

Instruction

School Accountability ¹

According to the Illinois General Assembly, the primary purpose of schooling is the transmission of knowledge and culture through which students learn in areas necessary to their continuing development and entry into the world of work.² To fulfill that purpose, the Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE) prepared *State Goals for Learning* with accompanying *Illinois Learning Standards*.³

The School Board gives priority in the allocation of resources, including funds, time, personnel, and facilities, to fulfilling this purpose.

Quality Assurance

The Board continuously monitors student achievement and the quality of the District's work. The Superintendent shall supervise the following quality assurance components, in accordance with State law and ISBE rules, and continuously keep the Board informed:

1. Prepare each school's annual recognition application and quality assurance appraisal, whether internal or external, to assess each school's continuous school improvement. ⁴
2. Continuously assess the District's and each school's overall performance in terms of both academic success and equity. This includes, without limitation, a thorough analysis of ISBE's balanced accountability measure and each school's *Multiple Measure Index* and corresponding *Annual Measurable Objective* provided by ISBE. ⁵
3. If applicable, develop District and School Improvement Plans, present them for Board approval, and supervise their implementation. ⁶

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

¹ State or federal law controls this policy's content.

² 105 ILCS 5/27-1.

³ 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1, Appendix D.

⁴ 105 ILCS 5/2-3.25 - 2-3.25b, amended by P.A. 100-1046; 23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.10(a) and 1.20.

⁵ 105 ILCS 5/2-3.25a, amended by P.A.s 99-193, 99-657, and 100-1046; 5/2-3.64a-5, amended by P.A. 100-1046. First, 105 ILCS 5/2-3.25a, amended by P.A. 99-193, significantly revised the system of standards for school districts and schools. Next, 105 ILCS 5/2-3.25a, amended by P.A. 99-657, delayed certain implementation dates by one school year. Finally, 105 ILCS 5/2-3.25a, amended by P.A. 100-1046, further revised the system of standards for school districts and schools. ISBE must establish recognition standards for student performance and school improvement for all districts and their individual schools. ISBE must outline accountability measures in its State plan that it submits to the U.S. Dept. of Education under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) (Pub. L. 114-95). If ESSA ceases to require a state plan, then ISBE must develop a written plan in consultation with the Ill. Balanced Accountability Measure (IBAM) Committee. 105 ILCS 5/2-3.25a, amended by P.A.s 99-193, 99-657, and 100-1046.

⁶ The requirements around district and school improvement plans are unknown until ISBE revises its rules at 23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 1, Subpart A: Recognition Requirements following P.A.s 99-193 and 100-1046. P.A. 99-193 deleted the requirements concerning improvement plans as well as the sanctions for failing to make adequate yearly progress contained in 105 ILCS 5/2-3.25d, but then P.A. 100-1046 repealed 105 ILCS 5/2-3.25d in its entirety. 105 ILCS 5/2-3.25f(a) continues to state that ISBE "shall provide technical assistance to assist with the development and implementation of School and District Improvement Plans" and that schools or districts "that fail to make reasonable efforts to implement an approved Improvement Plan may suffer loss of State funds by school district, attendance center, or program as the State Board of Education deems appropriate."

4. Prepare a school report card, present it at a regular Board meeting, and disseminate it as provided in State law. ⁷
5. In accordance with 105 ILCS 5/2-3.153, annually administer a climate survey on the instructional environment within the school to, at minimum, students in grades 4 through 12 and teachers. ⁸

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/2-3.25, 5/2-3.25a, 5/2-3.25b, 5/2-3.25c, 5/2-3.25d-5, 5/2-3.25e-5, 5/2-3.25f, 5/2-3.25f-5, 5/2-3.63, 5/2-3.64a-5, 5/2-3.153, 5/10-21.3a, and 5/27-1.
23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 1, Subpart A: Recognition Requirements.

CROSS REF.: 6:170 (Title I Programs), 6:340 (Student Testing and Assessment Program), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities)

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

⁷ 105 ILCS 5/10-17a, amended by P.A.s 100-807, 100-1121, and 101-68, eff. 1-1-20. Districts must present the report card at a regular board meeting, post it on the district's website, make it available to newspapers of general circulation in the district, notify parents/guardians of its availability on the district's website, provide it to parents/guardians on request, submit it to the regional superintendent or appropriate Intermediate Service Center, and otherwise disseminate it as required by State law. See 2:250-E2, *Immediately Available District Public Records and Web-Posted Reports and Records*.

⁸ Required by 105 ILCS 5/2-3.153, amended by P.A. 100-1046, and 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.97. The State Superintendent must publicly report on the survey indicators of learning conditions resulting from the administration of the instrument at the individual school, district, and State levels. A district may use an alternate learning instrument approved by the State Superintendent at its own cost. These survey instruments are authorized by July 1 each year and posted at: www.isbe.net/Pages/5Essentials-Survey.aspx. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.97(g)(1)-(2). To use an alternate survey instrument, the district must submit a form developed for this purpose and posted at www.isbe.net/Pages/5Essentials-Survey.aspx to the State Superintendent on or before a date established by the State Superintendent each year. *Id.*

Insert the following sentence for districts that administer an alternate survey of learning conditions at their own cost: "The District has elected to use an alternate climate survey of learning conditions instrument."

Instruction

School Year Calendar and Day 1

School Calendar

The School Board, upon the Superintendent's recommendation and subject to State regulations, annually establishes the dates for opening and closing classes, teacher institutes and in-services, the length and dates of vacations, and the days designated as legal school holidays.² The school calendar shall have a minimum of 185 days to ensure 176 days of actual student attendance. ³

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

¹ State or federal law controls this policy's content. This policy contains an item on which collective bargaining may be required. Any policy that impacts upon wages, hours, and terms and conditions of employment, is subject to collective bargaining upon request by the employee representative, even if the policy involves an inherent managerial right.

² State-mandated school holidays are found in 105 ILCS 5/24-2. See policy 5:330, *Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves*, for a holiday listing. The law allows a school board to hold school or schedule teachers' institutes, parent-teacher conferences, or staff development on five identified school holidays if: (1) the school board first holds a public hearing on the proposal; and (2) the person or persons honored by the holiday are recognized through instructional activities conducted on the school holiday or on the first school day preceding or following the school holiday. Districts must redo the public hearing process in the event they change plans for use of holidays. See Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE) guidance at: www.isbe.net/Documents/district-holiday-plans13.pdf. This is an item on which collective bargaining may be required, and a board that wishes to implement this law should consult its attorney.

A State mandated school holiday on *Good Friday* is unconstitutional according to *Metzl v. Leininger*, 57 F.3d 618 (7th Cir. 1995). Closing school on religious holidays may still be permissible for those districts able to demonstrate, e.g., through surveys, that remaining open would be a waste of educational resources due to widespread absenteeism. Also, districts may be able to close school on Good Friday by adopting a *spring holiday* rationale or ensuring that it falls within spring break. School districts should discuss all of these options, and collective bargaining implications with their board attorneys.

If the county board or board of election commissioners chooses a school to be a polling place, the school district must make the school available. 10 ILCS 5/11-4.1. For the Election Day, the law encourages a school district to either: (1) close the school; or (2) hold a teachers' institute on that day with the students not in attendance. *Id.*

³ The school calendar must have a minimum 185 days to ensure 176 days of actual pupil attendance. 105 ILCS 5/10-19, amended by P.A. 101-12, and 5/24-1; 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.420. Schools must be closed during county institute. 105 ILCS 5/24-3. The school calendar may be a mandatory subject of collective bargaining. The calendar for the school term and any changes must be submitted to and approved by the regional superintendent before the calendar or changes may take effect. 105 ILCS 5/10-19.

E-learning days allow a school district to provide instruction to students electronically while they are not physically present due to inclement weather and other unexpected events. 105 ILCS 5/10-20.56, added by P.A. 101-12, opens the use of e-learning days from three pilot districts to all districts that meet the requirements of the statute. Before a school district can implement an e-learning program and use e-learning days it must, along with other requirements (1) hold a public hearing on the initial proposal for the e-learning program, (2) obtain verification from the Regional Office of Education (ROE) or Intermediate Service Center (ISC) for the school district that the initial proposal meets the requirements specified in the law, and (3) by resolution adopt a research-based program for district-wide e-learning days. Before implementing an e-learning program, boards must collectively bargain the impact of the program on the wages, hours, terms and conditions of employment with employee representative(s). More information about e-learning, is available at: www.isbe.net/Pages/Electronic-Learning.aspx.

Commemorative Holidays

The teachers and students shall devote a portion of the school day on each commemorative holiday designated in the School Code to study and honor the commemorated person or occasion.⁴ The Board may, from time to time, designate a regular school day as a commemorative holiday.

School Day

The Board establishes the length of the school day with the recommendation of the Superintendent and subject to State law requirements.⁵ The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that observances required by State law are followed during each day of school attendance. ⁶

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

⁴ 105 ILCS 5/24-2(c) lists the following as commemorative holidays: Jan. 28 (Christa McAuliffe Day commemorating space exploration); Feb. 15 (Susan B. Anthony's birthday); Mar. 29 (Vietnam War Veterans' Day); Sept. 11 (Sept. 11th Day of Remembrance); the school day immediately preceding Veterans' Day (Korean War Veterans' Day); Oct. 1 (Recycling Day); Oct. 7 (Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans Remembrance Day); and Dec. 7 (Pearl Harbor Veterans' Day).

Other commemorative holidays include, but are not limited to: Arbor and Bird Day on the last Friday in April (105 ILCS 5/27-18); Leif Erickson Day on October 9 if a school day and otherwise on a school day nearest the date (105 ILCS 5/27-19); American Indian Day on the 4th Friday of September (105 ILCS 5/27-20); Ill. Law Week during the first full school week in May (105 ILCS 5/27-20.1); Just Say No Day on a school day in May designated by official proclamation of the Governor (105 ILCS 5/20.2); Ronald Reagan Day on Feb. 6 (5 ILCS 490/2); Barack Obama Day on August 4 (5 ILCS 490/3); Indigenous Peoples Day on the last Monday in September (5 ILCS 490/7); Lincoln's Birthday February 12 (5 ILCS 490/60); Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday the third Monday in January (5 ILCS 490/65); Prairie Week the third full week in September (5 ILCS 490/75); Retired Teachers' Week the fourth week in May (5 ILCS 490/80); Veterans Day November 11 (5 ILCS 490/90); Preventing Lost Potential Day September 19 (5 ILCS 490/141); Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade on March 25 (5 ILCS 490/155); the first full week of January is Emancipation Proclamation Week (5 ILCS 490/160); Mother Mary Ann Bickerdyke Day on the second Wednesday in May (5 ILCS 490/175); and April is Arab American Heritage Month (5 ILCS 490/6, amended by P.A. 100-1150).

⁵ A school day is required to consist of a minimum five clock hours under the direct supervision of a teacher or non-teaching personnel or volunteer personnel that provides non-teaching or supervisory duties as specified in 105 ILCS 5/10-22.34(a), in order to qualify as a full day of attendance. 105 ILCS 5/10-19.05, added by P.A. 101-12. See www.isbe.net/Documents/SB28Instructional-Day.pdf for ISBE's notice regarding this law. See 105 ILCS 5/10-19.05, added by P.A. 101-12, for additional exceptions to the attendance calculation.

Contrast 105 ILCS 5/18-12, amended by P.A. 100-28. It allows a partial day of attendance to be counted as a full day due to an adverse weather condition, condition beyond the control of the school district that poses a health and safety threat, or use of school facilities by local or county authorities for holding a memorial or funeral service in remembrance of a community member (up to two school days per school year) provided one of following conditions is met: (1) the school district has provided at least one hour of instruction prior to the closure of the school district; (2) a school building has provided at least one hour of instruction prior to the closure of the school building; or (3) the normal start time of the school district is delayed. The law also outlines the process to claim attendance prior to providing any instruction when a school district must close a building or buildings, but not the entire district, after consultation with a local emergency response agency or due to a condition beyond the control of the district. Additionally, 105 ILCS 5/18-12.5 outlines the process for claiming attendance when a school district must close a building or buildings, but not the entire district, specifically because of a public health emergency. Attendance for such days may only be claimed if the school building(s) was scheduled to be in operation on those days.

Alternative education programs may provide fewer than five hours under certain circumstances. 105 ILCS 5/2-3.33a and 5/13B-50.

⁶ 105 ILCS 5/27-3 requires the Pledge of Allegiance to be recited every day in elementary and secondary schools. Note that the Illinois statute does not require every student to recite the Pledge – that kind of mandatory participation would violate the U.S. Constitution. Schools may not coerce a student into saying the Pledge, nor may they punish students for refusing to participate in any aspect of the flag ritual, including standing, saluting the flag, and reciting the Pledge. West Virginia State Bd. of Educ. v. Barnette, 319 U.S. 624 (1943); Sherman v. Community Consolidated Sch. Dist. 21 of Wheeling Township, 980 F.2d 437 (7th Cir. 1992). Consider using permissive rather than mandatory language to introduce the recitation of the Pledge, such as, “You may now stand to recite the Pledge.” Schools may, of course, require that non-participants maintain order and decorum appropriate to the school environment.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-19, 5/10-19.05, 5/10-24.46, 5/18-12, 5/18-12.5, 5/24-2, 5/27-3, 5/27-18, 5/27-19, 5/27-20, 5/27-20.1, 5/27-20.2, and 20/1.
10 ILCS 5/11-4.1.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.420(f).
Metzl v. Leininger, 850 F.Supp. 740 (N.D. Ill. 1994), *aff'd by* 57 F.3d 618 (7th Cir. 1995).

CROSS REF.: 2:20 (Powers and Duties of the School Board; Indemnification), 5:200 (Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal), 5:330 (Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:70 (Teaching About Religions), 7:90 (Release During School Hours)

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

The Silent Reflection and Student Prayer Act mandates a *brief period of silence* for all Illinois public school students at the opening of each school day. 105 ILCS 20/1. A student filed a federal lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of this law under the First Amendment, but the law was ultimately upheld by the Appeals Court. Sherman v. Koch, 623 F.3d 501 (7th Cir. 2010), *cert denied by* 565 U.S. 815 (2011). 105 ILCS 5/10-20.46 requires a moment of silence to recognize veterans during any type of event held at a district school on Nov. 11. See f/n 2 above for more discussion.

