

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

**REREVISED**

*This Version Includes All Amendments  
Adopted in the Second House*

LLS NO. 26-0661.01 Anna Petrini x5497

**SENATE BILL 26-080**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Coleman and Simpson**, Amabile, Cutter, Danielson, Exum, Gonzales J., Jodeh, Kipp, Lindstedt, Marchman, Wallace

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Lukens and English**, Camacho, Duran, Gonzalez R., Joseph, Titone

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**Senate Committees**

Local Government & Housing  
Appropriations

**House Committees**

Education  
Finance  
Appropriations

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING CREATING THE CRADLE TO CAREER GRANT PROGRAM.**

**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 creates the cradle to career grant program (grant program) in the state department of human services (state department) to provide grants that promote coordinated community-based supports and services that open opportunities for economic mobility from poverty. The grant program must connect children and youth with high-quality educational and extracurricular programming and families with key health and social services in order to improve prenatal and early childhood outcomes, student achievement, and workforce readiness. A local government, local

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.*  
*Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.*

HOUSE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
May 13, 2026

HOUSE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
May 12, 2026

SENATE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
April 13, 2026

SENATE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
April 10, 2026



1           (2) "COUNCIL" MEANS THE CRADLE TO CAREER ADVISORY COUNCIL  
2           CREATED IN SECTION 26-25-104.

3           (3) "DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA" MEANS A GEOGRAPHICALLY  
4           BOUNDED LOCAL SERVICE AREA IN WHICH THE CONCENTRATION OF  
5           POVERTY MEETS THE LEVEL SPECIFIED IN SECTION 26-25-103 (5)(b)(I).

6           (4) "ELIGIBLE ENTITY" MEANS A LOCAL GOVERNMENT, A LOCAL  
7           EDUCATION PROVIDER, A STATE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, AN  
8           INDIAN TRIBE OR TRIBAL ORGANIZATION, OR A NONPROFIT OR  
9           NOT-FOR-PROFIT COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION.

10          (5) "FUND" MEANS THE CRADLE TO CAREER GRANT PROGRAM CASH  
11          FUND CREATED IN SECTION 26-25-107.

12          (6) "GRANT PROGRAM" MEANS THE CRADLE TO CAREER GRANT  
13          PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION 26-25-103.

14          (7) "HIGH-QUALITY" MEANS EVIDENCE-BASED OR  
15          EVIDENCE-INFORMED.

16          (8) "LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER" MEANS:

17           (a) A SCHOOL DISTRICT;

18           (b) A CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT  
19           PURSUANT TO PART 1 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF TITLE 22;

20           (c) A CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY THE STATE CHARTER  
21           SCHOOL INSTITUTE PURSUANT TO PART 5 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF TITLE 22; OR

22           (d) A BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES CREATED AND OPERATING  
23           PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 5 OF TITLE 22.

24          (9) "LOCAL GOVERNMENT" MEANS A STATUTORY OR HOME RULE  
25          CITY, TOWN, CITY AND COUNTY, OR COUNTY.

26          (10) "SUBCONTRACTED ENTITY" MEANS AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY THAT  
27          ENTERS A FORMAL PARTNERSHIP WITH AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY RECEIVING A

1 GRANT PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 25 AND THAT PROVIDES  
2 COMPLEMENTARY COMMUNITY RESOURCES IN THE GRANT RECIPIENT'S  
3 DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA.

4 (11) "YOUTH" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS UNDER TWENTY-FIVE  
5 YEARS OLD.

6 **26-25-103. Cradle to career grant program - created -**  
7 **program guidelines and criteria - rules.**

8 (1) THE CRADLE TO CAREER GRANT PROGRAM IS CREATED IN THE  
9 STATE DEPARTMENT. THE PURPOSE OF THE GRANT PROGRAM IS TO  
10 PROVIDE GRANTS TO ELIGIBLE ENTITIES TO PROMOTE COORDINATED  
11 COMMUNITY-BASED SUPPORTS AND SERVICES THAT OPEN OPPORTUNITIES  
12 FOR ECONOMIC MOBILITY FROM POVERTY. THE GRANT PROGRAM MUST  
13 CONNECT CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATIONAL AND  
14 EXTRACURRICULAR PROGRAMMING AND FAMILIES WITH KEY HEALTH AND  
15 SOCIAL SERVICES IN ORDER TO IMPROVE PRENATAL AND EARLY  
16 CHILDHOOD OUTCOMES, STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT, AND WORKFORCE  
17 READINESS; TO HELP CHILDREN AND YOUTH MAKE SMOOTH TRANSITIONS  
18 THROUGHOUT THE SECONDARY AND POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION  
19 SYSTEMS; AND TO CREATE WEALTH BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES THAT  
20 PROMOTE LIFELONG FINANCIAL SECURITY.

