



Legislative Council Staff
Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Final Fiscal Note

Drafting Number: LLS 24-0845 Date: June 24, 2024
Prime Sponsors: Rep. Velasco; Garcia Bill Status: Signed into Law
Sen. Fields; Cutter Fiscal Analyst: Brendan Fung | 303-866-4781
brendan.fung@coleg.gov

Bill Topic: WELCOME, RECEPTION, & INTEGRATION GRANT PROGRAM

Summary of Fiscal Impact: [X] State Revenue [X] State Transfer [] Local Government
[X] State Expenditure [] TABOR Refund [] Statutory Public Entity

The bill creates the Statewide Welcome, Reception, and Integration Grant Program to provide assistance to migrants. It transfers funds in FY 2024-25 only, increases state expenditures through FY 2025-26, and may increase state revenue.

Appropriation Summary: For FY 2024-25, the bill requires and includes an appropriation of \$2.5 million to the Department of Labor and Employment.

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

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts Under HB 24-1280

Table with 4 columns: Category, Budget Year FY 2024-25, Out Year FY 2025-26, and FTE. Rows include Revenue, Expenditures (Cash Funds, Centrally Appropriated, Total Expenditures), Transfers, and Other Budget Impacts.

1 Money transferred from the General Fund to the Statewide Welcome, Reception, and Integration Cash Fund in FY 2024-25 has roll-forward spending authority through FY 2026-27, and therefore may be spent over several years.

Summary of Legislation

The bill establishes the Statewide Welcome, Reception, and Integration Grant Program in the Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE) to award grants to community-based organizations that provide culturally and linguistically appropriate navigation of state services to migrants within one year of arrival in the United States.

Grant program. The bill requires the CDLE to issue a request for proposals and contract with a nonprofit organization specializing in migrant services to award grants to community-based organizations. The CDLE and administering organization must conduct statewide outreach and inform organizations of the new grant program, and develop a grant application and selection process. To be considered for a grant, an organization must meet certain criteria and the administering entity must give consideration to recipients that serve populations in rural areas with limited access to resources. Grants may be used for conducting intake and an assessment of needs, and providing cultural orientation, case management, employment services, and housing services, among other services.

Selection panel. The administering organization must create a selection panel to evaluate program applicants and includes representation from impacted communities who have a demonstrated historical commitment to working with immigrant and migrant populations, and delivering related services.

Reporting. The administering organization must submit a report to CDLE detailing grant program metrics and migrant population outcomes, which then must be submitted to the General Assembly.

Program funding. The bill creates the Statewide Welcome, Reception, and Integration Cash Fund and transfers \$2.5 million on July 1, 2024, from the General Fund. No more than 10 percent of appropriated funds may be used to compensate the administering nonprofit organization for execution of the grant program.

Assumptions

The bill specifies that the nonprofit administrator and the CDLE must work collaboratively to administer the grant program. Based on this language, the fiscal note assumes that the Office of New Americans in the CDLE requires 1.0 FTE to assist with the direction and administration of the grant program.

State Revenue

The bill allows the CDLE to seek and accept gifts, grants, and donations. As of writing, no gifts, grants, or donations have been identified. Gifts, grants, and donations are not subject to TABOR.

State Transfers

The bill transfers \$2.5 million from the General Fund to the Statewide Welcome, Reception, and Integration Cash Fund on July 1, 2024.

State Expenditures

The bill increases state expenditures in CDLE by about \$2.4 million in FY 2024-25 and \$97,000 in FY 2025-26 and FY 2026-27, paid from the Statewide Welcome, Reception, and Integration Cash Fund to implement the grant program, contract with a nonprofit administrative organization, and award grants. Expenditures are shown in Table 2 and detailed below.

Table 2
Expenditures Under HB 24-1280

	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26
Department of Labor and Employment		
Personal Services	\$61,595	\$76,994
Operating Expenses	\$1,024	\$1,280
Capital Outlay Costs	\$6,670	-
Contractor Administration Fee ¹	up to \$250,000	-
Grants ¹	at least \$2,102,437	-
Centrally Appropriated Costs ²	\$15,136	\$18,921
Total Cost	\$2,436,862	\$97,195
Total FTE	0.8 FTE	1.0 FTE

¹ Expenditures for contractor administration fees and grants are shown in FY 2024-25, but may be spent across several years.

² Centrally appropriated costs are not included in the bill's appropriation.

Staff. In FY 2024-25 and FY 2025-26, CDLE requires 1.0 FTE Administrator IV to issue requests for proposals, manage the administrative contract, develop program policies, review grant applications, and evaluate program metrics. Staff costs and FTE are prorated in the first year based on the bill's effective date.

Contractor administration fee. Up to \$250,000, or 10 percent of the total appropriation, may be retained by the contractor for administrative expenses as permitted by the bill. Table 2 shows total administration fee expenditures in FY 2024-25; however, contractor fees may be incurred over several years. Actual costs will be determined in the contracting process.

Grants. After administrative costs, about \$2.1 million will be available for grants. Table 2 shows total grant expenditures in FY 2024-25; however, grants may be awarded over several years.

Legal services. CDLE may require legal services, provided by the Department of Law, which can be accomplished within existing legal services appropriations. Legal counsel is related to contract language, implementation, and ongoing administration of the program.

Centrally appropriated costs. Pursuant to a Joint Budget Committee policy, certain costs associated with this bill are addressed through the annual budget process and centrally appropriated in the Long Bill or supplemental appropriations bills, rather than in this bill. These costs, which include employee insurance and supplemental employee retirement payments, are shown in Table 2.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor on June 5, 2024, and takes effect on August 7, 2024, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

State Appropriations

For FY 2024-25, the bill requires and includes an appropriation of \$2,500,000 from the Statewide Welcome, Reception, and Integration Cash Fund to the Department of Labor and Employment, with roll-forward spending authority through FY 2026-27, and 0.8 FTE.

Departmental Difference

The CDLE estimates that the Office of New Americans requires 1.5 FTE starting in FY 2024-25 to develop and administer the grant program in collaboration with the nonprofit administering entity. The fiscal note assumes that the administering entity is primarily responsible for managing the program, and that CDLE requires 1.0 FTE in a supportive role only.

State and Local Government Contacts

Governor
Law

Human Services

Labor

The revenue and expenditure impacts in this fiscal note represent changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year. For additional information about fiscal notes, please visit the [General Assembly website](#).