Instruction

Curriculum Content 1

The curriculum shall contain instruction on subjects required by State statute or regulation as follows:

1. In kindergarten through grade 8, subjects include: (a) language arts, (b) reading, (c) other communication skills, (d) science, (e) mathematics,² (f) social studies, (g) art, (h) music,³ and (i) drug and substance abuse prevention.⁴ A reading opportunity of 60 minutes per day will be promoted for all students in kindergarten through grade 3 whose reading levels are one grade level or more lower than their current grade level.⁵ Before the completion of grade 5, students will be offered at least one unit of cursive instruction.⁶ Beginning with the 2020-2021 school year, in grades 6, 7, or 8, students must receive at least one semester of civics education in accordance with Illinois Learning Standards for social science. ⁷

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

¹ Districts must have a policy on physical education (23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.425, amended by 42 Ill. Reg. 11540) and what grade level(s) students will be offered cursive writing instruction (105 ILCS 5/27-20.7, added by P.A. 100-548). Policies on the remaining topics in this policy are optional. State or federal law controls this policy's content. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.420, amended at 42 Ill. Reg. 11527, recommends that activities, including student internships and observations of government in action, be a part of the instructional program where appropriate.

State law mandates certain courses of study but local school boards may set requirements exceeding State-law mandated courses of study. 105 ILCS 5/10-20.8 and 5/27-1 *et seq.*

² 105 ILCS 5/2-3.156 requires the Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE) to coordinate, adapt and develop middle and high school math curriculum models. There is no consistent definition for *middle school* or *high school* in either State or federal law. Districts are not required to use ISBE's models and may develop their own mathematics curricula.

The purpose of the math curriculum models will be to aid school districts and teachers in implementing the *Common Core Standards*. The ISBE has adopted new math and English language arts (ELA) standards for K-12 education referred to as the *New Ill. State Learning Standards Incorporating the Common Core*. The goal of incorporating the *Common Core Standards* into the *State Goals for Learning* is to better prepare Ill. students for success in college and the workforce in a competitive global economy. See www.isbe.net/Documents/ccs-faq-0813.pdf.

The terms *Common Core Standards* and the *New Ill. State Learning Standards Incorporating the Common Core* are synonymous. Referencing the *Ill. Learning Standards* includes them both. That is because they are incorporated by reference into ISBE's rules and *State Goals for Learning*. A district that wants to include the term *Common Core Standards* in its policy may do so; however, districts should understand that referring to the *Common Core Standards* only will cover only math and ELA learning standards and goals and not any other subject areas that the *Ill. Learning Standards* cover. The best practice is to continue using *Ill. Learning Standards*, which includes the *Common Core Standards*.

³ 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.430.

⁴ 105 ILCS 5/27-13.2. House Resolution 824 (98th General Assembly, 2014) urges all Illinois schools to educate youth about the dangers of using heroin and the rising numbers of accidental deaths from heroin overdoses through comprehensive drug education programs, including the *Drug Abuse Resistance Education* (DARE) program. No guidance on age appropriate instruction for heroin abuse is provided in the resolution.

⁵ 105 ILCS 5/10-20.53.

⁶ 105 ILCS 5/27-20.7, added by P.A. 100-548, requires districts to offer students a unit of cursive instruction before they complete grade 5. Other than before completing grade 5, the law is silent about what grade level(s) in which students must receive their unit of cursive instruction. This provides an opportunity for a board to have a conversation with the superintendent about local community expectations and direct him or her to determine the appropriate grade level(s) in which students will be offered a unit of cursive instruction.

Use the following alternative if the board wants to specify grade level(s) before the end of grade 5 in which cursive instruction will be offered:

A unit of cursive instruction will be offered in grade(s) _____.

⁷ 105 ILCS 5/27-3.10, added by P.A. 101-254, eff. 7-1-20. The statute specifically states that school districts may utilize private funding available for offering civics education.

2. In grades 9 through 12, subjects include:⁸ (a) language arts, (b) writing intensive course, (c) science, (d) mathematics,⁹ (e) social studies including U.S. history, American government and one semester of civics,¹⁰ (f) foreign language,¹¹ (g) music, (h) art, (i) driver and safety education,¹² and (j) vocational education.

Students otherwise eligible to take a driver education course must receive a passing grade in at least eight courses during the previous two semesters before enrolling in the course. The Superintendent or designee may waive this requirement if he or she believes a waiver to be in the student's best interest.¹³ The course shall include: (a) instruction necessary for the safe operation of motor vehicles, including motorcycles, to the extent that they can be taught in the classroom,¹⁴ (b) classroom instruction on distracted driving as a major traffic safety issue,¹⁵ (c) instruction on required safety and driving precautions that must be observed at emergency situations, highway construction and maintenance zones, and railroad crossings and their approaches,¹⁶ and (d) instruction concerning law enforcement procedures for traffic stops, including a demonstration of the proper actions to be taken during a traffic stop and appropriate interactions with law enforcement.¹⁷ Automobile safety instruction covering traffic regulations and highway safety must include instruction on the consequences of alcohol consumption and the operation of a motor vehicle.¹⁸ The eligibility requirements contained in State law for the receipt of a certificate of completion from the Secretary of State shall be provided to students in writing at the time of their registration. ¹⁹

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

⁸ 105 ILCS 5/27-22; 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.440.

⁹ 105 ILCS 5/2-3.156. See f/n 2.

105 ILCS 5/27-22(e)(3), amended by P.A. 101-464, eff. 1-1-20, allows the substitution of an advanced placement computer science course for a year of mathematics. For specific requirements, see 6:300-E2, *State Law Graduation Requirements*, and 6:310, *High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-entering Students*.

¹⁰ 105 ILCS 5/27-22. The statute specifically states that school districts may utilize private funding available for offering civics education.

¹¹ The General Assembly encouraged school boards to implement American Sign Language courses into the school foreign language curriculum. 105 ILCS 5/10-20.52. Senate Joint Resolution 68 (96th General Assembly, 2010) encourages school districts to explore the introduction of Arabic as a foreign language in their curriculums.

¹² The ISBE rule on driver education personnel is found at 23 Ill.Admin.Code §252.40, amended at 42 Ill. Reg. 8957. School districts may contract with a commercial driver training school (CDTS) for driver education. 105 ILCS 5/27-24.2, amended by P.A.s 100-465 and 101-450. To qualify to contract with a school district, a CDTS must: (a) hold a valid license issued by the Ill. Sec. of State; (b) provide teachers who meet the educator licensure and endorsement requirements under 105 ILCS 21B; and (c) follow the same evaluation and observation requirements that apply to non-tenured teachers under 105 ILCS 24a. Id. A district contracting with a CDTS must provide a list to ISBE of the CDTS instructors. Id. The list must include the name, personal ISBE identification number, birth date and driver's license number of each instructor who will teach driver education. Id. Although a formal waiver for outsourcing of driver's education is no longer required, districts must consider their applicable collective bargaining agreement(s), board policy, and the reduction in force (RIF) provisions of the School Code as they relate to outsourcing of instructional staff. Consult the board attorney for guidance.

A school district may decide to allow a student to take a portion of the driver education course through a distance learning course. This is determined on a case-by-case basis and must be approved by the district's administration, the student's driver's education teacher, and the student's parent/guardian. 105 ILCS 5/27-24.2, amended by P.A. 101-183, eff. 1-1-20.

¹³ 105 ILCS 5/27-24.2, amended by P.A 100-465.

¹⁴ Id.

¹⁵ Id.

¹⁶ Id.

¹⁷ Id.

¹⁸ 105 ILCS 5/27-17.

¹⁹ The Ill. Vehicle Code, 625 ILCS 5/6-408.5, contains these requirements; they are paraphrased below and may be added to the policy or otherwise disseminated.

3. In grades 7 through 12, as well as in interscholastic athletic programs, steroid abuse prevention must be taught. **20**
4. In kindergarten through grade 12, provided it can be funded by private grants or the federal government, violence prevention and conflict resolution must be stressed, including: (a) causes of conflict, (b) consequences of violent behavior, (c) non-violent resolution, and (d) relationships between drugs, alcohol, and violence. **21**
5. In grades kindergarten through 12, age-appropriate Internet safety must be taught, the scope of which shall be determined by the Superintendent or designee. The curriculum must incorporate policy 6:235, *Access to Electronic Networks*, and, at a minimum, include: (a) education about appropriate online behavior, (b) interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and (c) cyberbullying awareness and response. **22**
6. In all grades, character education must be taught including respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, trustworthiness, and citizenship in order to raise students' honesty, kindness, justice, discipline, respect for others, and moral courage.**23** Instruction in all grades will include

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

Before a certificate of completion will be requested from the Secretary of State, a student must receive a passing grade in at least eight courses during the two semesters last ending before requesting the certificate. A certificate of completion will not be requested for any person less than 18 years of age who has dropped out of school unless the individual provides:

1. Written verification of his or her enrollment in a high school equivalency or alternative education program or a high school equivalency certificate (formerly GED certificate);
2. Written verification that before dropping out, the individual had received passing grades in at least eight courses during the two previous semesters last ending before requesting a certificate;
3. Written consent from the individual's parent/guardian and the Regional Superintendent; or
4. Written waiver from the Superintendent of the School District in which the individual resides or resided at the time he or she dropped out of school, or from the chief school administrator with respect to a dropout who attended a non-public high school. A waiver may be given if the Superintendent or chief administrator deems it to be in the individual's best interests.

20 105 ILCS 5/27-23.3.

21 105 ILCS 5/27-23.4.

22 47 C.F.R. § 54.520 and 105 ILCS 5/27-13.3 control this section. "Grades kindergarten through 12" is used because federal law requires school districts that receive E-rate funding to certify that they have an Internet safety education policy for all minors. 47 C.F.R. §54.520(c)(1)(i). This federal law defines *minors* as any individual who has not attained the age of 17 years. 47 C.F.R. §54.520(a)(4)(i).

105 ILCS 5/27-13.3 only requires a unit on Internet safety for students in grades 3 or above. It recommends seven topics for the unit on Internet safety and required ISBE to "make available resource materials for educating children regarding child online safety." It also invites schools to "adopt an age-appropriate curriculum for Internet safety instruction of students in grades kindergarten through 12."

For boards that do not receive E-rate funds and do not want to exceed the requirements of the School Code, replace this section with the following sentence:

In grades 3 or above, the curriculum contains a unit on Internet safety, the scope of which shall be determined by the Superintendent or designee.

For boards that do not receive E-rate funds, but want to exceed the requirements of the 105 ILCS 5/27-13.3 to include grades K-2, replace this section with the following sentences:

In grades 3 or above, the curriculum contains a unit on Internet safety, the scope of which shall be determined by the Superintendent or designee. In kindergarten through grade 2, age-appropriate Internet safety must be taught.

23 105 ILCS 5/27-12.

examples of behaviors that violate policy 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*. **24**

7. In all schools, citizenship values must be taught, including: (a) patriotism, (b) democratic principles of freedom, justice, and equality, (c) proper use and display of the American flag, (d) the Pledge of Allegiance, and (e) the voting process. **25**
8. In all grades, physical education must be taught including a developmentally planned and sequential curriculum that fosters the development of movement skills, enhances health-related fitness, increases students' knowledge, offers direct opportunities to learn how to work cooperatively in a group setting, and encourages healthy habits and attitudes for a healthy lifestyle. Unless otherwise exempted, all students are required to engage in a physical education course with such frequency as determined by the Board after recommendation from the Superintendent,²⁶ but at a minimum of three days per five-day week.²⁷ For exemptions and substitutions, see policies 6:310, *High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students* and 7:260, *Exemption from Physical Education*. **28**

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

24 Because of the negative outcomes associated with bullying in schools, the Ill. General Assembly has found “that [school districts] should educate students, parents, and [school district personnel] about what behaviors constitute prohibited bullying.” 105 ILCS 5/27-23.7(a). This language aligns with policy 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*, which requires bullying prevention instruction as part of a district’s Bullying Prevention and Response Plan.

The Ill. General Assembly invited boards to “make suitable provisions for instruction in gang resistance education and training in all grades and include such instruction in the courses of study regularly taught in those grades.” See 105 ILCS 5/27-23.10(c). A board that shares this concern may add the following option: “In addition, in all grades gang resistance education and training must be taught.”

25 105 ILCS 5/27-3 requires the Pledge of Allegiance to be recited every day in elementary and secondary schools. See also *Palmer v. City of Chicago*, 466 F. Supp. 600 (N.D. Ill. 1979) (teacher would not teach and direct the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States for religious reasons and was terminated for not doing so because it was part of the curriculum). Requirements for displaying a U.S. flag at each school and in each classroom are found in 5 ILCS 465/3 and 465/3a.

Note that the Illinois statute does not require every student to recite the *Pledge* – that kind of mandatory participation would violate the U.S. Constitution. Schools may not coerce a student into saying the *Pledge*, nor may they punish students for refusing to participate in any aspect of the flag ritual, including standing, saluting the flag, and reciting the *Pledge*. *West Virginia State Bd. of Educ. v. Barnett*, 319 U.S. 624 (1943); *Sherman v. Community Consolidated Sch. Dist. 21 of Wheeling Township*, 980 F.2d 437 (7th Cir. 1992). Consider using permissive rather than mandatory language to introduce the recitation of the *Pledge*, such as, “You may now stand to recite the *Pledge*.” Schools may, of course, require that non-participants maintain order and decorum appropriate to the school environment.

26 The phrase “after recommendation by the Superintendent” is optional. If a superintendent does not bring this topic to the board for discussion, the board may not have a trigger to make the determination.

27 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.425(b), amended at 42 Ill. Reg. 11540.

28 105 ILCS 5/27-5 requires school boards to provide for students’ physical education and allows the P.E. course offered in grades 5 through 10 to include the health education courses required by State law. See also 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.425, added at 40 Ill. Reg. 2990.

