

## General Personnel

### Hiring Process and Criteria 1

The District hires the most qualified personnel consistent with budget and staffing requirements and in compliance with School Board policy on equal employment opportunity and minority recruitment. <sup>2</sup> The Superintendent is responsible for recruiting personnel and making hiring recommendations to the Board. <sup>3</sup> If the Superintendent's recommendation is rejected, the Superintendent must submit another. <sup>4</sup> No individual will be employed who has been convicted of a criminal offense listed in Section 5/21B-80 of the School Code. <sup>5</sup>

All applicants must complete a District application in order to be considered for employment. <sup>6</sup>

### Job Descriptions

The Superintendent 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. <sup>7</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> See policy 5:10, *Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment*. Districts may not classify a job as either a male or female job (29 C.F.R. §1604.5, 34 C.F.R. §106.55).

<sup>3</sup> Boards must consider the superintendent's recommendations concerning, among other things, "the selection, retention, and dismissal of employees," 105 ILCS 5/10-16.7. The board may want this alternative sentence:

All personnel decisions are made by the Board, but only on the recommendation of the Superintendent.

Subject to an applicable collective bargaining agreement in effect on June 13, 2011, a board that fills a "new or vacant teaching position" must select a candidate based on: (1) certifications, (2) qualifications, (3) merit and ability (including performance evaluation, if available), and (4) relevant experience (105 ILCS 5/24-1.5, amended by P.A. 97-8). The statute does not define "new or vacant teaching positions." This new requirement does not apply to filling vacant positions under 105 ILCS 5/24-12 (reduction in force). Consult the board attorney about how this section of P.A. 97-8 applies to the district's circumstances.

<sup>4</sup> An additional optional sentence follows:

The Superintendent may select personnel on a short-term basis for a specific project or emergency condition before the Board's approval.

<sup>5</sup> 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(c), amended by P.A. 97-607.

<sup>6</sup> Any person who applies for employment as a teacher, principal, superintendent, or other certificated employee who willfully makes a false statement on his or her application for employment, material to his or her qualifications for employment, which he or she does not believe to be true, is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor (105 ILCS 5/22-6.5). District employment applications must contain a statement to this effect (*Id.*).

Each employment application for a certificated position must state the following (*Id.*):

Failure to provide requested employment or employer history which is material to the applicant's qualifications for employment or the provision of statements which the applicant does not believe to be true may be a Class A misdemeanor.

<sup>7</sup> Job descriptions will become the basis for categorizing a teacher into one or more positions that the teacher is qualified to hold for reduction in force (RIF) dismissal and recall purposes (105 ILCS 5/24-12(b), amended by P.A. 97-8). However, any collective bargaining agreements in effect on June 13, 2011 supersede this law until June 30, 2013 (*Id.*). A board should consult with its attorney to review its current list of job descriptions and discuss the district's specific responsibilities in light of P.A. 97-8.

## 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. <sup>8</sup> The Superintendent or designee shall notify an applicant if the applicant is identified in either database. <sup>9</sup> 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, or for purposes of clarifying the information, the Department of State Police and/or Statewide Sex Offender Database. <sup>10</sup>

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that an applicant's credit history or report from a consumer reporting agency is used only when a satisfactory credit history is an established bona fide occupational requirement of a particular position. <sup>11</sup>

Each newly hired employee must complete an Immigration and Naturalization Service Form as required by federal law. <sup>12</sup>

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 Section

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A job description is evidence of a position's *essential functions* (29 C.F.R. §1630.2(n)). The Americans with Disabilities Act protects individuals who have a disability and are qualified, with reasonable accommodation, to perform the *essential functions* of the job (42 U.S.C. §12101, amended by the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA), Pub. L. 110-325). Determining which functions are essential may be critical to determining if an individual with a disability is qualified. An individual is qualified to perform a job even though he or she is unable, due to a disability, to perform tasks which are incidental to the job. Only when an individual is unable to perform the *essential functions* of a job may a district deny the individual employment opportunities (29 C.F.R. §1630.2(m)). For a particular function to be essential: (1) the employer must actually require employees in the position to perform it, and (2) the position would be *fundamentally altered* if the function were removed (*Id.*). Whether a particular function is essential is a factual determination.