21 (2) GRANT RECIPIENTS MAY USE THE MONEY RECEIVED THROUGH  
22 THE GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

23 (a) PROMOTING FAMILY STABILITY AND WELL-BEING THROUGH  
24 ACCESS TO:

25 (I) SAFE, AFFORDABLE, AND STABLE HOUSING;

26 (II) HIGH-QUALITY CHILD CARE AND EARLY CHILDHOOD  
27 PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORT CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND SUCCESSFUL

1 TRANSITIONS TO AND THROUGH ELEMENTARY EDUCATION;

2 (III) ADEQUATE NUTRITION AND HEALTH CARE, INCLUDING

3 MATERNAL, BEHAVIORAL, AND MENTAL HEALTH CARE; AND

4 (IV) SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH

5 DISABILITIES;

6 (b) IMPLEMENTING FAMILY-STRENGTHENING PUBLIC SAFETY

7 PROTECTIONS, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES, AND

8 INTERVENTIONS THAT ENHANCE CHILD AND YOUTH WELFARE, PREVENT

9 JUSTICE-SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT, AND REDUCE EXPOSURE TO SUBSTANCE

10 USE, FAMILY CONFLICT, AND CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT;

11 (c) PROVIDING HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATIONAL AND ACADEMIC

12 ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR K-12 STUDENTS THAT SUPPLEMENT BUT

13 DO NOT SUPPLANT INSTRUCTIONAL TIME, INCLUDING OUT-OF-SCHOOL-TIME

14 PROGRAMS THAT:

15 (I) FOCUS ON SPORTS AND FITNESS, CHARACTER AND LEADERSHIP,

16 OR ARTS AND CULTURE; AND

17 (II) REINFORCE AND COMPLEMENT SCHOOL-BASED ACADEMIC

18 PROGRAMS IN A SAFE AND HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT;

19 (d) CONNECTING YOUTH TO QUALITY JOBS AND IN-DEMAND

20 OCCUPATIONS THROUGH POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE READINESS

21 PROGRAMS THAT MAY INCLUDE WORK-BASED LEARNING, CREDENTIAL

22 COMPLETION, OR APPRENTICESHIPS, WITH A FOCUS ON HIGH-NEED,

23 IN-DEMAND CAREER PATHWAYS;

24 (e) USING ASSET-BUILDING STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS WEALTH

25 DISPARITIES AND INCREASE ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION, HOME

26 OWNERSHIP, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP;

27 (f) COORDINATING AND ALIGNING PROGRAMS AND STRATEGIES

1        WITHIN A DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA, INCLUDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF  
2        SHARED DATA SYSTEMS; AND

3            (g)    MATCHING ADDITIONAL FEDERAL, LOCAL, OR PRIVATE  
4        FUNDING FOR POVERTY REDUCTION INITIATIVES IN THE ELIGIBLE ENTITY'S  
5        DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA.

6            (3)    THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE GRANT  
7        PROGRAM AND, SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, SHALL AWARD  
8        GRANTS AS PROVIDED IN THIS ARTICLE 25. GRANTS MUST BE PAID OUT OF  
9        THE CRADLE TO CAREER GRANT PROGRAM CASH FUND CREATED IN  
10       SECTION 26-25-107.

11           (4)    THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL IMPLEMENT THE GRANT  
12        PROGRAM IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS ARTICLE 25. THE STATE  
13        DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT THE RULES REQUIRED IN THIS ARTICLE 25 AND  
14        ANY ADDITIONAL RULES NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE GRANT PROGRAM.

15           (5) (a)    THE STATE DEPARTMENT, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE  
16        COUNCIL, SHALL DEVELOP AND MAKE AVAILABLE PROGRAM GUIDELINES,  
17        INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

18                (I)    GUIDELINES FOR THE CONTENT OF AN ECONOMIC MOBILITY  
19        NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL FOR SINGLE ELIGIBLE  
20        ENTITY APPLICANTS AND MULTIPLE ELIGIBLE ENTITY APPLICANTS  
21        APPLYING JOINTLY PURSUANT TO SECTION 26-25-105 (2);

22                (II)    GUIDELINES FOR PROPOSING, APPROVING, AND IMPLEMENTING  
23        DIFFERENT GRANT STRUCTURES TO PROMOTE BUILDING CAPACITY FOR  
24        DELIVERING, IN AN APPLICANT'S DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA, SERVICES  
25        THAT PROMOTE ECONOMIC MOBILITY. GRANT STRUCTURES MAY INCLUDE  
26        PLANNING, EARLY IMPLEMENTATION, AND FULL IMPLEMENTATION PHASES  
27        FOR SERVICE DELIVERY.

1 (III) PROCESSES FOR AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY TO SOLICIT AND  
2 INCORPORATE INTO ITS COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL INPUT FROM  
3 ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS IN THE COMMUNITY PURSUANT TO  
4 SUBSECTION (5)(b)(III) OF THIS SECTION.