105 ILCS 5/27-6, amended by P.A. 100-465, describes when students may be excused from P.E. See also 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.425(d), amended at 42 Ill. Reg. 11540.

105 ILCS 5/27-6, amended by P.A. 100-465, contains an exception to the minimum of three days per five-day week P.E. requirement for schools engaged in block scheduling; if this is applicable, substitute this sentence for the second-to-last sentence in this paragraph:

Unless otherwise exempted, all students are required to engage with such frequency as determined by the Board, but at a minimum of three days per five-day week, during the school day, except on block scheduled days, in a physical education course.

105 ILCS 5/27-6.5 describes physical fitness assessments required, beginning with the 2016-17 school year and every school year thereafter, for grades 3-12 in an effort to meet State Goal 20 of the Illinois Learning Standards for Physical

9. In all schools, health education must be stressed, including: (a) proper nutrition, (b) physical fitness, (c) components necessary to develop a sound mind in a healthy body, (d) dangers and avoidance of abduction, and (e) age-appropriate sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention education in all grades. The Superintendent shall implement a comprehensive health education program in accordance with State law. **29**
10. In all schools, career/vocational education must be taught, including: (a) the importance of work, (b) the development of basic skills to enter the world of work and/or continue formal education, (c) good work habits and values, (d) the relationship between learning and work, and (e) if possible, a student work program that provides the student with work experience as an extension of the regular classroom. A career awareness and exploration program must be available at all grade levels. **30**
11. In grades 9 through 12, consumer education must be taught, including: (a) financial literacy, including consumer debt and installment purchasing (including credit scoring, managing credit debt, and completing a loan application); budgeting; savings and investing; banking (including balancing a checkbook, opening a deposit account, and the use of interest rates); understanding simple contracts; State and federal income taxes; personal insurance policies; the comparison of prices; higher education student loans; identity-theft security; and homeownership (including the basic process of obtaining a mortgage and the concepts of

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

Development and Health at: www.isbe.net/Pages/Physical-Education-and-Health.aspx. See also 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.425 (f) and (h), amended at 42 Ill. Reg. 11540; ISBE's *IL Fitness Assessments and Data Reporting Requirements Questions and Answers* (Rev. 2-15-18) at: www.isbe.net/Documents/fitness-asmt-faq.pdf.

105 ILCS 5/27-7 describes the goals and requirements for P.E. courses; these are re-stated in this sample policy.

29 105 ILCS 110/3, amended by P.A. 101-305, eff. 1-1-20, and 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.420(n). Each school system shall provide a program in compliance with the Critical Health Problems and Comprehensive Health Education Act, 105 ILCS 110/. More detailed health education program content is described in administrative procedure 6:60-AP, *Comprehensive Health Education Program*. It includes the requirements for the development of a family life and sex education program (105 ILCS 5/27-9.1, amended by P.A.s 100-684 and 101-579, eff. 1-1-20, and 110/3), among other health education topics including *teen dating violence* (105 ILCS 110/3.10, see 7:185, *Teen Dating Violence Prohibited* for the required “teen dating violence policy”) and cardiopulmonary resuscitation and automated external defibrillator use (105 ILCS 110/3).

Citations for letters (a) - (e) in this paragraph follow:

- (a) 105 ILCS 5/2-3.139 and 105 ILCS 5/27-7 (proper nutrition) and see also policy 6:50, *School Wellness*.
- (b) Id. (physical fitness) and see also policy 6:50, *School Wellness*.
- (c) Id. (sound mind and healthy body).
- (d) 105 ILCS 5/27-13.2 (dangers and avoidance of abduction). The Ill. Dept. of State Police and ISBE must develop instruction on child abduction prevention. 20 ILCS 2605/2605-480.
- (e) 105 ILCS 110/3 and 105 ILCS 5/10-23.13 a/k/a *Erin's Law* (child sexual abuse prevention). *Erin's Law* requires a policy addressing child sexual abuse prevention. A sentence in 6:60-AP, *Comprehensive Health Education Program* restates the basic recommendations for a child sexual abuse prevention program from page 16 of the *Erin's Law* Taskforce Final Report (Report) to Governor Quinn at: www.isbe.net/Documents/erins-law-final0512.pdf. The professional educator training component of *Erin's Law* is addressed in policy 5:100, *Staff Development Program*. The Report also encourages parental involvement because parents play a key role in protecting children from child sexual abuse.

30 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.420(i). See 105 ILCS 435/, Vocational Education Act.

A school district may offer workplace preparation instruction in grades 9 through 12 that covers legal protections in the workplace, including protection against sexual harassment and racial and other forms of discrimination and protections for employees. 105 ILCS 5/27-23.13 (final citation pending), added by P.A. 101-347, eff. 1-1-20.

For high school and unit boards, insert “5/27-23.13 (final citation pending),” after 105 ILCS 5/27-23.11 in the Legal References, and the following text to the end of number 10 if the board wants to offer workplace preparation instruction:

In grades 9-12, workplace preparation instruction will be offered, covering legal protections in the workplace, including protection against sexual harassment and racial and other forms of discrimination and protections for employees.

fixed and adjustable rate mortgages, subprime loans, and predatory lending); and (b) the roles of consumers interacting with agriculture, business, labor unions and government in formulating and achieving the goals of the mixed free enterprise system. **31**

12. In all schools, conservation of natural resources must be taught, including: (a) home ecology, (b) endangered species, (c) threats to the environment, and (d) the importance of the environment to life as we know it. **32**
13. In all schools, United States (U.S.) history must be taught, including: (a) the principles of representative government, (b) the Constitutions of the U.S. and Illinois, (c) the role of the U.S. in world affairs, (d) the role of labor unions, (e) the role and contributions of ethnic groups, including but not limited to, the African Americans, Albanians, Asian Americans, Bohemians, Czechs, French, Germans, Hispanics (including the events related to the forceful removal and illegal deportation of Mexican-American U.S. citizens during the Great Depression), Hungarians, Irish, Italians, Lithuanians, Polish, Russians, Scots, and Slovaks in the history of this country and State, (f) a study of the roles and contributions of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people in the history of the U.S. and Illinois, and (g) Illinois history. **33**

In addition, all schools shall hold an educational program on the United States Constitution on Constitution Day, each September 17, commemorating the September 17, 1787 signing of the Constitution. However, when September 17 falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, Constitution Day shall be held during the preceding or following week. **34**

14. In grade 7 and all high school courses concerning U.S. history or a combination of U.S. history and American government, students must view a Congressional Medal of Honor film made by the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation, provided there is no cost for the film. **35**
15. In all schools, the curriculum includes instruction as determined by the Superintendent or designee on the Holocaust and crimes of genocide, including Nazi atrocities of 1933-1945, Armenian Genocide, the Famine-Genocide in Ukraine, and more recent atrocities in Cambodia, Bosnia, Rwanda, and Sudan. **36**

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

31 105 ILCS 5/27-12.1, amended by P.A. 99-284; 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.420(k). P.A. 99-284 added these new subjects to the required consumer education course: consumer debt, higher education student loans, and identity-theft security.

32 105 ILCS 5/27-13.1; 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.420(l), amended at 42 Ill. Reg. 11535.

33 105 ILCS 5/27-21, amended by P.A. 101-227, eff. 7-1-20 (adding the roles and contributions of LGBT people in U.S. and Illinois), and P.A. 101-341, eff. 1-1-20 (beginning with the 2020-2021 school year, adding Illinois history); 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.420(r). 105 ILCS 5/27-21 does not specify at what grade level districts must cover these topics as part of U.S. history instruction; however, no student may graduate from grade 8 unless the student has received instruction in U.S. history and demonstrated comprehensive knowledge of the subject matter.

34 Section 111 of Division J of Pub. L. 108-447, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005, 12-8-04; 118 Stat. 2809, 3344-45 (Section 111). Section 111(b) states: “[e]ach educational institution that receives Federal funds for a fiscal year shall hold an educational program on the U.S. Constitution on September 17 of such year for the student served by the educational institution.”

35 105 ILCS 5/27-3.5. The Congressional Medal of Honor film is available on ISBE’s website for no cost at: www.isbe.net/Pages/Medal-of-Honor.aspx.

36 105 ILCS 5/27-20.3. The statute requires the school board to determine the minimum amount of instructional time. The sample policy complies by delegating this responsibility to the superintendent or designee.

16. In all schools, the curriculum includes instruction as determined by the Superintendent or designee on the history, struggles, and contributions of women. **37**
17. In all schools, the curriculum includes instruction as determined by the Superintendent or designee on Black History, including the history of the African slave trade, slavery in America, and the vestiges of slavery in this country, as well as the struggles and contributions of African-Americans. **38**
18. In all schools offering a secondary agricultural education program, the curriculum includes courses as required by 105 ILCS 5/2-3.80. **39**
19. In all schools, instruction during courses as determined by the Superintendent or designee on disability history, awareness, and the disability rights movement. **40**
20. In kindergarten through grade 8, education must be available to students concerning effective methods of preventing and avoiding traffic injuries related to walking and bicycling. **41 42**

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

37 105 ILCS 5/27-20.5. The statute requires the school board to determine the minimum amount of instructional time. The sample policy complies by delegating this responsibility to the superintendent or designee. House Resolution 365 (98th General Assembly, 2013) and Senate Resolution 1073 (98th General Assembly, 2014) both urge all Illinois educators to share with students of an appropriate age the story of *comfort women* when discussing the history of Asia or World War II, or the issue of human trafficking.

38 105 ILCS 5/27-20.4. The statute requires the school board to determine the minimum amount of instructional time. The sample policy complies by delegating this responsibility to the superintendent or designee. A school may meet this curriculum requirement through an online program or course. *Id.* as amended by P.A. 100-634.

39 105 ILCS 5/2-3.80(e) or (f), as applicable.

40 105 ILCS 5/27-23.8. The statute requires the school board to determine the minimum amount of instructional time. The sample policy complies by delegating this responsibility to the superintendent or designee. The statute requires that the instruction be founded on the principle that all students, including students with disabilities, have the right to exercise self-determination. It urges districts to request individuals with disabilities to assist with the development and delivery of this instruction and allows instruction to be supplemented by knowledgeable guest speakers.

41 105 ILCS 5/27-23.11, added by P.A. 100-1056, requires districts that maintain any of the grades kindergarten through 8 to adopt a policy. The law is silent about how to educate students on this topic. See 6:60-AP, E2, *Resources for Biking and Walking Safety Education*, for additional information.

42 A school district may offer a course on hunting safety as part of its curriculum during the school day. 105 ILCS 5/27-23.13 (final citation pending), added by P.A. 101-152. No grade levels are specified in the statute. Insert “5/27-23.13 (final citation pending),” after 105 ILCS 5/27-23.11 in the Legal References, and an optional number 21, if the board wants to offer a course on hunting safety as part of its curriculum:

In grade(s) [*insert grade level(s)*], a course on hunting safety will be offered during the school day.

- LEGAL REF.: Pub. L. No. 108-447, Section 111 of Division J, Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2005.
Pub. L. No. 110-385, Title II, 122 stat. 4096 (2008), Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act.
47 C.F.R. §54.520
5 ILCS 465/3 and 465/3a.
20 ILCS 2605/2605-480.
105 ILCS 5/2-3.80(e) and (f), 5/27-3, 5/27-3.5, 5/27-5, 5/27-6, 5/27-6.5, 5/27-7, 5/27-12, 5/27-12.1, 5/27-13.1, 5/27-13.2, 5/27-20.3, 5/27-20.4, 5/27-20.5, 5/27-20.7, 5/27-21, 5/27-22, 5/27-23.3, 5/27-23.4, 5/27-23.7, 5/27-23.8, 5/27-23.10, 5/27-23.11, 5/27-24.2, 435/, and 110/3.
625 ILCS 5/6-408.5.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.420, 1.425, 1.430, and 1.440.
- CROSS REF.: 6:20 (School Year Calendar and Day), 6:40 (Curriculum Development), 6:70 (Teaching About Religions), 6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:260 (Exemption from Physical Education)

Instruction

Administrative Procedure - Comprehensive Health Education Program

The major educational areas of the District's comprehensive health education program are described below:

1. In all elementary and secondary schools the health program shall include human ecology and health; human growth and development; the emotional, psychological, physiological, hygienic, and social responsibilities of family life (including, in grades 6 through 12, instruction about both abstinence and contraception for the prevention of pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS); prevention and control of disease, and course material and instruction to advise students of the Abandoned Newborn Infant Protection Act. The program shall include information about cancer, including without limitation, types of cancer, signs and symptoms, risk factors, the importance of early prevention and detection, and information on where to go for help. ¹
2. In grades pre-K through 12, age appropriate sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention education shall be included in a child sexual abuse prevention program.² Through grade 5, the comprehensive health education program will provide one to four age-appropriate instructional sessions per school year to instruct students to (a) recognize and report sexual abuse, and (b) focus on methods to reduce students' vulnerability to sexual abuse. ³
3. The grades 6-12 health program shall include the prevention, transmission and spread of AIDS; public and environmental health; consumer health; safety education and disaster survival; mental health and illness⁴; personal health habits; alcohol and drug use and abuse (including the medical and legal ramifications of alcohol, drug, and tobacco use and abuse during pregnancy); emphasis that sexual abstinence is a responsible and positive decision; tobacco; nutrition; and dental health. ⁵
4. The following areas may also be included in the curricula: basic first aid (including cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the Heimlich maneuver); in grades 6-8, video training on cardiopulmonary resuscitation and how to use an automated external defibrillator; heart disease; diabetes; stroke; the prevention of child abuse, neglect, and suicide; and age

The footnotes should be removed before the material is used.

¹ Required by 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1(a-5) and 110/3, amended by P.A.101-305, eff. 1-1-20.

² Id.

³ This sentence restates the basic recommendations for a child sexual abuse prevention program required by 105 ILCS 110/3 and *Erin's Law* (105 ILCS 5/10-23.13), and pg. 16 of the *Erin's Law* Taskforce Final Report to Governor Quinn at: www.isbe.net/Documents/erins-law-final0512.pdf.

