

Second Regular Session  
Seventy-second General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 20-1094.02 Nicole Myers x4326

HOUSE BILL 20-1396

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HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Esgar and McCluskie,

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House Committees  
Appropriations

Senate Committees

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AN ONLINE PLATFORM BY THE  
102 STATE WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL TO ASSIST  
103 COLORADANS IN EXPLORING CAREER OPTIONS.

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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/>.)*

**Joint Budget Committee.** The state work force development council (state council), in collaboration with the department of higher education, the department of labor and employment, and the department of human services (state agencies), is required to implement and maintain a free online platform (platform) to provide Coloradans with personalized

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.

information to assist them in making career and education planning decisions; except that this requirement is subject to available appropriations or money from other sources. The state council and the state agencies may conduct outreach and training for the individuals who provide career counseling and for the public to promote awareness of the platform.

For the purposes of implementing and maintaining the platform, the state council may receive money from other state agencies, the general assembly may appropriate money to the state council, and the state council may solicit, accept, and expend gifts, grants, and donations. The state council may transfer any money appropriated by the general assembly for the purposes of the platform to the department of higher education to implement and maintain the platform, to disseminate information regarding the platform, and to provide training about the platform.

The governor's office of information technology (office) is required to ensure that the platform complies with state and federal information technology security and privacy requirements and standards. To ensure such compliance, the office is required to ensure that the contract for the platform includes a requirement that the vendor conduct an external security assessment that complies with the office's requirements and standards and that the assessment and remediation plan be shared with the office. In addition, the state auditor may, in his or her discretion, conduct an audit or assessment of the online platform and of the administration and maintenance of the platform.

The authority to implement and maintain the platform is repealed, effective June 30, 2025. Before the repeal, the joint technology committee is required to assess the impact, effectiveness, and compliance with state and federal information technology requirements and standards of the platform and to make a recommendation to the general assembly regarding whether to continue the platform.

The bill specifies that the department of higher education shall provide certain notice that it is already required by law to provide to certain students and parents of students in Colorado, through the platform. In addition, the bill repeals requirements that each board of education and the state charter school institute ensure that students in the sixth grade are registered with a previously used online platform, known as College in Colorado.

The bill repeals the talent pipeline cash fund and authorizes the general assembly to appropriate money from the general fund to the state council for the purposes of the state council. The bill also specifies that state council requirements related to career pathways are subject to available appropriation or money from other sources.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 24-46.3-106 as  
3 follows:

4 **24-46.3-106. Career - education - training - planning and**  
5 **exploration - online platform - report - repeal.** (1) SUBJECT TO  
6 AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS OR MONEY FROM OTHER SOURCES, THE STATE  
7 COUNCIL, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER  
8 EDUCATION, THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT, AND THE  
9 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, SHALL IMPLEMENT AND MAINTAIN A  
10 FREE ONLINE PLATFORM TO PROVIDE COLORADANS WITH PERSONALIZED  
11 INFORMATION TO ASSIST THEM IN MAKING CAREER AND EDUCATION  
12 PLANNING DECISIONS. THE ONLINE PLATFORM SHALL PROMOTE CAREER,  
13 EDUCATION, AND TRAINING EXPLORATION AND PLANNING AND SHALL  
14 PROVIDE TOOLS, RESOURCES, AND INFORMATION TO ASSIST IN SUCH  
15 EXPLORATION AND PLANNING. THE STATE COUNCIL, THE DEPARTMENT OF  
16 HIGHER EDUCATION, THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT, THE  
17 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, AND OTHER STATE AGENCIES MAY  
18 CONDUCT OUTREACH AND TRAINING FOR THE INDIVIDUALS WHO PROVIDE  
19 CAREER COUNSELING AND FOR THE PUBLIC TO PROMOTE AWARENESS OF  
20 THE ONLINE PLATFORM.

