)~~ ~~any application to register or renew the license that was subject to the suspension, provided that the license was maintained as valid during the term of the suspension; and~~

~~2)~~ ~~any application to renew another license that was not subject to the suspension.~~

fg) Submission of the application following the time period specified in subsection (e) ~~or (f)~~ is not a guarantee that the application will be approved and a license, endorsement, approval, or designation issued. ~~-~~An individual may appeal the decision to deny the application in accordance with procedures set forth in the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act [5 ILCS 100/Art. 10].

g~~h~~) An individual shall not be entitled to a refund of the application fee in the event that the application is subsequently denied.

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 25.488 Licensure of Persons Named in Reports of Child Abuse or Neglect

Pursuant to Section 21B-75(b) of the Code, the State Superintendent, in consultation with SEPLB, may initiate the suspension or revocation of a license, endorsement, or approval for abuse or neglect of a child ~~or for an act of sexual misconduct, as defined in Section 22-85.5 of the Code~~. ~~-~~Accordingly, each applicant for the issuance, registration, reinstatement, or renewal of an Illinois professional educator license, an educator license with stipulations, or substitute teaching license or for the addition of another credential (e.g., endorsement, approval, or designation), including any credential issued under Subpart G, shall be required to indicate on the relevant form whether that applicant has ever received an indicated finding of neglect or abuse ~~or of an act of sexual misconduct~~ from a state agency responsible for child welfare in Illinois or any other state if the indicated finding in the report was not reversed on appeal.

a) Each individual providing an affirmative response to this question shall be ineligible to receive, register, reinstate, or renew a license or to receive an additional credential until the individual provides to the State Superintendent of Education:

1) an official copy of the report, including the child's age and sex, the report number assigned by the Department of Children and Family Services or comparable out-of-state agency, the date of the report, and the status of the report ("indicated", "unfounded", or other) with supporting documentation for the determination;

2) a personal statement that meets the requirements outlined in Section 25.480(a) that includes a detailed explanation of the individual's relationship to the child;

3) character references that meet the requirements outlined in Section 25.480(b), in which the authors clearly indicate that they have knowledge that the applicant has been found to be a perpetrator of child abuse or neglect but can also attest to the individual's good character, as defined in Section 21B-15 of the Code, and rehabilitation; and

4) an explanation of the status of any request to expunge, amend, or remove the report from the responsible state agency's records.

b) The State Superintendent shall review the documentation provided by the applicant pursuant to subsection (a) and determine whether issuance, renewal, reinstatement, or registration of a license or issuance of one or more additional credentials, as applicable, is appropriate based on whether the evidence of good character, as defined in Section 21B-15 of the Code, and rehabilitation provided is convincing when taken together with the gravity of the offense, the individual's age and background at the time of the offense, and any criminal penalty that was imposed.

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 25.490 Licensure of Persons Who Have Been Convicted of a Crime

Convictions related to certain offenses, other than those listed in Section 21B-80(c) of the ~~School~~ Code ~~[105 ILCS 5]~~ that result in automatic revocation or denial of licensure, may lead to denial of licensure if they demonstrate that the applicant is not of good character, as required by Section 21B-15 of the ~~School~~ Code. ~~-~~Accordingly, each applicant for the issuance, registration, reinstatement, or renewal of an Illinois professional educator license, educator license with stipulations, or substitute teaching license or for the addition of another credential (e.g., endorsement, approval, or designation), including any credential issued under Subpart G ~~of this Part~~, shall be required to indicate on the relevant form whether the applicant~~he or she~~ has ever been convicted of, or is subject to pending criminal charges for, a felony or any sex, narcotics, or drug offense (whether felony or misdemeanor) in Illinois or any other state.

a) Each individual providing an affirmative response to this question shall be ineligible to receive, register, reinstate, or renew a license or to receive an additional credential if the offense was one of those enumerated in Section

21B-80(c) of the ~~School~~ Code or, if the offense was not one of those enumerated, until he or she provides to the State Superintendent of Education:

1) a certified court record of the conviction, to include sentencing information;

2) evidence that ~~at least one year has elapsed since the end of~~ the sentence for the criminal offense has ended, when "sentence" includes any period of supervision or probation that was imposed either alone or in combination with a period of incarceration or, for criminal offenses enumerated in Section 21B-80(b) of the ~~School~~ Code, evidence that at least seven years have elapsed;

3) a personal statement that meets the requirements outlined in Section 25.480(a); and

4) character references that meet the requirements outlined in Section 25.480(b) ~~of this Part~~, in which the authors clearly indicate that they have knowledge of the conviction but can also attest to the individual's good character, as defined in Section 21B-15 of the ~~School~~ Code, and rehabilitation.

b) The State Superintendent shall review the information submitted pursuant to subsection (a) ~~of this Section~~ and determine whether licensure, license registration, license renewal, license reinstatement or issuance of one or more additional credentials, as applicable, is appropriate, based on whether the offense was one of those enumerated in Section 21B-80 of the ~~School~~ Code, except for subsection (c) of that Section, and, if not, whether the evidence of good character, as defined in Section 21B-15 of the ~~School~~ Code, and rehabilitation provided is convincing when taken together with the gravity of the offense, the individual's age and background at the time of the offense, and any criminal penalty that was imposed.

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 25.492 Licensure of Persons Adjudicated or Found to Have Committed an Act of Sexual Misconduct

Pursuant to Section 21B-75(b) of the Code, the State Superintendent, in consultation with SEPLB, may initiate the suspension or revocation of a license, endorsement, or approval for an act of sexual misconduct, as defined in Section 22-85.5 of the School Code. Accordingly, each

applicant for the issuance, registration, reinstatement, or renewal of an Illinois professional educator license, an educator license with stipulations, or substitute teaching license or for the addition of another credential (e.g., endorsement, approval, designation), including any credential issued under Subpart G, shall be required to indicate on the relevant form whether that applicant has ever been notified that the applicant has been adjudicated or found to have committed an act of sexual misconduct, as defined in Section 22-85.5 of the School Code, by an employer or a state agency responsible for educator misconduct in Illinois or any other state if the finding was not reversed.

a) Each individual providing an affirmative response to this question shall be ineligible to receive, register, reinstate, or renew a license or to receive an additional credential until the individual provides to the State Superintendent of Education:

1) an official and final copy of the notice of adjudication or finding of an act of sexual misconduct, any discipline document (including termination document) and the justification for such discipline, or resignation agreement, to the extent such records exist;

2) a personal statement that meets the requirements outlined in Section 25.480(a) that includes a detailed explanation of the individual's relationship to the child;

3) character references that meet the requirements outlined in Section 25.480(b), in which the authors clearly indicate that they have knowledge that the applicant has been found to be a perpetrator of sexual misconduct but can also attest to the individual's good character, as defined in Section 21B-15 of the Code, and rehabilitation; and

4) an explanation of the status of any request to amend or remove the finding.

b) The State Superintendent shall review the documentation provided by the applicant pursuant to subsection (a) and determine whether issuance, renewal, reinstatement, or registration of a license or issuance of one or more additional credentials, as applicable, is appropriate based on whether the evidence of good character, as defined in Section 21B-15 of the Code, and rehabilitation provided is convincing when taken together with the gravity of the offense, the individual's age and background at the time of the offense, and any criminal penalty that was imposed.

(Source: Added at 48 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

SUBPART G: PARAPROFESSIONALS; OTHER PERSONNEL

Section 25.510 Endorsement for Paraprofessional Educators

a) The term "paraprofessional" educator shall be used to refer to the non-certificated personnel authorized by Sections 10-22.34 and 34-18 of the Code to be employed to assist in instruction and who are required under Section 21B-20(2)(J) of the Code to hold an educator license with stipulations endorsed for paraprofessional educator, except that the following individuals are not subject to this Section:

1) Any individual whose paraprofessional approval was continued after June 30, 2013, subject to any limitations of that approval;

