



## Fiscal Note

### Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

## HB 26-1093: COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY FUND WORKING GROUP

**Prime Sponsors:**

Rep. Martinez

**Fiscal Analyst:**

Anna Gerstle, 303-866-4375

anna.gerstle@coleg.gov

**Published for:** House Education

**Drafting number:** LLS 26-0478

**Version:** Initial Fiscal Note

**Date:** February 9, 2026

**Fiscal note status:** This fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

### Summary Information

**Overview.** The bill creates a working group to study how to implement the College Opportunity Fund for persons incarcerated in Colorado.

**Types of impacts.** The bill is projected to affect the following areas on a one-time basis:

- Minimal State Workload

**Appropriations.** No appropriation is required.

**Table 1**  
**State Fiscal Impacts**

Type of Impact	Budget Year FY 2026-27	Out Year FY 2027-28
State Revenue	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures	\$0	\$0
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE

## Summary of Legislation

---

The bill requires the Department of Higher Education (CDHE) to convene a working group to study how to implement the College Opportunity Fund for persons incarcerated in Colorado. The working group has ten members, including representatives from specified institutions of higher education and the Department of Corrections. Working group members serve without compensation or reimbursement for expenses.

The working group must meet at least three times; the first meeting must be before July 30, 2026 and its work must be complete by December 1, 2026. It may collaborate with any person or entity deemed appropriate to assist, and if requested, other relevant state entities must provide assistance if it is consistent with their duties. The working group must submit a report detailing its findings and recommendations to the House and Senate Education committees.

## Background

---

The College Opportunity Fund provides a stipend for qualifying Colorado resident undergraduate students to pay for a portion of in-state tuition at participating institutions.

## State Expenditures

---

The bill increases workload for CDHE to convene and support the working group, and complete the final report. No change in appropriations is required, as the working group charge aligns with current department work.

The bill also minimally increases workload for Adams State University, Trinidad State College, Pueblo Community College, the University of Colorado-Denver, the Community College System, and the Department of Corrections to have representatives serve on the working group.

## Effective Date

---

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

## State and Local Government Contacts

---

Corrections

Higher Education

---

The revenue and expenditure impacts in this fiscal note represent changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year. For additional information about fiscal notes, please visit the [General Assembly website](#).