21 (2) THE STATE COUNCIL MAY RECEIVE MONEY FROM OTHER STATE  
22 AGENCIES FOR THE PURPOSES OF IMPLEMENTING AND MAINTAINING THE  
23 PLATFORM. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY APPROPRIATE MONEY RECEIVED  
24 FROM OTHER STATE AGENCIES, FROM THE GENERAL FUND, OR FROM ANY  
25 OTHER AVAILABLE SOURCE TO THE STATE COUNCIL FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
26 IMPLEMENTING AND MAINTAINING THE FREE ONLINE PLATFORM. IN  
27 ADDITION, THE STATE COUNCIL, IN COLLABORATION WITH ANY OTHER

1 STATE AGENCY, MAY SOLICIT, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND GIFTS, GRANTS, AND  
2 DONATIONS FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION.

3 (3) THE STATE COUNCIL MAY TRANSFER ANY MONEY  
4 APPROPRIATED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS  
5 SECTION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR THE PURPOSE  
6 OF IMPLEMENTING AND MAINTAINING THE ONLINE PLATFORM,  
7 DISSEMINATING INFORMATION REGARDING THE ONLINE PLATFORM, AND  
8 PROVIDING TRAINING ABOUT THE ONLINE PLATFORM, PURSUANT TO  
9 SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION.

10 (4) THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY,  
11 CREATED IN SECTION 24-37.5-103, SHALL ENSURE THAT THE ONLINE  
12 PLATFORM IMPLEMENTED AND MAINTAINED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1)  
13 OF THIS SECTION COMPLIES WITH STATE AND FEDERAL INFORMATION  
14 TECHNOLOGY SECURITY, PRIVACY, AND OTHER INFORMATION  
15 TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS. TO ENSURE SUCH  
16 COMPLIANCE, THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
17 SHALL ENSURE THAT THE CONTRACT FOR THE ONLINE PLATFORM INCLUDES  
18 A REQUIREMENT THAT, WITHIN TWO YEARS OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF  
19 THIS SECTION, THE VENDOR CONDUCT AN EXTERNAL SECURITY  
20 ASSESSMENT THAT COMPLIES WITH THE OFFICE'S REQUIREMENTS AND  
21 STANDARDS AND THAT THE ASSESSMENT AND REMEDIATION PLAN BE  
22 SHARED WITH THE OFFICE. THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF INFORMATION  
23 TECHNOLOGY MAY CONDUCT OR CAUSE TO BE CONDUCTED SUBSEQUENT  
24 SECURITY ASSESSMENTS AS DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE OFFICE TO  
25 ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH STATE AND FEDERAL SECURITY AND PRIVACY  
26 REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS.

27 (5) THE STATE AUDITOR MAY, IN HIS OR HER DISCRETION,

1 CONDUCT AN AUDIT OR ASSESSMENT OF THE ONLINE PLATFORM AND OF  
2 THE ADMINISTRATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE PLATFORM BY THE  
3 STATE COUNCIL, THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION, THE  
4 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, ANY OTHER STATE AGENCY, AND ANY  
5 CONTRACTOR INVOLVED IN THE IMPLEMENTATION AND MAINTENANCE OF  
6 THE PLATFORM. THE AUDIT MAY INCLUDE AN ASSESSMENT OF  
7 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECURITY AND DATA PRIVACY IN CONNECTION  
8 WITH THE PLATFORM.

9 (6) NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 24-1-136  
10 (11), ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2021, AND ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1  
11 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE STATE COUNCIL SHALL PREPARE A REPORT  
12 REGARDING THE ONLINE PLATFORM CREATED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.  
13 THE STATE COUNCIL SHALL INCLUDE THE REPORT IN THE ANNUAL  
14 COLORADO TALENT REPORT REQUIRED PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-46.3-103  
15 (3)(a). THE REPORT SHALL INCLUDE:

- 16 (a) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF UNIQUE USERS OF THE PLATFORM;
- 17 (b) THE PERCENTAGES OF USERS OF THE PLATFORM WHO ARE NEW  
18 AND RETURNING USERS;
- 19 (c) DATA ON THE TRAININGS HELD FOR USERS OF THE PLATFORM,  
20 THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN THE TRAININGS, AND THE OUTREACH  
21 ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO INFORM PEOPLE OF THE PLATFORM AND THE  
22 TRAININGS;
- 23 (d) THE NUMBER OF USERS ON THE PLATFORM WHO PROVIDE  
24 EDUCATIONAL AND CAREER COUNSELING AND RELATED SERVICES; AND
- 25 (e) ANY OTHER MEASURABLE OUTCOMES THE STATE COUNCIL  
26 DEEMS APPROPRIATE.

