Greetings from ISBE

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide specialized information to Illinois educators, administrators, and regional office administration and personnel. By providing this newsletter to education stakeholders throughout the state of Illinois, we hope to develop a better informed workforce, foster a greater sense of community, and build morale among those who impact academic achievement. Most importantly, the aim is to improve the lives of Illinois students.

Keeping Current

LICENSE AND RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS

How much are registration fees for my license?

Licenses must be registered for $10 per year to prevent them from lapsing. Educators can pay registration fees by logging in to ELIS, and registration fees must be paid for the entire cycle of the license. If you hold more than one license, you must pay registration fees for each license. It is the educator’s responsibility to remember when his/her license needs to be registered.

Get the PD or pay the fee:

If a license is not registered after six months, it lapses, and the educator will have to pay a $500 penalty fee OR complete nine semester hours of appropriate college coursework. View more information about lapsed licenses and other licensure FAQ at http://isbe.net/licensure/pdf/ELIS-faq.pdf.

HIGHLY QUALIFIED

With the passage of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), some provisions are being phased-in or phased-out with full implementation in 2017-18. One provision that is no longer required for the 2016-17 school year is the Highly Qualified requirements for teachers and paraprofessionals as outlined in Section 1119 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Effective July 1, 2016, teachers and paraprofessionals must meet state licensure requirements. For more information, please see the ISBE Licensure Division at http://www.isbe.net/licensure/default.htm.

ISBE STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) seeks high school students to share their input on state education issues as part of its Student Advisory Council (SAC). Students who will start the upcoming school year as a sophomore, junior, or senior in an Illinois public high school are eligible to apply for one of 12 open spots by May 27 at www.isbe.net/sac.

Rules

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

Four sets of proposed amendments recently reviewed by ISBE are available for public comment. The proposals and a summary of the issues involved have been posted at www.isbe.net/rules; choose “Proposed Rules and Amendments.” Please submit any comments or suggestions to rules@isbe.net. The public comment period ends May 16.

• Part 1 (Public Schools Evaluation, Recognition and Supervision)
• Part 20 (Standards for Endorsements in Elementary Education)
• Part 25 (Educator Licensure)
• Part 26 (Standards for Endorsements in Early Childhood Education and in Elementary Education)
ISBE no longer issues paper licenses. Educators will need to utilize ELIS or the public portal at http://isbe.net/ELIS/default.htm. To best utilize our resources, we will no longer provide letters verifying licensure since licensure information is available to the public online.

**LICENSURE TESTING**

**APT (188) OR edTPA**

All educators, whether prepared in educator preparation programs in state or out of state, who have completed student teaching prior to August 31, 2015 and are seeking their first PEL, are eligible to complete either the Assessment of Professional Teaching Standards (APT 188) or the edTPA.

**SUBSTITUTE TEACHING**

Any individual who holds a valid and registered license and a bachelor’s degree at a minimum may serve as a substitute teacher without having to also hold the substitute teaching license. If an individual does not hold a PEL, but holds at least a bachelor’s degree and wishes to sub, they must apply for and be issued a substitute license in order to sub. For instance, if an individual holds an ELS-Paraprofessional, and also holds a bachelor’s degree, that individual may sub on the ELS-PARA.

**Per Illinois Administrative Code 1.790(a); Section 21B-20(3) of the School Code [105 ILCS 5/21B-20(3)]**

**ELIS**

ELIS only allows out-of-state educators to apply for one endorsement at the time of application for the Professional Educator License (PEL). Educators may request review for additional endorsements at the time of PEL application by emailing a request to licensure@isbe.net. The request must include the educator’s name, IEIN, and the content area/grade range sought. The license must still be in “pending review” status (which means it has not yet been evaluated) at the time the email is received by ISBE.

**RENEWAL OF PEL OR ELS-CTE**

Educators with a PEL or ELS-CTE expiration date of June 30, 2016, are eligible to renew their licenses now. The renewal and registration process must be completed by June 30, 2016. Log in to your ELIS account to renew and register your license.

**Problems with Renewal:** If you are experiencing problems with the renewal process, including issues with registration fees, please contact your regional office of education: http://www.isbe.net/regionaloffices/pdf/roedirectory.pdf

**Reminder for Renewal:** All educators working in an administrative position during the 2016-2017 school year must complete an Administrators’ Academy for renewal.

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**Staff Spotlight**

**MEET EMILY FOX, DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR**

Emily is originally from Rushville, Illinois, where she graduated high school. She attended the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and received her master’s degree from the University of Illinois at Springfield.

Emily started her career in the Admissions Office at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, where she recruited students for the University, planned recruitment events, and assisted students in choosing majors and understanding admission requirements. It is through this position that she developed her passion for education and helping students. Emily has worked for the Illinois State Board of Education for almost four years where she began in the Certification Division. Emily strives to foster a transparent environment and establish a reputation of excellent customer service. She envisions increasing division communication with the field, utilizing the ideas of stakeholders and staff to improve processes, and work together as a team to positively impact educators and the children they serve.

Emily and her husband Mark live in Springfield with their German Shepherd Omar and their four cats – Jax, Cinnamon, Sage and Lavender.

ISBE is proud to have Emily as a great leader for our staff!