5 (b) IN ADDITION TO THE GUIDELINES DEVELOPED PURSUANT TO  
6 SUBSECTION (5)(a) OF THIS SECTION, THE STATE DEPARTMENT, IN  
7 COLLABORATION WITH THE COUNCIL, SHALL DEVELOP CRITERIA FOR  
8 AWARDING GRANTS, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE FOLLOWING  
9 REQUIREMENTS:

10 (I) THAT THE COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL TARGETS A DESIGNATED  
11 SERVICE AREA IN WHICH AT LEAST THIRTY PERCENT OF HOUSEHOLDS WITH  
12 CHILDREN HAVE AN ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME AT OR BELOW TWO  
13 HUNDRED PERCENT OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY LINE;

14 (II) THAT THE ELIGIBLE ENTITY'S COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL  
15 PRIORITIZES CONNECTING CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH HIGH-QUALITY  
16 EDUCATIONAL, EXTRACURRICULAR, OR WORKFORCE PROGRAMMING OR  
17 FAMILIES WITH KEY HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
18 THE AREAS OF GREATEST NEED IDENTIFIED IN THE ELIGIBLE ENTITY'S  
19 NEEDS ASSESSMENT;

20 (III) THAT THE ELIGIBLE ENTITY HAS SOLICITED AND  
21 INCORPORATED INTO ITS COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL INPUT FROM  
22 ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS IN THE COMMUNITY, INCLUDING LOCAL  
23 EDUCATION PROVIDERS, COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTERS, LOCAL  
24 NONPROFIT OR NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS, LOCAL LAW  
25 ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, BUSINESSES, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
26 LEADERS; ■

27 (IV) THAT THE COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL RELIES ON

1 EVIDENCE-BASED OR EVIDENCE-INFORMED PRACTICES IN THE DELIVERY OF  
2 SERVICES, SUPPORTS, AND OPPORTUNITIES;

3 (V) THAT THE ELIGIBLE ENTITY DEMONSTRATES EVIDENCE OF  
4 IMPACT WITH RESPECT TO THE TYPE OF PROGRAMMING OR SERVICES THAT  
5 THE ELIGIBLE ENTITY PROPOSES TO PROVIDE WITH A GRANT AWARD; AND

6 (VI) THAT THE ELIGIBLE ENTITY HAS, WITH A SUCCESSFUL TRACK  
7 RECORD, BEEN SERVING THE DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA FOR AT LEAST  
8 THREE YEARS.

9 (c) AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY THAT RECEIVES A GRANT AWARD  
10 PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 25 MUST:

11 (I) COMPLY WITH ALL APPLICABLE STATE AND LOCAL HEALTH AND  
12 SAFETY REGULATIONS;

13 (II) REQUIRE ITS EMPLOYEES TO SUBMIT TO A NAME-BASED  
14 CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD CHECK;

15 (III) REQUIRE EVIDENCE OF FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY,  
16 INCLUDING BONDING OR LICENSURE, FOR EMPLOYEES INVOLVED IN THE  
17 ELIGIBLE ENTITY'S FINANCIAL AFFAIRS;

18 (IV) COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE "COLORADO OPEN  
19 RECORDS ACT", PART 2 OF ARTICLE 72 OF TITLE 24;

20 (V) DELIVER SERVICES OR ACCEPT PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS  
21 WITHOUT REGARD TO RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, CREED, SEX,  
22 GENDER IDENTITY, ETHNICITY, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, MENTAL OR  
23 PHYSICAL DISABILITY, ATHLETIC PERFORMANCE, PROFICIENCY IN THE  
24 ENGLISH LANGUAGE, OR PAST ACADEMIC OR DISCIPLINARY HISTORY;

25 (VI) COMPLY WITH ALL APPLICABLE STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS  
26 PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION, INCLUDING TITLE IX OF THE FEDERAL  
27 "EDUCATION AMENDMENTS OF 1972", THE FEDERAL "AMERICANS WITH

1 DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990", SECTION 504 OF THE FEDERAL  
2 "REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973", AND TITLES VI AND VII OF THE FEDERAL  
3 "CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964; AND

4 (VII) IF THE ELIGIBLE ENTITY IS A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER,  
5 NOT USE MONEY AWARDED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 25 TO SUPPORT ITS  
6 STANDARD ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING OR OPERATIONS.

7 (d) IN ADDITION TO THE GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA DEVELOPED  
8 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTIONS (5)(a) AND (5)(b) OF THIS SECTION, THE STATE  
9 DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH TIMELINES FOR SUBMITTING AND  
10 REVIEWING GRANT APPLICATIONS AND TIMELINES FOR SUBMITTING THE  
11 LIST OF ELIGIBLE ENTITIES CHOSEN TO RECEIVE GRANTS TO THE COUNCIL.

