Bilingual, English as a second language (ESL), and english as a new language (ENL) Credentials
The Bilingual Classroom Setting

• Districts are required to provide bilingual instruction if a school has at least 20 children fluent in the same language who do not speak English.
• Instruction in bilingual classrooms must include ESL (intense English instruction) for part of the day.
• Core subjects are taught in the native language of the children so that they will not fall behind in core academic areas.
• The goal of bilingual education is to move the children from bilingual classrooms to “regular” classrooms within 3 years.
• Illinois offers target language proficiency (TLP) tests in 26 different languages.
Target Language Proficiency Tests

- Lao
- Lithuanian
- Malayalam
- Mandarin
- Nepali
- Polish
- Russian
- Serbian
- Spanish
- Telugu
- Ukrainian
- Urdu
- Vietnamese

- English
- Arabic
- Assyrian
- Bosnian
- Burmese
- Bulgarian
- Cantonese
- Filipino
- Greek
- Gujarati
- Hindi
- Japanese
- Korean
Bilingual Endorsement Requirements

- Bilingual and ESL endorsements may be added at the primary, middle school, or senior high school level.
- A bilingual endorsement requires 18 semester hours of coursework with a distribution:
  - Foundations of bilingual education
  - Assessment of bilingual students
  - Methods and materials for teaching limited-English proficient students in bilingual programs
  - Cross-cultural studies for teaching limited-English proficient students
  - Methods and materials for teaching English as a second language; AND
Bilingual Endorsement Requirements

- Completed a minimum of 100 clock hours or three months of teaching experience in a bilingual program or programs;
- Passed a language assessment in the non-English language to be taught.
- One must complete the 6 semester hours of middle grade coursework to receive the middle school bilingual endorsement.
Bilingual Approval Requirements

• The requirements are the same as for the bilingual endorsement.
• The bilingual approval is valid for the grade level of the certificate.
ESL Classroom Setting

- ESL teachers do not need to provide proof of proficiency in a second language.
- Intense English instruction is utilized in this setting.
- Students from a variety of linguistic and cultural backgrounds may be taught in an ESL classroom setting.
English as a Second Language (ESL)  
Endorsement Requirements

- A minimum of 100 clock hours or three months of teaching experience with ESL students; and
- Completed coursework totaling 18 semester hours in the following:
  - Linguistics
  - Theoretical foundations of teaching ESL
  - Assessment of the bilingual student
  - Methods and materials for teaching ESL
  - Cross-cultural studies for teaching limited-English proficient students
English as a Second Language Approval

- The requirements are the same as for the ESL endorsement.
- The ESL approval is valid for the grade level of the certificate.
English as a New Language Endorsements (ENL)*

• ENL endorsements may be added only at the senior high school level on secondary or special teaching certificates or at “grade level of certificate” on a Special K-12 certificate.

• Requirements for this endorsement include:
  o 24 semester hours of coursework in ENL (12 hours in upper division) and passage of the ENL test.

*ENL includes a combination of ESL and bilingual coursework
English as a New Language Endorsement (ENL)

- Applicants may receive an ENL endorsement with no specific language designation, allowing them to teach in an ESL setting.
- An applicant must complete the required coursework, pass the ENL test, and pass the applicable target language proficiency test to teach in a bilingual setting.
Transitional Bilingual Certificate

- Requirements include:
  - Bachelor's degree or higher;
  - Possess a certificate of another type (may be a substitute certificate); and
  - Demonstrate proficiency in both English and the target language.
    - The medium of instruction of the university where the applicant earned his/her degree determines what testing is required.
    - Testing is not required if the applicant graduated from institutions where English and the target language were the medium of instruction.
Transitional Bilingual Certificate

- The Transitional Bilingual Certificate is a temporary teaching certificate.
  - The certificate is valid for six years.
  - During this time, the teacher must complete the requirements for an elementary, secondary, early childhood, or special teaching certificate.
Transitional Bilingual Certificate

• Teachers holding a Transitional Bilingual Certificate may teach in a **K-12 bilingual setting** and/or a **K-6 ESL setting**.

• Teachers holding a Transitional Bilingual Certificate may submit an endorsement application for only one area—the LBS I approval or endorsement.
The Educator License with Stipulations Endorsed in Transitional Bilingual Education

- Beginning June 1, 2013, the Transitional Bilingual Certificate will be replaced with the Educator License with Stipulations Endorsed in Transitional Bilingual Education.
- The requirements will be the same, however, the license with stipulations will be valid for 5 years and will not be renewable.
- One may add a language endorsement to the educator license with stipulations endorsed in transitional bilingual education by passing the TAP and the applicable language content-area test. The language endorsement would be valid as long as the license is valid (5 years or less).
Visiting International Teacher Certificate

• Illinois school districts may conduct formal recruitment of teachers educated abroad if Illinois has a memorandum of understanding with the country where the recruitment takes place.

• This certificate is valid for 3 years and is not renewable.

• An assessment of the individual’s English language skills will be assessed abroad.
Visiting International Teacher Certificate

• These certificates include early childhood, elementary, secondary, or special (K-12).

• The following endorsements are available:
  o Major field of study;
  o The medium of instruction of the university from which the individual graduated with a minimum of a bachelor’s degree; and
  o Bilingual education
Requirements for the Visiting International Certificate

• Hold the equivalent of a U.S. bachelor’s degree;
• Prepared as a teacher at the grade level at which he/she will be employed;
• Possess adequate content knowledge in the subject matter to be taught; and
• Have adequate command of the English language.
There are four options to obtain a bilingual special education approval. They are:

Option One:
- Hold a special education teaching certificate or a teaching certificate with a special education approval or endorsement;
- Complete the language proficiency assessment in the target language;
- Complete a theoretical foundations of bilingual/ESL education course;
- Complete a bilingual methods course; and
- Complete the bilingual assessment course.
Bilingual Special Education Approval

- Option Two:
  - Hold an early childhood, elementary, secondary, or special certificate AND an ESL or bilingual approval;
  - Complete coursework in LBS I characteristics;
  - Complete coursework in LBS I methods; and
  - Complete coursework in psychological diagnosis for exceptional students.
Bilingual Special Education Approval

- **Option Three:**
  - Hold a transitional bilingual certificate and have 2 years of successful teaching experience;
  - Complete coursework in LSB I methods and characteristics;
  - Complete coursework in the survey of the exceptional child; and
  - Complete a course in theoretical foundations and a course in assessment of the bilingual student.
Bilingual Special Education Approval

- Option Four:
  - Hold a school service personnel certificate (except school nurse);
  - Complete the applicable target language proficiency test; and
  - Complete the bilingual assessment course.
Conclusion

• Thank you for attending this week’s webinar.
• Please join us on October 24, 2012 to discuss Entitlement Procedures.
• We will now open take questions regarding bilingual credentials, ESL and ENL.