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Workforce and Skills Legislation at the Capitol

The following bills in the 2025 Colorado General Assembly focus on some issues related to skills training for adult Colorado workers. Copies of the full bills, fiscal notes and scheduled hearings are available at leg.colorado.gov/.

List updated 4/9/2025

Skills2Compete – Colorado positions are noted at the bottom of the bill listed.

EDUCATION AND SKILLS TRAINING

Senate Bill 25-181

Sunset Just Transition Advisory Committee

Senators Dylan Roberts (D) & Faith Winter (D) and Representatives Sheila Leider (D) & Meghan Lukens (D)

The bill continues the Just Transition Advisory Committee in the Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE) indefinitely. It is currently set to be repealed on September 1, 2025. The Just Transition Advisory Committee supports the Office of Just Transition in CDLE, which was created in [House Bill 19-1314](#) to alleviate the effects of the coal-related facilities closures on local communities. The committee is responsible for creating an action plan and supporting the office in implementing the plan, which includes benefits and grants that are currently available or needed, and the options for funding any grants and benefits. It has 19 members and meets quarterly. The sunset report for the committee is available on the Department of Regulatory Agencies website.

Fiscal Note: If funding for the committee is included in the Long Bill, no appropriation is required in the bill. If funding is not included in the Long Bill, the bill requires an appropriation of \$19,730 to the Department of Labor and Employment in FY 2025-26.

Status: Senate Floor

S2C Position: MONITOR

House Bill 25-1018

Vocational Rehabilitation Services

Representatives Gretchen Rydin (D) & Lindsay Gilchrist (D) and Senator Jessie Danielson (D)

The bill makes the following changes to current law regarding individuals to whom the department of labor and employment provides vocational rehabilitation services:

- Eliminates the requirement that an individual with a disability require financial assistance to participate;
- Allows the department to consider financial need before providing services during a period of cost containment to prevent or manage a wait list for services due to insufficient financial resources;
- Eliminates the requirement that an individual with a disability, or the individual's legally and financially responsible relative, must contribute toward the cost of their services to the extent that they are financially able; and
- To align Colorado law with federal law, eliminates the requirement that the department provide services only to individuals who are present in the state at the time of filing an application for the services and can satisfactorily achieve rehabilitation.

Fiscal Note: No appropriation is required.

Status: Governor

S2C Position: PASSIVE SUPPORT

House Bill 25-1038

Postsecondary Credit Transfer Website

Representative Eliza Hamrick (D) and Senator Janice Marchman (D)

The bill requires the department of higher education, subject to available appropriations, to develop and maintain a free, publicly accessible online platform to provide current and potential students who are pursuing postsecondary education in Colorado with relevant information about which credits and courses, work-related experiences, and prior learning opportunities are transferable to or between the state's public institutions of higher education.

On or before January 1, 2026, an institution shall submit to the department for inclusion in the platform:

- A comprehensive record of the institution's most recent awards of postsecondary transfer credit for all courses that the institution has identified as having learning outcomes equivalent to corresponding offerings at other institutions; and
- Descriptions of work-related experiences or prior learning opportunities for which the institution awards postsecondary academic credit.

Using the data provided by an institution, the department shall include in the platform information about the transferability to or between institutions for several sources of postsecondary academic credit. These sources include courses in the statewide common course numbering system, now referred to as the guaranteed transfer pathway matrix, and credits earned through various standardized tests.

A not-for-profit private institution of higher education may, but is not required to, submit applicable information for inclusion in the platform.

Fiscal Note: \$0 for FY 2025-26; \$12,000 for FY 2026-27. The actual work is being funded by a \$847,000 December 2024 grant from the Statewide Internet Portal Authority to create a transfer website.