2) Any individual who holds an educator license indicative of completion of at least a bachelor's degree;

3) Any individual who holds an educator license with stipulations endorsed for career and technical educator (see Section 25.70); and

4) Any individual who holds a short-term substitute teaching license (see Section 25.525).

b) Each paraprofessional educator shall be of good character, as defined in Section 21B-15 of the Code. Each paraprofessional educator shall be subject to that portion of Section 24-5 of the Code that requires physical fitness to perform duties assigned and freedom from communicable disease. Additionally, a paraprofessional educator may be subject to additional health examinations, including screening for tuberculosis, as required by the rules adopted by the Department of Public Health or by order of a local public health official ~~evidence of freedom from tuberculosis as may be required by Illinois Department of Public Health rules (77 Ill. Adm. Code 696; Control of Tuberculosis Code)~~. To receive an educator license with stipulations endorsed for paraprofessional educator, an individual shall:

1) present evidence of having completed a minimum of 60 semester hours of college credit at a regionally accredited institution of higher education, which shall not include any remedial or developmental coursework that the applicant has taken;

2) hold an associate degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education;

3) hold a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent and pass the ParaPro test offered by the Educational Testing Service (ETS) with at least the score identified by the State Board in consultation with SEPLB; or

4) hold a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent and pass the WorkKeys® assessment offered by ACT with at least the score identified by the State Board in consultation with SEPLB.

c) Revocation or Suspension of Approval or Licensure or other Permissible Sanction

1) Revocation, suspension, or other permissible sanction may be initiated by the State Superintendent with respect to a paraprofessional approval or an educator license with stipulations endorsed for paraprofessional educator for any of the bases set forth in Section 21B-75(b) of the Code and any of these actions shall be governed by, and conducted in accordance with, 23 Ill. Adm. Code 475 (Contested Cases and Other Formal Hearings). ~~The State Superintendent's decision shall be considered an "administrative decision" for purposes of the Administrative Review Law [735 ILCS 5/Art. III].~~

2) When the State Superintendent receives information indicating that an individual who holds approval as a paraprofessional or an educator license with stipulations endorsed for paraprofessional educator has been convicted of any offense as defined in Section 21B-80 of the Code, the State Superintendent shall forthwith revoke the individual's approval or license. The State Superintendent's decision shall be considered an "administrative decision" for purposes of the Administrative Review Law.

3) In accordance with Section 21B-20(2)(J) of the Code, the educator license with stipulations endorsed for paraprofessional is valid until June 30 immediately following five fiscal years after the license was issued and may be renewed upon application and payment of the fee required by Section 21B-40 of the Code to register the license.

d) An~~To receive an ELS-PARA an~~ individual must be at least 18 years of age to~~, and~~ use the Educator License with Stipulations in~~exclusively for~~ grades prekindergarten through grade 8 and an individual must be at least 19 years of age to use the license in all grades.

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg._____, effective _____)

Section 25.525 Short-Term Substitute Teaching License

a) Until June 30, 2028, applicants may apply to the State Board of Education for issuance of a Short-Term Substitute Teaching License (see Section 21B-20(4) of the Code.)~~Until June 30, 2023, a short-term substitute teaching license shall be issued to an applicant who has met the requirements of Section 21B-20(4) of the School Code [105 ILCS 5].~~

b) A short-term substitute teaching license is valid for five years. ~~until June 30, 2023, regardless of date issued, and shall not be renewed.~~

c) Prior to utilizing the short-term substitute teaching license, individuals shall complete the training required by Section 10-20.67 of the School Code.

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

SUBPART I: ILLINOIS LICENSURE TESTING SYSTEM

Section 25.710 Definitions

For the purposes of this Subpart, the following definitions apply:

"Code" means the Illinois School Code [105 ILCS 5].

"Passing Raw Score " is the minimum number of multiple-choice items that must be answered correctly on a given test or the combination of required correct responses to multiple choice items and required numerical value of constructed responses.

"Passing Score" is the minimum scaled score a person must obtain in order to pass a test.

