Teaching Channel
Formerly Learners Edge

Illinois Public Act 104-0795: Choose Coursework that Qualifies

How Teaching Channel Meets Illinois Requirements

Teaching Channel graduate-level continuing education courses are designed to meet the requirements for salary advancement coursework under **Illinois Public Act 104-0795 (previously House Bill 5321 – HB5321).**

NEW ILLINOIS REQUIREMENTS – For coursework completed on or after July 1, 2026, Illinois law establishes requirements for graduate-level continuing education coursework that a district may recognize for salary advancement.

ILLINOIS REQUIREMENT	WHAT IT MEANS	HOW TEACHING CHANNEL MEETS IT	STATUS
Graduate-level, degree-eligible credit	The law requires graduate-level, degree-eligible credit that may be applied toward a master's, education specialist, or doctoral degree.	Teaching Channel graduate-level courses are offered for academic credit through our university partners and are designed to provide degree-eligible graduate credit.	✓ MEETS
Regionally accredited institution	Credit must be offered through a regionally accredited institution of higher education.	Teaching Channel partners with regionally accredited colleges and universities to provide graduate-level credit for eligible courses.	✓ MEETS
Official academic transcript	The credit must be documented on an official academic transcript.	Eligible Teaching Channel graduate-level coursework is recorded by our university partners on an official academic transcript.	✓ MEETS
Instructor of record	Coursework must include an instructor of record responsible for academic oversight, including instruction, evaluation/feedback, and grading.	Teaching Channel courses are led by a credentialed instructor of record with a master's degree or higher in education and teaching experience. Instructors support learners throughout the course.	✓ MEETS
Master's degree or higher + subject expertise	The instructor of record must be a credentialed educator with a master's degree or higher, academically qualified to teach the course, with demonstrated experience in the content area.	Teaching Channel's course development and evaluation model is supported by experienced educators with master's degrees or higher and subject-area expertise.	✓ MEETS
Substantive instructional support	The instructor of record must provide substantive instructional support throughout the enrollment period.	Teaching Channel's course model includes ongoing academic support and evaluation throughout the course experience.	✓ MEETS
Individualized written feedback	The instructor of record must evaluate participant work and provide individualized, written feedback aligned to course objectives.	Teaching Channel course evaluators provide specific, individualized feedback on participant work aligned to course expectations and objectives.	✓ MEETS

WHY TEACHING CHANNEL?

- **Graduate-Level Credit** – 300+ online, self-paced graduate-level courses offered through regionally accredited university partners.
- **Built for Educators** – Flexible, practical coursework designed for immediate application with 93% of learners reporting that they put strategies learned in our courses into practice in their classrooms right away.
- **Academic Credibility** – Qualified instructors, individualized feedback, and official university partner transcripts with a letter grade.

Important: Public Act 104-0795 does not require a district to create a salary schedule or advancement pathway. Each district determines implementation, including documentation, transcript verification, accreditation, salary advancement, and compliance monitoring. Teachers should confirm course eligibility with their district before enrolling when salary advancement is the goal.

Source: Illinois Public Act 104-0795 (HB 5321), 105 ILCS 5/24-8.2. Effective July 1, 2026.
This content is for informational purposes and is not legal advice.