Status: House Appropriations

S2C position: MONITOR

House Bill 25-1078**Forestry & Firefighter Workforce & Education**

Representatives Andrew Boesenecker (D) & Elizabeth Velasco (D) and Senators Janice Marchman (D) & Lisa Cutter (D)

Section 1 of the bill authorizes the Colorado cooperative extension service (extension) to expand and implement outreach programs and initiatives recommended by the Colorado forest health council for the purpose of increasing awareness of and interest in areas of forestry, wildland fire, and natural resources (forest health) in youth and young adults. The outreach programs and initiatives may be implemented for the 2025-26 state fiscal year through the 2027-28 state fiscal year and may include, in part:

- The expansion of 4-H programs and curricula in forest health;
- Partnerships with the forest health industry, local school districts, higher education institutions, conservation districts, the Colorado state forest service, the division of fire prevention and control in the department of public safety (division), and others to facilitate career and workforce readiness and entry into forest health careers;
- Outreach and support to youth and young adults relating to 2- and 4-year programs and certificates in forest health;
- Industry partnerships and scholarships for forest health certifications, such as wildland fire or chain saw certifications;
- Paid natural resources summer internships focused on forestry for high school students, including the potential to earn high school credit for completing the internship; and
- Paid internships in forest health careers offered by the extension, with mentoring of young adults by the extension, Colorado state university, the Colorado state forest service, and the division.

The bill requires the extension to report annually to the department of natural resources and the House of Representatives Agriculture, Water, and Natural Resources Committee and the Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee on the implementation and outcomes of the outreach programs and initiatives.

Section 2 authorizes the division to use money in the local firefighter safety and disease prevention fund to:

- Provide need-based grants to fire service governing bodies and volunteer fire departments for the cost of certain firefighter certification courses, course materials, textbooks, instructors, and written testing and to provide fire instructor I or equivalent certification for instructors who want to participate in a train-the-trainer program created by the division;
- Subject to appropriations by the general assembly, create a train-the-trainer program to ensure that all instructors providing grant-funded certification classes described in the bill teach a consistent curriculum; and
- Subject to appropriations by the general assembly, create a statewide outreach program to promote fire service careers, including marketing materials targeted to youth, an online portal to access career pathways and resources, and marketing materials that include social media.

Fiscal Note: A little over \$1 million per year

Status: House Appropriations

S2C position: SUPPORT

House Bill 25-1186**Work-Based Learning Experiences in Higher Education**

Representatives Matthew Martinez (D) & Meghan Lukens (D)

In a strike-below amendment, this bill creates the Work-based Learning Consortium Pilot Program in the Department of Higher Education (CDHE) conditional on the receipt of \$2 million in gifts, grants and donations. The bill requires the CDHE to convene a consortium of members who will work participating institutions of higher education (IHEs) to promote work-based learning in higher education, study the impact of industry-sponsored projects on learning outcomes, and measure impacts to students who participate in work-based projects while enrolled in higher education. The consortium must work with a third-party vendor to connect faculty from IHEs to potential employers who can assist in creating work-based learning opportunities for students. This vendor must work with the Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE), IHEs, and the Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT) to recruit businesses to participate in the program. The bill requires CDHE to submit a report to the legislature to report on the outcomes of the pilot program.

Fiscal: Conditional on \$2 million in gifts, grants and donations. No general fund. A little over \$600,000 per year from CDHE's Higher Education Work-based Consortium Cash Fund.

Status: House Appropriations

S2C Position: SUPPORT

House Bill 25-1218**Concurrent Enrollment & Higher Education Courses**

Representative Alex Valdez (D)

This bill creates an exception for college STEM classes which are part of a direct admission pathway program, enabling them to be listed as programs for concurrent enrollment, even if they are conducted off-campus.

Fiscal note: No appropriation is required.

Status: **KILLED**

S2C Position: SUPPORT

House Bill 25-1221**Emily Griffith Associate of Applied Science Degree**

Representatives Eliza Hamrick (D) & Lori Garcia Sander (R) & Senators Jeff Bridges (D) and Paul Lundeen (R)

The bill permits Emily Griffith technical college to offer an associate of applied science degree program with approval from the state board for community colleges and occupational education. The degree program must include a registered apprenticeship program and certain transferable general education courses.

