



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

HB 26-1428: ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLICLY FUNDED ED PROGRAMS

Prime Sponsors:

Rep. Sirota; Taggart
Sen. Bridges; Kirkmeyer

Fiscal Analyst:

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Bill Outcome: Signed into Law

Drafting Number: LLS 26-0983

Version: Final Fiscal Note

Date: July 14, 2026

Fiscal note status: This final fiscal note reflects the enacted bill. The bill was recommended by the Joint Budget Committee.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill requires that the Colorado Department of Education submit a report to the Joint Budget Committee on part-time enrichment and online schools and programs.

Types of impacts. The bill is projected to affect the following areas in FY 2026-27 only:

- State Expenditures
- School Districts

Appropriations. No appropriation is required. The roll-forward authority for the required expenditures is included in the FY 2026-27 Long Bill.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts

Type of Impact	Budget Year FY 2026-27	Out Year FY 2027-28
State Revenue	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures	\$125,000	\$0
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE

The expenditures will be incurred in FY 2026-27, using roll-forward authority for funds initially appropriated in FY 2025-26.

Summary of Legislation

Report to Joint Budget Committee

By November 1, 2026, the bill requires that the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) submit a report to the Joint Budget Committee regarding part-time enrichment programs and online schools, programs, and courses. The bill specifies required content of the report, including:

- for **single- and multi-district online programs**, information on instructional models, course delivery methods, common contractual and financial arrangements, academic quality and outcomes, and state funding compared to costs incurred;
- for **part-time enrichment programs**, information on delivery methods, the types of students served, alignment with state standards, comparisons of funded versus actual seat time, whether the programs are offered to full-time in person students, and recommendations for program oversight.

Local education providers (LEPs) must submit survey responses and financial and contract documentation to the CDE on request. LEPs may submit certain additional supplemental materials to CDE regarding the quality of, cost of, and enrollment in online programs and schools.

Supplemental Online and Blended Learning

Under current law, the statewide supplemental online and blended learning program is administered by a board of cooperative educational services (BOCES) designated by CDE. This designation is reviewed every five years.

The bill allows CDE to extend the authorization of the current administering BOCES by two years. Upon request of CDE, an LEP must provide student-level participation data to CDE and the administering BOCES to assist with evaluating the program.

Background

The current provider for the statewide supplemental online and blended learning program is Colorado River BOCES, through Colorado Empowered Learning and Colorado Digital Solutions.

State Expenditures

The bill increases state expenditures in CDE by \$125,000 in FY 2026-27 only. The department will use the funds for contract support, data collection and analysis, and preparation of the report. CDE will also have workload to coordinate with the contractor and local education providers.

Costs are paid through the roll-forward authority of unspent General Fund appropriations from FY 2025-26, which is included in the FY 2026-27 Long Bill.

School District

The bill may increase workload for school districts to provide data and information to CDE, upon request.

State Appropriations

No appropriation is required, as the FY 2026-27 Long Bill includes \$125,000 in roll-forward spending authority for CDE.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor and took effect on June 4, 2026.

State and Local Government Contacts

Education

Joint Budget Committee

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](#).