



**TRS Requires CSBO Title to Ensure Reportability**

In an Employer Bulletin issued in April, the Illinois Teachers' Retirement System ("TRS") announced that for a school business position (i.e., Chief School Business Official ("CSBO"), Chief Financial Officer, Business Manager, Assistant Superintendent of Business, etc.) to be reportable to TRS it must not only be held by a person with a CSBO endorsement, but "CSBO" must be included in the title of the position.

The TRS Bulletin is premised on the fact that, to be a member of TRS, an individual must hold a valid Illinois

teaching license and serve in a position that requires licensure under the Illinois School Code.

With respect to licensure of school business positions, the School Code requires that any chief school business official first employed on or after July 1, 1977, must hold a certificate (now a Professional Educator License) with a CSBO endorsement. However, not all positions related to school business constitute CSBO positions or require licensure and the CSBO endorsement, although their duties may be similar.

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**Illinois Granted NCLB Waiver**

On April 18, 2014, the U.S. Department of Education announced that Illinois has been granted a waiver from the *No Child Left Behind Act* ("NCLB"), the most recent authorization of the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act* ("ESEA"). The waiver comes just in time, as many Illinois school districts face financial penalties under the NCLB.

In September 2011, the U.S. Department of Education announced that state educational agencies could request, on their own behalf and on behalf of their school districts, "flexibility" as to the NCLB requirements in order to better focus on improving student academic achievement and increasing the quality of instruction. This flexibility is provided through the waiver of ten provisions of the NCLB, and the optional waiver of three additional NCLB provisions.

Illinois initially requested ESEA flexibility, i.e., waiver from the NCLB, more than two years ago, in February 2010, but had to stand by and watch as more than 40 other states were granted waivers (and while one has had its previously granted waiver revoked). The hold up to getting the waiver reportedly was the timing of the new teacher evaluation system in Illinois. ESEA flexibility required that new

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**Consumer Price Index**

Percent change for the month of **March 2014**, for the urban wage earners & clerical indices as reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

	All Urban (CPI-U)	Workers (CPI-W)
Chicago Mthly	1.1	1.4
12 Mth	1.9	2.0
St. Louis, 2nd Half 2013		
6 Mth	0.5	0.3
12 Mth	1.3	1.2
U.S. Mthly	0.6	0.7
12 Mth	1.5	1.4

April CPI figures will be released May 14, 2014. For the most recent CPI, visit our website at: [www.hlerk.com](http://www.hlerk.com).

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**Reminders & Notes**

- **Adopt and publish your board's "prevailing wage resolution." Contact Bob Kohn with inquiries.**
- **HLERK congratulates the Illinois Alliance of Administrators of Special Education on its receipt of the Communications Award from the National Council of Administrators of Special Education.**
- **As schools are deep into IEP "annual review" season, we attach Bennett Rodick's article from 2005, originally published in the IAASE Newsletter *Due Process Hearings and IDEA 2004: A Review of Guiding Principles*. As principles should be, they remain relevant today.**

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**NCLB Cont.** teacher evaluation systems include student progress as one factor and be fully implemented by the 2015-2016 school year. Illinois' new teacher evaluation law, which was passed in 2010—before ESEA flexibility was announced, called for full implementation of Illinois' new teacher evaluation system by the 2016-2017 school year.

Illinois has been granted waivers from thirteen provisions of the NCLB, and their corresponding regulatory, administrative, and reporting requirements. One of the key waivers includes: waiver from the requirement to establish a timeline for all students to reach 100% proficiency by the end of the 2013-2014 school year. Now, the Illinois State Board of Education ("ISBE") may set new annual measurable objectives ("AMOs") for reading/language arts and mathematics for all LEAs, schools, and subgroups.

In addition, ISBE and Illinois school districts are no longer required to make AYP determinations for school districts and schools, respectively. Instead,

ISBE and school districts will include on their report cards performance against the AMOs for all subgroups. Also, school districts are no longer required to comply with the requirement to identify Title I schools for improvement, corrective action, or restructuring, and school districts and schools are relieved from taking the required steps that accompany such identification, including offering public school choice and supplemental educational services.

More information about Illinois' Request for ESEA flexibility, as granted by the U.S. Department of Education, is available on ISBE's website located at [http://www.isbe.net/nclb\\_waivers/Default.htm](http://www.isbe.net/nclb_waivers/Default.htm). More information about ESEA flexibility from the U.S. Department of Education can be found at <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/guid/esea-flexibility/index.html>.

**Contact Stephanie Jones or Jennifer Mueller with your NCLB-related inquiries.**

**TRS Cont.** In order to distinguish between those positions that require the licensure and endorsement and those that do not, TRS will now look to the title of the position. The TRS Bulletin indicates that, as of the start of the 2014-15 school term, if a school business-related position does not include a "CSBO" reference in the title, TRS will assume the position does not require licensure and, therefore, is not reportable to

TRS. The TRS Bulletin is available online at : <https://trs.illinois.gov/employers/bulletins/1406.pdf>.

**If you have questions about modifying your business position's job title, employment contracts or board policies to include the CSBO reference, please contact Heather Brickman, Barbara Erickson, or Jeff Goelitz.**

**Please Save the Date for IASA's annual school law conferences  
*The Year in Review: The Highlights and Lowlights of Illinois School Law 2014.***

**October 1, 2014**  
**O'Fallon**  
**Regency Conference Center**

**October 14, 2014**  
**Peoria**  
**Marriott Pere Marquette**

**October 22, 2014**  
**Oak Brook**  
**Hamburger University**

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