

SJR 49

School Support Personnel

December 8, 2025

Senate Joint Resolution 49

RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONEHUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING HEREIN, that we direct the Professional Review Panel and the Illinois State Board of Education to conduct the analysis and financial modeling required to evaluate the implications of implementing the recommended maximum caseloads for school social workers, school psychologists, school counselors, school nurses, and speech-language pathologists working in schools; and be it further RESOLVED, that the Professional Review Panel and the Illinois State Board of Education shall submit their findings in a written report to the General Assembly and Governor by December 31, 2025.

SJR 49 School Support Personnel*

SSP	State Association	National Association	National Association Recommendation	Illinois Data School Year 2023-24
School Counselor	Illinois School Counselor Association (ISCA)	American School Counselor Association (ASCA)	250:1	494:1
School Nurse	Illinois Association of School Nurses (IASN)	National Association of School Nurses (NASN)	750: 1	1,531:1
School Psychologist	Illinois School Psychologists Association (ISPA)	National Association of School Psychologists (NASP)	500:1	885:1

*Medicaid Fee For Service Providers

SSP	State Association	National Association	National Association Recommendation	Data
School Social Worker	Illinois Association of School Social Workers (IASSW)	National Association of Social Workers (NASW) and School Social Work Association of America (SSWA)	250:1	432:1
Speech Language Pathologist	Illinois Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ISHA)	American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA)	Workload Analysis Approach. ILCS 226.735 Caseload Limit of 60	Average Caseload: 42

*Medicaid Fee For Service Providers

FY 2022 ELIS Data Illinois Licensure*

School Support Newly Issued FY 2022	
School Counselor	336
Speech Language Pathologist	422
School Psychologist	180
School Nurse	149
School Social Worker	547
School Guidance	0

FY 2022 School Support	
School Counselor	5,891
Speech Language Pathologist	6,317
School Psychologist	3,714
School Nurse	1,543
School Social Worker	7,531
School Guidance	2,576

FY 2022 Total School Support PELs: 27,572

**Totals include 1,692 retired personnel with active licenses*

FY 2023 ELIS Data Illinois Licensure*

School Support Newly Issued FY 2023	
School Counselor	339
Speech Language Pathologist	490
School Psychologist	153
School Nurse	138
School Social Worker	438
School Guidance	0

FY 2023 School Support	
School Counselor	6,197
Speech Language Pathologist	6,819
School Psychologist	3,900
School Nurse	1,692
School Social Worker	8,024
School Guidance	2,576

FY 2023 Total Support PELs: 29,208

**Totals include 1,884 retired personnel with active licenses*

FY 2024 ELIS Data Illinois Licensure*

School Support Newly Issued FY 2024	
School Counselor	331
Speech Language Pathologist	512
School Psychologist	221
School Nurse	171
School Social Worker	479
School Guidance	1

FY 2024 School Support	
School Counselor	6,393
Speech Language Pathologist	7,150
School Psychologist	4,054
School Nurse	1,814
School Social Worker	8,359
School Guidance	2,576

FY 2024 Total Support PELs: 30,346

**Totals include 2,056 retired personnel with active licenses*

District Reporting School Support Personnel 105 ILCS 5/2-3.182

Head Count of Total Endorsed Full-Time Employees	Head Count of Full-Time Employees with Speech and Language Pathology Endorsements	Head Count of Full-Time Employees with School Counselor, Childcare Guidance Worker, and Guidance Endorsements	Head Count of Full-Time Employees with School Psychologist Endorsement	Head Count of Full-Time Employees with School Social Worker Endorsement	Head Count of Full-Time Employees with School Nurse Endorsement
17,101	3,545	4,858	2,423	5,303	972

Head Count of Total Endorsed Part-Time Employees	Head Count of Part-Time Employees with Speech and Language Pathology Endorsements	Head Count of Part-Time Employees with School Counselor, Childcare Guidance Worker, and Guidance Endorsements	Head Count of Part-Time Employees with School Psychologist Endorsement	Head Count of Part-Time Employees with School Social Worker Endorsement	Head Count of Part-Time Employees with School Nurse Endorsement
258	78	61	43	65	11

Total Head Count Full Time + Part Time: 17,359

**Not All School Districts Reported*

Impact on Evidence-Based Funding

Some of the elements are not supported through EBF and would require both third-party research and changes to statute.

Changes to the State's Adequacy Target, or cost of education, are shown below.

- School Counselor: \$141.4 million increase, or 0.5%
- School Nurse: No change
- School Psychologist: \$202.7 million increase, or 0.7%
- School Social Worker: No cost factor exists
- Speech Language Pathologist: No cost factor exists

This represents a total increase of about 1.2% but does not fully consider all positions.

Thank you