



Illinois State Board of Education

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TO: Illinois Preparation Program Licensure Officers

FROM: Cristina Dimmitt-Salinas, Division Supervisor

DATE: ~~January 12, 2017~~ Updated January 18, 2017

SUBJECT: Important Notice of Grade Range Change

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) would like to notify Illinois licensure officers of the change in policy regarding grade ranges for the following endorsements:

- English as a Second Language
- Bilingual
- Gifted Teacher

Effective January 11, 2017, the endorsements listed above may be entitled for the full grade range an educator holds instead of separate and exclusive grade ranges; K-4, 5-8, 9-12. Licensure officers and staff must ensure that candidates meet all requirements for the above endorsement prior to the recommendation for entitlement. A table of examples is provided below for further clarity.

Educator Holds: <i>(Single)</i>	Endorsement Issued for:		Educator Holds: <i>(Multiple)</i>	Endorsement Issued for:
B-3	B-3		B-3 & K-9	B-9
B-2	B-2		1-6 & 5-8	1-8
K-9	K-9		K-9 & K-12	K-12
1-6	1-6		9-12 & 6-8	6-12
5-8 (MG)	5-8		5-8 (MG) & 9-12	5-12
6-12	6-12		K-9 & 5-8	K-9
K-12	K-12			
<i>The middle school professional coursework is <u>only</u> required if the endorsement is issued exclusively in the 5-8 or 6-8 grade range only.</i>				

ISBE will not issue the above endorsements retroactively. Example: An educator (highlighted above) with an English as a Second Language (ESL) endorsement issued for the 1-8 grade range completes a K-12 Art Program three years later. If the educator then wants to hold the full K-12 grade range for ESL, they would submit an application for the additional grade range (either 9-12 or K-12). ISBE will not convert the 1-8 endorsement to K-12 as it would reflect an inaccurate issue date for the K-12 ESL endorsement.

ISBE is open to transitioning the additional endorsements below to align with the full grade range an educator holds instead of separate and exclusive grade ranges; K-4, 5-8, 9-12.

- Reading Teacher
- Library Information Specialist
- Technology Specialist
- Foreign Language

We invite you to provide feedback by completing a short five minute survey found [here](#).

**It is important to note that the grade range policy for the LBSI endorsement (4 areas) remains unchanged.

Please forward all questions to your designated ISBE liaison.