

HB2778

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



Q *Will the COVID administration days be retroactive to the beginning of the school year?*

A Yes, if any school employees have used sick days for COVID related reasons those days will be reinstated.

Q *What happens if we have already bargained a certain number of COVID administrative days?*

A Even if your local has already bargained a certain amount of COVID administrative days and you have used all of those days, you would still be eligible to use additional COVID administrative days for any absence related to COVID, including testing and quarantining. This legislation calls for allowing, “as many days of administrative leave as required to abide by such public health guidance, mandates and requirements as required by Department of Public Health.”

Q *Who qualifies for the wage and benefit protection under this bill?*

A Every school and higher education employee would be eligible for the COVID Administrative days. The wage protection would apply to all hourly school and higher education employees.

Q *How will the COVID administrative days be paid for?*

A Districts could use Elementary and Secondary School Emergency (ESSER) funds to cover the costs of these days. The state of Illinois received \$5 billion in total ESSER funds from the federal government.

Without COVID administrative days in place, districts may face additional costs if an employee exhausts their sick time for COVID related reasons. In that circumstance, the employee enters unpaid status and the employer spends money for a substitute. Otherwise, there is no cost to this plan.



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