

**Legislative
Council Staff***Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature***FISCAL NOTE**

Drafting Number: LLS 19-0290
Prime Sponsors: Sen. Lundein
Rep. Wilson

Date: January 22, 2019
Bill Status: Senate Education
Fiscal Analyst: Anna Gerstle | 303-866-4375
Anna.Gerstle@state.co.us

Bill Topic: NONPUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

**Summary of
Fiscal Impact:** State Revenue TABOR Refund
 State Expenditure (*minimal*) Local Government
 State Transfer Statutory Public Entity

The bill allows nonpublic schools to operate alternative licensure and induction programs. The bill increases the workload for the Colorado Department of Education on an ongoing basis.

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

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

Summary of Legislation

The bill allows nonpublic schools to operate alternative licensure and induction programs for educators, and allows participants in these programs to access the same educator licenses and authorizations available to participants of current alternative licensure and induction programs in public schools.

Alternative licensure and induction programs offered by nonpublic schools must follow the same requirements as programs offered by public schools, nonprofit organizations, or institutions of higher education, with the following exceptions and clarifications:

- Alternative principal program mentors at nonpublic schools must have at least three years of experience in a nonpublic schools.
- Nonpublic schools are not subject to current law related to teacher performance evaluations, except that the State Board of Education (SBE) may require a nonpublic school to periodically evaluate a participant in an induction or alternative licensure program to ensure SBE quality standards are being met.
- Provisions related to alternative teacher contracts do not apply to nonpublic schools.

In addition, initial principal licenses may be issued to someone who, in addition to meeting other requirements, has at least three years of professional experience working with students in a nonpublic school. Currently, initial principal licensees must complete three years as a licensed or certified professional in any school.

Background

Alternative licensure programs offer teacher preparation for a person holding an alternative teacher or principal license and result in a recommendation for a professional license by a district or board of cooperative educational services. Induction programs offer professional development for an educator with an initial license, and lead to a recommendation for a professional license. Alternative licensure and induction programs must be approved by the SBE.

State Revenue

The bill potentially increases the number of applications for educator licenses or authorizations, and therefore, increases state cash fund revenue to the CDE. Licensing fees are deposited in the Educator Licensing Cash Fund and are subject to TABOR. Any change is expected to be minimal.

State Expenditures

Beginning in FY 2019-20, the bill minimally increases the workload for CDE and the SBE to review applications for and approve new alternative licensure and teacher induction programs by nonpublic school, periodically request reviews of program participants, process any additional applications for educator authorizations or licenses, and conduct rulemaking. Any change in workload is expected to be accomplished within current appropriations.

TABOR refunds. The bill will increase state General Fund obligations for TABOR refunds by a minimal amount beginning in FY 2019-20. Under current law and the December 2018 forecast, the bill will correspondingly increase the amount refunded to taxpayers via sales tax refunds on income tax returns for tax year 2020. The state is not expected to collect a TABOR surplus in FY 2020-21.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect August 2, 2019, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 3, 2019, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Education Law