"Re-scoring" means the process of reviewing an examinee's answers and the scores assigned to them to confirm that a test score reported to an examinee is the score earned by the examinee.

"Retake" is the opportunity for a person who has taken a test of the Illinois Licensure Testing System at one test administration to take the test in the same

area as given at subsequent administrations.

"Scaled Score" is the person's test score after the mathematical transformation of the number of test items the person answered correctly to a scale of numbers on which the minimum score, the maximum score, and the passing score are set. For the content-area tests and tests of language proficiency, the minimum scaled score is 100, the maximum score 300, and the passing score 240. For any new content-area test first administered after December 31, 2002, the minimum scaled score is 100, the maximum score 300, and the passing score 240.

"Subarea Score" is the scaled score for the subset of test items on a content-area test that measures specific content.

"Test" or "Tests" refers to the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR), the language proficiency tests, the content-area tests, and the teacher performance assessment for the Illinois Licensure Testing System (ILTS). In the event that an ILTS test is not offered, the State Board, in consultation with SEPLB, may identify alternative tests to be used.

The Illinois Licensure Testing System shall consist of the following tests:

Agricultural Education
Business, Marketing, and Computer Education
Chief School Business Official
Computer Science
Dance
Director of Special Education
Drama/Theatre Arts
Early Childhood Education
Early Childhood Special Education
edTPA (required beginning September 1, 2015)
Elementary Education (1-6) (February 2016)
    Language and Literacy
    Mathematics
    Science and Social Science
    Fine Arts, Physical Development and Health
Elementary Mathematics Specialist (February 2025)
English Language Arts
English Language Proficiency
Family and Consumer Sciences

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World Languages
- Arabic
- Chinese (Cantonese or Mandarin)
- French
- German
- Hebrew
- Italian
- Japanese
- Korean
- Latin
- Russian
- Spanish

Gifted Education Teacher (beginning September 2014)
Health Education
Health Careers
Learning Behavior Specialist I
Learning Behavior Specialist II/Behavior Intervention Specialist
Learning Behavior Specialist II/Bilingual Special Education Specialist
Learning Behavior Specialist II/Curriculum Adaptation Specialist
Learning Behavior Specialist II/Deaf/Blind Specialist
Learning Behavior Specialist II/Multiple Disabilities Specialist
Learning Behavior Specialist II/Technology Specialist
Learning Behavior Specialist II/Transition Specialist
Library Information Specialist
Mathematics
General Middle Grades (5-8) (February 2017)
Middle Grades (5-8) Language Arts (February 2017)
Middle Grades (5-8) Mathematics (February 2017)
Middle Grades (5-8) Social Science (February 2017)
Middle Grades (5-8) Science (February 2017)
Music
Physical Education
Principal (beginning May 1, 2013)
Reading Teacher
Reading Specialist
School Counselor
School Nurse
School Psychologist
School Social Worker
Sciences
- Biology

- Chemistry
- Earth and Space Science
- Environmental Science
- Physics

Social Sciences

- Economics
- Geography
- History
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sociology and Anthropology

Special Education General Curriculum
Speech-Language Pathologist
Superintendent
Teacher of Students who are Blind or Visually Impaired
Teachers of Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing
Technology Education
Technology Specialist
Transitional Bilingual Education – Language Proficiency

- Arabic
- Assyrian
- Bosnian
- Bulgarian
- Burmese
- Cantonese
- Chin (Haka)
- Ewe
- Filipino
- French
- Greek
- Gujarati
- Hindi
- Japanese
- Kaniobal (Q'anjob'al)
- Karen (S'gaw)
- Kirundi (Rundi)
- Korean
- Lao
- Lithuanian
- Malay
- Malayalam

Mandarin
Mongolian
Nepali
Polish
Portuguese
Rohingya (Ruwainggya)
Russian
Serbian
Somali
Spanish
Swahili
Tamil
Telegu (Telugu)
Ukrainian
Urdu
Vietnamese
Yoruba
Visual Arts

"Test Items" are specific questions asked on a test that require a person either to select the correct response from those alternative responses provided or to produce a written or oral response.

