



**Legislative
Council Staff**

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number: LLS 19-0804
Prime Sponsors: Rep. Mullica
 Sen. Todd

Date: February 28, 2019
Bill Status: House Education
Fiscal Analyst: Josh Abram | 303-866-3561
 Josh.Abram@state.co.us

Bill Topic: SCHOOL NURSE GRANT PROGRAM

**Summary of
Fiscal Impact:**

- State Revenue
- State Expenditure
- State Transfer
- TABOR Refund
- Local Government
- School District

The bill creates the School Nurse Grant Program in the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. The bill increases state expenditures beginning in FY 2019-20, and are ongoing.

**Appropriation
Summary:**

For FY 2019-20, the bill requires an appropriation of \$3.0 million to the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment.

**Fiscal Note
Status:**

This fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

**Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts Under HB 19-1203**

		FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21
Revenue		-	-
Expenditures	General Fund	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000
	Centrally Appropriated	\$11,911	\$12,137
	Total	\$3,011,911	\$3,012,137
	Total FTE	0.8 FTE	0.8 FTE
Transfers		-	-
TABOR Refund		-	-

Summary of Legislation

The bill creates the School Nurse Grant Program in the Primary Care Office of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) to award grants on a five-year cycle to local education providers (LEPs) to increase the number of school nurses. LEPs may use grant awards to hire school nurses; however, the grant may not supplant existing expenditures on school nurse positions or other student health care services. LEPs must include specified information in grant applications and CDPHE must review grant applications and make recommendations to the State Board of Health (state board). The state board may establish selection criteria in rule, in addition to those specified in the bill.

Subject to available appropriations, the state board must award up to \$3.0 million annually in grants. Each grant is awarded for an initial term of one year and must be renewed annually for four additional years, so long as the nurse remains employed in the grant-funded position.

Participating LEPs are required to provide specified information and CDPHE must submit a report to the General Assembly that, at a minimum, includes the information reported by the LEPs.

State Expenditures

The bill increases state expenditures by about \$3.3 million and 0.8 FTE annually, beginning in FY 2019-20. New personal services and grant expenses continue for a minimum of five years, through FY 2023-24. New expenditures are displayed in Table 2 and discussed below.

Table 2
Expenditures Under HB 19-1203

	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21
Department of Public Health & Environment		
Personal Services	\$49,728	\$52,196
Operating and Capital Outlay	\$5,463	\$760
School Nurse Grants	\$2,944,809	\$2,947,044
Centrally Appropriated Costs*	\$11,911	\$12,137
FTE – Personal Services	0.8 FTE	0.8 FTE
Total Cost	\$3,011,911	\$3,012,137
Total FTE	0.8 FTE	0.8 FTE

* Centrally appropriated costs are not included in the bill's appropriation.

Personal services. Beginning with FY 2019-20, the CDPHE requires new staff to design, implement, and manage the grant program, assist the state board to adopt rules, determine program objectives and evaluative criteria, and oversee the application, review and grant support process. Ongoing, staff will provide technical assistance to grant recipients, manage the grant renewal process, and prepare legislative reports on program evaluation. Personal service expenses are prorated in FY 2019-20 for the General Fund pay date shift.

School nurse grants. Grants to LEPs are the largest cost component of the bill. Assuming the General Assembly appropriates \$3.0 million annually for the program, approximately \$2.9 million is available for grants to LEPs beginning FY 2019-20. For the purposes of this fiscal note, typical grant awards are assumed to be equal to the cost of 1.0 FTE school health nurse at an annual wage of \$49,956, plus benefit costs for pension, supplemental pension, Medicare, employee insurance and short-term disability, for a total of \$71,142 per school nurse. If \$2.9 million is available for grants, approximately 41 nurses can be supported by the grant program.

Centrally appropriated costs. Pursuant to a Joint Budget Committee policy, certain costs associated with this bill are addressed through the annual budget process and centrally appropriated in the Long Bill or supplemental appropriations bills, rather than in this bill. These costs, which include employee insurance and supplemental employee retirement payments, are estimated to be \$11,911 in FY 2019-20 and \$12,137 in FY 2020-21.

School District

Funding for participating school districts will increase to hire additional school nurses.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

State Appropriations

For FY 2019-20, the bill requires a General Fund appropriation of \$3.0 million and 0.8 FTE to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

State and Local Government Contacts

Information Technology

Law

Public Health And Environment