In considering the college's request to offer a degree program, the board shall consider student and workforce demand, alignment with registered apprenticeship programs, cost-effectiveness for students and the state, and accreditation and licensing requirements. An approved degree program is eligible to receive federal "Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act" funds.

Fiscal Note: No appropriation needed

Status: **Become law on 4/10/2025**

S2C Position: SUPPORT

House Bill 25-1263

Graduate Medical Education Grant Program

Representatives Anthony Hartsook (R) & Lisa Feret (D) and Senators Matt Ball (D) & Kyle Mullica (D)

The bill creates the Graduate Medical Education Grant Program in the Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE). The grant program supports the establishment of accredited residency programs at health care facilities that have never had a resident training program. CDPHE must administer the program, engage stakeholders to develop the program, and report on the program during the department's SMART Act hearings. Awarding grants through the new program is subject to available appropriations by the General Assembly or the receipt of gifts, grants, and donations.

Fiscal Note: For FY 2025-26, the bill requires an appropriation of \$55,027 to the Department of Public Health and Environment. The hope is to administer \$1 million in gifts, grants, and donations while fully implemented.

Status: **KILLED**

S2C Position: MONITOR

House Bill 25-1290

Transit Worker Assault & Funding for Training

Representatives William Lindstedt (D) & Alex Valdez (D) and Senator Kyle Mullica (D)

The bill creates a specific criminal offense related to assault of a transit worker. The bill also adds regional transportation district transit police officers to the list of law enforcement officials who can access the peace officer training and support fund and gives an eligible law enforcement agency the option to provide the regional transportation district funds from the peace officer training and support fund for law enforcement safety and training purposes.

Fiscal Note: No fiscal note

Status: Senate Floor

S2C Position: MONITOR

SUPPORT SERVICES

Senate Bill 25-008

Adjust Necessary Document Program

Senators Nick Hinrichsen (D) & Cathy Kipp (D) and Representative Meg Froelich (D)

The Necessary Document Program helps Coloradans who are experiencing domestic violence, homelessness, natural disasters, are seniors or low income by paying for Colorado IDs or driver's licenses or for documents need to obtain an ID, a Colorado driver's license or a Social Security card. The bill would transition the program to a paperless voucher system obtainable at the point of service and allow for self-attestation of eligibility under this program.

Fiscal Note: \$0 for FY 2025-26; \$70,354 for FY 2026-27; \$40,801 for FY 2027-28; \$22,631 for FY 2028-19

Status: Senate Floor

S2C position: SUPPORT

Senate Bill 25-128

Agricultural Worker Service Providers Access Private Property

Representatives Byron Pelton (R) & Dylan Roberts (D) & Senators Karen McCormick (D) & Ty Winter (R)

Current law states that an employer shall not interfere with an agricultural worker's reasonable access to key service providers (KSP) at any location when the worker is not performing compensable work and with respect to health-care providers at any time. The bill exempts an employer's property from this provision; except that the bill prohibits an employer from interfering with a worker's access to KSP through remote channels on the employer's property. The bill also removes language referring to health-care providers. Current law states that the division of labor standards and statistics may adopt rules regarding additional times that an employer may not interfere with a worker's reasonable access to KSP. The bill clarifies that such rules must apply only to locations other than the employer's property. Lastly, the bill states the division shall not adopt rules that:

- Infringe upon an employer's private property rights; or
- Conflict with the common law rights of an individual to access private property in a time of emergency.

Fiscal Note: No appropriation required.

Status: House Floor

S2C Position: OPPOSE

Senate Bill 25-144

Change Paid Family Medical Leave Insurance Program

Senators Faith Winter (D) & Jeff Bridges (D) and Representatives Jenny Willford (D) & Yara Zokaie (D)

The bill extends the duration of paid family and medical leave, up to an additional 12 weeks, for a parent who has a child receiving inpatient care in a neonatal intensive care unit. It also changes the premiums financing the payment of program benefits by extending the current premium amount, 0.9% of wages per employee, through 2025 and setting the premium amount for the 2026 calendar year at 0.88% of wages per employee. For each subsequent calendar year, the director of the division of family and medical leave insurance in the department of labor and employment is required set the premium

on or before November 1 of the preceding year. The director is required to set the premium in a manner such that:

- At the end of the year, the balance of the family and medical leave insurance fund is not less than 6 months' worth of projected expenditures from the fund required for performance of the functions and duties of the director;
- The volatility of the premium rate is minimized; and
- The premium amount does not exceed 1.2% of wages per employee.

