



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:

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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