



Fiscal Note

Legislative Council Staff

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SB 25-153: PUBLIC SCHOOL FINANCIAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Prime Sponsors:

Sen. Kolker
Rep. Garcia

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Fiscal note status: The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill, as amended by the Senate Education Committee.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill modifies the financial information that local education providers must post online and submit to the Colorado Department of Education.

Types of impacts. The bill is projected to affect the following areas on an ongoing basis, beginning in FY 2025-26:

- State Expenditures
- School Districts

Appropriations. For FY 2025-26, the bill requires an appropriation of \$55,538 to the Colorado Department of Education.

**Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts**

Type of Impact ¹	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year FY 2026-27
State Revenue	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures	\$61,947	\$0
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.3 FTE	0.0 FTE

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

**Table 1A
 State Expenditures**

Fund Source	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year FY 2026-27
General Fund	\$55,538	\$0
Cash Funds	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0
Centrally Appropriated	\$6,409	\$0
Total Expenditures	\$61,947	\$0
Total FTE	0.3 FTE	0.0 FTE

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, each school district, charter school, board of cooperative services, and the state Charter School Institute (local education providers, or LEPs) must post certain financial information online. The bill:

- requires the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) to add information to the Chart of Accounts regarding revenue to public schools from private sources, no later than July 1, 2026;
- requires LEPs to post school-level information on revenue from private sources on their websites; and
- clarifies current reporting requirements to allow LEPs to post online their lowest and highest educator and administrator salaries, if the full salary schedule is not available.

Background and Assumptions

The Colorado Department of Education (CDE) maintains a Financial Policies and Procedures Handbook and Chart of Accounts that must be used by local education providers to track financial information. The Financial Policies and Procedures (FPP) Advisory Committee maintains the handbook and supports districts in following financial procedures and requirements. Data submitted to the chart of accounts is posted on CDE’s financial transparency website.

State Expenditures

The bill increases state expenditures in CDE by about \$61,947 in FY 2025-26 only, paid from the General Fund. Costs are shown in Table 2 below.

Table 2
State Expenditures
Department of Education

Cost Component	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year FY 2026-27
Personal Services	\$28,838	\$0
Data System Costs	\$26,700	\$0
Centrally Appropriated Costs	\$6,409	\$0
Total Costs	\$61,947	\$0
Total FTE	0.3 FTE	0.0 FTE

Staff

In FY 2025-26 only, CDE requires 0.3 FTE to support the FPP Advisory Committee in updating the FPP handbook and Chart of Accounts to reflect the bill's reporting requirements, develop training on the changes, and provide technical assistance to school districts and charter schools in submitting the required data.

Data System Costs

In FY 2025-26 only, CDE will incur costs to modify the data system to collect school-level data on revenue from private sources, and incorporate it to the existing financial transparency website. The work is expected to take about 214 hours, at a cost of \$125 per hour.

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(s) above.

School District

The bill increases workload and costs for school districts to track and post the required financial information at a school level, and to compile and submit the newly required data. Workload and costs may include website development and staff time, depending on the school district's current systems.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect 90 days following adjournment of the General Assembly sine die, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

Appropriation

In FY 2025-26, the bill requires a General Fund appropriation of \$55,538 to the Colorado Department of Education, and 0.3 FTE.

State and Local Government Contacts

Education

School Districts

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](#).