"Test Objective" is a statement of the behavior or performance measured by test items.

"Unauthorized Aids" are materials and devices that candidates are prohibited from bringing to a test administration. These include notes, calculators, calculator watches, calculator manuals, cellular phones, electronic communication devices, visual or audio recording or listening devices, and any other items whose use may compromise the security or validity of a test. However, any material or device that is permitted as part of an accommodation arranged pursuant to Section 25.740 shall not be considered an unauthorized aid. Furthermore, a calculator shall not be considered an unauthorized aid when its use is authorized pursuant to the current ILTS registration bulletin and the contractor's web site.

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 25.720 Applicability of Testing Requirement and Scores

a) It is the individual's responsibility to take the appropriate tests. Upon request, the

State Board of Education shall assist individuals in identifying appropriate tests.

b) Content-Area Tests

1) Each candidate seeking an Illinois professional educator license or endorsement on that license, whether a first license or endorsement or a subsequent license or endorsement, shall be required to pass a content-area test for each endorsement area for which there is an applicable test (see Section 21B-30(d) of the Code; also see Section 25.710). -Further, Section 21B-30(d) of the Code requires passage of this test before a candidate begins student teaching or begins serving as a teacher of record in an alternative educator preparation program. -A person who has passed another state's or country's content test as a condition of educator certification or licensure in that state or country or admission to a teacher preparation program approved by that state or country shall not be required to take the Illinois content test before receiving the license or endorsement. (See Section 21B-35 of the Code.)

2) A person who has passed a test of language proficiency, authorized under Section 21B-30 of the Code, in order to qualify for an educator license with stipulations endorsed for transitional bilingual educator, and received that license shall not be required to retake that test in order to qualify for a bilingual education credential on another PEL received later. -A person who has passed a test of language proficiency as a condition of admission to an Illinois preparation program also shall not be required to retake that test.

3) If the Governor declares a disaster due to a public health emergency under Section 7 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, individuals may begin student teaching or enter alternative educator preparation programs prior to passing the required content test. -If the Governor rescinds a disaster declaration, or allows it to expire without replacement, this subsection (c)(3) shall remain in effect through the end of the calendar year (December 31) or the end of the fiscal year (June 30), whichever is later.

4) An individual who holds an Illinois State Seal of Biliteracy or who has obtained working fluency or higher on the Global Seal of Biliteracy shall be exempt from the language proficiency test required for a bilingual education or world language endorsement in the same language.

5) Passing scores earned on content area tests shall not expire.

c) Teacher Performance Assessment (edTPA)
Beginning on August 4, 2023 (the effective date of Public Act 103-488), and until September 1, 2025, each ~~Each~~ candidate or out-of-state applicant completing an educator preparation program in a teaching field shall be required to pass the edTPA. The edTPA is a performance-based assessment designed to measure an educator's knowledge, skills, and preparedness.

1) Each recognized institution offering approved teacher preparation programs shall administer the edTPA during a candidate's student teaching experience.

2) A person who has *successfully completed an evidence-based assessment of teacher effectiveness,* as required under this subsection (c), *at the time of initial* certification or *licensure in another state or country shall not be required to complete* the edTPA. (See Section 21B-35 of the Code.)

3) In accordance with Section 21B-110 of the Code, the edTPA is waived *during any time in which the Governor has declared a public health emergency under Section 7 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act* [20 ILCS 3305].

4) Candidates *may not be required to submit* edTPA *test materials by video submission.* (See Section 21B-30(f) of the Code.)

d) Subject to registration in accordance with the provisions of this Subpart I and the provisions of Section 25.755(g)(1), an individual who has taken a computer-based test may retake that test or specific subtest by computer after no fewer than 30 days.

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

SUBPART J: RENEWAL OF PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR LICENSES

Section 25.805 Professional Development Options

a) Activities

1) Professional development activities, offered through an Illinois-approved professional development provider, shall generate credit for purposes of

renewal of a PEL endorsed in a teaching, administrative, or school support personnel field or an educator license with stipulations endorsed for chief school business official or CTE only if they address one or more of the criteria identified in Section 21B-45(d) of the Code.

