

Section 25.560 Approval of Interveners for Students Who Are Deaf-Blind

Each intervener who serves students with Deaf-Blindness in the public schools shall be of good character, as defined in Section 21B-15 of the School Code [105 ILCS 5]. Each intervener shall be subject to that portion of Section 24-5 of the School Code that requires physical fitness and freedom from tuberculosis as may be required under rules of the Illinois Department of Public Health (77 Ill. Adm. Code 696; Control of Tuberculosis Code). Each intervener shall hold a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent and a statement of approval from the State Superintendent of Education, which shall be identified as a valid intervener. Each individual who is required to hold a statement of approval shall submit an application to the State Superintendent, accompanied by the fee required by Section 21B-40 of the School Code and evidence that he or she meets the requirements applicable to the type of approval sought.

- a) Approval Criteria
 - 1) Each applicant for approval as an intervener shall:
 - A) have completed 60 semester hours of college credit from one or more regionally accredited institutions of higher education;
 - B) hold an associate's degree issued by a regionally accredited institution of higher education; or
 - C) have achieved the score identified as passing by the State Board of Education on one of the examinations for paraprofessionals discussed in Section 25.510(b).
 - 2) Each applicant for intervener shall also demonstrate nationally recognized intervener knowledge and skills competencies by holding a National Intervener Credential/Certificate.
- b) Validity; Renewal

Approval shall be valid for five years, subject to the provisions of Section 21B-20 of the School Code, and shall be renewable upon presentation of evidence that, during the five-year period of the approval's validity, the individual has completed 50 professional development (PD) hours. The number of PD hours to be awarded for completion of specific activities shall be as set forth in Section 25.875 of this Part, as applicable. The approval shall be renewed between April 1 and June 30 of each renewal cycle. If the approval is not renewed during this time period it will expire.

- c) Continuing Professional Development
- 1) An individual may accrue units of PD in accordance with the provisions of Section 25.875(k) by participating in conferences, workshops, institutes, seminars, symposia or other similar events that:
 - A) are designed to improve the skills and knowledge of interveners; or
 - B) are organized by an entity that is approved pursuant to Section 25.855 or 25.860 and address educational concerns.
 - 2) An individual may accrue the required credit for professional development in accordance with the provisions of Section 25.875(i) by completing college coursework that is part of an intervener training program offered by a regionally accredited institution of higher education or an Illinois community college.
 - 3) Evidence of Completion
 - A) Along with his or her statement of approval, each individual who will be required to complete PD as a condition of renewal shall record activities completed in ELIS. For any activity completed under subsection (c)(1), the individual shall present the attendance form provided by the entity organizing the event.
 - B) As evidence of completion for college coursework, the individual shall present a grade report or official transcript issued by the institution indicating that he or she has passed the course or courses.
- d) Revocation or Suspension of Approval or Other Permissible Sanction
The provisions of Section 25.510(e) shall apply to the revocation or suspension of approval or other permissible sanctions for interveners.

(Source: Added at 41 Ill. Reg. 8813, effective June 28, 2017)