

Colorado Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note

**STATE  
FISCAL IMPACT**

<b>Drafting Number:</b> LLS 14-0370	<b>Date:</b> February 4, 2014
<b>Prime Sponsor(s):</b> Sen. Todd Rep. Hamner; Holbert	<b>Bill Status:</b> Senate Education
	<b>Fiscal Analyst:</b> Josh Abram (303-866-3561)

**SHORT TITLE:** STUDENT ACCESS TO CSU GLOBAL CAMPUS

Fiscal Impact Summary*	FY 2014-2015	FY 2015-2016
<b>State Revenue</b>	See State Revenue section.	
<i>Revenue Change - Tuition**</i> Institutional Revenue		
<b>State Expenditures</b>	See State Expenditures section.	
<b>FTE Position Change</b>		
<b>Appropriation Required:</b>		

\* This summary shows changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year.

\*\* Revenue from tuition is collected and spent by the governing bodies of the state institutions, and is not appropriated by the General Assembly in the Long Bill. Due to enterprise status, this revenue is not counted against state revenue limitations in the Colorado Constitution.

**Summary of Legislation**

Under current law, the Colorado State University (CSU) Global Campus is a baccalaureate and graduate online university with a mission that allows the school to offer upper division bachelor's degree completion programs for nontraditional students. Students who enroll in CSU Global are not eligible for state stipends from the College Opportunity Fund.

This bill permits CSU Global to offer comprehensive online bachelor's degree programs. An online degree from the school will not require that students transfer some amount of previously earned credits from other postsecondary studies to complete their degree with CSU Global, as is currently required.

**State Revenue**

**Higher education tuition revenue.** If approved, new undergraduate degree programs may increase overall student enrollment at CSU Global and, therefore, create additional tuition revenue for the school. Since enrollment and tuition rates for future online degree programs are unknown, the full impact on tuition revenue has not been estimated.

**State Expenditures**

The creation of new online undergraduate degree programs will require some small effort by CSU to establish curriculum and admission requirements, obtain approval from the Colorado Commission on Higher Education, and be accredited. Since CSU Global already has multiple

degree programs available for completion online, adding the introductory and prerequisite classes for those degrees is not expected to require much additional effort and can be accomplished within the school's existing resources. The bill does not require appropriations from the General Assembly.

Once new degree programs are authorized, there will be operational and instructional costs for CSU. Since future enrollment rates are unknown, the full impact on state expenditures has not been estimated. Once an authorized degree is offered to new students, growth in the program will increase both institutional tuition revenue and operational expenses.

**Effective Date**

The bill takes effect August 6, 2014, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 7, 2014, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

**State and Local Government Contacts**

Higher Education