**Important:** The ADAAA makes significant changes to the ADA's definition of disability that broadens the scope of coverage and overturns a series of U.S. Supreme Court decisions that made it difficult to prove that an impairment was a disability. The final regulations were by a bipartisan vote and approved on March 25, 2011. There is information about the regulations and a link to them at: [www.eeoc.gov/laws/regulations/adaaa\\_fact\\_sheet.cfm](http://www.eeoc.gov/laws/regulations/adaaa_fact_sheet.cfm). Consult the board attorney regarding how these amendments impact the district's hiring processes.

<sup>8</sup> The policy's requirements on criminal records checks are mandated by 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9, amended by P.A.s 96-1452, 96-1489, and 97-607. See administrative procedure 5:30-AP2, *Investigations*, for the process and positions requiring criminal background investigation. The Statewide Sex Offender Database (a/k/a Sex Offender Registry) is available at: [www.isp.state.il.us/sor](http://www.isp.state.il.us/sor). The Statewide Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Database is available at: [www.isp.state.il.us/cmvo/](http://www.isp.state.il.us/cmvo/).

<sup>9</sup> *Id.*

<sup>10</sup> 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(b), amended by P.A. 96-1452. The School Code continues to define the board president's role in conducting criminal background investigations and receiving the results of these investigations, including the results for employees district contractors (105 ILCS 5/10-21.9, amended by P.A. 97-248). Many districts delegate this task in the hiring process to a human resources department.

Use this alternative for districts in suburban Cook County: replace "Regional Superintendent" with "appropriate Intermediate Service Center." The Regional Office of Education for Suburban Cook County was abolished and its duties and powers transferred to the intermediate service center for the area by P.A. 96-893.

<sup>11</sup> Employee Credit Privacy Act, 820 ILCS 70/, added by P.A. 96-1426. This Act allows inquiries into an applicant's credit history or credit report or ordering or obtaining an applicant's credit report from a consumer reporting agency when a satisfactory credit history is an *established bona fide occupational requirement* of a particular position. The Act identifies circumstances that permit a satisfactory credit history to be a job requirement, such as, the position's duties include custody of or unsupervised access to cash or marketable assets valued at \$2,500 or more.

<sup>12</sup> Immigration Reform and Control Act, 8 U.S.C. §1324a *et seq.* Consult with the board attorney regarding the district's rights and responsibilities under all Illinois laws if the district uses any electronic employment verification system, including *E-Verify* and/or the Basic Pilot Program (820 ILCS 55/). This statute urges employers who voluntarily use *E-Verify* (formerly known as the Basic Pilot/Employment Eligibility Verification Program) to consult the Ill. Dept. of Labor's website for current information on the accuracy of *E-Verify* and to review and understand their legal responsibilities relating to the use of any electronic employment verification systems. See footnote 2 in 5:150-AP, *Personnel Records*, for a more detailed discussion of *E-Verify* issues.

5/21B-80 of the School Code or who falsifies, or omits facts from, his or her employment application or other employment documents.

#### Physical Examinations

New employees must furnish evidence of physical fitness to perform assigned duties and freedom from communicable disease, including tuberculosis. **13** All physical fitness examinations and tests for tuberculosis must be performed by a physician licensed in Illinois, or any other state, to practice medicine and surgery in any of its branches, or an advanced practice nurse who has a written collaborative agreement with a collaborating physician that authorizes the advanced practice nurse to perform health examinations, or a 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 and tuberculin test performed no more than 90 days before submitting evidence of it to the Board.

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, or an advanced practice nurse who has a written collaborative agreement with a collaborating physician that authorizes the advanced practice nurse to perform health examinations, or a 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. **14** The Board will pay the expenses of any such examination.

#### 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.

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**13** Pre-employment medical inquiries must be limited to whether the applicant is able to perform job-related functions; required medical examinations of applicants is forbidden (American with Disabilities Act [ADA], 42 U.S.C. §12112(d)(2), as amended by the ADAAA, Pub. L. 110-325); see also footnote 8 for an explanation regarding the ADAAA. Districts may condition an employment offer on taking and passing medical inquiries or physical exams, provided that all entering employees in the same classification receive the same conditional offer. Boards must require new employees to furnish evidence of a physical examination and a tuberculin skin test and, if appropriate, an X-ray (105 ILCS 5/24-5).

Note that while examination by a spiritual leader/practitioner is sufficient for purposes of leaves, the statute does not permit an examination by a spiritual leader/practitioner for initial employment exams. This difference may present a constitutional issue; contact the board attorney for an opinion if an applicant wants to use an examination by a spiritual leader/practitioner.