12 (6) THE STATE DEPARTMENT IS ONLY REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT  
13 SECTIONS 26-25-103 (3), 26-25-103 (4), 26-25-103 (5), 26-25-104,  
14 26-25-105, AND 26-25-106 IF THE SECTIONS BECOME EFFECTIVE PURSUANT  
15 TO SECTION 26-25-108. THE WORK OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT, THE  
16 COUNCIL, OR ANY OTHER ENTITY CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE  
17 25 IS CONTINGENT ON MONEY BEING AVAILABLE TO IMPLEMENT THIS  
18 ARTICLE 25.

19 **26-25-104. Cradle to career advisory council - created - duties**  
20 **- repeal.**

21 (1) THE CRADLE TO CAREER ADVISORY COUNCIL IS CREATED IN THE  
22 STATE DEPARTMENT.

23         
24 (2) (a) THE COUNCIL CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

25 (I) THE GOVERNOR SHALL APPOINT:  
26 (A) ONE MEMBER WHO IS AN EDUCATOR WITH EXPERIENCE IN  
27 EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION;

1 (B) ONE MEMBER WHO IS A REPRESENTATIVE OF A NONPROFIT  
2 ORGANIZATION OR INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION WITH EXPERTISE  
3 IN MEASURING CHILD AND YOUTH POVERTY AND IMPLEMENTING POLICIES  
4 TO ALLEVIATE IT; ■

5 (C) ONE MEMBER WHO HAS EXPERTISE AND EXPERIENCE IN  
6 POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION AND STATE WORKFORCE READINESS  
7 INITIATIVES;

8 (D) ONE MEMBER WHO IS A REPRESENTATIVE OF A STATEWIDE  
9 ORGANIZATION THAT REPRESENTS LICENSED TEACHERS; AND

10 (E) ONE MEMBER WHO IS A REPRESENTATIVE OF A STATEWIDE  
11 ORGANIZATION REPRESENTING SCHOOL EXECUTIVES.

12 (II) THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE SHALL APPOINT:

13 (A) ONE MEMBER WHO, AT THE TIME OF APPOINTMENT, HAS BEEN  
14 SERVING IN A PROFESSIONAL CAPACITY AT A COLORADO PUBLIC SCHOOL  
15 OR SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR AT LEAST THREE YEARS, AND WHO HAS HAD  
16 DIRECT RESPONSIBILITY FOR AND ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED IN THE  
17 IMPLEMENTATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY SCHOOL STRATEGY;

18 (B) ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION  
19 REPRESENTING LOCAL SCHOOL BOARDS;

20 (C) ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS PROVIDERS OF DIRECT  
21 SERVICES TO LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS; AND

22 (D) ONE MEMBER WHO IS A REPRESENTATIVE OF AN  
23 ORGANIZATION THAT REPRESENTS RURAL LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS.

24 (III) THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
25 SHALL APPOINT A REPRESENTATIVE OF AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY WHO HAS  
26 EXPERTISE IN ECONOMIC MOBILITY ISSUES AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF A  
27 STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION THAT REPRESENTS PARENTS.

1 (IV) THE COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OR  
2 THE COMMISSIONER'S DESIGNEE.

3 (b) IN APPOINTING THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL, THE  
4 APPOINTING AUTHORITIES SHALL CONSIDER ETHNICITY, GENDER, AND  
5 GEOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION TO PROMOTE DIVERSE COUNCIL  
6 MEMBERSHIP. A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL MUST BE A COLORADO  
7 RESIDENT AND MUST NOT BE A GRANTOR OR DONOR WHOSE GIFTS,  
8 GRANTS, OR DONATIONS ARE CREDITED TO THE FUND PURSUANT TO  
9 SECTION 26-25-107.

10 (c) THE APPOINTING AUTHORITIES SHALL MAKE THE INITIAL  
11 APPOINTMENTS TO THE COUNCIL NO LATER THAN ONE MONTH AFTER THE  
12 EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION.

13 (d) EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL WHO IS APPOINTED PURSUANT  
14 TO THIS SECTION SERVES AT THE PLEASURE OF THE COUNCIL MEMBER'S  
15 RESPECTIVE APPOINTING AUTHORITY. THE TERM OF APPOINTMENT IS FOUR  
16 YEARS; EXCEPT THAT THE TERM OF EACH MEMBER INITIALLY APPOINTED  
17 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION IS TWO YEARS.

18 (3) MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL SERVE WITHOUT COMPENSATION.

19 (4) (a) NO LATER THAN TWO MONTHS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE  
20 OF THIS SECTION, BUT NOT BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2026, THE EXECUTIVE  
21 DIRECTOR SHALL ORGANIZE AND CONVENE THE FIRST MEETING OF THE  
22 COUNCIL.