Lastly, the bill states that prior to implementing any premium rate adjustments, the department shall issue full refunds to employers that were erroneously overcharged premiums.

Fiscal Note: No appropriation required. Bill does authorize a premium increase to cover costs.

Status: House Business Affairs & Labor

S2C Position: SUPPORT

[House Bill 25-1020](#)

Earned-Wage Access Service Provider

Representatives Sean Camacho (D) & Monica Duran (D) and Senator Lisa Frizell (R) & Kyle Mullica (D)

The bill prohibits an entity from providing earned-wage access services without a license on and after January 1, 2026. Earned-wage access services are services that:

- Deliver consumer access to earned but unpaid income; and
- Provide consumer access to earned but unpaid income that is based on employment, income, or attendance data obtained directly or indirectly from an employer or an employer's payroll service provider.

Fiscal Note: \$162,900 for FY 2025-26; \$178,442 for FY 2026-27

Status: **KILLED**

S2C position: MONITOR

CERTIFICATION & LICENSING BILLS

[House Bill 25-1075](#)

Regulate Speech-Language Pathology Assistants

Representatives Lori Garcia Sander (R) & Jacque Phillips (D) and Senators Barbara Kirkmeyer (R) & Kyle Mullica (D)

The bill recognizes speech-language pathology assistants (SLPA) and school speech-language pathology assistants (school SLPA) in statute. An SLPA is defined as an individual who has a bachelor's degree or higher in speech-language pathology, communications disorders and speech sciences, or any other field that includes at least 24 semester hours in speech-language hearing sciences granted by an accredited

institution of higher education. Only an individual who practices as an SLPA in accordance with statute or is a school SLPA authorized by the department of education may use the title "speech-language pathology assistant" or other terms that indicate that the individual is an SLPA or a school SLPA.

An SLPA shall practice speech-language pathology only in collaboration with and under the direction and supervision of a certified speech-language pathologist (SLP). The bill establishes requirements and guidelines for an SLP supervising an SLPA.

The bill prohibits an SLPA from engaging in certain speech-language pathology tasks, such as the diagnosis of patients and preparation of a treatment plan. An SLP may be disciplined for failing to properly direct and supervise an SLPA. The bill repeals the regulation of SLPAs on September 1, 2033, subject to sunset review by the department of regulatory agencies.

Fiscal Note: No appropriation required.

Status: Governor

S2C position: SUPPORT

[House Bill 25-1284](#)

Regulating Apprentices in Licensed Trades

Senator Monica Duran (D) and Representative Tom Sullivan (D)

Current law requires an electrical employer, plumbing employer, or apprenticeship program registered with the United States department of labor or a state apprenticeship agency recognized by the United States department of labor that employs an apprentice in this state to register an apprentice with the employer's respective governing board within 30 days after beginning employment. When an apprentice is no longer employed as an apprentice, the bill requires the employer to remove the apprentice from the apprenticeship program and notify the applicable board of the termination of the employment no later than 30 days after the termination of the employment.

On and after January 1, 2027, an employer is also required to renew an apprentice's registration with the employer's board at least once every 12 months. The employer must provide specified information to the board when renewing the apprentice's registration. The board may charge a registration fee to pay for the costs of maintaining an apprenticeship registration database.

Fiscal Note: No appropriation required.