**14** The State law (105 ILCS 5/24-5) allowing boards to require physicals of current employees "from time to time," has been superseded by federal law (ADA, 42 U.S.C. §12112(d)(4), as amended by the ADAAA, Pub. L. 110-325). The ADA allows medical inquiries of current employees only when they are job-related and consistent with business necessity or part of a voluntary employee wellness program (*Id.*). Districts may deny jobs to individuals with disabilities who pose a direct threat to the health or safety of others in the workplace, provided that a reasonable accommodation would not either eliminate the risk or reduce it to an acceptable level (42 U.S.C. §12113; 29 C.F.R. Part 1630.2(r)). See footnote 8 for an explanation regarding the ADAAA.

See the above footnote for a discussion of examinations by spiritual leaders/practitioners.

LEGAL REF.: Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §12112, 29 C.F.R. Part 1630.  
Immigration Reform and Control Act, 8 U.S.C. §1324a et seq.  
105 ILCS 5/10-16.7, 5/10-20.7, 5/10-21.4, 5/10-21.9, 5/21B-10, 5/21B-80, 5/10-  
22.34, 5/10-22.34b, 5/22-6.5, and 5/24-1 et seq.  
820 ILCS 55/ and 70/  
Duldulao v. St. Mary of Nazareth Hospital, 483 N.E.2d 956 (Ill.App.1, 1985), *aff'd*  
*in part and remanded* 505 N.E.2d 314 (Ill., 1987).  
Kaiser v. Dixon, 468 N.E.2d 822 (Ill.App.2, 1984).  
Molitor v. Chicago Title & Trust Co., 59 N.E.2d 695 (Ill.App.1, 1945).

CROSS REF.: 3:50 (Administrative Personnel Other Than the Superintendent), 5:10 (Equal  
Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 5:40 (Communicable and  
Chronic Infectious Disease), 5:220 (Substitute Teachers), 5:280 (Educational  
Support Personnel - Duties and Qualifications)

## General Personnel

### Administrative Procedure - Investigations

#### Immigration Investigation

All newly hired employees must complete section one of the Immigration and Naturalization Service Form I-9 no later than 3 business days following their first working day (Immigration Reform and Control Act, 8 U.S.C. §1324a, 8 C.F.R. §274a.2). If an individual is unable to provide the required documents to complete it, the individual may present a receipt for the application of the required documents within 3 days of the hire. The individual must then present the required documents within 90 days of the hire. The Superintendent or designee completes section two of the Form I-9 and confirms the employee's information.

If the Employment Eligibility Verification System (E-Verify) is used to complete Form I-9, the Superintendent or designee will review the Ill. Dept. of Labor's website and its E-Verify factsheet, available at: [www.state.il.us/Agency/idol/Forms/PDFs/everify.pdf](http://www.state.il.us/Agency/idol/Forms/PDFs/everify.pdf). See, the Ill. Dept. of Labor Right to Privacy in the Workplace Act, 820 ILCS 55/12.

The completed Form I-9 shall be maintained in a file separate from other personnel records in order to prevent unauthorized review of personnel files. The Form I-9 shall be retained for a period of 3 years after the date of hire or one year after individual employment is terminated, whichever is later.

#### Criminal History Records Check

**Note:** These requirements are in 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9 (amended by P.A.s 96-1452 and 97-607) and 105 ILCS 5/21-9 (amended by P.A.s 96-1489 and 97-607 and scheduled to repeal on June 30, 2013 by P.A. 97-607). See also the Sex Offender Community Notification Law (730 ILCS 152/101 et seq.); Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Community Notification Law (730 ILCS 154/75-105, amended by 97-154); policy 4:170, *Safety*; and administrative procedure 4:170-AP2, *Criminal Offender Notification Laws*. A detailed "Guide to Understanding Criminal Background Check Information" is available at: [www.isp.state.il.us/docs/5-727.pdf](http://www.isp.state.il.us/docs/5-727.pdf). **Important:** 20 ILCS 2630/5(h)(2)(A) outlines how an individual may petition to have an arrest record expunged by the arresting authority and the records of the arrest sealed by the circuit court clerk. It also details offenses for which an individual cannot have his or her conviction sealed.

The following individuals are responsible for the actions listed:

**Applicant** - Each applicant for employment in any position (except bus driver) must provide a written authorization for a fingerprint-based criminal history records check at the time he or she submits the application.

**Student Teacher** - Each student teacher must provide payment of the costs of and a written authorization for his or her higher educational institution to perform a fingerprint-based criminal history records check and checks of the Statewide Sex Offender Database and Statewide Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Database prior to participating in any field experiences in the District. See 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(g), amended by P.A. 96-1452.

