



Legislative Council Staff

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Final Fiscal Note

Drafting Number: LLS 22-0099 **Date:** May 18, 2022
Prime Sponsors: Sen. Sonnenberg; Garcia **Bill Status:** Signed into Law
Rep. Young; Will **Fiscal Analyst:** Anna Gerstle | 303-866-4375
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Bill Topic: **UNC OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE DEGREES**

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

<input checked="" 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 allows the University of Northern Colorado to offer a specialized degree program in osteopathic medicine. The bill increases institutional expenditures and future tuition revenue.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

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

Summary of Legislation

The bill allows the University of Northern Colorado (UNC) to offer specialized degree programs in osteopathic medicine and creates an exception to the University of Colorado’s exclusive authority in medicine to permit the UNC osteopathic medicine degrees.

State Revenue

Should a new osteopathic medicine degree be established, the bill increases tuition revenue to UNC. The exact increase will depend on the number of students and the cost to attend. Due to the time it takes for a new degree program to be approved and accredited, the earliest new programs could be available is the fall semester of 2025; as a result, any changes to tuition revenue are not expected until FY 2025-26. Tuition revenue is not subject to TABOR.

State Expenditures

The bill increases state expenditures for UNC to establish and implement a new osteopathic medicine degree, including obtaining accreditation, equipment, staff, and space. The fiscal note assumes that UNC will cover the additional costs through donations and other university funds, and will not

require a change in state appropriations. The new degree is not expected to be in place until FY 2025-26 at the earliest, so any change in spending authority for tuition revenue will be requested through the annual budget process. The bill does not change allocations of specialty education funding for the University of Colorado School of Medicine, or the Colorado State University veterinary medicine program.

State funding for institutions of higher education is partially allocated based on changes in enrollment and degrees awarded. To the extent the bill increases enrollment and degrees awarded, an institution's allocation of state funding may increase in future years. No change in appropriations for higher education is required.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor on March 17, 2022, and takes effect on August 9, 2022, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Higher Education