Status: House Appropriations

[House Bill 25- 1285](#)

Veterinary Workforce Requirements

Representatives Karen McCormick (D) & Dusty Johnson (R) and Senators Catherine Kipp (D) & Byron Pelton (R)

The bill establishes and modifies requirements related to the practice of veterinary medicine by a veterinary professional associate (VPA). In November 2024, voters in Colorado approved Proposition 129, which established the role of VPAs and permits VPAs, starting on January 1, 2026, to practice

veterinary medicine under certain circumstances. The bill specifies how an individual can register as a VPA in Colorado and clarifies the circumstances under which a VPA can practice veterinary medicine.

The bill clarifies that a VPA is only permitted to practice veterinary medicine under the immediate or direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian. A licensed veterinarian shall supervise no more than three VPAs who are practicing veterinary medicine at any one time.

Fiscal Note: No appropriation required.

Status: Governor

JOB QUALITY LEGISLATION

Senate Bill 25-005

Worker Protection Collective Bargaining

Senators Robert Rodriguez (D) & Jessie Danielson (D) and Representatives Javier Mabrey (D) & Jennifer Bacon (D)

Under current law, employees may unionize with a simple majority vote but must conduct a second vote with 75 percent approval to negotiate a union security agreement clause in the collective bargaining process. The bill eliminates the requirement for a second election.

Fiscal Note: REDUCES expenditures by \$24,614 for 2025-6; \$36,920 for FY 2026-27

Status: House Floor

S2C position: SUPPORT

Senate Bill 25-166

Health-Care Workplace Violence Incentive Payments

Senator Kyle Mullica (D) and Representative Lisa Feret (D)

The bill includes a performance metric related to workplace violence in determining quality incentive payments made to hospitals.

No later than September 1, 2025, the bill requires the department of health care policy and financing and the quality incentives payments subcommittee of the Colorado healthcare affordability and sustainability enterprise board to consult with a group of named stakeholders to develop recommended metrics, determine whether any federal or private funds are available to assist hospitals in lowering the number of incidents of workplace violence, and develop legislative recommendations. The bill requires the state department to include a progress report on developing workplace violence metrics during its 2026 “SMART Act” hearing. The bill requires the board to include legislative recommendations it develops as part of its January 2027 report to the general assembly, the governor, and the medical services board.

Beginning July 1, 2026, and each July thereafter, the bill requires the state department to assess whether each hospital has adopted a formal policy to address workplace violence and submitted the

reporting requirements to the department of public health and environment for the next federal fiscal year. The bill exempts hospitals with fewer than 100 beds from the reporting requirements.

Fiscal note: No appropriation required.

Status: House Floor

S2C Position: MONITOR

House Bill 25-1001

Enforcement Wage Hour Laws

Representatives Monica Duran (D) & Meg Froelich (D) and Senators Jessie Danielson (D) & Chris Kolker (D)

Section 1 of the bill amends the definition of "employer" for purposes of wage and hour laws to include an individual who owns or controls at least 25% of the ownership interest in an employer. **Section 2** prohibits an employer from making a payroll deduction below a worker's applicable minimum wage. **Section 3** allows the director of the division of labor standards and statistics to waive the penalty for an employer's failure to pay claimed wages or compensation within 14 days after a written demand if certain specified conditions are met. **Section 4** repeals language allowing a court to award an employer reasonable costs and attorney fees in a civil action for unpaid wages or compensation in certain circumstances. In such an action, the court may pursue all equitable relief to deter future violations and prevent unjust enrichment.

Current law limits the ability of the director of the division to adjudicate claims for nonpayment of wages or compensation to \$7,500 or less. **Section 5** increases this threshold over the years by increasing the amount to \$13,000 for claims filed from July 1, 2026, through December 31, 2027, and in an amount specified by the director of the division to adjust for inflation beginning January 1, 2028. **Section 5** also requires the division, in adjudicating wage claims, to determine whether a violation is willful. For each violation:

- The director shall publish on the division's website the names of all employers found to be in violation and whether the violation was willful; and
- If the violation is not remedied within 60 days after the division's finding that there was a violation, the division must notify all government bodies with the authority to deny, withdraw, or otherwise limit or impose remedial conditions on the employer's license, permit, registration, or other credential.