23 (b) THE COUNCIL SHALL ELECT A CHAIR FROM AMONG THE  
24 COUNCIL'S MEMBERS TO SERVE FOR A TERM NOT TO EXCEED TWO YEARS,  
25 AS DETERMINED BY THE COUNCIL. A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL IS NOT  
26 ELIGIBLE TO SERVE AS CHAIR FOR MORE THAN TWO SUCCESSIVE TERMS.

27 (c) THE COUNCIL SHALL MEET AT LEAST TWO TIMES PER YEAR. THE

1 CHAIR MAY CALL ADDITIONAL MEETINGS AS ARE NECESSARY FOR THE  
2 COUNCIL TO COMPLETE ITS DUTIES.

3 (5) THE COUNCIL SHALL:

4 (a) APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE ELIGIBLE ENTITIES THAT THE STATE  
5 DEPARTMENT HAS SELECTED AS POTENTIAL GRANT RECIPIENTS; AND

6 (b) COLLABORATE WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT TO DEVELOP AND  
7 MAKE AVAILABLE GRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA FOR  
8 AWARDING GRANTS PURSUANT TO SECTION 26-25-103 (5)(a) AND (5)(b).

9 **26-25-105. Cradle to career grant program - application -**  
10 **awards.**

11 (1) TO RECEIVE A GRANT, AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY MUST SUBMIT AN  
12 APPLICATION TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULES  
13 ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. AT A MINIMUM, THE APPLICATION  
14 MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

15 (a) A COMMUNITY ECONOMIC MOBILITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT THAT:

16 (I) IDENTIFIES THE APPLICANT'S DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA;

17 (II) ANALYZES EXISTING CONDITIONS AND ECONOMIC MOBILITY  
18 OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES IN THE  
19 DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA; AND

20 (III) INCLUDES QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DATA  
21 MEASURING POVERTY, DEMOGRAPHIC DISPARITIES, AND NEEDS WITHIN THE  
22 DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA IN CONNECTION WITH EACH OF THE  
23 PERMISSIBLE USES OF GRANT MONEY IDENTIFIED IN SECTION 26-25-103 (2),  
24 AND SPECIFIES AT LEAST ONE POLICY AREA AS THE FOCAL POINT FOR  
25 INTERVENTION;

26 (b) A PROPOSAL FOR THE FORMATION OF A FORMAL PARTNERSHIP  
27 WITH OTHER ELIGIBLE ENTITIES WITH ESTABLISHED TIES TO THE

1 COMMUNITY THAT CAN PROVIDE COMPLEMENTARY COMMUNITY  
2 RESOURCES IN THE APPLICANT'S DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA. IF AN  
3 APPLICANT IS A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER, THE APPLICATION MUST BE  
4 COMPLETED IN COLLABORATION WITH AT LEAST ONE OTHER ELIGIBLE  
5 ENTITY THAT THE LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER DESIGNATES AS A FORMAL  
6 PARTNER PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (1)(b). THE PROPOSAL FOR THE  
7 FORMATION OF A FORMAL PARTNERSHIP MUST IDENTIFY ALL PROSPECTIVE  
8 SUBCONTRACTED ENTITIES AND DESCRIBE HOW MONEY RECEIVED  
9 THROUGH A GRANT AWARDED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 25 WILL BE  
10 ALLOCATED.

11 (c) A COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL:

12 (I) TO DEVELOP OR EXPAND COORDINATED COMMUNITY-BASED  
13 SUPPORTS AND SERVICES THAT OPEN OPPORTUNITIES FOR ECONOMIC  
14 MOBILITY FROM POVERTY IN THE DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA;

15 (II) THAT LEVERAGES A PARTNERSHIP PROPOSED PURSUANT TO  
16 SUBSECTION (1)(b) OF THIS SECTION TO PROVIDE A COORDINATED  
17 CONTINUUM OF SUPPORTS AND SERVICES THAT OPEN OPPORTUNITIES FOR  
18 ECONOMIC MOBILITY FROM POVERTY; AND

19 (III) THAT PRIORITIZES CONNECTING CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH  
20 HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATIONAL, EXTRACURRICULAR, OR WORKFORCE  
21 PROGRAMMING OR FAMILIES WITH KEY HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES IN  
22 ACCORDANCE WITH THE AREAS OF GREATEST NEED IDENTIFIED IN THE  
23 ECONOMIC MOBILITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO  
24 SUBSECTION (1)(a) OF THIS SECTION.

25 (2) TWO OR MORE ELIGIBLE ENTITIES MAY JOINTLY APPLY FOR A  
26 GRANT AWARD TO DELIVER SERVICES ON A REGIONAL BASIS AND MAY  
27 RECEIVE A JOINT GRANT AWARD THAT IS THE AGGREGATE OF THE

1 AMOUNTS EACH INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBLE ENTITY WOULD HAVE RECEIVED HAD  
2 EACH ELIGIBLE ENTITY APPLIED INDEPENDENTLY.