**Applicant for Bus Driver** - Each applicant for a bus driver position must complete the application required by the Secretary of State for a school bus driver permit (obtained from the District) and submit it to the District along with the necessary fingerprint submission as required by the Department of State Police to conduct a fingerprint-based criminal history records check. The Superintendent or designee will conduct a pre-employment interview with prospective school bus driver candidates, distribute school bus driver applications and medical forms, and submit the applicant's fingerprint cards to the Department of State Police. The Superintendent or designee will certify in writing to the Secretary of State that all pre-employment conditions have been successfully

completed, including the successful completion of a criminal history records check as required by State law. The applicant must present the certification to the Secretary of State at the time of submitting the school bus driver permit application. See 625 ILCS 5/6-106.1, amended by P.A. 96-962 and P.A. 96-1182 and 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(g), amended by P.A. 96-1452.

**Superintendent - Note:** *Add any additional steps to efficiently receive a fingerprint-based criminal history records check.*

1. Fingerprint-Based Criminal History Records Check:

For all applicants, the Superintendent or designee completes the required forms in order to request a fingerprint-based criminal history records check from an appropriate police or live scan agency. **Note:** Superintendents will need to ensure that their districts perform these checks again for substitute teachers. Contact the board attorney and/or ISBE regarding the validity of a *certificate of authorization*, if a substitute teacher presents one. From Jan. 1, 2011 through July 1, 2011, the Regional Superintendent of Schools or Suburban Cook County Intermediate Service Center, whichever is appropriate, was allowed to issue *certificates of authorization* to substitute teachers (105 ILCS 5/21-9(c), amended by P.A. 96-1489 and deleted by P.A. 97-607). Issuance of a *certificate of authorization* was proof that the substitute teacher applicant had met all of the requirements to substitute teach in the educational service region; i.e., a fingerprint-based criminal history records check, a physical examination, and a negative tuberculin test. Because P.A. 97-607 deleted *certificates of authorization*, substitute teachers will no longer receive them because they no longer exist. For those substitute teachers who did receive them, there is not an answer to the question of whether their *certificates of authorization* are still valid. Attorneys in the field suggest looking for an expiration date on the *certificate of authorization*. If the document has no expiration date, it is likely invalid because the document no longer exists. If there is an expiration date, then the document is likely valid until the date listed.

For student teachers, the Superintendent works with the higher education institution where the student teacher is enrolled to obtain or ensure that the student teacher completes the required forms to request a fingerprint-based criminal history records check (105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(g), amended by P.A.s 96-1452 and 97-154, see policy 5:260, *Student Teachers*).

This may include submitting the applicant's name, sex, race, date of birth, social security number, fingerprint images, and other identifiers to the Department of State Police on the forms prescribed by it.

The Superintendent or designee will provide the applicant with a copy of the conviction record obtained from the Department of State Police. Required by 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(b).

2. Check of the statewide offender databases. The Superintendent or designee performs a check for each applicant of:

a. The Statewide Sex Offender Database (a/k/a Sex Offender Registry), [www.isp.state.il.us/sor](http://www.isp.state.il.us/sor), as authorized by the Sex Offender Community Notification Law (730 ILCS 152/101 *et seq.*), and

b. The Statewide Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Registry ([www.isp.state.il.us/cmvo/](http://www.isp.state.il.us/cmvo/)), as authorized by the Child Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Community Notification Law (730 ILCS 154/75-105, amended by P.A. 97-154).

The Superintendent or designee notifies an applicant if the applicant is identified in the database as a sex offender. Required by 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9 (a-5), (a-6) (amended by P.A. 97-154), and (b).

**State Police and FBI** - The Department of State Police and FBI furnish records of convictions (until expunged), pursuant to a fingerprint-based criminal history records check, to the School Board President or for a student teacher, the Superintendent and the higher education institution where the

student teacher is enrolled. **Note:** The State Police and FBI must “furnish, pursuant to a fingerprint-based criminal history records check, records of convictions, until expunged, to the president of the school board...”. See 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(a) and (g), amended by P.A.s 96-1452 and 97-154.

**Board President** - The School Code requires the Board President to keep a conviction record confidential. The information may only be shared between the Board President, the Superintendent or designee, Regional Superintendent (if the check was requested by the District), State Superintendent of Schools, State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, any other person necessary to the hiring decision, or for clarification purposes, the Department of State Police and/or Statewide Sex Offender Database. See 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(b) (amended by P.A. 96-1452) and 105 ILCS 5/21B-10 (added by P.A. 97-607).

