

Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) License

Short Term Approval License (STA) - High School Diploma (must be 19 years old to qualify)

*Short-Term Paraprofessional Approvals are available for application until June 30, 2025, and may not be renewed.

This license allows you to become a Substitute Special Education Classroom Assistant or a Substitute Teacher Assistant.

- High school diploma (or equivalent), or higher
- At least 19 years of age to serve students in prekindergarten through grade 12.
- While working on the approval, educator must be fulfilling requirements for the full license.
- Valid for 3 years
- Non-renewable

Paraprofessional License (PARA) - Associates' Degree/60 college credit hours.

This license allows you to become a Substitute Special Education Classroom Assistant or a Substitute Teacher Assistant.

- At least 19 years of age to serve students in prekindergarten through grade 12
- Valid for 5 years
- Registration with Region 15 required
- Renewable

Candidates who hold a Paraprofessional License AND a bachelor's degree are eligible to substitute teach

Short Term Substitute License (STS) - Associate's degree/60 college credit hours

This license allows you to become a Substitute Special Education Classroom Assistant or a Substitute Teacher.

- Valid for substitute teaching in all grades - pre kindergarten through 12
- Available for application through June 30, 2028
- Short-term Substitute Licenses are valid for 5 years
- Not renewable

Substitute Teacher License (SUB) - Bachelor's degree from an accredited, four-year college or university

This license allows you to become a Substitute Teacher, Substitute Special Education Classroom Assistant or a Substitute Teacher Assistant.

- Valid for substitute teaching in all grades - pre kindergarten through 12
- Substitute licenses are valid for 5 years
- Registration with Region 15 required
- Renewable

Make a difference. Set your own schedule.
Become a Substitute with Chicago Public Schools!

Substitutes are NOT required to live in Chicago