



# STATE FISCAL IMPACT

**Drafting Number:** LLS 12-0730**Date:** February 7, 2012**Prime Sponsor(s):** Sen. King K.**Bill Status:** Senate Education**Fiscal Analyst:** Josh Abram (303-866-3561)**TITLE:** CONCERNING EDUCATION.

<b>Fiscal Impact Summary</b>	<b>FY 2012-2013</b>	<b>FY 2013-2014</b>
<b>State Revenue</b> Cash Funds		
<b>State Expenditures</b> Cash Funds		
<b>FTE Position Change</b>		
<b>Effective Date:</b> The bill takes effect August 8, 2012, assuming the General Assembly adjourns May 9, 2012, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.		
<b>Appropriation Summary for FY 2012-2013:</b> None required.		
<b>Local Government Impact:</b> None.		

## Summary of Legislation

Under current law, the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) uses specified data to measure the performance level of public schools using four main indicators:

- longitudinal academic growth;
- student achievement on statewide assessments;
- progress made in closing achievement and growth gaps; and
- postsecondary and workforce readiness (PWR).

This bill specifies additional data that must be used to measure the PWR indicator: the number of K-12 graduates requiring remedial education services when enrolling in institutions of higher education.

Currently, the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) and the state-supported institutions of higher education have a process for students to test out of general education courses. This program, known as gtPATHWAYS, currently includes more than 500 lower-division general education courses in 20 subject areas approved for guaranteed transfer between public institutions. Nonpublic institutions of higher education may request that the Department of Higher Education (DHE) review courses the nonpublic school believes meet general education requirements for inclusion in gtPATHWAYS. If approved, these institutions may have courses included in the



statewide agreements for general education credit transfers. An "early college" is a secondary school that has a curriculum which ensures that students can complete either an associate's degree or sixty credits toward a postsecondary credential while satisfying their high school graduation requirements. This bill allows early colleges the same avenue to include courses into gtPATHWAYS.

### **State Revenue and Expenditures**

Since the DHE charges a fee to nonpublic institutions of higher education to review courses for inclusion in gtPATHWAYS, allowing early colleges access to this process may increase state revenue and expenditures slightly. The DHE charges a fee for the course review intended to cover its cost. In FY 2011-12, one nonpublic career and vocational school, in collaboration with an early college, requested a course review and was assessed a fee of \$5,994. As cash fund revenue is collected to cover the associated review costs, the DHE may seek additional spending authority through the supplemental budget process.

The bill also requires that the CDE use remedial education data to determine the postsecondary and workforce readiness of public school students. The necessary data is currently collected by the DHE. The CDE will need to modify its IT system to program the additional data into the school improvement planning process, and then update the technical assistance materials provided to schools. These activities can be achieved within existing appropriations

### **Departments Contacted**

Education              Higher Education