27 (7) BEFORE FEBRUARY 15, 2025, THE JOINT TECHNOLOGY

1 COMMITTEE SHALL ASSESS THE IMPACT, EFFECTIVENESS, AND COMPLIANCE  
2 WITH STATE AND FEDERAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS  
3 AND STANDARDS OF THE ONLINE PLATFORM AND SHALL MAKE A  
4 RECOMMENDATION TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY REGARDING WHETHER TO  
5 CONTINUE THE ONLINE PLATFORM IMPLEMENTED AND MAINTAINED  
6 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION.

7 (8) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JUNE 30, 2025.

8 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-30.5-505, **amend**  
9 (3)(f) as follows:

10 **22-30.5-505. State charter school institute - institute board -**  
11 **appointment - powers and duties - rules.** (3) The mission of the  
12 institute board shall be to foster high-quality public school choices  
13 offered through institute charter schools, including particularly schools  
14 that are focused on closing the achievement gap for at-risk students. In  
15 discharging its duties pursuant to this part 5, the institute shall:

16 (f) ~~Ensure that each student who enrolls in the sixth grade in an~~  
17 ~~institute charter school, on the day of enrollment, is registered with the~~  
18 ~~state-provided, free online college planning and preparation resource,~~  
19 ~~commonly referred to as "CollegeInColorado.org". The institute, the~~  
20 ~~department, and the department of higher education shall collaborate to~~  
21 ~~monitor the implementation of this paragraph (f) and to ensure optimal~~  
22 ~~interactivity between the various data bases and student record systems~~  
23 ~~employed by institute charter schools and college in Colorado At a~~  
24 ~~minimum, each institute charter school shall~~ Ensure that, in developing  
25 and maintaining each student's individual career and academic plan, the  
26 counselor or teacher explains to the student's parent or legal guardian, by  
27 electronic mail or other written form, and to the student the requirements

1 for and benefits of concurrently enrolling in courses with an institution of  
2 higher education pursuant to the "Concurrent Enrollment Programs Act",  
3 article 35 of this ~~title~~ TITLE 22. Based on a request from the student or the  
4 student's parent or legal guardian, the counselor or teacher shall assist the  
5 student in course planning to enable the student to concurrently enroll in  
6 courses with an institution of higher education.

7 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-32-109, **repeal**  
8 (1)(nn) as follows:

9 **22-32-109. Board of education - specific duties.** (1) In addition  
10 to any other duty required to be performed by law, each board of  
11 education shall have and perform the following specific duties:

12 (nn) ~~To ensure that each student who enrolls in the sixth grade in~~  
13 ~~a public school of the school district, including but not limited to a district~~  
14 ~~charter school, on the day of enrollment is registered with the~~  
15 ~~state-provided, free online college planning and preparation resource,~~  
16 ~~commonly referred to as "CollegeInColorado.org". The school district,~~  
17 ~~the department of education, and the department of higher education shall~~  
18 ~~collaborate to monitor the implementation of this paragraph (nn) and to~~  
19 ~~ensure optimal interactivity between the various databases and student~~  
20 ~~record systems employed by school districts and college in Colorado.~~

21 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-1-119.1, **amend**  
22 (1) introductory portion as follows:

23 **23-1-119.1. Department directive - notice of postsecondary**  
24 **educational opportunities and higher education admission guidelines.**

25 (1) Annually, beginning in the spring of 2006, upon receipt of the names  
26 and mailing addresses of students enrolled in the eighth grade from the  
27 board of education of each school district in Colorado and the state

