



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

HB 25-1149: COMPREHENSIVE BLACK HISTORY & CULTURE ED IN K-12

Prime Sponsors:

Rep. English
Sen. Exum

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Published for: House Education**Drafting number:** LLS 25-0360**Version:** Initial Fiscal Note**Date:** February 10, 2025**Fiscal note status:** The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill requires the State Board of Education to adopt standards regarding Black American history and creates a committee in the Department of Education to assist in developing these standards.

Types of impacts. The bill is projected to affect the following areas on an ongoing basis:

- State Revenue
- State Expenditures
- School Districts

Appropriations. For FY 2025-26, the bill requires an appropriation of \$39,225 to the Department of Education.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts

Type of Impact¹	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year FY 2026-27
State Revenue	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures	\$43,498	\$11,749
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.2 FTE	0.1 FTE

¹ Fund sources for these impacts are shown in the table below.

Table 1A
State Expenditures

Fund Source	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year FY 2026-27
General Fund	\$39,225	\$9,613
Cash Funds	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0
Centrally Appropriated	\$4,273	\$2,136
Total Expenditures	\$43,498	\$11,749
Total FTE	0.2 FTE	0.1 FTE

Summary of Legislation

The bill requires the State Board of Education (board) to adopt standards for Black Historical and Cultural studies by July 1, 2026, and creates the 17-member Black Historical and Cultural Studies Advisory Committee (committee) to support the effort. Committee appointments must be made by August 15, 2025, and members serve without compensation or reimbursement for expenses.

The committee must make recommendations for developmentally appropriate and comprehensive instruction that meets certain requirements. During the board's scheduled six-year review of state education standards, the board must consider the committee's recommendations. Additionally, the committee must identify and recommend educational materials that will be included in a resource bank housed by the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). This resource bank must be available without charge to school districts, the Charter School Institute, parents, and students.

Starting in the 2028-29 school year, school districts and the Charter School Institute must incorporate the new standards into K-12 courses.

CDE may accept gifts, grants, and donations for supporting the committee, providing requested technical assistance to schools, and maintaining and updating the resource bank.

Background

CDE's Office of Standards and Instructional Support meets on a periodic basis to assist the board in updating K-12 education standards on a six-year cycle. The next review of social studies standards—the content area where Black Historical and Cultural Studies are typically updated—is scheduled to occur in 2028. As part of the normal timeline, the CDE conducts research and prepares a benchmarking report to be considered by the board when they meet to revise the standards.

State Revenue

The bill may increase state revenue from gifts, grants, and donations. As of writing, no gifts, grants, or donations have been identified. These funds are not subject to TABOR.

State Expenditures

The bill increases state expenditures in the CDE by \$43,500 in FY 2025-26, and by \$11,700 in FY 2026-27 only. These costs, paid from the General Fund, are summarized in Table 2 and discussed below. The bill also minimally affects workload for the Office of the Governor.

Table 2
State Expenditures
Department of Education

Cost Component	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year FY 2026-27
Personal Services	\$19,225	\$9,613
Operating Expenses	\$0	\$0
Capital Outlay Costs	\$0	\$0
Reporting and State Board Committee Standards	\$20,000	\$0
Centrally Appropriated Costs	\$4,273	\$2,136
Total Costs	\$43,498	\$11,749
Total FTE	0.2 FTE	0.1 FTE

Department of Education

The CDE requires staff and out-of-cycle costs through FY 2026-27 to implement the bill.

Staff

The CDE will require 0.2 FTE Senior Consultant in FY 2025-26, and 0.1 FTE Senior Consultant in FY 2026-27 only to implement the bill. The senior consultant will incorporate feedback from the committee to update the resource bank and coordinate with local education providers to access, update and utilize educational resources on Black Historical and Cultural Studies.

Standards Reporting and State Board Committee Costs

The bill will require the Office of Standards and Instructional Support to meet outside of their normal six-year cycle to adopt standards by July 1, 2026. Standards adoption involves per-diem reimbursement and meeting expenses for the standards review committee. Additionally, CDE writes a benchmarking report for each standards review process. By meeting in 2026, outside of the normal six-year window, CDE will incur \$20,000 in per-diem travel, meeting and reporting expenses to implement the bill. Costs are based on previous efforts to adopt standards on an accelerated timeline.

Governor's Office of Boards and Commissions

Workload will increase in the Governor's Office of Boards and Commissions to make the required appointments under the bill, including recruiting, vetting, and interviewing potential appointees. Based on the cumulative impact of all legislation, the Governor's Office may seek funding through the annual budget process, as necessary.

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 may include employee insurance, supplemental employee retirement payments, leased space, and indirect cost assessments, are shown in the expenditure table above.

School District

Beginning in 2028, school districts will adjust their social studies curriculum to adopt standards recommended by the committee. These schools will also contribute to and draw from the resource bank to supplement instruction.

Effective Date

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

State Appropriations

For FY 2025-26, the bill requires a General Fund appropriation of \$39,225 to the Department of Education and 0.2 FTE.

State and Local Government Contacts

Early Childhood
Education

Governor's Office Of Boards And
Commissions