

Document Status: Draft Update

General Personnel

5:30 Hiring Process and Criteria

Relatives of Board members may be employed by the Board, provided the Board member does not participate in any way in the discussion or vote on the employment when conflict of interest is involved.

Relatives of staff members may be employed by the Board, provided the staff member being employed is not placed in a position in which s/he would be supervised directly by the relative staff member.

The Board of Education recognizes the need to establish positions which, when filled by competent, qualified professional staff members, will assist the District in achieving the education goals set by the Board. The District employs only U.S. citizens and others lawfully authorized to work in the United States.

The Superintendent or designee shall verify all new full-time and part-time employees' right to work in the United States according to the Federal Immigrations Reform and Control Act of 1986.

The Board reserves the right to:

- A. Create new positions;
- B. Specify the number of persons to be employed with each job category;
- C. Set the initial salary for a new position not currently covered by a valid, negotiated, collectively-bargained agreement.

In the exercise of its authority to create new positions, the Board shall give primary consideration to the:

- A. Number of students enrolled;
- B. Special needs of the community;
- C. Special needs of the student;
- D. Operational services of the District.

The Board shall, upon the advice of the Superintendent or designee, consider the advisability of creating a new position or of increasing the number of professional staff members in an existing position.

The District hires the most qualified personnel consistent with budget and staffing requirements and in compliance with Board of Education policy on equal employment opportunity and minority recruitment. The Superintendent or designee is responsible for recruiting personnel and making hiring recommendations to the Board. If the Superintendent's or designee's recommendation is rejected, the Superintendent or designee must submit another. The Superintendent or designee may select personnel on a short-term basis for a specific project or emergency condition before the Board's approval. The Board shall approve the employment, and also, when not covered by the terms of a negotiated, collectively-bargained agreement, fix the compensation, and establish the term of employment for each professional staff member employed by the Board.

No individual will be employed who has been convicted of a criminal offense listed in [105 ILCS 5/21B-80\(c\)](#).

All applicants must complete a District application in order to be considered for employment.

Job Descriptions

The Board maintains the Superintendent's job description and directs, through policy, the Superintendent, in his or her charge of the District's administration.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and maintain a current comprehensive job description for each position or job category; however, a provision in a collective bargaining agreement or individual contract will control in the event of a conflict.

Investigations

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that a fingerprint-based criminal history records check and a check of the Statewide Sex Offender Database and Violent Offender Against Youth Database is performed on each applicant as required by State law. When the applicant is a successful superintendent candidate who has been offered employment by the Board, the Board President shall ensure that these checks are completed. The Superintendent or designee, or if the applicant is a successful superintendent candidate, then the Board President shall notify an applicant if the applicant is identified in either database. The School Code requires the Board President to keep a conviction record confidential and share it only with the Superintendent, Regional Superintendent, State Superintendent, State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, any other person necessary to the hiring decision, the Ill. State Police and/or Statewide Sex Offender Database for purposes of clarifying the information, and/or the Teachers' Retirement System of the State of Illinois when required by law. The Board reserves its right to authorize additional background inquiries beyond a fingerprint-based criminal history records check when it deems it appropriate to do so, in accordance with applicable laws.

Such an inquiry shall also be made for substitutes or part-time staff who may be employed by the District. For such staff, the Superintendent or designee may rely on certification from the Regional Superintendent that a report has been received from the State Police and the individual has no criminal history.

Each newly hired employee must complete a U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Form as required by federal law.

The District retains the right to discharge any employee whose criminal background investigation reveals a conviction for committing or attempting to commit any of the offenses outlined in [105 ILCS 5/21B-80](#) or who falsifies, or omits facts from, his or her employment application or other employment documents. If an indicated finding of abuse or neglect of a child has been issued by the Ill. Department of Children and Family Services or by a child welfare agency of another jurisdiction for any applicant for student teaching, applicant for employment, or any District employee, then the Board must consider that person's status as a condition of employment.

The Superintendent shall ensure that the District does not engage in any investigation or inquiry prohibited by law and complies with each of the following:

1. The District uses an applicant's credit history or report from a consumer reporting agency only when a satisfactory credit history is an established bona fide occupational requirement of a particular position.
2. The District does not screen applicants based on their current or prior wages or salary histories, including benefits or other compensation, by requiring that the wage or salary history satisfy minimum or maximum criteria.
3. The District does not request or require a wage or salary history as a condition of being considered for employment, being interviewed, continuing to be considered for an offer of employment, an offer of employment, or an offer of compensation.
4. The District does not request or require an applicant to disclose wage or salary history as a condition of employment.
5. The District does not ask an applicant or applicant's current or previous employers about wage or salary history, including benefits or other compensation, unless the applicant's wage or salary history is a matter of public record, or is contained in a document completed by the applicant's current or former employer and then made available to the public by the employer, or then submitted or posted by the employer to comply with State or federal law; or the applicant is a current employee applying for a position with the same current employer.
6. The District does not ask an applicant or applicant's previous employers about claim(s) made or benefit(s) received under the Workers' Compensation Act.
7. The District does not request of an applicant or employee access in any manner to his or her personal online account, such as social networking websites, including a request for passwords to such accounts.
8. The District provides equal employment opportunities to all persons. See policy 5:10, *Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment*.

Sexual Misconduct Related Employment History Review (EHR)

Prior to hiring an applicant for a position involving *direct contact with children or students*, the Superintendent shall ensure that an EHR is performed as required by State law. When the applicant is a superintendent candidate, the Board President shall ensure that the EHR is initiated before a successful superintendent candidate is offered employment by the Board.

