



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Final Fiscal Note

Drafting Number:	LLS 21-0105	Date:	July 15, 2021
Prime Sponsors:	Rep. Kipp; Exum Sen. Story; Buckner	Bill Status:	Signed into Law
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Bill Topic: COLLEGE ADMISSION USE OF NATIONAL TEST SCORE

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

The bill allows institutions of higher education to forego a national assessment test score as an eligibility criterion of admission standards for first-time resident freshman students. The bill increases state and institution workload on an ongoing basis.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

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

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, institutions of higher education must require a national assessment test score as one of the criteria used to determine eligibility for admission of first-time freshman students; however, House Bill 20-1407 allowed institutions to forego this criterion for high school students graduating in 2021 only. This bill removes the requirement permanently, making these test scores optional for schools to use in admission decisions. Applicants may voluntarily submit a national assessment test score for consideration by institutions that do not require it.

No later than June 2023, the Department of Higher Education (DHE) is required to publish an annual report analyzing certain data on the use of national test scores in admissions. No later than June 2027, and again by 2032, the DHE must submit a report to the General Assembly including an analysis of the annual reports, and an analysis of how the optional use of a national assessment test score as an eligibility criterion impacted access to higher education.

State Expenditures

Institutions of higher education must submit certain data on admissions policies and enrollment of first time freshman who did and did not submit a test score, disaggregated by race, ethnicity and gender. The DHE must collect and report this data annually, and prepare an analysis of the impacts

on admissions no later than June 2027. The data required for annual reports is largely collected and reported by institutions under current law. The increase in workload for the schools and the department to collect and report this data do not require additional appropriations.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor and it took effect on May 25, 2021.

State and Local Government Contacts

Education

Higher Education