2) One professional development hour shall be awarded for each clock hour of activity attendance, unless otherwise specified in rule.

b) National and State Certifications

1) A licensee who holds a school support personnel endorsement who is employed and performing services on the endorsement in an Illinois public school and who holds the applicable national certifications specified in this subsection (b)(1) shall be deemed to have satisfied 120 hours of professional development. (See Section 21B-45(l) of the Code.)

A) Nationally Certified School Psychologist from the National School Psychologist Certification Board, 4340 East-West Highway, Suite 402, Bethesda, MD 20814; https://nasponline.org/standards-and-certification/national-certification;

B) Nationally Certified School Nurse from the National Board for Certification of School Nurses, 1120 Route 73, Suite 200, Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054; https://www.nbcsn.org/ncsn/certification/certification-procedures;

C) Nationally Certified Counselor from the National Board for Certified Counselors, 3 Terrace Way, Greensboro, NC 27403; https://www.nbcc.org/certification;

D) Certificate of Clinical Competence from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, 2200 Research Boulevard, Rockville, MD 20850-3289; https://www.asha.org/certification; or

E) Certified School Social Work Specialist (C-SSWS) from the National Association of Social Workers, 750 First Street, NE, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20002; https://www.socialworkers.org/Careers/Credentials/Apply-for-NASW-Social-Work-Credentials/Certified-School-Social-Work-Specialist.

2) A licensee who holds a school support personnel endorsement *who is employed and performing services in Illinois public schools and who holds an active and current professional license issued by the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation related to* that school support personnel endorsement area or national certification board shall be deemed to have satisfied 120 hours of professional development. (See Section 21B-45(l)(of the Code.) For purposes of this subsection (b), "related to" a school support personnel area shall be:

A) for a school counselor, a license issued under the Professional Counselor and Clinical Professional Counselor Licensing and Practice Act [225 ILCS 107];

B) for a marriage and family therapist, a license issued under the Marriage and Family Therapist Licensing Act [225 ILCS 55];

C) for a school psychologist, a license issued under the Clinical Psychologist Licensing Act [225 ILCS 15];

D) for a school speech and language pathologist, a license issued under the Illinois Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Practice Act [225 ILCS 110];

E) for a school nurse, a license issued under the Nurse Practice Act [225 ILCS 65]; and

F) for a school social worker, a license issued under the Clinical Social Work and Social Work Practice Act [225 ILCS 20].

3) National Board for Professional Teaching Master Teacher Designation *Any licensee holding a National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) master teacher designation shall complete a total of 60 clock hours of professional development per 5-year renewal cycle.* (Section 21B-45(e)(4) of the Code)

A) If National Board certification is not valid at the time of renewal, the licensee shall complete all required professional development for the license cycle.

B) Administrators who hold a master teacher designation are also subject to the requirements set forth in Section 25.800(d)(1).

C) When an Illinois licensee successfully renews a National Board certification, the licensee's master teacher designation shall be automatically renewed.

D) The holder of an NBPTS master teacher designation whose certification through the NBPTS is not renewed shall have the designation expired.

c) Higher Education Coursework
One semester hour of college coursework related to education from a regionally accredited institution shall equal 15 clock hours of professional development activities. One quarter hour shall equal 10 clock hours.

1) Coursework may be completed through an Illinois institution of higher education that offers approved educator preparation programs and Illinois public community colleges.

2) Any licensee using coursework to fulfill professional development hours must upload a copy of a transcript showing completion of the coursework to ELIS.

d) Mandated Trainings
Trainings taken to satisfy mandated trainings in Sections 3-11 and 10-22.39 of the Code shall be credited toward the hours of professional development required for renewal.

