

**STATE
FISCAL IMPACT**

Drafting Number: LLS 12-0165

Date: February 7, 2012

Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Murray

Bill Status: House Education

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TITLE: CONCERNING TEACHERS WITH WHOM A TEACHER CANDIDATE IN A TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM SPENDS HIS OR HER HOURS OF FIELD WORK.

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2012-2013	FY 2013-2014
State Revenue		
State Expenditures*		
General Fund	\$34,561	
FTE Position Change	0.4 FTE	
Effective Date: August 8, 2012, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 9, 2012, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.		
Appropriation Summary for FY 2012-2013: See State Appropriations section.		
Local Government Impact: None.		

** This fiscal note assumes state expenditures in FY 2012-13, and that the bill's requirements take effect beginning in the 2013-14 academic year. See Technical Issues section.*

Summary of Legislation

No later than July 1, 2014, this bill requires that the State Board of Education (SBE) adopt additional rules concerning teacher evaluation. The new rules would allow school districts, when conducting teacher evaluations, to recognize the work of teachers who participate as cooperating teachers with students enrolled in teacher preparation programs at institutions of higher education.

The bill requires the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) to modify the rules for educator preparation programs to require a minimum amount of contact hours with cooperating teachers, and sets deadlines for cooperating teachers to achieve increasing levels of qualification. Specifically, the rules must require that beginning in:

- 2012-13, all cooperating teachers have at least 3 years of teaching experience, be non-probationary, and successfully complete an assessment of readiness;
- 2013-14, all cooperating teachers complete additional professional development;
- 2015-16, at least sixty percent of cooperating teachers had an effective or highly effective rating in the previous school year;
- 2016-17, at least seventy five percent had the rating in the previous year; and
- 2017-18, one hundred percent had the rating in the previous year.

State Expenditures

In FY 2012-13, this bill has total new costs of \$34,561 and 0.4 FTE in the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). The bill increases costs in the CDE Office of Educator Effectiveness to assist the SBE to adopt additional rules implementing teacher evaluation laws. The adoption of these rules is on-going, and adding another rule recognizing cooperating teacher experience does not require additional appropriations.

The bill also requires that the CCHE, adopt a policy requiring a readiness assessment and professional development for cooperating teachers. The assessment must be based on a template approved by CDE, and conducted either by the school districts or the institutions of higher education. The CDE must work with the teacher preparation programs to develop and approve the additional professional development. This will increase costs for the CDE to create a template for a readiness assessment, and to review and evaluate professional development. New FTE will be needed in FY 2012-13 only to develop the new measures and submit these for approval to the SBE. The one-year cost includes a vendor contract to develop the new assessment based on criteria developed by the CCHE, and evaluated for validity and reliability. In subsequent years, the CDE will be able to monitor the use of the approved assessment and professional development without additional appropriations. Total costs are displayed in Table 1.

Table 1. Expenditures Under HB 12-1135	
Cost Components	FY 2012-13
Personal Services	\$19,561
FTE	0.4
Readiness Assessment Development	15,000
TOTAL	\$34,561

This bill will also increase costs for the teacher preparation programs at institutions of higher education. The bill limits the availability of teachers qualified to participate as cooperating teachers, and greatly increases the time commitment a cooperating teacher is required to spend with a student. Current law requires 800 hours of field-based experience during the course of the degree preparation program. This bill requires that the 800 hours now be spent in the direct supervision of a qualified cooperating teacher.

All teacher preparation programs have methods to assess readiness; however, there is no formal and uniform assessment instrument in use. To conform, each institution will have costs to help develop and then administer the readiness assessment and track results. Some programs already provide specific professional development and other incentives to teachers who participate as cooperating teachers. Depending on policies established by CCHE, these institutions may be required to provide additional professional development, increasing expenses for the program. There may also be costs if teacher preparation programs have to increase the cash incentives necessary to attract enough cooperating teachers to support students.

Expenditures Not Included

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. The centrally appropriated costs subject to this policy are summarized in Table 2.

Table 2. Expenditures Not Included Under HB 12-1135*	
Cost Components	FY 2012-13
Employee Insurance (Health, Life, Dental, and Short-term Disability)	\$2,300
Supplemental Employee Retirement Payments	1,043
TOTAL	\$3,343

**More information is available at: <http://colorado.gov/fiscalnotes>*

Technical Issues

Beginning with the 2012-13 academic year, cooperating teachers must have increasing levels of qualification, including having passed a state-approved readiness assessment; however, since the effective date is assumed to be August 8, 2012, and the 2012-13 academic year will begin that same month, this fiscal note assumes that actual implementation will begin in the 2013-14 academic year.

State Appropriations

In FY 2012-13, this bill requires an appropriation of \$34,561 General Fund and 0.4 FTE to the Colorado Department of Education.

Departments Contacted

Education Higher Education Law