

**First Regular Session  
Seventy-fourth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**REREVISED**

*This Version Includes All Amendments  
Adopted in the Second House*

LLS NO. 23-0712.02 Jacob Baus x2173

**SENATE BILL 23-149**

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Coleman and Exum**, Bridges, Buckner, Cutter, Fenberg, Fields, Ginal, Gonzales, Hansen, Jaquez Lewis, Kolker, Marchman, Moreno, Priola, Sullivan, Winter F.

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Bacon**, Amabile, Bird, Boesenecker, Brown, deGruy Kennedy, English, Epps, Froelich, Garcia, Gonzales-Gutierrez, Hamrick, Jodeh, Joseph, Lieder, Lindsay, Lindstedt, Lukens, Mabrey, McCluskie, McLachlan, Michaelson Jenet, Ortiz, Ricks, Sharbini, Sirota, Snyder, Story, Titone, Valdez, Velasco, Weissman, Willford, Young

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**Senate Committees**

Education  
Appropriations

**House Committees**

Education  
Appropriations

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101     **CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A PROGRAM TO PROVIDE HIGHER**  
102             **EDUCATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO STUDENTS WHO**  
103             **PERFORM YOUTH MENTORSHIP, AND, IN CONNECTION**  
104             **THEREWITH, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.**

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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>.)*

The bill creates the youth mentorship stipend pilot program in the department of higher education. The program provides money for higher education tuition and fees to students who provide mentorship services to

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

HOUSE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
April 24, 2023

HOUSE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
April 21, 2023

SENATE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
March 24, 2023

SENATE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
March 23, 2023

an approved youth mentorship organization.

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

2 **SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 23-3.3-1010 as**  
3 **follows:**

4 **23-3.3-1010. Youth mentorship assistance grant pilot program**  
5 **- creation - policies - reports - definitions - repeal. (1) THERE IS**  
6 **CREATED IN THE INITIATIVE THE YOUTH MENTORSHIP ASSISTANCE GRANT**  
7 **PILOT PROGRAM. THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL**  
8 **ASSISTANCE TO A STUDENT WHO PROVIDES MENTORSHIP SERVICES TO**  
9 **DEFRAY THE COST OF THE STUDENT'S ATTENDANCE AT A PUBLIC**  
10 **INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.**

11 **(2) THE BOARD SHALL:**

12 **(a) SELECT APPROVED YOUTH MENTORSHIP ORGANIZATIONS TO**  
13 **PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM. THE BOARD SHALL SELECT ONE APPROVED**  
14 **YOUTH MENTORSHIP ORGANIZATION FROM EACH OF THE FOLLOWING TYPES**  
15 **OF ORGANIZATIONS:**

16 **(I) A YOUTH MENTORSHIP ORGANIZATION FOR YOUTH WHO ARE**  
17 **LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, OR QUEER;**

18 **(II) A YOUTH MENTORSHIP ORGANIZATION FOR YOUTH WHO HAVE**  
19 **A PHYSICAL, MENTAL, OR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY;**

20 **(III) A YOUTH MENTORSHIP ORGANIZATION FOR YOUTH OF COLOR;**

21 **AND**

22 **(IV) A YOUTH MENTORSHIP ORGANIZATION FOR YOUTH WHO ARE**  
23 **JUSTICE INVOLVED.**

24 **(b) TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, SELECT APPROVED YOUTH**  
25 **MENTORSHIP ORGANIZATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM THAT**

1 SERVE YOUTH WHO RESIDE IN RURAL AND URBAN AREAS OF THE STATE;

2 (c) ESTABLISH A MAXIMUM CAP, OR VARIOUS MAXIMUM CAPS, ON  
3 THE AMOUNT THAT ELIGIBLE STUDENT-MENTORS MAY EARN THROUGH  
4 PROVIDING MENTORSHIP SERVICES; AND

5 (d) ESTABLISH PRIORITY CONSIDERATION FOR ELIGIBLE  
6 STUDENT-MENTORS WHO DEMONSTRATE THE GREATEST FINANCIAL  
7 ASSISTANCE NEEDS.

8 (3) TO BE AN APPROVED YOUTH MENTORSHIP ORGANIZATION, A  
9 YOUTH MENTORSHIP ORGANIZATION SHALL:

10 (a) APPLY TO THE BOARD IN THE TIME AND MANNER REQUIRED BY  
11 THE BOARD; AND

12 (b) (I) HAVE A POLICY AND PROCEDURE REQUIRING A STATE AND  
13 NATIONAL FINGERPRINT-BASED CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD CHECK  
14 UTILIZING THE RECORDS OF THE COLORADO BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
15 AND THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION OF ALL PROSPECTIVE  
16 ELIGIBLE STUDENT-MENTORS, VOLUNTEERS, AND EMPLOYEES.

