

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

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 19-0788.01 Jerry Barry x4341

SENATE BILL 19-097

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Story and Coram, Todd, Donovan, Fields, Gonzales, Rodriguez

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

McCluskie and Soper,

Senate Committees
Education

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING A GRANT PROGRAM FOR AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGES.**

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 establishes a grant program to provide money to area technical colleges (ATC) for specified capital construction and equipment purchases. An ATC may submit a request to the Colorado commission on higher education (commission). The commission may include the grant request in its budget request for ATCs in the following state fiscal year. If the ATC receives grant money, the ATC must submit a report back to the commission in any year in which it expends grant money.

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.

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

2 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly
3 finds and declares that:

4 (a) Career and technical education ensures that qualified workers
5 are ready to enter high-wage, high-skill, and in-demand career fields that
6 are vital to Colorado's infrastructure and growing economy;

7 (b) Career and technical education plays a key role in reaching the
8 statewide sixty-six percent postsecondary attainment goal by providing
9 career-ready skills to historically underserved and nontraditional students;

10 (c) Career and technical education is critical to mitigating the
11 equity gap by offering affordable and accessible educational opportunities
12 that allow students to graduate debt-free and enter fields with competitive
13 wages and benefits;

14 (d) Career and technical education is required for many of the
15 fastest growing occupations according to the federal bureau of labor
16 statistics, including nursing, welding, massage therapy, dental and
17 medical assisting, and barbering and cosmetology; and

18 (e) Industry demand for skilled workers in today's growing
19 economy continues to outpace the rates of career and technical education
20 certificate completion, particularly in the construction and health care
21 fields.

22 (2) Therefore, it is the intent of the general assembly to establish
23 a grant program for the area technical colleges to provide accessible,
24 high-quality, and current career and technical education programs.

25 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 23-71-304 as
26 follows:

1 **23-71-304. Area technical college grant program - established**

2 **- report - definitions.** (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE
3 CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

4 (a) "AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS
5 DEFINED IN SECTION 23-60-103 (1).

6 (b) "COMMISSION" MEANS THE COLORADO COMMISSION ON
7 HIGHER EDUCATION ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-1-102.

8 (c) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER
9 EDUCATION CREATED PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-1-114.

10 (d) "GRANT PROGRAM" MEANS THE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE
11 GRANT PROGRAM ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS
12 SECTION.

13 (2) THERE IS ESTABLISHED IN THE DEPARTMENT THE AREA
14 TECHNICAL COLLEGE GRANT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE GRANTS TO AREA
15 TECHNICAL COLLEGES FOR IDENTIFIED CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION AND
16 EQUIPMENT PURPOSES IN ADDITION TO THE DIRECT GRANTS RECEIVED
17 PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-18-304 (2)(a). ON OR BEFORE JULY 15, 2019,
18 AND ON OR BEFORE EACH JULY 15 THEREAFTER, AN AREA TECHNICAL
19 COLLEGE MAY SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION DEVELOPED PURSUANT TO
20 SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION TO THE DEPARTMENT. THE DEPARTMENT
21 SHALL REVIEW THE APPLICATION AND RECOMMEND TO THE COMMISSION
22 WHETHER TO INCLUDE MONEY FOR THE GRANT IN ITS BUDGET REQUEST
23 PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-18-304 (2) FOR THE FOLLOWING STATE FISCAL
24 YEAR. THE COMMISSION SHALL DETERMINE WHETHER TO INCLUDE MONEY
25 FOR THE GRANT IN THE BUDGET REQUEST. IF THE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES
26 MONEY FOR THE GRANT, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL TRANSMIT THE FULL
27 AMOUNT OF THE GRANT TO THE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE.

1 (3) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP A FORM FOR THE GRANT
2 APPLICATION THAT MUST INCLUDE:

- 3 (a) IDENTIFICATION OF HOW THE GRANT MONEY WILL BE SPENT;
- 4 (b) SPECIFICATION OF HOW THE GRANT MONEY WILL BENEFIT
5 STUDENTS AND ANY PROGRAM AT THE SCHOOL; AND
- 6 (c) ANY MATCHING MONEY TO BE ADDED TO THE GRANT MONEY
7 AND THE SOURCE OF THE MATCHING MONEY.

8 (4) IF AN AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE RECEIVES GRANT MONEY
9 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION, ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 1 OF THE BUDGET
10 YEAR FOLLOWING ANY EXPENDITURE OF MONEY FROM A GRANT, THE AREA
11 TECHNICAL COLLEGE SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT ON A
12 FORM DEVELOPED BY THE DEPARTMENT THAT MUST INCLUDE:

- 13 (a) THE AMOUNT OF THE GRANT RECEIVED;
- 14 (b) THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF GRANT EXPENDITURES MADE DURING
15 THE PREVIOUS BUDGET YEAR;
- 16 (c) AN ITEMIZATION OF THE GRANT EXPENDITURES MADE DURING
17 THE PREVIOUS BUDGET YEAR; AND
- 18 (d) THE IMPACT OF THE GRANT EXPENDITURES ON STUDENTS.

19 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-18-304, **amend**
20 (2) as follows:

21 **23-18-304. Funding for specialty education programs - area**
22 **technical colleges - local district colleges.** (2) (a) Except as provided in
23 ~~paragraph (b) of this subsection (2)~~ SUBSECTION (2)(b) OF THIS SECTION,
24 for the 2015-16 state fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter, the direct
25 grants made to eligible area technical colleges pursuant to part 3 of article
26 71 of this ~~title~~ TITLE 23 for a state fiscal year must be equal to the amount
27 of the grants made in the preceding state fiscal year, increased or

1 decreased by a percentage equal to the percentage change in the total state
2 appropriation for the applicable state fiscal year from the total state
3 appropriation for the preceding state fiscal year.

4 (b) The commission may recommend as part of its budget request
5 that:

6 (I) Direct grants to area technical colleges increase by a
7 percentage that is greater than the percentage change in the total state
8 appropriation for the preceding state fiscal year or decrease by a
9 percentage that is less than the percentage change in the total state
10 appropriation for the applicable fiscal year from the total state
11 appropriation for the preceding state fiscal year; AND

12 (II) IN ADDITION TO THE AMOUNT RECEIVED PURSUANT TO
13 SUBSECTION (2)(a) OR (2)(b)(I) OF THIS SECTION, ONE OR MORE AREA
14 TECHNICAL COLLEGES RECEIVE ADDITIONAL MONEY FOR GRANTS
15 PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-71-304.

16 **SECTION 4. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
17 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
18 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.