



Colorado  
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SB16-079

## FISCAL NOTE

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**FISCAL IMPACT:**  State  Local  Statutory Public Entity  Conditional  No Fiscal Impact

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**Drafting Number:** LLS 16-0732  
**Prime Sponsor(s):** Sen. Todd  
Rep. Young

**Date:** January 22, 2016  
**Bill Status:** Senate Education  
**Fiscal Analyst:** Josh Abram (303-866-3561)

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**BILL TOPIC:** ALIGN SECONDARY AND POSTSECONDARY CTE INITIATIVES

### Summary of Legislation

This bill requires that school districts align a student's individual career and academic plan (also known as an ICAP) with the student's plan of study when the student is pursuing one of the career pathways established in current law. A career pathway is a series of connected education and training strategies and support services that enable students to secure industry-relevant skills and certification, where applicable, to obtain employment within an occupational area, and to advance to higher levels of future education and employment.

The Commissioner of Education is required to ensure that the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) aligns the department's postsecondary and workforce readiness with the model plans of study designed by the Community College System (CCS). The CDE is required to collaborate with the CCS to create and make available informational materials explaining the alignment of state academic standards, high school graduation guidelines, and postsecondary and workforce programs with the model plans of study.

The bill's requirement that the CDE align postsecondary and workforce readiness programs with the model plans of study created by the Community College System does not create new or additional work for either the CDE or higher education; the public education sectors currently work together to keep education standards and expectations aligned between pre-school, K-12, and higher education. Both the CDE and the community college system provide informational materials on aligning state academic standards, high school graduation guidelines, and postsecondary and workforce programs.

### Background

**Career pathways.** Current law requires that community colleges, state education departments, and government and industry stakeholders design various career pathways for students. For example, pursuant to House Bill 13-1165, a model plan was developed for students seeking employment in the manufacturing sector.

Senate Bill 14-205 requires that the Colorado Workforce Development Council (CWDC) work with the state education departments and the Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT) to develop a talent pipeline infrastructure for use in creating career pathways for students.

House Bill 15-1274 requires the design of integrated career pathways within identified growth industries, and where no clearly articulated career pathways are currently available. That bill requires the design of at least one career pathway for implementation during the 2016-17 academic year, and the design of at least two additional career pathways ready for implementation at the beginning of each subsequent academic year.

***Individual Career and Academic Plans.*** ICAPs are required for all students enrolled in public schools in the state. The ICAP is a tool for students, parents, and teachers to develop and maintain a personalized postsecondary career and educational plan. The ICAP assists a student and his or her parents to explore the postsecondary career and educational opportunities available, align course work and curriculum, apply to postsecondary education institutions, secure financial aid, and ultimately enter the workforce.

### **School District Impact**

This bill modifies the requirements that local education providers create, maintain, and update ICAPs when a student chooses a particular career pathway established by the Community College System. Maintaining and updating ICAPs are a requirement of current law; this bill slightly increases workload in the school districts to update ICAPs for students choosing career pathways.

Pursuant to Section 22-32-143, C.R.S., school districts and Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) may submit a separate estimate of fiscal impacts within seven days of a bill's introduction. Estimates submitted by districts or BOCES for this bill can be found on the Legislative Council website at this address: <http://www.colorado.gov/lcs>

### **Effective Date**

The bill takes effect August 10, 2016, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 11, 2016, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

### **State and Local Government Contacts**

Education    Higher Education    Labor

### **Research Note Available**

An LCS Research Note for SB 16-079 is available online and through the iLegislate app. Research notes provide additional policy and background information about the bill and summarize action taken by the General Assembly concerning the bill.