3 (3) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL REVIEW ALL APPLICATIONS  
4 RECEIVED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION AND SELECT THE GRANT RECIPIENTS  
5 AND THE AMOUNT OF EACH GRANT. THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOT  
6 AWARD A GRANT WITHOUT THE PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL, AS  
7 DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION.

8 (4) THE STATE DEPARTMENT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE  
9 TIMELINES ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 26-25-103 (5)(c), SHALL  
10 SUBMIT TO THE COUNCIL A LIST OF THE APPLICANTS CHOSEN TO RECEIVE  
11 GRANTS. THE COUNCIL SHALL EITHER APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE THE  
12 ENTIRE LIST OF ENTITIES BY RESPONDING TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT  
13 WITHIN TWENTY DAYS AFTER SUBMISSION. IF THE COUNCIL DOES NOT  
14 RESPOND TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT WITHIN TWENTY DAYS AFTER  
15 RECEIPT OF THE LIST, THE LIST IS APPROVED. IF THE COUNCIL DISAPPROVES  
16 THE LIST, THE STATE DEPARTMENT MAY SUBMIT A REPLACEMENT LIST  
17 WITHIN THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE DISAPPROVAL.

18 (5) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL AWARD EACH GRANT  
19 APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL. EACH GRANT IS FOR A PERIOD OF FOUR  
20 YEARS. AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY THAT RECEIVES A GRANT PURSUANT TO THIS  
21 ARTICLE 25 MAY APPLY FOR A ONE- OR TWO-YEAR EXTENSION OF THE  
22 GRANT PERIOD.

23 (6) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL BEGIN AWARDING GRANTS  
24 PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 25 ONLY AFTER THE BALANCE OF THE FUND  
25 REACHES OR EXCEEDS NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS. SUBJECT TO  
26 AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2027, THE STATE  
27 DEPARTMENT SHALL AWARD AT LEAST THREE GRANTS AS PROVIDED IN

1 THIS ARTICLE 25. THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOT AWARD MORE THAN  
2 FORTY-NINE PERCENT OF AVAILABLE GRANT PROGRAM MONEY PURSUANT  
3 TO A SINGLE APPLICATION, WHETHER COMPLETED JOINTLY,  
4 COLLABORATIVELY, OR BY A SINGLE ELIGIBLE ENTITY. SUBJECT TO  
5 AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, ON OR BEFORE JULY 1 IN EACH SUBSEQUENT  
6 YEAR OF THE GRANT PROGRAM, THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL AWARD  
7 ADDITIONAL GRANTS AS PROVIDED IN THIS ARTICLE 25.

8 (7) WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S APPROVAL, AN ELIGIBLE  
9 ENTITY MAY ENTER A FORMAL PARTNERSHIP, AS DESCRIBED IN  
10 SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION, AND SUBCONTRACT WITH AND PAY  
11 MONEY RECEIVED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 25 TO SUBCONTRACTED  
12 ENTITIES TO PROVIDE A COORDINATED CONTINUUM OF SERVICES,  
13 SUPPORTS, AND OPPORTUNITIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE  
14 FORMAL PARTNERSHIP. A FORMAL PARTNERSHIP MUST INCLUDE A LOCAL  
15 GOVERNMENT, A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER, AND A NONPROFIT OR  
16 NOT-FOR-PROFIT COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION.

17 (8) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS ARTICLE 25  
18 TO THE CONTRARY, THE STATE DEPARTMENT IS NOT REQUIRED TO  
19 IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE 25 UNTIL THE BALANCE  
20 OF THE FUND REACHES OR EXCEEDS NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS.

21 **26-25-106. Reporting requirements - performance indicators.**

22 (1) (a) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP A SET OF  
23 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS TO ASSESS THE ECONOMIC MOBILITY  
24 OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS OF GRANTS AWARDED PURSUANT TO THIS  
25 ARTICLE 25. INDICATORS MAY INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

26 (I) INCREASED FAMILY ECONOMIC SECURITY;

27 (II) INCREASED HOUSING SECURITY;

1 (III) PROGRESS TOWARD EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENTAL  
2 MILESTONES, INCLUDING SCHOOL READINESS;

3 (IV) LOWER RATES OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY, ADJUDICATION, OR  
4 DETENTION;

5 (V) LOWER RATES OF FAMILY INVOLVEMENT WITH THE CHILD  
6 WELFARE SYSTEM;

7 (VI) IMPROVED K-12 ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE;

8 (VII) HIGHER RATES OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION;

9 (VIII) IMPROVEMENTS IN THE RATES OF COLLEGE READINESS,  
10 MATRICULATION, AND RETENTION AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER  
11 EDUCATION;

12 (IX) ENROLLMENT IN WORKFORCE READINESS PROGRAMS;     

13 (X) POSTSECONDARY CREDENTIAL ATTAINMENT; AND

14 (XI) INCREASED NET WORTH AND DECREASED WEALTH DISPARITY.