17 (II) THE YOUTH MENTORSHIP ORGANIZATION SHALL NOT PERMIT  
18 PROSPECTIVE ELIGIBLE STUDENT-MENTORS, VOLUNTEERS, OR EMPLOYEES  
19 TO SERVE THE ORGANIZATION IF THEY HAVE BEEN CONVICTED OF,  
20 ENTERED A PLEA OF GUILTY OR NOLO CONTENDERE TO, OR RECEIVED A  
21 DEFERRED SENTENCE FOR:

22 (A) A FELONY CRIME INVOLVING UNLAWFUL SEXUAL BEHAVIOR OR  
23 UNLAWFUL BEHAVIOR INVOLVING CHILDREN;

24 (B) A FELONY CRIME, THE UNDERLYING FACTUAL BASIS OF WHICH  
25 HAS BEEN FOUND BY THE COURT ON THE RECORD TO INVOLVE DOMESTIC  
26 VIOLENCE;

27 (C) A MISDEMEANOR CRIME INVOLVING UNLAWFUL SEXUAL

1 BEHAVIOR OR UNLAWFUL BEHAVIOR INVOLVING CHILDREN; OR

2 (D) A MISDEMEANOR CRIME, THE UNDERLYING FACTUAL BASIS OF  
3 WHICH HAS BEEN FOUND BY THE COURT ON THE RECORD TO INVOLVE  
4 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

5 (4) TO BE AN ELIGIBLE STUDENT-MENTOR, THE STUDENT SHALL:

6 (a) APPLY TO THE APPROVED YOUTH MENTORSHIP ORGANIZATION  
7 IN THE TIME AND MANNER SPECIFIED BY THE BOARD;

8 (b) SATISFY ALL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS NECESSARY TO BE A  
9 STUDENT-MENTOR THROUGH THE APPROVED YOUTH MENTORSHIP  
10 ORGANIZATION, INCLUDING COMPLETING THE FINGERPRINT-BASED  
11 CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD CHECK AS REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (3)(b) OF  
12 THIS SECTION; AND

13 (c) BE ENROLLED IN A QUALIFIED PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER  
14 EDUCATION FOR THE DURATION OF THE MENTORSHIP.

15 (5) (a) THE BOARD SHALL ESTABLISH POLICIES THAT ENSURE THAT  
16 PROGRAM MONEY IS USED FOR APPROVED ELIGIBLE STUDENT-MENTORS'  
17 HIGHER EDUCATION COST OF ATTENDANCE AND THAT ELIGIBLE  
18 STUDENT-MENTORS WHO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM PROVIDE  
19 EVIDENCE OF PROGRAM COMPLIANCE TO EARN THE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE  
20 FOR COST OF ATTENDANCE. THE BOARD SHALL ESTABLISH POLICIES FOR  
21 THE REPAYMENT OF ANY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE APPLIED TOWARD THE  
22 COST OF ATTENDANCE FOR THE ELIGIBLE STUDENT-MENTOR THAT THE  
23 ELIGIBLE STUDENT-MENTOR DID NOT EARN.

24 (b) THE BOARD MAY ESTABLISH POLICIES NECESSARY FOR THE  
25 ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROGRAM, INCLUDING THE DATES FOR  
26 DISBURSEMENTS TO APPROVED YOUTH MENTORSHIP ORGANIZATIONS AND  
27 ELIGIBLE STUDENT-MENTORS' PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER

1 EDUCATION.

2 (6) FOR THE 2023-24 STATE FISCAL YEAR, THE GENERAL  
3 ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM  
4 THE GENERAL FUND TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR USE BY THE BOARD FOR  
5 SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION. NOTHING IN THIS  
6 SECTION AUTHORIZES THE DEPARTMENT OR BOARD TO USE THE  
7 APPROPRIATION FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH  
8 IMPLEMENTING OR ADMINISTERING THE PROGRAM, OR THE APPROVED  
9 YOUTH MENTORSHIP ORGANIZATION TO USE THE MONEY RECEIVED  
10 THROUGH THE PROGRAM FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH  
11 IMPLEMENTING OR ADMINISTERING THE PROGRAM. ANY MONEY  
12 APPROPRIATED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION NOT EXPENDED PRIOR TO JULY  
13 1, 2024, IS FURTHER APPROPRIATED TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR USE BY THE  
14 BOARD FOR THE 2024-25 AND 2025-26 STATE FISCAL YEARS FOR THE SAME  
15 PURPOSE.

16 (7) (a) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2024, THE BOARD SHALL MAKE  
17 ITS FIRST DISBURSEMENT TO APPROVED YOUTH MENTORSHIP  
18 ORGANIZATIONS.

19 (b) AN APPROVED YOUTH MENTORSHIP ORGANIZATION SHALL  
20 DISBURSE THE MONEY RECEIVED THROUGH THE PROGRAM TO THE  
21 QUALIFIED PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN WHICH AN  
22 ELIGIBLE STUDENT-MENTOR WHO PROVIDES SERVICE TO THE YOUTH  
23 MENTORSHIP ORGANIZATION IS ENROLLED, TO BE APPLIED TOWARD THE  
24 COST OF ATTENDANCE FOR THE ELIGIBLE STUDENT-MENTOR IN EXCHANGE  
25 FOR THE MENTORSHIP SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE ELIGIBLE  
26 STUDENT-MENTOR. THE AMOUNT DISBURSED PURSUANT TO THIS  
27 SUBSECTION (7)(b) MUST NOT EXCEED THE APPLICABLE CAP ESTABLISHED

1 BY THE BOARD PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)(c) OF THIS SECTION.

2 (c) AT THE END OF THE GRANT TERM, THE APPROVED YOUTH  
3 MENTORSHIP ORGANIZATIONS SHALL RETURN ANY UNUSED MONEY  
4 RECEIVED THROUGH THE PROGRAM TO THE DEPARTMENT.

