



STATE FISCAL IMPACT

Drafting Number: LLS 14-0876
Prime Sponsor(s): Sen. Johnston
Rep. Young

Date: February 20, 2014
Bill Status: Senate Education
Fiscal Analyst: Josh Abram (303-866-3561)

SHORT TITLE: PRIVATE OCCUPATIONAL SCHOOLS STANDARDS

Fiscal Impact Summary*	FY 2014-2015	FY 2015-2016
State Revenue		
State Expenditures	Minimal workload increase.	
FTE Position Change		
Appropriation Required: None.		

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

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, the Private Occupational School Board in the Department of Higher Education (DHE) must issue a certificate of approval before a private occupational school is authorized to operate in Colorado. The minimum standards required by the board are established in statute; however, the board need not require compliance with certain elements of the statutory standards if the private occupational school is accredited by an accrediting association officially recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, or by the board, and the accrediting body's standards meet or exceed the minimum standards set forth in statute.

Under this bill, a private occupational school must meet all statutory standards. The board may not substitute accreditation for compliance with these standards when authorizing a school.

State Expenditures

The bill creates a minimal workload increase in the Division of Private Occupational Schools in the DHE. Prior to this bill, a private occupational school that could show accreditation meeting the requirements of the law was able to obtain authorization to operate without additional review and evaluation by the Private Occupational School Board. Pursuant to this bill, the division must execute due diligence to affirm that private occupational schools meet all statutory standards, slightly increasing the workload of the division in limited cases.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

State and Local Government Contacts

Higher Education