



**Legislative Council Staff**  
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# Fiscal Note

**Drafting Number:** LLS 24-0233  
**Prime Sponsors:**

**Date:** October 16, 2023  
**Bill Status:** Bill Request  
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**Bill Topic:** **AVAILABILITY YOUTH GENDER-AFFIRMING CARE TRAINING**

<b>Summary of Fiscal Impact:</b>	<input 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 creates a grant program and task force within the Department of Public Health and Environment to increase access to gender-affirming care for youth. The bill increases state expenditures on an ongoing basis beginning in FY 2024-25.

**Appropriation Summary:** For FY 2024-25, the bill requires an appropriation of \$1.49 million to the Department of Public Health and Environment.

**Fiscal Note Status:** The fiscal note reflects the bill draft requested by the Colorado Youth Advisory Council Review Committee.

**Table 1**  
**State Fiscal Impacts Under Bill 6**

		<b>Budget Year FY 2024-25</b>	<b>Out Year FY 2025-26</b>
<b>Revenue</b>		-	-
<b>Expenditures</b>	General Fund	\$1,490,228	\$245,961
	Centrally Appropriated	\$55,060	\$55,740
	<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$1,545,288</b>	<b>\$301,701</b>
	<b>Total FTE</b>	<b>3.0 FTE</b>	<b>3.0 FTE</b>
<b>Transfers</b>		-	-
<b>Other Budget Impacts</b>	General Fund Reserve	\$223,534	\$36,894

## **Summary of Legislation**

The bill creates a grant program and task force within the Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) to increase access to youth gender-affirming care.

**Grant program.** The bill creates the Youth Gender-Affirming Health-Care Training Grant Program to fund health care facilities and providers for program costs associated with continuing medical education in gender-affirming care, or to reimburse providers for time spent completing continuing medical education in gender-affirming care. CDPHE must develop and administer the grant program by January 1, 2025, and report annually on the program to the General Assembly by December 31, 2026. Funding for the grant program is subject to available appropriations. The grant program repeals on September 1, 2029.

**Task force.** The bill creates the Gender-Affirming Health-Care Task Force to examine the status of gender-affirming health care in Colorado. The bill specifies the task force's membership, which must be appointed by January 1, 2025, and the responsibilities of the task force, which include visiting health care facilities, determining the disparities and gaps in gender-affirming care, and reporting findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by December 31, 2026. Task force members serve without compensation, but may be reimbursed for travel expenses, including visits to health care facilities throughout the state. The task force repeals September 1, 2027.

## **Assumptions**

The bill does not specify funding for the grant program, which is at the discretion of the General Assembly and subject to available appropriations. The fiscal note assumes \$931,500 will be made available in grant funding for the program. This funding will be distributed to 207 health care facilities, each of which will receive approximately \$4,500 in grant awards for their providers to apply towards qualifying continuing medical education courses. This estimate is based on the following assumptions:

- There are 207 federally qualified Health Centers and Family Planning Program clinics in Colorado, which are likely to have providers who specialize in areas that allow them to interact with youth in need of gender-affirming care.
- Each facility is assumed to have 15 providers who will enroll in a qualifying course and receive reimbursement through the grant program.
- The cost of continuing medical education courses for gender-affirming care is estimated to be \$300 per provider.

The fiscal note also assumes grant funding will be allocated as one-time funds in FY 2024-25, and will roll-over for continued program use until the repeal of the grant program on September 1, 2029.

**State Expenditures**

The bill increases state expenditures in CDPHE by approximately \$1.5 million in FY 2024-25 and \$301,701 in FY 2025-26 and ongoing, paid from the General Fund. Expenditures are shown in Table 2 and described below.

**Table 2  
 Expenditures Under Bill 6**

	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26
<b>Department of Public Health and Environment</b>		
Personal Services	\$219,013	\$226,256
Operating Expenses	\$4,050	\$4,050
Capital Outlay Costs	\$20,010	-
Grant Awards	\$931,500	-
Task Force Facilitator	\$300,000	-
Task Force Member Travel Reimbursement	\$15,655	\$15,655
Centrally Appropriated Costs <sup>1</sup>	\$55,060	\$55,740
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$1,545,288</b>	<b>\$301,701</b>
<b>Total FTE</b>	<b>3.0 FTE</b>	<b>3.0 FTE</b>

<sup>1</sup> Centrally appropriated costs are not included in the bill's appropriation.

**Department of Public Health and Environment.** CDPHE requires staff and grant funding to implement the grant program, and a task force facilitator and reimbursement funding to implement the task force, as discussed below.

- **Staff.** CDPHE requires 3.2 FTE for grant administration activities and task force support initially, and 3.0 FTE in subsequent years. Staff activities for the grant program include developing program policies, evaluating eligible types of gender-affirming continuing medical education, reviewing grant applications, providing technical assistance, collecting data and reporting, and managing any media requests. Staff support for the task force includes procuring and managing the contract with the task force facilitator, communicating task force information with the general public and interested stakeholders, and drafting the final report. Staff costs are prorated the first year for an August 1, 2024, start date and continue through FY 2028-29 until the repeal date of the program. Beginning in FY 2027-28, only 2.7 FTE will be required due to the task force ending.

- **Grant awards.** Beginning in FY 2024-25, \$931,500 in grant awards will be distributed by CDPHE to qualifying facilities and providers, as discussed in the Assumptions section. Exact grant amounts and timelines will be determined by CDPHE, based on the amount of funding available for the program and grant applicants. Program funding levels are assumptions only; actual funding will be determined by the General Assembly.
- **Task force facilitator.** CDPHE will hire a consultant on a \$300,000 contract to support the task force through FY 2026-27. The facilitator will organize meetings and site visits, develop agendas, facilitate discussion, engage with and provide information from subject matter experts, and develop final recommendations.
- **Task force member reimbursement.** Reimbursement costs for the task force assumes one, two-night visit to a health care facility in Colorado per year, with a per diem of \$154 and travel costs of \$766.64 for 17 members, resulting in a total cost of \$15,655 per year through FY 2026-27.

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

## State Appropriations

For FY 2024-25, the bill requires a General Fund appropriation of \$1,490,228 to the Department of Public Health and Environment, and 3.0 FTE. Of this amount, the department requires roll-forward spending authority for the estimated \$931,500 in grant funding through FY 2028-29.

## State and Local Government Contacts

Public Health and Environment