5 (8) (a) AN APPROVED YOUTH MENTORSHIP ORGANIZATION SHALL  
6 SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT THAT INCLUDES:

7 (I) A DESCRIPTION OF THE APPROVED YOUTH MENTORSHIP  
8 ORGANIZATION, INCLUDING ITS LOCATION, THE SERVICES IT PROVIDES,  
9 DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION OF THE MENTEES IT SERVES, AND SUMMARIES  
10 OF THE PROGRAM'S IMPACT ON THE MENTEES SERVED; EXCEPT THAT ANY  
11 SUMMARY MUST NOT DISCLOSE THE IDENTITY OF A MENTEE OR INCLUDE  
12 PERSONAL INFORMATION THAT COULD DISCLOSE THE IDENTITY OF A  
13 MENTEE;

14 (II) THE NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE-STUDENT MENTORS WHO PROVIDED  
15 MENTORSHIP SERVICES TO THE APPROVED YOUTH MENTORSHIP  
16 ORGANIZATION DURING THE PRECEDING STATE FISCAL YEAR, IN TOTAL  
17 AND DISAGGREGATED BY RACE, ETHNICITY, GENDER IDENTITY, AND THE  
18 QUALIFIED PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN WHICH THE  
19 ELIGIBLE-STUDENT MENTORS ARE ENROLLED; AND

20 (III) THE AMOUNT OF MONEY RECEIVED BY THE APPROVED YOUTH  
21 MENTORSHIP ORGANIZATION FROM THE PROGRAM, IN TOTAL AND  
22 DISAGGREGATED BY PAYMENTS TO PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER  
23 EDUCATION.

24 (b) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2024, AND ON OR BEFORE  
25 DECEMBER 1 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT  
26 A REPORT TO THE EDUCATION COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF  
27 REPRESENTATIVES, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, CONCERNING THE

1 PROGRAM IN THE PRECEDING STATE FISCAL YEAR. AT A MINIMUM, THE  
2 REPORT MUST INCLUDE INFORMATION CONCERNING:

3 (I) THE INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE APPROVED YOUTH  
4 MENTORSHIP ORGANIZATIONS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (8)(a) OF THIS  
5 SECTION;

6 (II) IF AVAILABLE, THE NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE-STUDENT MENTORS  
7 WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE PROGRAM WHO CONTINUED ENROLLMENT IN  
8 THE QUALIFIED PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN A  
9 SUBSEQUENT ACADEMIC TERM, REPORTED FOR THE PROGRAM AS A WHOLE  
10 AND FOR EACH INSTITUTION, IN TOTAL AND DISAGGREGATED BY RACE,  
11 ETHNICITY, AND GENDER IDENTITY; AND

12 (III) IF AVAILABLE, THE NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE-STUDENT MENTORS  
13 WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE PROGRAM WHO GRADUATED FROM THE  
14 QUALIFIED PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, REPORTED FOR  
15 THE PROGRAM AS A WHOLE AND FOR EACH INSTITUTION, IN TOTAL AND  
16 DISAGGREGATED BY RACE, ETHNICITY, AND GENDER IDENTITY.

17 (9) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE  
18 REQUIRES:

19 (a) "PROGRAM" MEANS THE YOUTH MENTORSHIP ASSISTANCE  
20 GRANT PILOT PROGRAM CREATED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION.

21 (b) "PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION" MEANS A STATE  
22 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IDENTIFIED IN SECTION 23-18-102  
23 (10)(a), A LOCAL DISTRICT COLLEGE, OR AN AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE.

24 (c) "YOUTH MENTORSHIP ORGANIZATION" MEANS A  
25 COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION THAT PROVIDES MENTORSHIP  
26 SERVICES TO YOUTH WHO RESIDE IN COMMUNITIES THAT WERE  
27 HISTORICALLY AND ARE CURRENTLY NEGATIVELY IMPACTED BY

1 STRUCTURAL AND SYSTEMIC DESIGN, AND CONSEQUENTLY HAVE NO OR  
2 LIMITED ACCESS TO QUALITY MENTORSHIP SERVICES.

3 (10) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2027.

4 **SECTION 2. Appropriation.** For the 2023-24 state fiscal year,  
5 \$100,000 is appropriated to the department of higher education for use by  
6 the Colorado opportunity scholarship board. This appropriation is from  
7 the general fund. To implement this act, the board may use this  
8 appropriation for the youth mentorship stipend pilot program.

9 **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
10 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
11 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except  
12 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V  
13 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this  
14 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take  
15 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
16 November 2024 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
17 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.