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TRS RETIREE RETURN TO WORK - SUBJECT SHORTAGE AREA

A retired educator who holds a valid (current) Illinois Professional Educator's License (PEL) and is part of the Illinois Teacher Retirement System (TRS) is allowed to return to work in an Illinois public school full-time without the normal post-retirement limitations in a designated subject shortage area. The individual school district will need to submit the TRS Retiree Subject Shortage Area Form to the Regional Office of Education, along with a letter of verification and any applicable documentation confirming that the school district has met all of the following requirements **PRIOR** to submitting the form:

- Any qualified teacher who has been honorably dismissed within the calendar year preceding the school term in which employment is sought must be offered the position before a retiree can be hired.
- For a period of at least 90 days during the six months before the beginning of either the fall or the spring term that the employer seeks to hire a retired teacher, the school district must continually:
 - advertise its vacancies in the subject shortage area in a newspaper of general circulation in the area in which the school is located,
 - advertise in employment bulletins published by college and university placement offices located near the school, AND
 - search for teachers legally qualified to fill those vacancies through the Illinois Education Job Bank.
- If the vacancies are not filled after complying with these requirements, the school district must submit documentation of their compliance with the statute to the regional superintendent in order to participate in the program.

If all of the requirements are met, the Regional Office of Education will email the form and any applicable documentation to the TRS at employers@trsil.org.

NOTE: This program is set to expire on June 30, 2021.

For more information, please see the Retiree Return to Work Program bulletin at https://www.trsil.org/sites/default/files/documents/79_0.pdf or contact the TRS Member Services Department by calling 877-927-5877 or emailing them at members@trsil.org.