⁴ Mental health and illness instruction must evaluate the multiple dimensions of health by reviewing the relationship between physical and mental health. 105 ILCS 110/3, amended by P.A. 101-305, eff. 1-1-20.

⁵ Id. at f/n 1.

appropriate education about the warning signs, recognition, dangers, and prevention of teen dating violence in grades 7 through 12. **6**

5. In secondary schools, the program shall include: (1) cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training from a nationally recognized certifying organization, e.g., American Heart Association or American Red Cross, and (2) how to use an AED. **7**
6. In grades 5-12, the health program shall include instruction on alcohol and drug use and abuse, including the consequences of drug and substance abuse. **8**
7. In grades K-8, students should be provided with age-appropriate information about the dangers of drug abuse. The District's educational program shall offer drug education units that are integrated into the curricula and are designed to promote effective methods for the prevention and avoidance of drug and substance abuse. **9**
8. In grades 7-12, the program shall include the prevention of abuse of anabolic steroids. In addition, coaches and sponsors of interscholastic athletic programs shall provide instruction on steroid abuse prevention to students participating in these programs. **10**
9. The family life and sex education program shall be developed in a sequential pattern and related in depth and scope to the students' physical, emotional, and intellectual maturity level. Family life courses offered in grades 6-12, shall include information regarding the alternatives to abortion and information regarding the prevention, transmission, spread of AIDS, and the meaning of consent to sexual activity. Course content shall be age-appropriate. **11**

Class sessions which deal exclusively with human sexuality may be conducted separately for males and females.

10. The health program in grades K-8 shall include annual instruction on the danger of and how to avoid abduction as part of the District's regular curriculum. Students shall be given, as appropriate, information on child sexual abuse. **12**
11. Students shall be provided parenting education in grades 6-12. **13**

The footnotes should be removed before the material is used.

6 105 ILCS 5/27-17 and 110/3. See board policy 7:185, *Teen Dating Violence Prohibited*. A toolkit about teenage dating abuse is available online. It is titled *Preventing, Assessing, and Intervening in Teenage Dating Abuse: A Training for Specialized Instructional Support Personnel*. Materials include a PowerPoint and handouts. See www.safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/get-smart-get-help-get-safe-teenage-dating-abuse-training-specialized-instructional-support.

7 105 ILCS 110/3. It requires *secondary schools* to include these trainings in the curricula. 105 ILCS 5/22-22 defines *secondary education* as the curriculum offered by a school district or an attendance center or centers serving grades 9 through 12 or grades 10 through 12.

8 *Id.* See House Resolution 824 (98th General Assembly, 2014), see f/n 4 in policy 6:60, *Curriculum Content*, for more information on this resolution urging all schools in Illinois to educate youth about the dangers associated with the use of heroin.

9 105 ILCS 5/27-13.2.

10 Required by 105 ILCS 5/27-23.3.

11 Course requirements are mandated by 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1, amended by P.A.s 100-684, and 101-579, eff. 1-1-20, and 5/27-9.2, but offering the course is optional. 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1, amended by P.A.s 100-684, and 101-579, eff. 1-1-20, lists several requirements for sex education courses that discuss sexual intercourse. The law also requires instruction about the dangers of drug and alcohol consumption during pregnancy.

12 The first sentence is required by 105 ILCS 5/27-13.2. The second sentence is optional according to 105 ILCS 5/27-13.2. See also f/n 3 above for a discussion about *Erin's law*.

13 Course requirements are mandated by 105 ILCS 5/27-23.1, amended by P.A. 100-1043, but offering the course is optional.

12. Students shall be provided safety education in all grades.¹⁴ In kindergarten through grade 8, education must be available to students concerning effective methods of preventing and avoiding traffic injuries related to walking and bicycling. ¹⁵
13. All students shall receive age-appropriate instruction on motor vehicle safety and litter control. ¹⁶
14. Students in grades 9 or 10 shall receive instruction on donations and transplants of organs/tissue and blood. ¹⁷

No student shall be required to take or participate in any class or course on AIDS, family life instruction, sex abuse, or organ/tissue transplantation, if his or her parent/guardian submits a written objection to the Building Principal. Parents/guardians of students in grades kindergarten through 8 shall be given at least 5 days written notice before instruction on avoiding sex abuse begins. Refusal to take or participate in any such course or program shall not be reason for disciplinary action or academic penalty. ¹⁸

Parents/guardians shall be provided the opportunity to preview all print and non-print materials used for instructional purposes. ¹⁹

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1, 5/27-9.2, 5/27-13.2, 5/27-17, 5/27-23.1, 5/27-23.3, 5/27-23.5, and 110/3.

The footnotes should be removed before the material is used.

¹⁴ Optional according to 105 ILCS 5/27-17.

A repealed statute required ISBE to develop a model program for “reduction of self-destructive behavior” and invited districts to include such instruction in their curriculum. 105 ILCS 5/27-23.2. ISBE never developed the program but any district that includes such instruction may add this provision, amending it to reflect its program: “Students in grades 6-12 shall receive instruction for decreasing self-destructive behavior, including methods for increasing life-coping skills, self-esteem, and parenting skills of adolescents and teenagers as a deterrent to their acceptance or practice of self-destructive actions.”

¹⁵ The law is silent about how to educate students on this topic. 105 ILCS 5/27-23.11, added by P.A. 100-1056. See 6:60-AP, E2, *Resources for Biking and Walking Safety Education*, for additional information.

¹⁶ Optional. Formerly required by 105 ILCS 5/27-23 and now repealed by P.A. 96-734. Delete this sentence if the district no longer provides this education.

¹⁷ Optional according to 105 ILCS 5/27-23.5.

¹⁸ Required by 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1, 5/27-13.2, and 5/27-23.5.

¹⁹ 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1(d).

Instruction

Exhibit - Notice to Parents/Guardians of Students Enrolled in Family Life and Sex Education Classes 1

Date _____

Class and Time _____

Teacher _____

Classes or Courses on Sex Education, Family Life Instruction, Instruction on Diseases, Recognizing and Avoiding Sexual Abuse, or Donor Programs for Organ/Tissue, Blood Donor, and Transplantation

For your information, State law requires that all sex education instruction be developmentally and age appropriate, evidence-based, medically accurate, and complete. Courses that discuss sexual intercourse place substantial emphasis on both abstinence and contraception for the prevention of pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. Courses will emphasize that abstinence is a responsible and positive decision and the only 100% effective prevention of pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS. Family life courses are designed to promote a wholesome and comprehensive understanding of the emotional, psychological, physiological, hygienic and social responsibility aspects of family life, and for grades 6 through 12, the prevention of AIDS.

Request to Examine Instructional Material

A sample of the District’s instructional materials and course outline for these classes or courses is available from the classroom teacher for your inspection. If you are requesting to examine this material, please complete the following statement and return it to your child’s classroom teacher within five days. 2

I request to examine the instructional materials and course outline for this class.

Class Attendance Waiver Request

According to State law, no student is required to take or participate in these classes or courses. There is no penalty for refusing to take or participate in such a course or program.

The footnotes should be removed before the material is used.

1 Schools are not required to notify parents/guardians of their rights as explained in this form. A district must modify this form to match its curriculum. Students may not be required to take or participate in classes or courses on:

1. Comprehensive sex education, including in grades 6-12, instruction on both abstinence and contraception for the prevention of pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS, and other areas of instruction required by 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1, amended by P.A.s 100-684 and 101-579, eff. 1-1-20.
2. Family life instruction, including in grades 6-12, instruction on the prevention, transmission, and spread of AIDS. 105 ILCS 5/27-9.2.
3. Instruction on diseases. 105 ILCS 5/27-11.
4. Recognizing and avoiding sexual abuse. 105 ILCS 5/27-13.2.
5. Instruction on donor programs for organ/tissue, blood donor, and transplantation. 105 ILCS 5/27-23.5.

2 Schools are required to afford individuals, including parents/guardians, an opportunity to examine the instructional materials (105 ILCS 5/27-9.1(d)) but are not required to provide a means for parents/guardians to request to examine the instructional material. This sentence and the following check box may be omitted.

If you do not want your child to participate in these classes or courses, please complete the following **class attendance waiver** statement and return it to your child's classroom teacher within five school days. ³

I request that the District waive the class attendance of my child in a class or courses on:

- Comprehensive sex education, including in grades 6-12, instruction on both abstinence and contraception for the prevention of pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS, and other areas of instruction required by 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1**
- Family life instruction, including in grades 6-12, instruction on the prevention, transmission, and spread of AIDS**
- Instruction on diseases**
- Recognizing and avoiding sexual abuse**
- Instruction on donor programs for organ/tissue, blood donor, and transplantation**

Student (*please print*)

Parent/Guardian (*please print*)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

The footnotes should be removed before the material is used.

³ Schools cannot require students to enroll or participate in classes about comprehensive sex education, family life, diseases, recognizing and avoiding sexual abuse, or organ/tissue and blood donor and transplantation programs. 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1(a-5), 5/27-9.2, 5/27-11, 5/27-13.2, and 5/27-23.5. However, schools are not required to provide a means for parents/guardians to request a class attendance waiver; this sentence and the following check boxes may be omitted. If kept, the check boxes should be modified to match the curriculum.

Instruction

Student Social and Emotional Development 1

Social and emotional learning (SEL) is defined as the process through which students enhance their ability to integrate thinking, feeling, and behaving to achieve important life tasks. Students competent in SEL are able to recognize and manage their emotions, establish healthy relationships, set positive goals, meet personal and social needs, and make responsible and ethical decisions. ²

The Superintendent shall incorporate SEL into the District's curriculum and other educational programs consistent with the District's mission and the goals and benchmarks of the Ill. Learning Standards.³ The Ill. Learning Standards include three goals for students: ⁴

1. Develop self-awareness and self-management skills to achieve school and life success.
2. Use social-awareness and interpersonal skills to establish and maintain positive relationships.
3. Demonstrate decision-making skills and responsible behaviors in personal, school, and community contexts.

The incorporation of SEL objectives into the District's curriculum and other educational programs may include but is not limited to: ⁵

1. Classroom and school-wide programming to foster a safe, supportive learning environment where students feel respected and valued. This may include incorporating scientifically based, age-and-culturally appropriate classroom instruction, District-wide, and school-wide strategies that teach SEL skills, promote optimal mental health, and prevent risk behaviors for all students. ⁶

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

¹ State law requires this subject matter be covered by policy (405 ILCS 49/15(b)), and it required districts to submit it to the Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE) once by 8-31-04.

² This text paraphrases the definition in the Ill. Children's Mental Health Partnership's *Strategic Plan for Building a Comprehensive Children's Mental Health System* in Illinois, pg. 73, Appendix C, starting at pg. 69 at: www.nashp.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/default/files/abcd/abcd.il.icmhpstrategic20050908.pdf

³ Required by the Children's Mental Health Act of 2003, 405 ILCS 49/. ISBE incorporated social and emotional development standards into the Ill. Learning Standards. For more information see: www.isbe.net/pages/social-emotional-learning-standards.aspx. School social workers may implement a continuum of social and emotional education programs and services in accordance with students' needs. 405 ILCS 49/15(b).

⁴ 105 ILCS 5/2-3.147, added by P.A. 95-558 and repealed by P.A. 99-30, created the Ensuring Success in School Task Force. Supervised by ISBE, this task force developed policies, procedures, and protocols for school boards to adopt to address the education and related needs of students who are parents, expectant parents, or victims of domestic or sexual violence; the goal is to encourage these students to stay in school, stay safe while in school, and successfully complete their education. School boards and superintendents may want to create their own study group to prepare for implementing of the task force's policies, procedures, and protocols. A report of the task force's findings was made to the General Assembly and is available here: www.povertylaw.org/advocacy/women/pubs/essa-task-force-report.

⁴ The goals, along with their benchmarks, performance descriptors and indicators are available at the link in f/n 3, above.

⁵ The objectives are a matter of local school board discretion. A board may replace the sample objectives with its own local objectives. This sample policy lists the ISBE's SEL goals found on ISBE's website cited in f/n 3, above.

⁶ 20 ILCS 1705/76, added by P.A. 101-45, eff. 1-1-20, requires the Ill. Dept. of Public Health to create and maintain an online *Mental Health Database and Resource* page on its website with mental health resources to: (1) assist school social workers, school counselors, parents, teachers, and school support personnel with the goal of connecting them with mental health resources related to bullying and school shootings; and (2) encourage information sharing among educational administrators, school security personnel, and school resource officers. See the database at: www.dhs.state.il.us.

2. Staff development and training to promote students' SEL development. This may include providing all personnel with age-appropriate academic and SEL and how to promote it. ⁷
3. Parent/Guardian and family involvement to promote students' SEL development. This may include providing parents/guardians and families with learning opportunities related to the importance of their children's optimal SEL development and ways to enhance it. ⁸
4. Community partnerships to promote students' SEL development. This may include establishing partnerships with diverse community agencies and organizations to assure a coordinated approach to addressing children's mental health and SEL development.
5. Early identification and intervention to enhance students' school readiness, academic success, and use of good citizenship skills. This may include development of a system and procedures for periodic and universal screening, assessment, and early intervention for students who have significant risk factors for social, emotional, or mental health conditions that impact learning. ⁹
6. Treatment to prevent or minimize mental health conditions in students. This may include building and strengthening referral and follow-up procedures for providing effective clinical services for students with social, emotional, and mental health conditions¹⁰ that impact learning. This may include student and family support services, school-based behavioral health services, and school-community linked services and supports.
7. Assessment and accountability for teaching SEL skills to all students. This may include implementation of a process to assess and report baseline information and ongoing progress about school climate, students' social and emotional development, and academic performance. ¹¹

LEGAL REF.: Children's Mental Health Act of 2003, 405 ILCS 49/.

CROSS REF.: 1:30 (School District Philosophy), 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives), 6:40 (Curriculum Development), 6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:270 (Guidance and Counseling Program), 7:100 (Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:250 (Student Support Services)

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

⁷ See SEL resources to support instruction of the Ill. Learning Standards at: www.ilclassroomsinaction.org/.