15 (b) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2028, AND EACH OCTOBER 1  
16 THEREAFTER, EACH ELIGIBLE ENTITY THAT RECEIVES A GRANT THROUGH  
17 THE GRANT PROGRAM SHALL SUBMIT TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT A  
18 REPORT THAT ADDRESSES ITS PROGRESS ON THE APPLICABLE  
19 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS DEVELOPED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1)(a)  
20 OF THIS SECTION. AT A MINIMUM, THE REPORT MUST ALSO INCLUDE THE  
21 FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

22 (I) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS SERVED;

23 (II) THE DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION OF EACH INDIVIDUAL  
24 SERVED; AND

25 (III) A DESCRIPTION OF THE SERVICES PROVIDED THROUGH THE  
26 GRANT PROGRAM AND HOW THE SERVICES MEET ONE OR MORE OF THE  
27 FOLLOWING ECONOMIC MOBILITY PRIORITIES:

1 (A) PROMOTING FAMILY STABILITY AND WELL-BEING THROUGH  
2 ACCESS TO SAFE, AFFORDABLE, AND STABLE HOUSING; HIGH-QUALITY  
3 CHILD CARE AND EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS; ADEQUATE NUTRITION  
4 AND HEALTH CARE; AND SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND  
5 YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES;

6 (B) IMPLEMENTING PUBLIC SAFETY PROTECTIONS, COMMUNITY  
7 ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES, AND INTERVENTIONS TO STRENGTHEN  
8 FAMILIES;

9 (C) PROVIDING HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATIONAL AND ACADEMIC  
10 ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR K-12 STUDENTS THAT SUPPLEMENT BUT  
11 DO NOT SUPPLANT INSTRUCTIONAL TIME, INCLUDING OUT-OF-SCHOOL-TIME  
12 PROGRAMS;

13 (D) CONNECTING YOUTH TO QUALITY JOBS AND IN-DEMAND  
14 OCCUPATIONS THROUGH POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE READINESS  
15 PROGRAMS;

16 (E) INCREASING ACCESS TO WEALTH-BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES  
17 THROUGH ASSET-BUILDING STRATEGIES.

18 (F) COORDINATING AND ALIGNING PROGRAMS AND STRATEGIES  
19 WITHIN A DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA, INCLUDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF  
20 SHARED DATA SYSTEMS; AND

21 (G) SUCCESS IN MATCHING ADDITIONAL FEDERAL, LOCAL, AND  
22 PRIVATE FUNDING FOR ECONOMIC MOBILITY INITIATIVES IN THE ELIGIBLE  
23 ENTITY'S DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA.

24 (2) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2028, AND EACH DECEMBER 31  
25 THEREAFTER FOR THE DURATION OF THE GRANT PROGRAM, THE STATE  
26 DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT A SUMMARIZED REPORT ON THE GRANT  
27 PROGRAM TO THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEES OF THE

1 SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, OR ANY SUCCESSOR  
2 COMMITTEES, AND TO THE GOVERNOR. AT A MINIMUM, THE REPORT MUST  
3 INCLUDE THE NUMBER AND AMOUNT OF GRANTS AWARDED SINCE THE  
4 LAST REPORT, THE AMOUNT OF GRANT MONEY AWARDED TO NON-PUBLIC  
5 ENTITIES THROUGH THE GRANT PROGRAM, INFORMATION ABOUT  
6 RELEVANT STAFF CREDENTIALS AND CERTIFICATIONS FOR EACH ELIGIBLE  
7 ENTITY THAT RECEIVES A GRANT THROUGH THE GRANT PROGRAM, AND A  
8 SUMMARY OF INFORMATION CONCERNING THE PERFORMANCE INDICATORS  
9 USED TO ASSESS THE POVERTY-REDUCTION OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS OF  
10 GRANTS AWARDED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 25.

11 (3) NOTWITHSTANDING SECTION 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), THE  
12 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION CONTINUE  
13 INDEFINITELY.

14 **26-25-107. Cradle to career grant program cash fund - grant**  
15 **program funding.**

16 (1) THE CRADLE TO CAREER GRANT PROGRAM CASH FUND IS  
17 CREATED IN THE STATE TREASURY. THE FUND CONSISTS OF GIFTS, GRANTS,  
18 AND DONATIONS CREDITED TO THE FUND PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF  
19 THIS SECTION AND ANY OTHER MONEY THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY  
20 APPROPRIATE OR TRANSFER TO THE FUND.

