

JBC Staff Fiscal Analysis

House Appropriations Committee

Concerning creating the cradle to career grant program.

Prime Sponsors:

Senator Coleman; Simpson
Representative Lukens; English

Date Prepared:

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Fiscal Impacts

Appropriation Not Required, No Amendment in Packet

Gifts, Grants, and Donations

Fiscal Note Status

The most recent Legislative Council Staff Revised Fiscal Note (attached) reflects the fiscal impact of the bill as of 04/07/26.

Update: Fiscal impact has changed due to technical issues and amendments adopted after LCS Fiscal Note was prepared

The Revised Fiscal Note identifies gifts, grants, and donations as the only revenue source for the Cradle to Career Grant Program Cash Fund in FY 2026-27. Gifts, grants, and donations are custodial funds and do not require appropriations. Furthermore, Section 26-25-107 (2), C.R.S., (page 17, lines 12-15 of the reengrossed bill) authorizes the Department of Human Services to “seek, accept, and expend” revenue from gifts, grants, and donations. As such, no appropriation is required in FY 2026-27 from the Cradle to Career Grant Program Cash Fund. Legislative Council Staff and JBC staff agree on this technical update.

The reengrossed bill includes committee and floor amendments adopted by the Senate on second reading (04/10/26), which include a prohibition on the appropriation of General Fund to the program. The Finance Committee Report (05/07/26) includes amendments to the bill that do not change the fiscal impact. Legislative Council Staff and JBC Staff agree on the fiscal impact of these changes.

Amendments in This Packet

None.

Current Appropriations Clause in Bill

The bill neither requires nor contains an appropriation clause for FY 2026-27.

Points to Consider

Gifts, Grants, and Donations

The bill identifies the receipt and use of gifts, grants, and donations for implementation. The bill requires expenditures of \$0.9 million in FY 2026-27 and \$1.0 million in FY 2027-28. If the necessary revenue from these sources is not realized, then the Cradle to Career Grant Program Cash Fund, created in Section 26-5-107 (1), C.R.S., will be required to make up the difference. However, the bill prohibits the appropriation of General Fund to support the program and does not provide alternative revenue for the fund. If the necessary revenue from gifts, grants, and donations is not realized, then the implementation of this bill is at risk.

Is it the General Assembly's intent to fund this program exclusively through gifts, grants, and donations?