⁸ The Ill. Children's Mental Health Partnership provides family resources at:

www.icmhp.org/icmhp-help-guide/family-resources/online-resources-for-parents-and-caregivers/.

⁹ The Ill. Children's Mental Health Partnership provides information about Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation at: www.icmhp.org/icmhp-in-action/projects/early-childhood-mental-health-consultation-project-tier/.

¹⁰ 305 ILCS 5/5-5.23(g), added by P.A. 101-461, eff. 1-1-20, created the *Family Support Program* (FSP) in the Dept. of Healthcare and Family Services. FSP is a restructure of the former Individual Care Grant program. Its purpose is to enable early treatment of youth, emerging adults, and transition-age adults with a serious mental illness or serious emotional disturbance. Eligibility criterion for FSP are established at 89 Ill. Adm. Code Part 139.

¹¹ For information on this objective, see ISBE's Comprehensive System of Learning Supports at:

www.isbe.net/Pages/Learning-Supports.aspx.

Information about school climate is available from ISBE at: www.isbe.net/Pages/School-Climate.aspx.

Instruction

Home and Hospital Instruction 1

A student who is absent from school, or whose physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse anticipates that the student will be absent from school, because of a medical condition may be eligible for instruction in the student's home or hospital.² Eligibility shall be determined by State law and the Illinois State Board of Education rules governing (1) the continuum of placement options for students who have been identified for special education services or (2) the home and hospital instruction provisions for students who have not been identified for special education services.³ Appropriate educational services from qualified staff will begin no later than five school days after receiving a written statement from: (1) a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches, (2) a licensed physician assistant, or (3) a licensed advanced practice registered nurse.⁴ Instructional or related services for a student receiving special education services will be determined by the student's individualized education program.

A student who is unable to attend school because of pregnancy will be provided home instruction, correspondence courses, or other courses of instruction (1) before the birth of the child when the

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

¹ State or federal law controls this policy's content. The following State laws and ISBE rules govern homebound and hospital instruction: 105 ILCS 5/14-13.01 (reimbursement for home and hospital instruction along with factors to qualify for it); 105 ILCS 5/18-4.5 (reimbursement for home and hospital instruction); 105 ILCS 5/10-19.05(e), added by P.A. 100-12 (an instructional session of one clock hour may be counted as ½ day of attendance, however, a student must receive four or more instructional clock hours to count as a full day of attendance); 23 Ill.Admin.Code §226.300 (home/hospital service for a special education student); 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.520.

See ISBE guidance, *Home/Hospital Instruction and Reimbursement Questions and Answers* available at: www.isbe.net/Documents/Home-Hospital_QA.pdf.

² 105 ILCS 5/14-13.01, amended by P.A. 100-443, defines the standards for determining when a student is eligible to receive home or hospital instruction. A student qualifies when a physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice nurse *anticipates* a student's absence due to a medical condition. The law defines "ongoing intermittent basis" to mean a medical condition of such a nature and severity that it is anticipated that the student will be absent from school due to the medical condition for periods of at least two days at a time multiple times during the school year totaling at least 10 days or more of absences. 225 ILCS 65/50-10, amended by P.A. 100-513, revised the Nurse Practice Act to add *registered* to the definition of *advanced practice registered nurse*; accordingly, this policy reflects that change in terminology, even though Section 5/14-13.01 similarly has not been amended.

³ 105 ILCS 5/14-13.01(a), amended by P.A. 100-443, requires that all students provide a written statement from a physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse stating the existence of a medical condition, the impact on the child's ability to participate in education, and the anticipated duration or nature of the child's absence from school. However, ISBE rules at 23 Ill.Admin.Code §226.300 (students qualifying for special education services) and 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.520 (students not qualifying for special education services) have not yet been amended to reflect that this written statement may come from a physician assistant or an advanced practice registered nurse; they still state that such a written statement must come from a physician. ISBE's *Medical Certification for Home/Hospital Instruction* form, form 34-58, reflects that the written statement may come from a "physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches, APRN, or PA." Available at: www.isbe.net/Documents/Medical-certification-home-hospital-instruction.pdf.

A student with health needs may be protected by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. §1401(3) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (29 U.S.C. §794(a)).

⁴ 105 ILCS 5/14-13.01(a-5), amended by P.A.s 100-443 and 100-863. There is no requirement that a student be absent from school for a minimum number of days before he or she qualifies for home or hospital instruction. 105 ILCS 5/14-13.01(a). The statute, amended by P.A. 100-443, allows schools to begin home or hospital instruction upon receipt of a written statement from a physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse but requires it to begin no later than five school days after receipt of the written statement.

Both 23 Ill.Admin.Code §§226.300(g) and 1.520(f) require home or hospital instructors to meet the requirements listed in 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.610, i.e., proper licensure as required by Section 21B-15 of the School Code (105 ILCS 5/21B-15).

student's physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse indicates, in writing, that she is medically unable to attend regular classroom instruction, and (2) for up to three months after the child's birth or a miscarriage. ⁵

Periodic conferences will be held between appropriate school personnel, parent(s)/guardian(s), and hospital staff to coordinate course work and facilitate a student's return to school.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-19.05(e), 5/10-22.6a, 5/14-13.01, and 5/18-4.5.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.520, 1.610, and 226.300.

CROSS REF.: 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunity), 7:280 (Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease)

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

⁵ 105 ILCS 5/10-22.6a, amended by P.A. 100-443. Number (2) does not require a written statement from a physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse.

Instruction

Administrative Procedure - District Annual Report Card Required by Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

Districts must disseminate an annual report card that includes information on the District as a whole and each school served by the District, with aggregate and disaggregated information for each required subgroup of students, including: (a) student achievement on academic assessments (designated by category), (b) graduation rates, district performance, teacher qualifications, and (c) other required information required by 20 U.S.C. §6311(h)(2)(C) of ESSA.

District Annual Report Card

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) will ensure that the District:

1. Collects the appropriate data for its annual report card, including:
 - a. ISBE's State Report Card Information (see **ISBE Annual Report Card Requirements in 20 U.S.C. §6311(h)(1)(C)** subhead, below) disaggregated in the same manner as ISBE is required to present it, as that information applies to the District and each of its schools, including:
 - i. Information that shows how students in the District achieved on the academic assessments described in 20 U.S.C. §6311(b)(2) (high quality Illinois Assessments) compared to students in the State as a whole (20 U.S.C. §6311(h)(2)(C)(i));
 - ii. Information that shows how each student in each of the District's Schools achieved on the academic assessments described in described in 20 U.S.C. §6311(b)(2) (high quality Illinois Assessments) compared to students in the State as a whole (20 U.S.C. §6311(h)(2)(C)(ii)); and
 - iii. Any other information that the District determines is appropriate and will best provide parents, students, and other members of the public with information regarding the progress of each school in the District, whether or not such information is included in the annual ISBE report card (20 U.S.C. §6311(h)(2)(C)(iii)).
2. Excludes "results on the Illinois academic assessments in reading and mathematics in grades 4 and 8 of the National Assessment of Educational Progress, compared to the national average of such results (20 U.S.C. §6311(h)(1)(C)(xii))."

ISBE Annual Report Card Requirements in 20 U.S.C. §6311(h)(1)(C)

The following text is a direct copy of 20 U.S.C. §6311(h)(1)(C)(i)-(xiv), amended by Pub. L. 115-224; it states that Illinois' report card shall include the following information:

- (i) A clear and concise description of the State's accountability system under subsection (c), including--
 - (I) The minimum number of students that the State determines are necessary to be included in each of the subgroups of students, as defined in subsection (c)(2), for use in the accountability system;
 - (II) The long-term goals and measurements of interim progress for all students and for each of the subgroups of students, as defined in subsection (c)(2);

- (III) The indicators described in subsection (c)(4)(B) used to meaningfully differentiate all public schools in the State;
 - (IV) The State's system for meaningfully differentiating all public schools in the State, including--
 - (aa) The specific weight of the indicators described in subsection (c)(4)(B) in such differentiation;
 - (bb) The methodology by which the State differentiates all such schools;
 - (cc) The methodology by which the State differentiates a school as consistently underperforming for any subgroup of students described in section (c)(4)(C)(iii), including the time period used by the State to determine consistent underperformance; and
 - (dd) The methodology by which the State identifies a school for comprehensive support and improvement as required under subsection (c)(4)(D)(i);
 - (V) The number and names of all public schools in the State identified by the State for comprehensive support and improvement under subsection (c)(4)(D)(i) or implementing targeted support and improvement plans under subsection (d)(2); and
 - (VI) The exit criteria established by the State as required under clause (i) of subsection (d)(3)(A), including the length of years established under clause (i)(II) of such subsection.
- (ii) For all students and disaggregated by each subgroup of students described in subsection (b)(2)(B)(xi), homeless status, status as a child in foster care, and status as a student with a parent who is a member of the Armed Forces (as defined in section 101(a)(4) of Title 10) on active duty (as defined in section 101(d)(5) of such title), information on student achievement on the academic assessments described in subsection (b)(2) at each level of achievement, as determined by the State under subsection (b)(1).
 - (iii) For all students and disaggregated by each of the subgroups of students, as defined in subsection (c)(2), and for purposes of subclause (II) of this clause, homeless status and status as a child in foster care--
 - (I) Information on the performance on the other academic indicator under subsection (c)(4)(B)(ii) for public elementary schools and secondary schools that are not high schools, used by the State in the State accountability system; and
 - (II) High school graduation rates, including four-year adjusted cohort graduation rates and, at the State's discretion, extended-year adjusted cohort graduation rates.
 - (iv) Information on the number and percentage of English learners achieving English language proficiency.
 - (v) For all students and disaggregated by each of the subgroups of students, as defined in subsection (c)(2), information on the performance on the other indicator or indicators of school quality or student success under subsection (c)(4)(B)(v) used by the State in the State accountability system.
 - (vi) Information on the progress of all students and each subgroup of students, as defined in subsection (c)(2), toward meeting the State-designed long term goals under subsection (c)(4)(A), including the progress of all students and each such subgroup of students against the State measurements of interim progress established under such subsection.

- (vii) For all students and disaggregated by each subgroup of students described in subsection (b)(2)(B)(xi), the percentage of students assessed and not assessed.
- (viii) Information submitted by the State educational agency and each local educational agency in the State, in accordance with data collection conducted pursuant to section 3413(c)(1) of this title, on--
 - (I) Measures of school quality, climate, and safety, including rates of in-school suspensions, out-of-school suspensions, expulsions, school-related arrests, referrals to law enforcement, chronic absenteeism (including both excused and unexcused absences), incidences of violence, including bullying and harassment; and
 - (II) The number and percentage of students enrolled in--
 - (aa) Preschool programs; and
 - (bb) Accelerated coursework to earn postsecondary credit while still in high school, such as Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate courses and examinations, and dual or concurrent enrollment programs.
- (ix) The professional qualifications of teachers in the State, including information (that shall be presented in the aggregate and disaggregated by high-poverty compared to low-poverty schools) on the number and percentage of--
 - (I) Inexperienced teachers, principals, and other school leaders;
 - (II) Teachers teaching with emergency or provisional credentials; and
 - (III) Teachers who are not teaching in the subject or field for which the teacher is certified or licensed.
- (x) The per-pupil expenditures of Federal, State, and local funds, including actual personnel expenditures and actual nonpersonnel expenditures of Federal, State, and local funds, disaggregated by source of funds, for each local educational agency and each school in the State for the preceding fiscal year.
- (xi) The number and percentages of students with the most significant cognitive disabilities who take an alternate assessment under subsection (b)(2)(D), by grade and subject.
- (xii) Results on the State academic assessments in reading and mathematics in grades 4 and 8 of the National Assessment of Educational Progress carried out under section 303(b)(3) of the National Assessment of Educational Progress Authorization Act (20 U.S.C. 9622(b)(3)), compared to the national average of such results.
- (xiii) Where available, for each high school in the State, and beginning with the report card prepared under this paragraph for 2017, the cohort rate (in the aggregate, and disaggregated for each subgroup of students defined in subsection (c)(2)), at which students who graduate from the high school enroll, for the first academic year that begins after the students' graduation--
 - (I) In programs of public postsecondary education in the State; and
 - (II) If data are available and to the extent practicable, in programs of private postsecondary education in the State or programs of postsecondary education outside the State.
- (xiv) Any additional information that the State believes will best provide parents, students, and other members of the public with information regarding the progress of each of the

State's public elementary schools and secondary schools, which may include the number and percentage of students meeting State determined levels of performance for core indicators, as defined by section 113(b)(3)(A) of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2323(b)(3)(A)), and reported by States only in a manner consistent with section 113(b)(3)(C) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 2323(b)(3)(C)).

LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §6311(h)(1)(C) and (h)(2)(C).
Pub. L. 115-224, Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act.

Instruction

Extended Instructional Programs 1

The District may offer the following programs in accordance with State law and the District's educational philosophy:

1. Nursery schools for children between the ages of 2 and 6 years. **2**
2. Before-and after-school programs for students in grades K-6. **3**
3. Child care and training center for pre-school children and for students whose parents work. **4**
4. Model day care services program in cooperation with the State Board of Education. **5**
5. Tutorial program. **6**
6. Adult education program. **7**
7. Outdoor education program. **8**
8. Summer school, whether for credit or not. **9**
9. Independent study, whether for credit or not. **10**
10. Support services and instruction for students who are, or whose parents/guardians are, chemically dependent. **11**
11. Activities to address intergroup conflict. **12**
12. Volunteer service credit program. **13**

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

1 State or federal law controls this policy's content. However, all programs listed in this policy are optional. The district may charge a fee for programs numbered 1-4, 6, 8, 9, and 14.

2 105 ILCS 5/10-23.2. A school district may offer a course on hunting safety as part of its curriculum during the school day or as part of an *after-school program*. 105 ILCS 5/27-23.13 (final citation pending), added by P.A. 101-152. Unlike the before-and-after-school programs authorized by 105 ILCS 5/10-23.2, no grade levels are specified for the hunting safety course or the after-school program in which it may be offered. 105 ILCS 5/27-23.13 (final citation pending).