1 charter school institute, the department shall provide notice of  
2 postsecondary educational opportunities to the parents or legal guardians  
3 of all eighth-grade students enrolled in public schools in the state.  
4 BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2021, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE SUCH  
5 NOTICE AND DISSEMINATE RELATED INFORMATION THROUGH THE FREE  
6 ONLINE CAREER, EDUCATION, AND TRAINING RESOURCE CREATED  
7 PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-46.3-106, IF AVAILABLE. OTHERWISE, SUCH  
8 NOTICE IS SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATION. At a minimum, the  
9 notice shall specify:

10 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-1-119.2, **amend**  
11 (1)(b) introductory portion as follows:

12 **23-1-119.2. Commission directive - notice of college**  
13 **preparatory courses for high school students.** (1) The commission  
14 shall adopt a policy on or before October 1, 2005, to:

15 (b) Beginning in the spring of 2006, send an annual notice  
16 concerning college preparatory courses to the parent or legal guardian of  
17 each student who takes a standardized, curriculum-based, achievement,  
18 college entrance exam or a precollegiate exam. The commission shall  
19 send the notice to the parent or legal guardian prior to the start of a  
20 student's twelfth-grade year if the student took the standardized,  
21 curriculum-based, achievement, college entrance exam, or prior to the  
22 start of a student's eleventh-grade year if the student took the  
23 precollegiate exam. BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2021, THE DEPARTMENT  
24 SHALL PROVIDE SUCH NOTICE AND DISSEMINATE RELATED INFORMATION  
25 THROUGH THE FREE ONLINE CAREER, EDUCATION, AND TRAINING  
26 RESOURCE CREATED PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-46.3-106, IF AVAILABLE.  
27 OTHERWISE, SUCH NOTICE IS SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATION. At



1 a minimum, the notice must include:

2 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 23-1-119.5 as  
3 follows:

4 **23-1-119.5. Online career platform - appropriations from**  
5 **Colorado work force development council.** BEGINNING ON THE  
6 EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER  
7 EDUCATION MAY RECEIVE AND EXPEND ANY MONEY TRANSFERRED TO THE  
8 DEPARTMENT BY THE COLORADO WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL  
9 CREATED IN SECTION 24-46.3-101, FOR THE PURPOSES OF IMPLEMENTING  
10 AND MAINTAINING THE ONLINE PLATFORM CREATED PURSUANT TO  
11 SECTION 24-46.3-106, DISSEMINATING INFORMATION REGARDING THE  
12 ONLINE PLATFORM, AND PROVIDING TRAINING ABOUT THE ONLINE  
13 PLATFORM.

14 **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-3.1-304, **amend**  
15 (1) introductory portion and (1)(p) as follows:

16 **23-3.1-304. Authority - purpose - powers - duties.** (1) In  
17 addition to any other powers or duties specifically granted to the authority  
18 in part 2 of this ~~article~~ ARTICLE 3.1 and in this part 3 the authority shall,  
19 as applicable to the respective program:

20 (p) Develop procedures to provide college planning and  
21 preparation for adult learners through the state-provided, free ~~resource~~  
22 ~~commonly referred to as "college in Colorado"~~ ONLINE CAREER,  
23 EDUCATION, AND TRAINING RESOURCE CREATED PURSUANT TO SECTION  
24 24-46.3-106;

25 **SECTION 8.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-60-1004, **amend**  
26 (1) introductory portion as follows:

27 **23-60-1004. Online information - manufacturing career**

1 **pathway.** (1) After the design of the manufacturing career pathway is  
2 completed pursuant to section 23-60-1003, the department of higher  
3 education, in collaboration with the department of labor and employment,  
4 shall post information concerning the career pathway on the  
5 state-provided, free online ~~resource commonly referred to as~~  
6 ~~"CollegeInColorado.org"~~ CAREER, EDUCATION, AND TRAINING RESOURCE  
7 CREATED PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-46.3-106. The following information  
8 must be included:

9 **SECTION 9.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-46.3-101, **amend**  
10 (8) and (10); **repeal** (11); and **add** (13) as follows:

11 **24-46.3-101. State work force development council - creation**  
12 **- membership - funding through gifts, grants, and donations.** (8) The  
13 staff of the department, in consultation with the state council and  
14 governor, shall establish an annual budget for basic state council  
15 functions, activities, meetings, travel, per diem, reports, and staff.  
16 Funding for the state council's budget shall come from a portion of the  
17 administrative money available to the mandatory and additional federal  
18 partner programs specified in 29 U.S.C. sec. 3151 (b)(1) and (b)(2). The  
19 amount of the administrative money from each mandatory and additional  
20 federal partner program to be transferred to the state council shall be  
21 determined by the office of state planning and budgeting, proportionate  
22 to the annual federal partner program or activity grant amounts to the  
23 state and appropriated by the general assembly. In addition to the federal  
24 partner programs grant funding, the state council shall seek other federal,  
25 state, and private grants, gifts, and ~~contributions~~ DONATIONS to fund state  
26 council special duties, demonstration projects, and initiatives.

27 (10) The state council is authorized to seek, ~~and~~ accept, AND

1 EXPEND gifts, grants, or donations from private or public sources for the  
2 purposes of this ~~article~~ ARTICLE 46.3; except that the state council may  
3 not accept a gift, grant, or donation that is subject to conditions that are  
4 inconsistent with this ~~article~~ ARTICLE 46.3 or any other law of the state.  
5 ~~The state council shall transmit all private and public moneys received~~  
6 ~~through gifts, grants, or donations to the state treasurer, who shall credit~~  
7 ~~the same to the talent pipeline cash fund created in subsection (11) of this~~  
8 ~~section.~~

9 (11) ~~(a) The talent pipeline cash fund, referred to in this~~  
10 ~~subsection (11) as the "fund", is created in the state treasury. The fund~~  
11 ~~consists of any moneys that the state council receives from gifts, grants,~~  
12 ~~or donations pursuant to subsection (10) of this section.~~

13 ~~(b) The moneys in the fund are annually appropriated to the state~~  
14 ~~council to provide action grants to talent pipeline projects.~~

15 ~~(c) All interest and income derived from the investment and~~  
16 ~~deposit of moneys in the fund are credited to the fund. Any unexpended~~  
17 ~~and unencumbered moneys remaining in the fund at the end of a fiscal~~  
18 ~~year shall not be credited or transferred to the general fund or any other~~  
19 ~~fund.~~

20 (13) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY APPROPRIATE MONEY FROM  
21 THE GENERAL FUND OR FROM ANY OTHER AVAILABLE SOURCE TO THE  
22 STATE COUNCIL FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE STATE COUNCIL SPECIFIED IN  
23 THIS PART 1.

24 **SECTION 10.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-46.3-104,  
25 **amend** (3)(b)(I) introductory portion, (3)(b)(I)(B), (7)(a) introductory  
26 portion, and (7)(b) as follows:

27 **24-46.3-104. Career pathways - design - definitions - legislative**

1 **declaration.** (3) (b) (I) In collaboration with its partners pursuant to  
2 ~~paragraph (a) of this subsection (3)~~ SUBSECTION (3)(a) OF THIS SECTION,  
3 the state council shall:

4 (B) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATION OR MONEY FROM  
5 OTHER SOURCES, design at least two career pathways that are ready for  
6 implementation at the beginning of each subsequent academic year for  
7 critical occupations in growing industries.

8 (7) (a) Once a career pathway is completed pursuant to this  
9 section, the state council shall, SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATION OR  
10 MONEY FROM OTHER SOURCES, collaborate with the department of higher  
11 education and the department of labor and employment to create a  
12 microsite concerning the career pathway on a state-provided, free online  
13 resource. At a minimum, the following information must be included:

14 (b) The state council may use ~~moneys credited to the talent~~  
15 ~~pipeline cash fund, created in section 24-46.3-101,~~ MONEY APPROPRIATED  
16 BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-46.3-101 (13) OR  
17 MONEY FROM ANY OTHER SOURCE to add additional information and tools  
18 to a career pathways microsite, similar to the information and tools  
19 provided in the microsite relating to the manufacturing career pathway.

20 **SECTION 11. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
21 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
22 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except  
23 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V  
24 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this  
25 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take  
26 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in

1 November 2022 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
2 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.