Additionally, the division may report an employer found to have violated a law related to wages and hours to any government body with authority to deny, withdraw, or otherwise limit or impose remedial conditions on a license, permit, registration, or other credential that the violating employer has or may seek. **Section 5** also repeals language requiring the division to issue a determination on a wage complaint within 90 days. **Section 6** requires an employer found to have misclassified an employee as a nonemployee to pay a fine in the following amounts, in addition to any other relief ordered:

- For a willful violation, \$5,000;
- For a violation not remedied within 60 days after the division's finding, \$10,000;
- For a second or subsequent willful violation within 5 years, \$25,000; or
- For a second or subsequent willful violation not remedied within 60 days after the division's finding, \$50,000.

The director of the division must adjust these fine amounts for inflation by January 1, 2028, and every other year thereafter.

Section 6 also decreases the amount of time the division must wait before paying an employee out of the wage theft enforcement fund from 6 months to 120 days.

Current law prohibits an employer from discriminating or retaliating against an employee for taking protection under wage and hour laws or the law related to the employment of minors. **Section 7** expands this provision to specify additional protected behavior and expands the prohibition to include other persons in addition to employers. **Section 7** also:

- Requires a fact finder to consider the time between an individual's exercise of a protected activity and an employer's adverse action when determining whether an employer has retaliated against the employee or worker;
- Specifies that any effort to use an individual's immigration status to negatively impact the wage and hour law rights, responsibilities, or proceedings of any employee or worker is an unlawful act of intimidation, threatening, coercion, discrimination, and retaliation; and
- Allows the division to order reasonable attorney fees and costs after investigating a discrimination or retaliation claim.

Fiscal Note: \$318,158 for FY 2025-26; \$1,296,240 for FY 2026-27; \$1,286,210 for FY 2027-28

Status: Senate Business, Labor, & Technology

S2c position: SUPPORT

House Bill 25-1042

Air Quality Control Regulation Workforce Impact

Representative Shannon Bird (D) and Senator Lindsey Daugherty (D)

The bill requires the executive director of the department of public health and environment (department) to establish a workforce advisory council (council) on or before August 1, 2025, for the purposes of:

- Discussing recommendations concerning the incorporation of workforce impact analyses into the rule-making procedures for rules that impact air quality;
- Recommending standard procedures for the department and the air quality control commission (commission) to follow when conducting workforce impact analyses for inclusion in rule-making procedures; and
- Determining if the establishment of a full-time workforce advocate position would add value to the air quality control rule-making process.

The bill requires the department to report the council's recommendations to the general assembly on or before January 15, 2026.

After January 15, 2026, the council is required to:

- Meet at least 4 times per year;

- Continue to advise the department on the impact of proposed air quality control rules on matters related to employment; and
- Make ongoing recommendations to the governor, the department, and the commission on legislative and regulatory air quality control policies that impact employment matters.

Fiscal Note: \$116,012 for FY 2025-26

Status: House Appropriations

S2C position: MONITOR

House Bill 25-1208

Local Government Tip Offsets for Tipped Employees

Representatives Stephen Woodrow (D) & Alex Valdez (D) and Senators Judy Amabile (D) & Lindsey Daugherty (D)

Current law allows a local government to establish local minimum wages in excess of the statewide minimum wage established in the state constitution. A local government that enacts a minimum wage must provide a tip offset for tipped employees in an amount equal to the tip offset amount described in the state constitution, which is \$3.02.

The bill states that on and after January 1, 2026, a local government that has enacted a code or an ordinance imposing a minimum wage that exceeds the state minimum wage may increase the amount of the tip offset associated with the local minimum wage; except that a local government shall not impose a tip offset in an amount that allows a tipped employee to earn less than the state minimum wage minus \$3.02.

Fiscal Note: No appropriation required.

