



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado’s Legislature

SB 26-153: LICENSED SCHOOL COUNSELOR CREDIT HOUR REQMNTS

Prime Sponsors:

Sen. Kolker; Simpson
Rep. Bacon; Martinez

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Fiscal note status: The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill requires that applicants for a school counselor endorsement hold a Masters’ degree or higher in school counseling.

No fiscal impact. The bill has no fiscal impact on state or local government.

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 aligns minimum graduate-level preparation requirements for licensed school counselors with Department of Education rules for licensure. An applicant for a special services license with a school counselor endorsement must hold a master's degree or higher in school counseling from an accredited institution of higher education that consists of at least 48 graduate credit hours.

Background

Under current [rules](#) of the State Board of Education and practice of the Colorado Department of Education (CDE), an applicant for a special services license with a school counselor endorsement must have a Master's or higher degree in school counseling accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling for Related Educational Programs; a minimum of 100 clock-hour practicum; and, a minimum of 600 clock-hour internship with multiple grade levels of students and under the supervision of a licensed school counselor. Applicants must also pass applicable professional practice exams.

Assessment of No Fiscal Impact

The bill updates the school licensure statute to align with current education requirements for applicants seeking a school counseling license endorsement on a special services license from the CDE. This results in no change to state or local government revenue or expenditures. For this reason, the bill is assessed as having no fiscal impact.

State and Local Government Contacts

Education