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 25.830 Verification of Completed Activities; Renewal Process

a) A licensee shall enter any professional development credit earned *prior to renewal.* The *licensee shall enter electronically into* the *ELIS the name, date, and location of the activity, the number of professional development hours* earned*, and the provider's name* (Section 21B-45(e) of the Code), except that:

1) any Illinois Administrators' Academy course completed shall be entered by the provider rather than the licensee;

2) a licensee who holds both a PEL endorsed in school support personnel and one of the professional licenses listed under Section 25.805(b)(2) shall

enter the license as an activity on the Professional Development page of ELIS and upload a copy of the valid license into ELIS; and

3) a licensee who completes applicable higher education coursework shall enter the coursework using the semester-to-hour conversion set forth in Section 25.805(c) and upload a copy of the transcript into ELIS.

b) Professional development completed after June 30 of the year in which the 5-year renewal cycle ends may be counted towards the renewal requirements for the renewal cycle that ends that year or the subsequent renewal cycle.

~~c)~~ ~~A licensee who fails to enter completed professional development into ELIS prior to renewal shall be unable to include credit for those activities among the clock hours needed to satisfy renewal requirements.~~

cd) A licensee who fails to complete an Administrators' Academy course in a given fiscal year as required by Section 21B-45(e)(2) or (3) of the Code shall be required to complete two courses for each one missed. The licensee may complete these courses at any time during the remainder of the 5-year renewal cycle or prior to the reinstatement of a license that has lapsed pursuant to Section 25.450 of this Part.

de) Accumulation of the number of hours of professional development activities required under Section 21B-45(e) of the Code and entering them into ELIS shall not entitle the licensee to renewal of the license. Renewal of the licensee's license shall be determined by the State Superintendent.

ef) In accordance with Section 21B-45(e)(5) and (e)(6) of the Code, licensees who are retired, working in positions that do not require a PEL, or working in positions that require a PEL for less than 50 percent of full-time equivalency in a school year, are "exempt" and do not have to complete professional development activities. Prior to renewing the license, the licensee shall request that the ROE record that status in ELIS indicating the starting and ending date of the exemption and the reason the exemption was requested. ROEs must verify that the educator is exempt or retired prior to changing the educator's status. ROEs retain authority to require necessary documentation to make this determination. (See Section 25.880.)

fg) A licensee who does not enter all professional development activities prior to September 1 of the year in which the 5-year renewal cycle ends may not be able

to preserve the right of appeal regarding a recommendation for nonrenewal of the license.

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 25.840 Appeals to the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board

a) A licensee may appeal the lapse of a license for failure to complete renewal requirements to SEPLB. The licensee shall submit a request for an appeal by certified mail, return receipt requested, no later than September 30 of the year the license lapsed. The appeal request shall be sent to the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, 100 North First Street, Springfield, Illinois 62777-0001.

b) Within 90 days after receipt of an appeal submitted pursuant to subsection (a), the SEPLB may hold an appeal hearing or make a recommendation based on a review of the record, as enumerated in Section 21B-45(m) of the Code. If a hearing is to be held, the Board shall notify the licensee of the date, time, and place of the hearing.

1) The licensee shall submit to SEPLB any additional information as SEPLB determines is necessary to decide the appeal.

2) If a hearing is held, SEPLB may request that the licensee appear before it. The licensee shall be given at least 10 days' notice of the date, time, and place of the hearing.

3) In verifying whether the licensee has met the renewal criteria set forth in Section 21B-45 of the Code and this Subpart J, SEPLB shall consider:

A) *the regional superintendent of education's rationale for recommending nonrenewal of the license, if applicable;*

B) *any evidence submitted to the State Superintendent along with the individual's electronic statement of assurance for renewal* provided in ELIS*;* and

C) *the State Superintendent's rationale for nonrenewal of the license.* (See Section 21B-45(m)(2) of the Code.)

c) SEPLB shall notify the licensee of its decision regarding license renewal no later than 30 days after reaching a decision as set forth in Section 21B-45(m) of the

Code. Upon receipt of notification of renewal, the licensee, using ELIS, shall pay the applicable registration fee. If the decision is not to renew the individual's license, the notification shall state the reasons for that decision.

d) An individual whose license is not renewed because of a failure to complete professional development in accordance with this Subpart J may reinstate the license once that license has lapsed (i.e., September 1 of the year in which the license expired) if the individual has;

1) paid any accumulated registration fees, including registration fees owed;

2) either paid the penalty or completed the coursework required under Section 21B-45 of the Code with a grade of C- or higher; and

3) presented evidence of completing the balance of the professional development activities that were required for renewal of the license previously held.