Status: Senate Floor

S2C Position: OPPOSE

House Bill 25-1286

Protecting Workers from Extreme Temperatures

Representatives Elisabeth Velasco (D) & Meg Froelich (D) and Senators Mike Weissman (D) & Lisa Cutter (D)

The bill requires employers to implement protections for workers who are exposed to extreme hot and cold temperatures at the worksite, including temperature mitigation measures, rest breaks, and temperature-related injury and illness prevention plans.

Fiscal Note: \$198,799 for FY 2025-26; \$1,722,489 for FY 2026-27

Status: **KILLED**

DIGITAL EQUITY

House Bill 25-1080

Wireless Telephone Infrastructure Deployment Incentives

Representatives Meghan Lukens (D) & Matt Soper (R) and Senator Nick Hinrichsen (D)

Sections 1 through 3 of the bill authorize a county, special district, or school district to negotiate property tax relief with a taxpayer that establishes or expands a "qualified communication services facility", which is a facility or other real or personal property used in the provision of fixed broadband or mobile broadband internet access service, if the facility will serve an unserved or underserved area of the county, special district, or school district. **Section 4** amends the legislative declaration for the statute establishing a sales tax refund for rural broadband service providers by:

- Stating that requirements to pay sales and use tax on federal-funded and state-funded broadband deployment reduce the efficacy and impact of the federal and state deployment grant money;
- Noting that wireless telecommunications technologies rely on forms of broadband infrastructure like fiber and landline networks and are, therefore, interconnected to broadband; and
- Including a tax preference performance statement for the sales tax refund indicating that a purpose of the sales tax refund is to incentivize private sector investment in broadband infrastructure.

Fiscal Note: No appropriation is required.

Status: Senate Floor

S2C Position: MONITOR

BUDGET SATELLITE BILLS

These bills implement changes in laws to align with the proposed state budget. They move through the process along with the [State Budget Bill, SB25-206](#). This year there are 63 such bills. Here are the satellite bills related to workforce and education:

[SB25-219](#) – Repeal Colorado Career Advisor Training Program – The bill repeals [SB22-165](#) which authorized \$1 million for trainings for Training for Career Advisors for high school students. It does not abolish the program, just the training, as training resources are now available online.

[SB25-220](#) – Accelerated College Opportunity Exam Fee Grant Program – The bill repeals the program established by [HB18-1396](#), which provided grants to partially cover Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate exam fees for low-income students.

[SB25-230](#) – College Opportunity Fund Program – The bill requires that the General Assembly appropriate money directly to the Department of Higher Education (CDHE) for College Opportunity Fund (COF) stipends for eligible undergraduate students at private institutions of higher education,

rather than have the appropriations be from the COF. Currently those private institutions include Denver University, Colorado Christian University, and Regis University.

SB25-231 – **Repeal Inclusive Higher Education Act** – The bill repeals this program established by HB22-1107, which aided institutions of higher education to help students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. If passed, it would reduce expenses by \$450,000.

SB25-234 – **Fiscal Year 2024-25 Supplemental Appropriations & Student Financial Aid** – For current year only, the bill exempts supplemental appropriations for student financial aid from annual appropriation requirements for student financial assistance. If passed, the bill would revert \$1 million back to Colorado’s general fund.

SB25-243 – **Revert Appropriated General fund Money from Colorado Department of Labor & Employment** – The bill reverts \$222,701 back to the general fund that remains from an original \$1.4 million allocated to the Colorado Department of Labor & Employment for the construction registered apprenticeship grant program.

SB25-264 – **Cash Fund Transfer to the General Fund** – Among the 52 cash fund balances swept back into Colorado’s general fund are:

- \$500,000 from the qualified apprenticeship intermediary grant fund
- The excess uncommitted reserve balance of the private occupational schools fund
- \$3 million from the universal high school scholarship cash fund

SB25-269 – **Transfer to Infrastructure & Jobs Act Cash Fund** – The bill allocates \$4 million to the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act cash fund.

Skills2Compete Colorado is a multi-sector policy advocacy coalition focused on greater access to education and training opportunities which ultimately lead to middle-skilled jobs. For more information on this bill list, contact:

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