**Regional Superintendent/Suburban Cook County Intermediate Service Center** - Whenever an applicant is seeking employment in more than one District as either a substitute or part-time teacher or educational support personnel employee, the Superintendent or designee may require the applicant to authorize the Regional Superintendent or Suburban Cook County Intermediate Service Center, whichever is appropriate, to conduct the check. The Regional Superintendent or Suburban Cook County Intermediate Service Center, whichever is appropriate, also performs a check of the Statewide Sex Offender Database ([www.isp.state.il.us/sor](http://www.isp.state.il.us/sor)) as authorized by the Sex Offender Community Notification Law (730 ILCS 152/115) and the Violent Offender Against Youth Database ([www.isp.state.il.us/cmvo/](http://www.isp.state.il.us/cmvo/)) as authorized by the Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Community Notification Law (730 ILCS 154/75-105, amended by P.A. 97-154). See 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9 (a-5), (a-6)(amended by P.A. 97-154), and (b).

**Contractors** - The above requirements for fingerprint-based criminal history records check apply to every employee or agent of any contractor if the employee or agent has direct, daily contact with students. **Note:** The provisions in 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(f) and (g) (amended by P.A.s 97-607 and 97-154) apply to employees of contractors who have “direct, daily contact with students.” Thus, districts must: (1) seek a fingerprint-based criminal history records check for all such employees, or (2) include a provision in the contract with the contractor that the contractor will obtain the fingerprint-based criminal history records check and submit it to the district. All contracts should require the contractor to purchase insurance to cover misconduct by their employees and/or an indemnification clause. Additionally, a district should check its own insurance coverage to determine whether employees of contractors are covered. See also policy 4:170, *Safety*, for the responsibilities of contractors. Last, if a district receives information that concerns the record of conviction and identification as a sex offender of any contractors’ employees, the district must provide the information to another school, school district, community college district, or private school that requests it (105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(h), amended by P.A. 97-248).

**District** - The School District complies with 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9 (amended by P.A.s 97-154, 97-248, and 97-607) and 5/21B-80 (added by P.A. 97-607). It will not knowingly employ a person, or allow a person work or student teach on school grounds, who:

1. Has been convicted of committing or attempting to commit any one or more of the following offenses:
  - a. Attempting to commit, conspiring to commit, soliciting, or committing first-degree murder or any Class X felony.
  - b. Sex offenses as defined in Sections 11-6 and 11-9 through 11-9.5, inclusive, Sections 11-14 through 11-21, inclusive, Sections 11-23 (if punished as a Class 3 felony), 11-24, 11-25, and 11-26, and Sections 12-4.9, 12-13, 12-14, 12-14.1, 12-15, 12-16, 12-32, and 12-33 of the Criminal Code of 1961.
  - c. Those defined in the Cannabis Control Act, 720 ILCS 550/, except 720 ILCS 550/4(a), 550/4(b), and 550/5(a).
  - d. Those defined in the Illinois Controlled Substances Act, 720 ILCS 570/100 *et seq.*

- e. Those defined in the Methamphetamine Control and Community Protection Act, 720 ILCS 646/.
  - f. Any offense committed or attempted in any other state or against the laws of the United States, which if committed or attempted in Illinois, would have been punishable as one or more of the foregoing offenses.
2. Has been found to be the perpetrator of sexual or physical abuse of any minor less than 18 years of age pursuant to proceedings under Article II of the Juvenile Court Act of 1987.

Reporting New Hires

The Superintendent or designee shall timely file an IRS Form W-4 or IDES New Hire Reporting Form for each newly hired employee with the Illinois Department of Employment Security. See 820 ILCS 405/1801.1.

Policy Adopted: September 14, 1976

Policy Revised: April 11, 1978

Revised Policy: October 18, 1982

Revised Policy: March 12, 1984

REVISED POLICY: September, 1997

Policy Reviewed February 2003 Policy Adopted March 2003

Policy Reviewed November 2009 Policy Adopted December 2009

Policy Reviewed December 2010 Policy Adopted January 2011

Policy Reviewed January 2012 Policy Adopted February 2012

*The Collective Bargaining Agreement will supersede any personnel policy that is contradictory to the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the CCSD 180 Board of Education and the Teachers' Organization of Palisades – IEA/NEA.*

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