



**Colorado
Legislative
Council
Staff**

SB17-107

FISCAL NOTE

FISCAL IMPACT: State Local Statutory Public Entity Conditional No Fiscal Impact

Drafting Number: LLS 17-0757
Prime Sponsor(s): Sen. Merrifield
 Rep. McLachlan

Date: February 2, 2017
Bill Status: Senate SVMA
Fiscal Analyst: Josh Abram (303-866-3561)

BILL TOPIC: REWARD ACCESS TO ARTS EDUCATION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2017-2018	FY 2018-2019
State Revenue		
State Expenditures	<u>\$42,500</u>	
General Fund	\$42,500	
Appropriation Required: None.		
Future Year Impacts: None.		

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) determines the level of attainment of each public school, each school district, the Colorado Charter School Institute, and the state as a whole based on four performance indicators:

- student academic growth;
- student achievement on statewide assessments;
- progress made in closing growth and achievement gaps, and
- postsecondary and workforce readiness.

These indicators form the basis of the state's public school accountability and accreditation system. Beginning with the 2017-18 academic year, this bill requires that the CDE also consider access to courses or educational programs in the arts as a performance indicator.

The bill requires that the State Board of Education adopt rules for awarding performance credit to schools and districts for arts offerings. In determining the amount of additional credit, the board must also take into account a district's or school's geographic location, and the percentage of enrolled students who qualify for free or reduced price meals.

Schools and districts are required to report to the CDE the courses or programs they provide in the arts, and make assurances to the department that those courses meet or exceed applicable academic standards.

State Expenditures

For FY 2017-18 only, the bill increases state expenditures by \$42,500 in the CDE to modify accountability tables used to produce accreditation scores. The necessary information technology (IT) modification is estimated to require 340 hours of programming and testing, conducted by the department's IT vendor at a rate of \$125 per hour, for a total of \$42,500. These modifications will not require new systems or functionality for the information management system, and additional workload related to updating accountability systems can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

The department will also have increased workload to assist the State Board of Education to adopt rules for the new performance indicator, and to match district assurances of art education programs with the state's content standards. This effort does not require additional appropriations.

School District Impact

The bill will increase workload for some school districts and charter schools to increase and improve their educational programs in music, visual arts, dance, and theater.

A 2014 survey of arts education in Colorado estimates that 96.7 percent of Colorado public schools offer formal arts education to their students.¹ The report estimates that in 2014 about 28,000 students attend Colorado public school where no formal arts education is offered. In 2016-17, public school enrollment is about 800,000 students. Assuming that the number of students attending schools without formal arts education has remained stable, about 3.5 percent of students in Colorado public schools have limited or no options for arts education. In those schools and districts educating these students, workload and expenditures will increase to develop art education programs and to demonstrate positive achievements toward the bill's new metric for evaluating educational attainment.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

State Appropriations

For FY 2017-18, the bill requires a General Fund appropriation of \$42,500 to the Colorado Department of Education.

State and Local Government Contacts

Education School Districts

1. Colorado Visual and Performing Arts Education Survey Statistical Report: *A comprehensive survey of arts education in Colorado schools.* (May, 2015). Retrieved from: http://www.coloradocreativeindustries.org/sites/default/files/media/cci_arts_ed_study_report_final.pdf