

Second Regular Session  
Seventy-first General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 18-1108.01 Christy Chase x2008

HOUSE BILL 18-1316

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HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

**Pabon and Exum**, Kraft-Tharp, McKean

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

**Cooke and Williams A.**,

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**House Committees**  
Finance

**Senate Committees**

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING MODIFICATIONS TO THE SKILLED WORKER TRAINING  
102 PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND  
103 EMPLOYMENT.

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)*

Under current law, the department of labor and employment administers the skilled worker, outreach, recruitment, and key training (WORK) grant program, which provides matching grants to eligible public or private entities or organizations that provide skilled worker training programs in partnership with industry. The general assembly is

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

directed to appropriate \$10 million for the WORK grant program for the 2015-16, 2016-17, and 2017-18 fiscal years.

The bill:

- ! Extends the program for 3 fiscal years;
- ! Specifies deadlines for the department to award and issue matching grants to recipients;
- ! Requires, instead of permits, the department to develop an expedited application process for award recipients seeking to extend or increase an existing grant award; and
- ! Requires the general assembly to appropriate an additional \$10 million for the WORK grant program for the 2018-19, 2019-20, and 2020-21 fiscal years and specifies how the money available for matching grants must be allocated.

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2           **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-83-304, **amend**  
3 (1)(b)(I), (1)(d) introductory portion, and (2) as follows:

4           **8-83-304. Skilled worker outreach, recruitment, and key**  
5 **training grant program - creation - award criteria.** (1) (b) (I) ~~For the~~  
6 ~~2015-16 through 2018-19 fiscal years,~~ The department shall administer  
7 the grant program by accepting and processing matching grant  
8 applications submitted pursuant to this section, and the grant review  
9 committee shall review and make recommendations for awarding  
10 matching grants. The department shall develop application guidelines,  
11 ~~and~~ establish deadlines for the grant program, and ~~may~~ develop an  
12 expedited application process in accordance with subsection (1)(d) of this  
13 section.

14           (d) Notwithstanding the requirements of the "Procurement Code",  
15 articles 101 to 112 of title 24, the department ~~may~~ SHALL use an expedited  
16 procedure for accepting and reviewing an application from an eligible  
17 applicant that received matching grant awards in ~~the 2015-16 or 2016-17~~  
18 A PRIOR fiscal year and is applying for an additional matching grant or to

1 extend a matching grant award under an existing agreement if:

2 (2) ~~No later than January 1, 2016, and no later than each January~~  
3 ~~1 thereafter through January 1, 2018,~~ The department shall start accepting  
4 grant applications for matching grants ~~to be awarded~~ BY JANUARY 1 OF  
5 EACH YEAR; SHALL AWARD GRANTS pursuant to section 8-83-305 WITHIN  
6 NINETY DAYS, BUT no later than the April 1, following the application  
7 submittal deadline; AND SHALL ISSUE GRANT AWARDS TO RECIPIENTS  
8 WITHIN FORTY-FIVE DAYS AFTER NOTIFYING THE AWARD RECIPIENTS OF  
9 THE GRANT AWARD.

10 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-83-305, **amend**  
11 (2)(c) as follows:

12 **8-83-305. Skilled worker outreach, recruitment, and key**  
13 **training grant review committee - creation - membership - duties -**  
14 **grant award recommendations.** (2) (c) (I) After reviewing the grant  
15 applications AND SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (2)(c)(II) OF THIS SECTION, the  
16 grant review committee shall make recommendations about which  
17 eligible applicants should be awarded matching grants and the amounts  
18 of the matching grants. ~~which~~ Recommendations shall be based on the  
19 committee's determination as to which eligible applicants best satisfy the  
20 grant criteria pursuant to ~~paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection (2)~~  
21 SUBSECTIONS (2)(a) AND (2)(b) OF THIS SECTION. The grant review  
22 committee shall submit its recommendations to the executive directors of  
23 the departments of labor and employment and higher education and the  
24 director of the office. After considering the grant review committee's  
25 recommendations AND SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (2)(c)(II) OF THIS  
26 SECTION, the executive directors and the director shall jointly determine  
27 to whom and in what amounts to award matching grants. Grants shall be

1 awarded WITHIN NINETY DAYS, BUT no later than the April 1, following  
2 the application submittal deadline, AND THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ISSUE  
3 THE GRANT AWARDS WITHIN FORTY-FIVE DAYS AFTER NOTIFYING THE  
4 AWARD RECIPIENTS OF THE GRANT AWARDS.

5 (II) FOR THE 2018-19, 2019-20, AND 2020-21 FISCAL YEARS, THE  
6 GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE SHALL ENSURE THAT IT RECOMMENDS  
7 MATCHING GRANT AMOUNTS, AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS AND  
8 DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE SHALL ENSURE THAT THEY AWARD MATCHING  
9 GRANTS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ALLOCATION OF AVAILABLE MONEY  
10 IN THE WORK FUND SPECIFIED IN SECTION 8-83-307 (3)(b).

11 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-83-306, **amend** (2)  
12 introductory portion; and **add** (3) as follows:

13 **8-83-306. Reports.** (2) By May 1, 2017, and by each May 1  
14 thereafter through ~~May 1, 2020~~ THE MAY 1 FOLLOWING THE LAST FISCAL  
15 YEAR IN WHICH THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATES MONEY TO THE  
16 FUND PURSUANT TO SECTION 8-83-307 (3), the grant review committee  
17 shall submit an annual report to the governor, the senate committee on  
18 business, labor, and technology or its successor committee, and the house  
19 of representatives committee on business affairs and labor or its successor  
20 committee. The grant review committee shall include in the report at least  
21 the following information:

22 (3) SECTION 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I) DOES NOT APPLY TO THE  
23 REPORTING REQUIREMENT SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION.

24 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-83-307, **amend** (3)  
25 as follows:

26 **8-83-307. Skilled worker outreach, recruitment, and key**  
27 **training grant program fund - creation.** (3) (a) For the ~~2015-16,~~

1     ~~2016-17, and 2017-18~~ 2018-19, 2019-20, AND 2020-21 fiscal years, the  
2     general assembly shall appropriate a total of ten million dollars to the  
3     fund, OF WHICH NOT MORE THAN THREE MILLION FOUR HUNDRED  
4     THOUSAND DOLLARS MAY BE EXPENDED IN ANY GIVEN FISCAL YEAR.

5             (b) THE MONEY IN THE FUND THAT IS AVAILABLE FOR MATCHING  
6     GRANTS MUST BE ALLOCATED TO ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS APPROVED FOR A  
7     MATCHING GRANT AWARD PURSUANT TO SECTION 8-83-305 (2)(c) AS  
8     FOLLOWS:

9             (I) TWO-THIRDS TO ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS THAT WERE AWARDED  
10    MATCHING GRANTS IN A PRIOR FISCAL YEAR; AND

11            (II) ONE-THIRD TO ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS THAT HAVE NOT  
12    RECEIVED A MATCHING GRANT PREVIOUSLY.

13            **SECTION 5. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
14    determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
15    preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.