



Legislative
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HB 20-1312

FINAL FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number:	LLS 20-0663	Date:	August 27, 2020
Prime Sponsors:	Rep. Michaelson Jenet; Titone Sen. Todd; Hisey	Bill Status:	Signed into Law
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Bill Topic: BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TRAINING REQUIREMENTS EDUCATOR LICENSE

Summary of Fiscal Impact:	<input type="checkbox"/> State Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> School District
	<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

The bill requires that educators complete professional development related to behavioral health training in order to obtain an educator license. The bill increases state workload and school district expenditures on an ongoing basis.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

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

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, 90 hours of professional development are required to renew a professional educator license every five years; House Bill 20-1128 requires that at least ten of those hours be related to educating students with disabilities. This bill specifies that, for licensed teachers, those 10 hours must also include behavioral health training that is culturally responsive and trauma and evidence informed. At least one of the ten hours must be related to behavioral health and at least one hour must be related to educating students with disabilities.

The bill adds increasing awareness and knowledge of behavioral health concerns, responses, and strategies to the topics that the State Board of Education (SBE) may include in their rules for professional development, and specifies that educators may select professional development related to behavioral health training, youth mental health, safe de-escalation, recognition of poor mental health and substance use.

The bill also requires the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) to ensure that each teacher candidate in an initial educator licensure program completes at least one semester- or quarter-length course in behavioral health training.

State Expenditures

The bill increases workload for Colorado Department of Education (CDE), CCHE, and institutions of higher education. No change in appropriations is required.

Colorado Department of Education. The bill increases workload for CDE to conduct rulemaking, provide additional guidance to licensees on fulfilling professional development requirements, and ensure that educator preparation program meet course requirements. No change in appropriations is required.

Higher education. The bill increases workload for the CCHE to ensure that educator preparation programs include the required coursework, and for institutions of higher education to modify their course offerings to meet CCHE standards and the bill's requirements. To the extent that CCHE requires changes to curricula, costs may also increase for institutions.

School District

The bill increases costs for school districts to modify their current professional development support to include the required behavioral health training. Some districts provide professional development courses, while other districts reimburse an educator for professional development costs, hire outside consultants, or compile materials in house. Current estimates of district costs range from \$8,000 to \$600,000, depending on their current professional development structure and offerings. Costs will vary significantly by district and may include contracting, content development, staff time or travel, substitute teachers, or reimbursement to educators.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor and took effect on July 8, 2020.

State and Local Government Contacts

Education

Higher Education

School Districts