



# Fiscal Note

## Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado’s Legislature

### SB 25-154: ACCESS TO EDUCATOR PATHWAYS

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**Prime Sponsors:**

Sen. Kipp  
Rep. Hamrick

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**Version:** Initial Fiscal Note

**Date:** February 10, 2025

**Fiscal note status:** The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

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### Summary Information

**Overview.** The bill modifies the ways that candidates for certain educator license endorsements may demonstrate professional competency, and gives authority to additional institutions of higher education to enroll students through the TREP program.

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

- Minimal State Workload

**Appropriations.** No appropriation is required.

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**Table 1**  
**State Fiscal Impacts**

<b>Type of Impact</b>	<b>Budget Year FY 2025-26</b>	<b>Out Year FY 2026-27</b>
State Revenue	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures	\$0	\$0
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.0 FTE	0.0 FTE

## Summary of Legislation

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Under current law, the State Board of Education (SBE) adopts rules identifying the professional competencies and the minimum coursework standards required to obtain an educator license. Candidates for teacher licensure can demonstrate qualifications in multiple ways.

This bill requires that certain candidates who choose to demonstrate coursework standards by completing a content-based or performance-based assessment must complete no more than two assessments. The bill applies to candidates for early childhood special education, elementary education, or special education generalist license endorsements, and specifies the knowledge and skills that the assessments must evaluate.

The bill also specifies that state institutions of higher education that offer a program of off-campus instruction and that have courses that are guaranteed to transfer to other state institutions may participate in the Teacher Recruitment Education and Preparation (TREP) program only if the courses are offered at the community college tuition rate.

## Background

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The TREP program was created by [Senate Bill 21-185](#), and provides the opportunity for qualified K-12 students in an educator career pathway to remain in high school and concurrently enroll in postsecondary courses and earn college credit at no tuition cost for up to two years after the 12th grade year. TREP students are funded at a flat per pupil rate, estimated at \$10,480 in FY 2025-26, through the school finance formula.

## State Revenue and Expenditures

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The bill minimally impacts institutions of higher education, workload at the Colorado Department of Education (CDE), and the state share of school finance, as discussed below.

### Institutions of Higher Education

If the bill increases students served by the TREP program, institutions of higher education will have additional workload and tuition revenue. Changes to institutional revenue and expenditures are expected to be minimal.

### Department of Education

The bill minimally increases workload for the Educator Talent Licensing Office at the Colorado Department of Education to adjust internal documentation and reporting to allow for a modified demonstration of professional competency and qualifications. These efforts do not require any change in appropriations.

## **School Finance**

If the bill changes TREP enrollment, the state share of total program funding will change. Any change in the state share is expected to be minimal.

## **Effective Date**

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

## **State and Local Government Contacts**

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Early Childhood  
Education

Higher Education