3 105 ILCS 5/10-22.18b.

4 105 ILCS 5/10-22.18a.

5 105 ILCS 5/10-22.18c. Student parents cannot be charged a fee for such day care services, however school personnel who use the services may be charged a fee. Id.

6 105 ILCS 5/10-22.20c.

7 105 ILCS 5/10-22.20, amended by P.A. 101-289. A school board may appoint a director of adult education. 105 ILCS 5/10-22.20b.

8 105 ILCS 5/10-22.29.

9 105 ILCS 5/10-22.33A and 5/10-22.33B. Each course offered for high school graduation must provide at least 60 hours of classroom instruction for the equivalent of one semester of high school course credit. 105 ILCS 5/27-22.1. 105 ILCS 5/10-22.33B authorizes districts to conduct a *high-quality* summer school program. Students at risk in language arts or mathematics may be required to attend such programs. Section 10-22.33A permits districts "to fix and collect a charge for attendance at such courses in an amount not to exceed the per capita cost of the operation" or to waive such charges if the family of a pupil is indigent or if the pupil is required to attend such courses.

10 Independent study allows students to expand their knowledge in curricular areas not offered as part of the district's basic program.

11 105 ILCS 110/3. Such services and instruction may be offered as part of existing curricula during the school day or as part of an after school program. Id.

12 105 ILCS 5/27-23.6. The statutory objectives of such a program are to "improve intergroup relations on and beyond the school campus, defusing intergroup tensions, and promoting peaceful resolution of conflict." A board that adopts a policy to incorporate activities to address intergroup conflict shall make certain information available to the public and shall disseminate it as specified in the statute. 105 ILCS 5/27-23.6(c).

13. Vocational academy. **14**

14. Advanced vocational training and/or career education program. **15**

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-22.18a, 5/10-22.18b, 5/10-22.18c, 5/10-22.20, 5/10-22.20a, 5/10-22.20b, 5/10-22.20c, 5/10-22.29, 5/10-22.33A, 5/10-22.33B, 5/10-23.2, 5/27-22.1, 5/27-22.3, 5/27-23.6, 110/3, and 433/.

CROSS REF.: 6:310 (High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students), 6:320 (High School Credit for Proficiency)

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

13 105 ILCS 5/27-22.3. For secondary school students only. Id.

14 Vocational Academies Act. 105 ILCS 433/. The Act's purpose is to "integrate workplace competencies and career and technical education with core academic subjects." School districts are permitted to partner with community colleges, local employers, and community-based organizations to establish a vocational academy that functions as a 2-year school within a school for grades 10 through 12. Grant funds may be available from ISBE at: www.isbe.net/Pages/Grants.aspx.

15 105 ILCS 5/10-22.20a, permits districts to enter joint agreements with community college districts and other school districts to provide career education or advanced vocational training to students in grade 11 and higher to prepare for a trade. The duration of such program may not exceed two years for any district pupil. Participating community colleges may bill participating districts, but payments may not exceed actual operating costs. Participating high schools may use State aid monies to pay the charges. Id.

Instruction

Instructional Materials 1

All District classrooms and learning centers should be equipped with an evenly-proportioned, wide assortment of instructional materials, including textbooks, workbooks, audio-visual materials, and electronic materials. These materials should provide quality learning experiences for students and: ²

1. Enrich and support the curriculum;
2. Stimulate growth in knowledge, literary appreciation, aesthetic values, and ethical standards;
3. Provide background information to enable students to make informed judgments and promote critical reading and thinking;
4. Depict in an accurate and unbiased way the cultural diversity and pluralistic nature of American society; and
5. Contribute to a sense of the worth of all people regardless of sex, race, religion, nationality, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, disability, or any other differences that may exist.

The Superintendent or designee shall annually provide a list or description of textbooks and instructional materials used in the District to the School Board. Anyone may inspect any textbook or instructional material. ³

Teachers are encouraged to use age-appropriate supplemental material only when it will enhance, or otherwise illustrate, the subjects being taught. No R-rated movie shall be shown to students unless prior approval is received from the Superintendent or designee, and no movie rated NC-17 (no one 17 and under admitted) shall be shown under any circumstances. These restrictions apply to television programs and other media with equivalent ratings. The Superintendent or designee shall give parents/guardians an opportunity to request that their child not participate in a class showing a movie, television program, or other media with an R or equivalent rating. ⁴

Instructional Materials Selection and Adoption

The Superintendent shall approve the selection of all textbooks and instructional materials according to the standards described in this policy.⁵ The School Code governs the adoption and purchase of textbooks and instructional materials. ⁶

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

¹ State or federal law controls some of this policy's content.

² A local board may customize these standards to be consistent with the board's mission, vision, and goals.

³ This paragraph is optional; either or both sentences may be struck although the second sentence describes a right granted by statute. 105 ILCS 5/28-19.1. The requirement to provide the board with a list or description of texts and instructional material allows the board to monitor this policy's implementation. Moreover, as 105 ILCS 5/28-19.1 grants anyone the right to inspect texts and instructional materials, having an annual list of texts and instructional materials facilitates compliance with such a request. Because some instructional materials, e.g., Internet sites, are difficult to list, the sample policy permits a list or *description*. Federal law grants parents/guardians the right to inspect all instructional material that will be used for a survey, analysis, or evaluation. 20 U.S.C. §1232h. See 7:15, *Student and Family Privacy Rights*.

⁴ This paragraph is optional. Its content is at the board's discretion. While allowing parents/guardians to opt their child out of viewing such material is not a legal requirement, it is a best practice.

⁵ An alternative provision:

The Superintendent shall recommend to the Board for consideration and adoption all textbooks and instructional materials and shall include the following information: (1) title, publisher, copyright dates, number of copies desired, and cost; (2) any texts being replaced; and (3) rationale for recommendation.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.8 and 5/28-19.1.

CROSS REF.: 6:30 (Organization of Instruction), 6:40 (Curriculum Development), 6:80 (Teaching About Controversial Issues), 6:170 (Title I Programs), 6:260 (Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:15 (Student and Family Privacy Rights), 8:110 (Public Suggestions and Concerns)

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

⁶ 105 ILCS 5/28, amended by P.A. 101-17. The term *textbook* includes electronic or digital textbooks used for educational purposes. 105 ILCS 5/28-20. The term *instructional materials* means both print and non-print materials, including electronic textbooks being used in the educational process. Id.

Instruction

Guidance and Counseling Program 1

The School District provides a guidance and counseling program for students. ² The Superintendent or designee shall direct the District's guidance and counseling program. School counseling services, as described by State law, may be performed by a qualified guidance specialist or any certificated staff member. ³

[For Elementary and Unit Districts]

Each staff member is responsible for effectively guiding students under his/her supervision in order to provide early identification of intellectual, emotional, social, or physical needs, diagnosis of any learning disabilities, and development of educational potential. The District's counselors shall offer counseling to those students who require additional assistance.

[For High School and Unit Districts]

The guidance program will assist students to identify career options consistent with their abilities, interests, and personal values. Students shall be encouraged to seek the help of counselors to develop specific curriculum goals that conform to the student's career objectives. High school juniors and seniors will have the opportunity to receive career-oriented information. Representatives from colleges and universities, occupational training institutions and career-oriented recruiters, including the military, may be given access to the school campus in order to provide students and parents/guardians with information. ⁴

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

¹ State or federal law controls this policy's content.

² School boards may employ counselors 105 ILCS 5/10-22.24a. 105 ILCS 5/10-22.24b, amended by P.A. 101-290, provides a non-exhaustive list of 54 school counseling services, including counseling services for students in need of special education services or who have a federal Section 504 plan and discussion of all post-secondary education options, including four-year colleges or universities, community colleges, and vocational schools.

A program to assist educationally disadvantaged children may include special guidance and counseling. 105 ILCS 5/14B-2. All districts must conduct a comprehensive needs assessment to determine the scope of pupil needs in the areas of guidance and counseling, psychological, social work, and health. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.420(q).

The Children's Mental Health Act of 2003 requires districts to develop protocols for responding to students with social, emotional, or mental health needs that impact learning. 405 ILCS 49/. 105 ILCS 5/2-3.142 created the Ensuring Success in School Task Force. This task force developed policies, procedures, and protocols for school boards to adopt for the purpose of addressing the education and related needs of students who are parents, expectant parents, or victims of domestic or sexual violence to ensure their ability to stay in school, stay safe while in school, and successfully complete their education. School boards and superintendents may want to create their own study group to prepare for implementing the task force's policies, procedures, and protocols. See policy 7:250, *Student Support Services*, and administrative procedure 7:250-AP2, *Protocol for Responding to Students with Social, Emotional, or Mental Health Needs*.

³ Optional. 105 ILCS 5/10-22.24b provides that any qualified professional, including other certificated personnel, may provide school counseling services. The following optional sentence recognizes the importance of interventions; however, it creates duties that are not present in law. This is a classic "who, gets what, for how much" issue.

The counseling program will assist students with interventions related to academic, social and/or personal issues.

Students shall be encouraged to seek academic, social, and /or personal assistance.

⁴ A district must provide military recruiters access to students if it has provided such access to persons or groups who tell students about educational or occupational opportunities. 105 ILCS 5/10-20.5a. The Ill. State Board of Education issued a *Military Access Recruiter Reminder* memo, available at: www.isbe.net/Documents/Military-Access-Reminder.pdf.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-22.24a and 5/10-22.24b.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.420(q).

CROSS REF.: 6:50 (School Wellness), 6:65 (Student Social and Emotional Development),
6:110 (Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out
of School and Graduation Incentives Program), 6:120 (Education of Children
with Disabilities), 6:130 (Program for the Gifted), 7:100 (Health, Eye, and Dental
Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students), 7:250 (Student
Support Services), 7:290 (Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention)

ADMIN. PROC.: 7:340-AP1 (School Student Records), 7:340-AP1, E1 (Notice to
Parents/Guardians and Students of Their Rights Concerning a Student's School
Records), 7:340-AP1, E3 (Letter to Parents and Eligible Students Concerning
Military Recruiters and Postsecondary Institutions Receiving Student Directory
Information)

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

Federal law requires a secondary school to grant military recruiters and institutions of high learning, upon their request, access to secondary school students' names, addresses, and telephone numbers, unless the parents/guardians request that the information not be disclosed without prior written consent. 20 U.S.C. §7908. See also 7:340-AP1, *School Student Records*, and 7:340-AP1, E1, *Notice to Parents/Guardians and Students of Their Rights Concerning a Student's School Records*.

Instruction

Graduation Requirements 1

To graduate from high school, unless otherwise exempted, each student is responsible for:

1. Completing all District graduation requirements that are in addition to the State requirements. ²
2. Completing all courses as provided in the School Code, 105 ILCS 5/27-22. ³
3. Completing all minimum requirements for graduation as specified by Illinois State Board of Education rule, 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.440.
4. Passing an examination on patriotism and principles of representative government, proper use of the flag, methods of voting, and the Pledge of Allegiance. ⁴
5. Participating in State assessments that are required for graduation by the School Code, 105 ILCS 5/2-3.64a-5(c). ⁵
6. Beginning with the 2020-2021 school year, filing one of the following: (1) a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) with the U.S. Dept. of Education, (2) an application for State financial aid, or (3) an Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE) waiver form indicating that the student understands what these aid opportunities are and has chosen not to file an application. If the student is not at least 18 years of age or legally emancipated, the student's parent/guardian must file one of these documents on the student's behalf.

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

¹ State or federal law controls this policy's content. Graduation requirements are often published in student handbooks. The Illinois Principals Association maintains a handbook service that coordinates with **PRESS** material, *Online Model Student Handbook (MSH)*, at: www.ilprincipals.org/resources/model-student-handbook.

In accordance with 105 ILCS 5/2-3.159, amended by P.A. 101-503, eff. 1-1-20, and 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.442, a school district may establish a program to recognize high school graduates who attained a high level of proficiency in one or more languages in addition to English by designating on a student's diploma and transcript a State Seal of Biliteracy. See policy 6:320, *High School Credit for Proficiency*.

² Optional. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.440(f). A school board should ensure that all district graduation requirements that are in addition to the State requirements are aligned with the district educational objectives. See policy 6:10, *Educational Philosophy and Objectives*.

³ The escalating graduation requirements in 105 ILCS 5/27-22 had timed-out and were deleted by P.A. 100-443, such that only the final list of required courses in Section 27-22(e), amended by P.A. 101-464, eff. 1-1-20, is applicable. 105 ILCS 5/27-22(e)(3) allows the substitution of an advanced placement computer science course for a year of mathematics, and it further states that a mathematics course that includes geometry content may be offered as an integrated, applied, interdisciplinary, or career and technical education course that prepares a student for a career readiness path. 105 ILCS 5/27-22(e)(5) requires students entering the 9th grade in the 2016-2017 school year and each year thereafter to complete one semester of civics. For specific requirements, see 6:300-E2, *State Law Graduation Requirements*, and 6:310, *High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-entering Students*.

⁴ Required by 105 ILCS 5/27-3.

⁵ 105 ILCS 5/2-3.64a-5(c), amended by P.A.s 100-7 and 100-1046, states that "[s]tudents who do not take the State's final accountability assessment or its approved alternate assessment may not receive a regular high school diploma unless the student is exempted."

105 ILCS 5/2-3.64a-5(c), amended by P.A.s 100-7 and 100-1046, requires that the assessment administered by ISBE for the purpose of student application to or admissions consideration by institutions of higher education be administered on a school day during regular student attendance hours.

105 ILCS 5/2-3.64a-5(e), amended by P.A.s 100-222 and 100-1046, no longer requires that the scores attained by a student on an assessment that includes a college and career readiness determination be entered on the student's transcript. The student's final accountability assessment scores, however, must be placed in the student's permanent record. See also 23 Ill.Admin.Code §375.10.

