

**Second Regular Session  
Seventy-third General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**PREAMENDED**

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee  
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 22-0395.01 Conrad Imel x2313

**SENATE BILL 22-003**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Buckner and Donovan,**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Mullica and Exum,**

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**Senate Committees**  
Education

**House Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING PERMITTING COMMUNITY COLLEGES TO OFFER A**  
102              **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN NURSING TO CERTAIN**  
103              **STUDENTS.**

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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 existing law, community colleges may offer a bachelor of science degree in nursing as a completion degree to students who have or are pursuing an associate degree in nursing. The bill permits community colleges to offer a bachelor of science degree in nursing to students who have or are pursuing a certificate in nursing.

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.

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

2           **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-60-211, **amend**  
3 (5) as follows:

4           **23-60-211. Degrees.** (5) Subject to the requirements of sections  
5 23-1-113.7 and 23-1-107, a community college that is part of the state  
6 system of community and technical colleges established and governed by  
7 this part 2 may, with board approval, offer a bachelor of science degree  
8 in nursing as a completion degree to students who have or are pursuing  
9 an associate degree in nursing OR A PRACTICAL NURSING CERTIFICATE. In  
10 considering whether to approve a request by a community college to offer  
11 a bachelor of science in nursing as a completion degree, the board shall  
12 consider student and workforce demand, cost effectiveness for the  
13 students, and accreditation and licensing requirements. The board shall  
14 provide such information to the Colorado commission on higher  
15 education and solicit the commission's input in a joint meeting of the  
16 board and the commission. A community college that is seeking board  
17 approval shall provide the board with data regarding its current  
18 partnerships with existing bachelor of science nursing degree programs  
19 and its plans to continue such partnerships. At least ninety days prior to  
20 requesting board approval to offer a bachelor of science degree in nursing  
21 as a completion degree, the community college seeking such board  
22 approval shall provide notice to the Colorado commission on higher  
23 education and all state public and nonpublic institutions of higher  
24 education.

25           **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-1-133, **amend**  
26 (2)(a) introductory portion as follows:

1           **23-1-133. Commission directive - bachelor of science degree**  
2           **in nursing program - Aims community college - approval.** (2) (a) In  
3           determining whether to approve a bachelor of science degree in nursing  
4           program as a completion degree to students who have or are pursuing an  
5           associate degree in nursing OR A PRACTICAL NURSING CERTIFICATE for  
6           Aims community college pursuant to section 23-71-102 (1)(b)(II)(B), the  
7           commission shall consider the following criteria:

8           **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-71-102, amend  
9           (1)(b)(II)(B) as follows:

10           **23-71-102. Definitions.** As used in this article 71, unless the  
11           context otherwise requires:

12           (1) (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1)(a) of this  
13           section:

14           (II) Aims community college, in addition to its mission as a local  
15           district college, may also offer, as its board of trustees determines  
16           appropriate to address the needs of the communities within its service  
17           area:

18           (B) Bachelor of science degree in nursing programs, as a  
19           completion degree to students who have or are pursuing an associate  
20           degree in nursing OR A PRACTICAL NURSING CERTIFICATE, that are  
21           approved by the Colorado commission on higher education pursuant to  
22           section 23-1-133 (2).

23           **SECTION 4. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
24           takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
25           ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except  
26           that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V  
27           of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this

1 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take  
2 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
3 November 2022 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
4 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.