~~e)~~ ~~SEPLB shall not renew any license if information provided on the application makes the holder subject to the requirements of any of Sections 25.485 through 25.491. Any disciplinary action taken against a licensee under any of those Sections shall be in accordance with the rules of the State Board for Contested Cases and Other Formal Hearings (23 Ill. Adm. Code 475). The decision of the State Board is a final administrative decision and shall be subject to administrative review as set forth in Section 21B-90 of the Code.~~

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)

Section 25.860 Reporting by and Audits of Providers

Each provider listed under Section 25.855(b) or approved under Section 25.855(c) is subject to the requirements of this Section.

a) During an audit, each provider shall submit to the State Board a list of the subcontractors used in the previous 12 months for professional development activities for which credit was provided in accordance with this Subpart ~~J~~. For each subcontractor, the provider shall submit the name, date, and summary of each activity provided, and the outcomes anticipated.

b) Each provider shall submit to the State Board, as part of its audit, any data and other information that responds to the requirements of Section 21B-45(j)(2) of the

Code. The following materials must be provided for each selected activity by the timelines specified in subsection (c):

1) Attendance rosters, including educator name and IEIN;

2) Evaluation for Workshop, Conference, Seminar form data;

3) Approved Professional Development Provider Activity Summary form;

4) Approved Provider Report;

5) Additional documentation deemed necessary by the State Board.

c) An audit of each provider shall be conducted at least once every five years in accordance with Section 21B-45(j)(3) of the Code. ROEs and intermediate service centers shall conduct audits of school districts and cooperatives within their regions. Data and information from the audits, as well as collected pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) of this Section, shall be used to determine if the provider has met the requirements of Section 21B-45 of the Code and this Subpart ~~J~~.

1) In the event that a determination is made that applicable standards have not been met, the State Board may withdraw approval for one or more types of activities or of the provider.

2) A licensee may not receive credit for any professional development activity that is designed for entertainment, promotional, or commercial purposes; that is solely inspirational or motivational; or that addresses purposes other than those listed in Section 25.855(d)(3), and the State Board may disapprove any activity found to be of this nature.

A) When an activity is disapproved under this subsection (c), the provider may continue to offer the activity but shall not provide to any participants the standard form referred to in Section 25.865 and shall immediately revise all relevant notices and advertisements to indicate the nature of the activity. The provider shall be required to state in each notice or advertisement that the activity generates no credit applicable to license renewal. Individuals who complete the activity once it is accurately described shall not claim credit for it.

B) Individuals who have completed an activity that is later disapproved under this subsection (c) shall not be penalized with respect to professional development credit accrued for that activity.

~~3)~~ ~~Providers that do not conduct professional development activities in the year prior to an audit shall be considered discontinued and must reapply to be a professional development provider in accordance with Section 25.855 (Approval of Professional Development Providers) unless the provider is statutorily approved and has completed the annual registration.~~

3~~4~~) Each provider being audited under this Subpart J shall submit a list of all professional development activities, including date of occurrence, that were offered within the last 12 months. The State Board shall select a sample of activities for the audit.

4~~5~~) Each provider being audited under this Subpart J shall submit requested documentation to the State Board within four weeks after the request is made.

5~~6~~) State Board staff may attend an activity at any time with one day's advance notice and ask to speak with participants, speakers, or activity organizers.

6~~7~~) All documentation must be submitted in a format specified by the State Board.

7~~8~~) The State Board will audit the ROEs and intermediate service center to review the data and information collected.

(Source: Amended at 48 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _____)