A student is exempt from this requirement if: (1) the student is unable to file a financial aid application or an ISBE waiver due to extenuating circumstances, (2) the Building Principal attests the District made a good faith effort to assist the student or the student's parent/guardian with filing a financial aid application or an ISBE waiver form, and (3) the student has met all other graduation requirements. ⁶

The Superintendent or designee is responsible for: ⁷

1. Maintaining a description of all course offerings that comply with the above graduation requirements.
2. Notifying students and their parents/guardians of graduation requirements.
3. Developing the criteria for #4 above.
4. Complying with State law requirements for students who transfer during their senior year because their parent(s)/guardian(s) are on active military duty. This includes making reasonable adjustments to ensure graduation if possible, or efforts to ensure that the original (transferor) school district issues the student a diploma.
5. Taking all other actions needed or necessary to implement this policy.

Early Graduation ⁸

The Superintendent or designee shall implement procedures for students to graduate early, provided they finish seven semesters of high school and meet all graduation requirements.

Certificate of Completion ⁹

A student with a disability who has an Individualized Education Program prescribing special education, transition planning, transition services, or related services beyond the student's four years of high school, qualifies for a certificate of completion after the student has completed four years of high school. The student is encouraged to participate in the graduation ceremony of his or her high school graduation class. The Superintendent or designee shall provide timely written notice of this requirement to children with disabilities and their parents/guardians.

Service Member Diploma ¹⁰

The District will award a diploma to a service member who was killed in action while performing active military duty with the U.S. Armed Forces or an honorably discharged veteran of World War II, the Korean Conflict, or the Vietnam Conflict, provided that he or she (1) resided within an area

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

⁶ 105 ILCS 5/22-85 (final citation pending), added by P.A. 101-180, eff. 6-1-20. See 6:300-E3, *Form for Exemption from Financial Aid Application Completion*.

⁷ Items #1 and #2 are required by 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.440(d) and (e), respectively. Item #3 must be addressed because the law leaves many implementation issues unanswered. A comprehensive Student Handbook can provide notice of the district's graduation requirements, conduct rules, and other important information. Item #4 includes discussion of the adjustments required by the Educational Opportunity for Military Children Act, 105 ILCS 70/35(d).

⁸ This is optional. State law and rules are silent regarding early graduation. As an alternative, a board may delete the phrase "finish 7 semesters of high school and."

⁹ Required by 105 ILCS 5/14-16.

¹⁰ Optional. 105 ILCS 5/22-27, amended by P.A. 101-131, does not designate a time requirement for when the service member killed in action or veteran "resided within an area currently within the district." Thus, a reasonable interpretation may be adopted locally. The sample policy designates "at the time he or she left high school" as the pertinent time for residence. See 6:300-E1, *Application for a Diploma for a Service Member Killed in Action or for Veterans of WWII, the Korean Conflict, or the Vietnam Conflict*.

currently within the District at the time he or she left high school, (2) left high school before graduating in order to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces, and (3) has not received a high school diploma.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/2-3.64a-5, 5/22-27, 5/27-3, 5/27-22, and 5/27-22.10.
105 ILCS 70/, Educational Opportunity for Military Children Act.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.440.

CROSS REF.: 6:30 (Organization of Instruction), 6:310 (High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students), 6:315 (High School Credit for Students in Grade 7 or 8), 6:320 (High School Credit for Proficiency), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools)

Instruction

Exhibit - Application for a Diploma for a Service Member Killed in Action or for Veterans of WWII, the Korean Conflict, or the Vietnam Conflict

Complete and submit to the Superintendent.

Please print:

_____			_____		
Name to Appear on Diploma			Phone		
_____			_____		
Address			Birth Date		
_____			_____		
City	State	Zip			

For Veterans of WWII, the Korean Conflict, or the Vietnam Conflict

The applicant is requesting a high school diploma and attests that he or she meets the following criteria as established by School Board policy:

1. Served in the U.S. Armed Forces during World War II, the Korean Conflict, or the Vietnam Conflict.

Please check one or more of the following: **1**

- World War II: December 7, 1941 - December 31, 1946, including the induction period of September 16, 1940 – December 6, 1941
- Korean Conflict: June 27, 1950 - January 31, 1955, including the induction period of January 1, 1947 – June 26, 1950
- Vietnam Conflict: January 1, 1961 – May 7, 1975

2. Left high school in order to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces.
3. Resided within an area currently within the School District at the time he or she withdrew from high school.
4. Has not received a high school diploma or a GED (high school equivalency).

_____	_____	_____
Applicant's Name (<i>printed</i>)	Signature	Date

For Service Members Killed in Action

The applicant is requesting a high school diploma on behalf of a service member who was killed in action and attests that the deceased service member meets each of the following criteria as established by Board policy:

The footnotes should be removed before the material is used.

1 This exhibit uses dates of eligible service listed in Ill. Dept. of Veterans Affairs administrative rules at 95 Ill.Admin.Code §101.10.

1. Was killed in action while performing active military duty with the U.S. Armed Forces.
2. Left high school in order to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces.
3. Resided within an area currently within the School District at the time he or she withdrew from high school.
4. Has not received a high school diploma or a GED (high school equivalency).

Applicant's Name (*printed*)

Signature

Date

Instruction

Exhibit - State Law Graduation Requirements

The School Code, 105 ILCS 5/27-22, amended by P.A. 101-464, eff. 1-1-20, and 105 ILCS 5/22-85 (final citation pending), added by P.A. 101-180, eff. 6-1-20, contains the following course requirements for a student in Illinois to receive a high school diploma. Other graduation requirements, including additional course requirements, if any, are contained in School Board policy 6:300, *Graduation Requirements*. For guidance in offering the coursework necessary to meet the State graduation requirements, see the Illinois State Board of Education, *State Graduation Requirements, Guidance Document* (2016), available at: www.isbe.net/Documents/grad_require.pdf.

State Law Graduation Requirements

105 ILCS 5/27-22

Sec. 27-22. Required high school courses.

(a) - (d) are not listed because their dates have passed.

- (e) As a prerequisite to receiving a high school diploma, each pupil entering the 9th grade must, in addition to other course requirements, successfully complete all of the following courses:
- (1) Four years of language arts.
 - (2) Two years of writing intensive courses, one of which must be English and the other of which may be English or any other subject. When applicable, writing-intensive courses may be counted towards the fulfillment of other graduation requirements.
 - (3) Three years of mathematics, one of which must be Algebra I and one of which must include geometry content, and one of which may be an Advanced Placement computer science course. A mathematics course that includes geometry content may be offered as an integrated, applied, interdisciplinary, or career and technical education course that prepares a student for a career readiness path.
 - (4) Two years of science.
 - (5) Two years of social studies, of which at least one year must be history of the United States or a combination of history of the United States and American government and, beginning with pupils entering the 9th grade in the 2016-2017 school year and each school year thereafter, at least one semester must be civics, which shall help young people acquire and learn to use the skills, knowledge, and attitudes that will prepare them to be competent and responsible citizens throughout their lives. Course content shall focus on government institutions, the discussion of current and controversial issues, service learning, and simulations of the democratic process.
 - (6) One year chosen from (A) music, (B) art, (C) foreign language, which shall be deemed to include American Sign Language, or (D) vocational education.
- (f) The State Board of Education shall develop and inform school districts of standards for writing-intensive coursework.
- (f-5) If a school district offers an Advanced Placement computer science course to high school students, then the school board must designate that course as equivalent to a high school mathematics course and must denote on the student's transcript that the Advanced Placement

computer science course qualifies as a mathematics-based, quantitative course for students in accordance with subdivision (3) of subsection (e) of this Section.

- (g) This amendatory Act of 1983 does not apply to pupils entering the 9th grade in 1983-1984 school year and prior school years or to students with disabilities whose course of study is determined by an Individualized Education Program.

This amendatory Act of the 94th General Assembly does not apply to pupils entering the 9th grade in the 2004-2005 school year or a prior school year or to students with disabilities whose course of study is determined by an Individualized Education Program.

- (h) The provisions of this Section are subject to the provisions of Section 27-22.05 [substitutions for required courses].

105 ILCS 5/22-85

(final citation pending), added by P.A. 101-180, eff. 6-1-20

Sec. 22-85. Graduation requirements: Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

- (a) Beginning with the 2020-2021 school year, in addition to any other requirements under this Code, as a prerequisite to receiving a high school diploma from a public high school, the parent or guardian of each student or, if a student is at least 18 years of age or legally emancipated, the student must comply with either of the following:
 - (1) File a Free Application for Federal Student Aid with the United States Department of Education or, if applicable, an application for State financial aid.
 - (2) On a form created by the State Board of Education, file a waiver with the student's school district indicating that the parent or guardian or, if applicable, the student understands what the Free Application for Federal Student Aid and application for State financial aid are and has chosen not to file an application under paragraph (1).
- (b) Each school district with a high school must require each high school student to comply with this Section and must provide to each high school student and, if applicable, his or her parent or guardian any support or assistance necessary to comply with this Section. A school district must award a high school diploma to a student who is unable to meet the requirements of subsection (a) due to extenuating circumstances, as determined by the school district, if (i) the student has met all other graduation requirements under this Code and (ii) the principal attests that the school district has made a good faith effort to assist the student or, if applicable, his or her parent or guardian in filing an application or a waiver under subsection (a).
- (c) The State Board of Education may adopt rules to implement this Section.

Instruction

Exhibit – Form for Exemption from Financial Aid Application Completion

This form is to be used to document a parent/guardian or student’s exemption from the State law requirement to file, as a prerequisite to receiving a high school diploma, a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), an application for State financial aid, or an Ill. State Board of Education (ISBE) waiver form. Return a copy of the completed form to the parent/guardian or student, and keep a copy in the student’s file.

Completed by Student’s parent/guardian or Student, if 18 years or older or legally emancipated.

Student’s Name: _____

Address: _____

School: _____

Grade: _____

I am unable to file a FAFSA (or application for State financial aid) or an ISBE waiver from the requirement to file such an application because of the following:

Completed by the High School Principal.

Extenuating circumstances exist and the Student is exempt from the requirement to file a FAFSA (or other State financial aid application):

Yes No, exemption denied

(Complete next portion only if the answer is Yes above)

I attest that the District has made the following good faith efforts to assist the Student’s parent/guardian or Student in filing an application or a waiver from this requirement:

The student has met all other graduation requirements and receive a diploma.

Yes, exemption approved No, exemption denied

High School Principal Signature

Date

Instruction

High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students ¹

Credit for Non-District Experiences ²

A student may receive high school credit for successfully completing any of the listed courses or experiences even when it is not offered in or sponsored by the District:

1. Distance learning course, including a correspondence, virtual, or online course
2. Courses in an accredited foreign exchange program
3. Summer school or community college courses ³
4. College or high school courses offering dual credit at both the college and high school level ⁴

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

¹ State law requires that several of the programs in this policy be covered in policy. State law controls this policy's content. Note that 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.420(b) requires "[e]very school district [to] have an organized plan for recording pupil progress and/or awarding credit, including credit for courses completed by correspondence, on line, or from other external sources, that can be disseminated to other schools within the State." Section 1.460 requires "[e]ach local board of education with a high school [to] adopt a policy which defines the board's position with reference to the awarding of high school credit on the basis of local examinations to pupils who have achieved the necessary proficiencies through independent study, either with or without private tutoring, or for work taken in or from another institution." 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.460.

Sample policy 6:185, *Remote Educational Program*, provides for educational programs **delivered by the district** in a location outside of the school.

Sample policy 6:315, *High School Credit for Students in Grade 7 or 8*, allows students enrolled in grade 7 or 8 to enroll in a course required for high school graduation. 105 ILCS 5/27-22.10(a); 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.440(c)(3).

² Each board may choose for which, if any, of the listed non-district experiences the district will grant high school credit. If a district does not grant credit for any of the listed activities, substitute the following alternative for all text in the entire section: "The District does not grant graduation credit for learning experiences that an enrolled student does not complete through the District."

³ 105 ILCS 5/27-22.1 provides that no fewer than 60 hours of classroom instruction in summer school is required for one semester of high school course credit. Districts may accept courses completed in a community college (CC) toward graduation. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.440(f). Superintendents, pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/10-21.4, must annually report to ISBE the number of students enrolled in accredited courses at any CC along with the name(s) and number(s) of the course(s) each student is taking.

⁴ The Dual Credit Quality Act (110 ILCS 27/) defines dual credit as a college course taken by a high school student for credit at both the college and high school level. 110 ILCS 27/5 and 105 ILCS 5/10-20.62(a), amended by P.A. 100-792, eff. 1-1-19. An instructor who teaches a dual credit course does not need the certification required by Article 21 of the School Code but must meet the standards set forth in 110 ILCS 27/20(1), (2), or (3), amended by P.A. 100-1049. Dual credit programs require: (a) a specific partnership agreement between the district and a CC, as long as the district is in the CC's jurisdiction (110 ILCS 27/16, added by P.A. 100-1049), or (b) cooperation between the school district and the institution providing the dual credit courses (see the Higher Education Student Assistance Act at 110 ILCS 947/10 for a definition of *institution*). If the district and CC cannot agree within 180 days of a district's initial request to enter into a partnership agreement, the two parties must use the model partnership agreement located at 110 ILCS 27/19, added by P.A. 100-1049.

5. Foreign language courses taken in an ethnic school program approved by the Illinois State Board of Education ⁵
6. Work-related training at manufacturing facilities or agencies in a Tech Prep Program ⁶
7. Credit earned in a Vocational Academy ⁷

The student must seek approval from the Superintendent or designee to receive graduation credit for any non-District course or experience. The Superintendent or designee shall determine the amount of credit and whether a proficiency examination is required before the credit is awarded. As approval is not guaranteed, students should seek conditional approval of the experience before participating in a non-District course or experience. The student assumes responsibility for any fee, tuition, supply, or other expense. The student seeking credit is responsible for (1) providing documents or transcripts that demonstrate successful completion of the experience, and (2) taking a proficiency examination, if requested. The Superintendent or designee shall determine which, if any, non-District courses or experiences, will count toward a student's grade point average, class rank, and eligibility for athletic and extracurricular activities. This section does not govern the transfer of credits for students transferring into the District.