21 (2) THE STATE DEPARTMENT MAY SEEK, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND  
22 GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS FROM PRIVATE OR PUBLIC SOURCES FOR  
23 THE PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE 25. THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL  
24 TRANSMIT ALL MONEY RECEIVED THROUGH GIFTS, GRANTS, OR DONATIONS  
25 TO THE STATE TREASURER, WHO SHALL CREDIT THE MONEY TO THE FUND.

26 (3) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL CREDIT ALL INTEREST AND  
27 INCOME DERIVED FROM THE DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENT OF MONEY IN THE

1 FUND TO THE FUND.

2 (4) SUBJECT TO ANNUAL APPROPRIATION BY THE GENERAL  
3 ASSEMBLY, THE STATE DEPARTMENT MAY EXPEND ANY STATE MONEY  
4 FROM THE FUND FOR THE PURPOSES SPECIFIED IN THIS ARTICLE 25.

5 (5) (a) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL ANNUALLY APPROPRIATE  
6 MONEY FROM THE FUND TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT TO IMPLEMENT THE  
7 GRANT PROGRAM.

8 (b) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL NOT APPROPRIATE GENERAL  
9 FUND MONEY FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE 25.

10 (6) (a) IF, ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2028, THE MONEY IN THE  
11 FUND HAS NEVER REACHED OR EXCEEDED NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND  
12 DOLLARS, THE STATE TREASURER SHALL RETURN FROM THE FUND TO THE  
13 GRANTOR OR DONOR THE AMOUNT OF THE GRANTOR'S OR DONOR'S GIFTS,  
14 GRANTS, OR DONATIONS AND, NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS  
15 SECTION, THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOT ACCEPT ADDITIONAL GIFTS,  
16 GRANTS, OR DONATIONS FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE 25.

17 (b) IF ANY MONEY REMAINS IN THE FUND AFTER THE STATE  
18 TREASURER RETURNS MONEY TO DONORS OR GRANTORS PURSUANT TO  
19 SUBSECTION (6)(a) OF THIS SECTION, AS APPLICABLE, THE STATE  
20 TREASURER SHALL, PRIOR TO THE REPEAL OF THE FUND, TRANSFER ALL  
21 UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED MONEY IN THE FUND TO THE GENERAL  
22 FUND.

23 26-25-108. Effective date - repeal of article - review of  
24 functions.

25 (1) SECTIONS 26-25-103 (3), 26-25-103 (4), 26-25-103 (5),  
26 26-25-104, 26-25-105, AND 26-25-106 TAKE EFFECT IF THE DEPARTMENT  
27 RECEIVES, ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2028, AT LEAST NINE HUNDRED

1 THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE 25. THE  
2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHALL NOTIFY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES IN  
3 WRITING OF THE DATE ON WHICH THE CONDITION SPECIFIED IN THIS  
4 SUBSECTION (1) HAS OCCURRED BY EMAILING THE NOTICE TO  
5 REVISOROFSTATUTES.GA@COLEG.GOV. SECTIONS 26-25-103 (3),  
6 26-25-103(4),26-25-103(5),26-25-104,26-25-105,AND26-25-106TAKE  
7 EFFECT UPON THE DATE IDENTIFIED IN THE NOTICE THAT THE DEPARTMENT  
8 HAS RECEIVED AT LEAST NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR THE  
9 PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE 25 OR, IF THE NOTICE DOES NOT SPECIFY THAT  
10 DATE, UPON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE TO THE REVISOR OF STATUTES.

11 (2) THIS ARTICLE 25 AND SECTION 24-34-104 (34)(a)(XIV) ARE  
12 REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 31, 2029; EXCEPT THAT, IF THE CONDITION  
13 SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION OCCURS:

14 (a) SECTION 24-34-104 (34)(a)(XIV) IS NOT REPEALED PURSUANT  
15 TO THIS SUBSECTION (2);

16 (b) THIS ARTICLE 25 IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2033;  
17 AND

18 (c) BEFORE THE REPEAL OCCURS PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2)(b)  
19 OF THIS SECTION, THIS ARTICLE 25 IS SCHEDULED FOR REVIEW IN  
20 ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 24-34-104.

21 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-34-104, **add**  
22 (34)(a)(XIV) as follows:

23 **24-34-104. General assembly review of regulatory agencies**  
24 **and functions for repeal, continuation, or reestablishment - legislative**  
25 **declaration - repeal.**

26 (34) (a) The following agencies, functions, or both, are scheduled  
27 for repeal on September 1, 2033:

1           (XIV) THE CRADLE TO CAREER GRANT PROGRAM AND THE CRADLE  
2 TO CAREER ADVISORY COUNCIL CREATED IN ARTICLE 25 OF TITLE 26.

3           **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
4 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
5 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August  
6 12, 2026, if adjournment sine die is on May 13, 2026); except that, if a  
7 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the  
8 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act  
9 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect  
10 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
11 November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
12 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.