Physical Examinations

Each new employee must furnish evidence of physical fitness to perform assigned duties and freedom from communicable disease. The physical fitness examination must be performed by a physician licensed in Illinois, or any other state, to practice medicine and surgery in any of its branches, a licensed advanced practice registered nurse, or a licensed physician assistant who has been delegated the authority by his or her supervising physician to perform health examinations. The employee must have the physical examination performed no more than 90 days before submitting evidence of it to the District.

Any employee may be required to have an additional examination by a physician who is licensed in Illinois to practice medicine and surgery in all its branches, a licensed advanced practice registered nurse, or a licensed physician assistant who has been delegated the authority by his or her supervising physician to perform health examinations, if the examination is job-related and consistent with business necessity. The Board will pay the expenses of any such examination.

The Board of Education and/or Superintendent, or designee, will require all new employees, after a conditional offer of employment, to submit to an examination in order to determine the physical and/or mental capacity to perform assigned duties and freedom from communicable diseases. Such examinations shall be done in accordance with the Superintendents' guidelines and/or the terms of the negotiated, collectively-bargained agreements.

An employee is defined as any employee of the District, a student teacher, an employee of a contractor that provides services to students or in schools or any other individual subject to the requirements of a criminal history background check in [Section 10-21.9](#) of the Illinois School Code.

Employees will be required to execute a release that complies with the requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act in order to allow the report of the medical examination to be released to the Board/Superintendent and to allow the Superintendent or his/her designee to speak to the health care provider who conducted the medical examination in order to get clarification.

Reports of all such examinations or evaluations shall be delivered to the Superintendent, or designee, who shall protect their confidentiality. Reports will be

maintained in a separate, confidential medical file in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act.

In compliance with the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA) and Board Policy 1422.02 the successful candidate who is required to submit to a medical examination, as well as the health care provider that is designated by the Board to conduct the examination, are directed not to collect genetic information or provide any genetic information, including the candidate's family medical history, in the report of the medical examination.

Employees will be notified of the results of the medical examination upon receipt. Any and all reports of such examination will be delivered to the Superintendent, or designee, who shall protect their confidentiality. Reports will be maintained in a separate confidential personnel file in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended ("ADA") and the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA).

In the event of a report indicating that the candidate is not qualified to perform the position's essential functions, with or without reasonable accommodation, the Superintendent, or designee, will make a recommendation to the Board of non-employment. The Superintendent or his/her designee may discuss the results of the report with the health care provider who conducted the medical examination prior to the Superintendent, or designee, making a recommendation to the Board.

Orientation Program

The District's staff will provide an orientation program for new employees to acquaint them with the District's policies and procedures, the school's rules and regulations, and the responsibilities of their position. Before beginning employment, each employee must sign the *Acknowledgement of Mandated Reporter Status* form as provided in policy 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*.

LEGAL REF.:

[42 U.S.C. §12112](#), Americans with Disabilities Act; [29 C.F.R. Part 1630](#).

[15 U.S.C. §1681](#) et seq., Fair Credit Reporting Act.

[8 U.S.C. §1324a](#) et seq., Immigration Reform and Control Act.

[105 ILCS 5/10-16.7](#), [5/10-20.7](#), [5/10-21.4](#), [5/10-21.9](#), [5/10-22.34](#), [5/10-22.34b](#), [5/21B-10](#), [5/21B-80](#), [5/21B-85](#), [5/22-6.5](#), [5/22-94](#), and [5/24-5](#).

[20 ILCS 2630/3.3](#), Criminal Identification Act.

[820 ILCS 55/](#), Right to Privacy in the Workplace Act.

[820 ILCS 70/](#), Employee Credit Privacy Act.

[820 ILCS 112/](#), Equal Pay Act of 2003. [PRESSPlus1](#)

Duldulao v. St. Mary of Nazareth Hospital, 136 Ill. App. 3d 763 (1st Dist. 1985), *aff'd in part and remanded* 115 Ill.2d 482 (Ill. 1987).

Kaiser v. Dixon, 127 Ill. App. 3d 251 (2nd Dist. 1984).

Molitor v. Chicago Title & Trust Co., 325 Ill. App. 124 (1st Dist. 1945).

CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 3:50 (Administrative Personnel Other Than the Superintendent), 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 4:175 (Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications), 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 5:40 (Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 5:120 (Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest), 5:125 (Personal Technology and Social Media; Usage and Conduct), 5:220 (Substitute Teachers), 5:280 (Duties and Qualifications)

PRESSPlus Comments

[PRESSPlus 1](#). The Equal Pay Act of 2003, 820 ILCS 112/10(b-25), added by P.A. 103-539, eff. 1-1-25, makes it unlawful for employers with 15 or more employees to fail to include the "pay scale and benefits" for a position in any specific job posting. "Pay scale and benefits" means the wage or salary, or the wage or salary range, and a general description of benefits and other compensation. To satisfy the posting requirement, an employer can include a hyperlink to a public webpage that includes the pay scale and benefit information. If an employer uses a third party to post its job postings, then the employer must provide the pay scale and benefits or a hyperlink containing the information to the third party. The Act also requires employers to inform current employees of promotion opportunities within 14 calendar days after the employer posts externally for the position. Employers are not prohibited from asking applicants about their wage or salary expectations for a position. **Issue 113, October 2023**