Substitutions for Required Courses

Vocational or technical education; registered apprenticeship program.⁸ A student in grades 9-12 may satisfy one or more high school courses (including physical education) or graduation

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

After 1-1-19, out-of-state dual credit contracts are prohibited until a district first offers the CC in the district in which the district is located the opportunity to provide a dual credit course. 110 ILCS 27/17, added by P.A. 100-1049. In addition, a district seeking to enter into an agreement with an out-of-state institution must provide notice to the Ill. State Board of Higher Education (BHE) of its intent to which the BHE will have 30 days to provide the district with a list of in-state institutions that can provide the district an equivalent dual credit opportunity. *Id.* Agreements between a district and an out-of-state institution that were in effect before 1-1-19 will not be affected. *Id.* A high school evaluation of a dual credit program must also incorporate the analysis of data from the Ill. State Board of Education's (ISBE) statewide longitudinal data system (see the P-20 Longitudinal Education Data System Act, 105 ILCS 13/, for more information).

105 ILCS 5/10-20.62, added by P.A. 100-133 and renumbered by P.A. 100-792, requires school boards to require the district's high schools, if any, to inform all 11th and 12th grade students of dual enrollment and dual credit opportunities at public CCs for qualified students. Qualified students may enroll in an unlimited amount of dual credit courses and earn an unlimited amount of academic credits from them if the course(s) are taught by an Ill. instructor, as provided by 110 ILCS 27/. *Id.* at (b), amended by P.A. 100-792. In addition, all dual credit coursework completed by a high school student must be transferred to all public institutions in Illinois on the same basis as coursework completed by a public CC student who previously earned a high school diploma in the manner set forth under the Ill. Articulation Initiative Act. *Id.* at 27/19, added by P.A. 100-1049.

See *Increasing Postsecondary Opportunities and Success for Students and Youth with Disabilities* at: www.sites.ed.gov/idea/idea-files/qa-increasing-postsecondary-opportunities-success-for-students-youth-with-disabilities-sept-17-2019/#Letter for information on providing transition services to high school students who have individualized education programs (IEPs), are receiving services under the IDEA, and take courses offered by a community college or other postsecondary education institution program prior to high school graduation.

⁵ 105 ILCS 5/2-3.44 and 5/10-22.43a. An ethnic school is a part-time, private school that teaches the foreign language of a particular ethnic group as well as the culture, geography, history, and other aspects of a particular ethnic group. 105 ILCS 5/2-3.44; 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.465(b). For requirements, see 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.465.

⁶ The State Superintendent and Board of Higher Education were encouraged by 105 ILCS 5/2-3.115 to establish a program of academic credit for Tech Prep work based learning for secondary school students with an interest in pursuing such career training, which could be instituted by school districts. See also 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.445.

⁷ Vocational Academies Act, 105 ILCS 433/. The Act's purpose is to "integrate workplace competencies and career and technical education with core academic subjects." School districts are permitted to partner with CCs, local employers, and community-based organizations to establish a vocational academy that functions as a two-year school within a school for grades 10 through 12. Grant funds may be available from ISBE when the vocational academy meets statutory requirements.

requirements by successfully completing related vocational or technical education courses or a registered apprenticeship program if:

1. The Building Principal approves the substitution and the vocational or technical education course is completely described in curriculum material along with its relationship to the required course; and
2. The student's parent/guardian requests and approves the substitution in writing on forms provided by the District.

Advanced placement computer science.⁹ The advanced placement computer science course is equivalent to a high school mathematics course. A student in grades 9-12 may substitute the advanced placement computer science course for one year of mathematics, in accordance with Section 27-22 of the School Code. The transcript of a student who completes the advanced placement computer science course will state that it qualifies as a mathematics-based, quantitative course.

Substitutions for physical education. A student in grades 9-12, unless otherwise stated, may submit a written request to the Building Principal to be excused from physical education courses for the reasons stated below.¹⁰ The Superintendent or designee shall maintain records showing that the criteria set forth in this policy were applied to the student's individual circumstances, as appropriate.
11

1. Ongoing participation in a marching band program for credit; **12**
2. Enrollment in Reserve Officer's Training Corps (ROTC) program sponsored by the District; **13**
3. Ongoing participation in an *interscholastic* or *extracurricular athletic program*; **14**

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

⁸ Allowing this substitution is optional, but, if offered, must be included in board policy. 105 ILCS 5/27-22.05, amended by P.A. 100-992. The *related* requirement is met if the course contains at least 50% of the content of the required course. *Id.* 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.445 requires that the vocational or technical education course be completely described in the policy along with its relationship to the required course. The sample policy satisfies these requirements by referring to the courses as described in curricular material.

ISBE requires that the parent/guardian of a student under the age of 18 request the course substitution "on forms that the school district makes available" and that the request must be maintained in the student's temporary record. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.445. See 6:310-E, *Class Substitution Request*.

105 ILCS 5/2-3.175, added by P.A. 100-992, renumbered by P.A. 101-81, establishes a *registered apprenticeship program*. A registered apprenticeship program is an industry-based occupational training program of study with standards reviewed and approved by the U.S. Dept. of Labor that meets characteristics set forth in State law. ISBE was directed to develop rules to implement this law during the 2018-2019 school year to allow students who are 16 years of age or older to participate in registered apprenticeship programs.

⁹ Optional, but allowed by 105 ILCS 5/27-22(e)(3), amended by P.A. 101-464, eff. 1-1-20 and 5/27-22(f-5).

¹⁰ Optional, but allowed by 105 ILCS 5/27-6(b), amended by P.A. 100-465; 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.425(e), amended at 42 Ill. Reg. 11542-43. A board that wants to allow any of these P.E. exemptions must include the ones it selects in a policy that excuses students on an individual basis.

¹¹ 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.425(e), amended at 42 Ill. Reg. 11542-43.

¹² 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.425(e)(4)(A), added at 42 Ill.Reg. 11543. This policy excuses students from P.E. only during the marching band season because the statute allows the exemption "for ongoing participation in such marching band program." Thus, if the marching band season is over, the student's *ongoing participation* has ceased and the student no longer qualifies for the P.E. exemption. Common sense, however, would allow the exemption to continue until the end of the current grading period.

¹³ 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.425(e)(4)(B), added at 42 Ill.Reg. 11543.

4. Enrollment in academic classes that are required for admission to an institution of higher learning (student must be in the 11th or 12th grade);¹⁵ or
5. Enrollment in academic classes that are required for graduation from high school, provided that failure to take such classes will result in the student being unable to graduate (student must be in the 11th or 12th grade). ¹⁶

A student who is eligible for special education may be excused from physical education courses pursuant to 7:260, *Exemption from Physical Education*.

Volunteer service credit.¹⁷ A student participating in the District’s Volunteer Service Credit Program, if any, may earn credit toward graduation for the performance of community service. The amount of credit given for program participation shall not exceed that given for completion of one semester of language arts, math, science, or social studies.

Re-Entering Students ¹⁸

Individuals younger than 21 years of age may re-enter high school to acquire a high school diploma or an equivalency certificate, subject to the limitations in Board policy 7:50, *School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools*. Re-entering students may obtain credit through the successful completion of the following (not all of these may be available at any one time):

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

¹⁴ 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.425(e)(2) and (e)(3)(A), added at 42 Ill.Reg. 11542-43. Prior to P.A. 100-465, the statute only allowed students in grades 11 and 12 to be excused from P.E. “for ongoing participation in an interscholastic athletic program.” 105 ILCS 5/27-6(b)(1). 105 ILCS 5/27-6(b), amended by P.A. 100-465, now states “on a case-by-case basis, excuse pupils in grades 7 through 12 who participate in an interscholastic or extracurricular athletic program.” While the statute no longer requires such participation to be *ongoing*, 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.425(e)(3), added at 42 Ill.Reg. 11542, requires *ongoing participation*. Thus, if the athletic program is over, the student’s *ongoing participation* has ceased and the student no longer qualifies for the P.E. exemption. Common sense, however, would allow the exemption to continue only until the end of the grading period during which the athletic program is active. 23 Ill. Admin. Code §1.425(e)(2) limits interscholastic and extracurricular athletic programs to those that are sponsored by the school district as defined in school board policy. Boards do not have the “authority to honor parental excuses based upon students’ participation in athletic training, activities or competitions conducted outside the auspices of the school district.” *Id.* at §1.425(e)(6).

State statutes do not define *interscholastic athletic program* or *extracurricular athletic program*; however, 105 ILCS 5/22-80 defines *interscholastic athletic activity* as “any organized school-sponsored or school-sanctioned activity for students, generally outside of school instructional hours, under the direction of a coach, athletic director, or band leader, including, but not limited to, baseball, basketball, cheerleading, cross country track, fencing, field hockey, football, golf, gymnastics, ice hockey, lacrosse, marching band, rugby, soccer, skating, softball, swimming and diving, tennis, track (indoor and outdoor), ultimate Frisbee, volleyball, water polo, and wrestling.” 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.425(e)(2), added at 42 Ill. Reg. 11542, defines *interscholastic* and *extracurricular athletic programs* as “those programs that are sponsored by the school district as defined by school district policy.” Boards have no authority to honor parental excuses based upon students’ participation in athletic training, activities or competition conducted outside the auspices of the school district. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.425(e)(6), added at Ill. Reg. 11543.

For boards that want to explain the meaning of *interscholastic or extracurricular athletic program*, insert the following option at the end of #3:

(organized school-sponsored or school-sanctioned activities for students that are not part of the curriculum, not graded, not for credit, generally take place outside of school instructional hours, and under the direction of a coach, athletic director, or band leader)

For unit districts, ensure the definition matches the definition in policy 7:260, *Exemption from Physical Education*.

¹⁵ 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.425(e)(3)(B), added at 42 Ill. Reg. 11542.

¹⁶ 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.425(e)(3)(C), added at 42 Ill.Reg. 11543.

¹⁷ Optional. The credit given for one semester may not exceed that stated in this policy. 105 ILCS 5/27-22.3. The program may include participation in the organization of a high school or community blood drive or other blood donor recruitment campaign. *Id.* ISBE must provide assistance to districts opting to offer the program. 105 ILCS 5/2-3.108.

¹⁸ Required by 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.470(a). While the sample policy does not provide for it, a school board may permit adults 21 years of age or older to re-enter high school. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.470(b). Items #4 & #5 are optional, but must be included in a policy if credit will be granted for them. 105 ILCS 5/27-6, 27-22.05.

1. District courses
2. Non-District experiences described in this policy
3. Classes in a program established under Section 10-22.20 of the School Code, in accordance with the standards established by the Illinois Community College Board
4. Proficiency testing, correspondence courses, life experiences, and other nonformal educational endeavors
5. Military service, provided the individual making the request has a recommendation from the American Council on Education

The provisions in the section **Credit for Non-District Experiences**, above, apply to the receipt of credit for any non-District course.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/2-3.44, 5/2-3.108, 5/2-3.115, 5/2-3.142, 5/10-22.43a, 5/27-6, 5/27-22.3, and 5/27-22.05.
110 ILCS 27/, Dual Credit Quality Act.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.425(e), 1.440(f), and 1.470(c).

CROSS REF.: 6:180 (Extended Instructional Programs), 6:300 (Graduation Requirements), 6:315 (High School Credit for Students in Grade 7 or 8), 6:320 (High School Credit for Proficiency), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools), 7:260 (Exemption from Physical Education)

Instruction

High School Credit for Proficiency

Proficiency Credits 1

Subject to the limitations in this policy and State law, the Superintendent or designee is authorized to establish and approve a program for granting credit for proficiency with the goal of allowing a student who would not benefit from a course because the student is proficient in the subject area to receive credit without having to take the course. A student who demonstrates competency under this program will receive course credit for the applicable course and be excused from any requirement to take the course as a graduation prerequisite. No letter grade will be given for purposes of the student's cumulative grade point average. The Superintendent or designee shall notify students of the availability of and requirements for receiving proficiency credit.

Proficiency credit will be offered in the following subject areas: 2

Foreign language - A student is eligible to receive one year of foreign language credit if the student has graduated from an accredited elementary school and can demonstrate proficiency, according to this District's academic criteria, in a language other than English.³ A student who demonstrates proficiency in American Sign Language is deemed proficient in a foreign language and will receive one year of foreign language credit.⁴ A student who studied a foreign language in an approved ethnic school program is eligible to receive appropriate credit according to the level of proficiency reached; the student may be required to take a proficiency examination. 5

Other proficiency testing - The program for granting credit for proficiency may allow, as the Superintendent deems appropriate, course credit to be awarded on the basis of a local examination to a student who has achieved the necessary proficiency through independent study or work taken in or through another institution.⁶ Proficiency testing may also be used to determine eligible credit for other subjects whenever students enter from non-graded schools, non-recognized or non-accredited schools, or were in a home-schooling program.

The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.

¹ An ISBE rule requires districts with a high school to have a policy on earning credit through proficiency exams. 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.460. State law controls this policy's content. Students must *successfully complete* the courses listed in 105 ILCS 5/27-22 in order to receive a high school diploma. See 6:300-E2, *State Law Graduation Requirements*. 105 ILCS 5/27-12.1 no longer allows districts to grant consumer education proficiency credit.

In accordance with 105 ILCS 5/2-3.159, amended by P.A. 101-503, eff. 1-1-20, and 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.442, a school district may establish a program to recognize high school graduates who attain a high level of proficiency in one or more languages in addition to English by designating on a student's diploma and transcript a State Seal of Bilingualism.

² This paragraph should be revised to reflect the actual practice concerning granting proficiency credits. A board may delete all text concerning foreign language proficiency credit and keep only the text in the second indented paragraph without using a subheading.

³ Optional, but permitted by 105 ILCS 5/10-22.43.

⁴ See f/n 2. Required only if the district offers proficiency credit for foreign language. Id.

⁵ See f/n 2. Optional, but permitted by 105 ILCS 5/10-22.43a.

⁶ Optional.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-22.43, 5/10-22.43a, 5/27-22, and 5/27-24.3.
23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.460.

CROSS REF.: 6:300 (Graduation Requirements), 6:310 (High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students), 6:315 (High School Credit for Students in Grade 7 or 8)