



Legislative
Council Staff

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SB 20-006

FINAL FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number:	LLS 20-0407	Date:	September 14, 2020
Prime Sponsors:	Sen. Zenzinger; Story Rep. Kipp; Baisley	Bill Status:	Signed into Law
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Bill Topic: **AMEND COLORADO OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP INITIATIVE**

Summary of Fiscal Impact:	<input type="checkbox"/> State Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Government
	<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

The bill modifies the Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative. The bill impacts state expenditures on an ongoing basis.

**Appropriation
Summary:** No appropriation is required.

**Fiscal Note
Status:** This final fiscal note reflects the enacted bill.

Summary of Legislation

The bill modifies aspects of the Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative (COSI) in the Department of Higher Education (DHE). Specifically, the bill:

- changes definitions to reflect the program's focus on financial assistance as distinct from tuition assistance;
- removes a restriction on the amount of money that can be awarded to state agencies and nonprofit organizations;
- removes a limitation that existing DHE personnel administer the program;
- allows the DHE to spend 7.5 percent of total expenditures from the prior year as administrative overhead, and allows additional overhead spending if authorized by the General Assembly through a footnote in Long Bill; and
- modifies some of the financial criteria for scholarship eligibility.

State Expenditures

Under current law, the DHE may use no more than 3.0 percent of money in the COSI fund as administrative overhead. This bill changes that calculation to be 7.5 percent of the expenditures from the fund in the prior year. This change is not anticipated to increase the amount of administrative expenses retained by the department, and better aligns administrative expenses with actual spending over time. No change in appropriations is required.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor on March 20, 2020, and took effect on September 14, 2020

State and Local Government Contacts

Education Higher Education Labor