



Colorado Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note

# STATE and LOCAL FISCAL IMPACT

**Drafting Number:** LLS 14-0742  
**Prime Sponsor(s):** Sen. Todd; Zenzinger  
 Rep. Hamner

**Date:** March 6, 2014  
**Bill Status:** Senate Education  
**Fiscal Analyst:** Josh Abram (303-866-3561)

**SHORT TITLE:** SCHOOL COUNSELOR CORPS GRANT PROGRAM

Fiscal Impact Summary*	FY 2014-2015	FY 2015-2016
<b>State Revenue</b>		
<b>State Expenditures</b>	<b><u>\$5.0 million</u></b>	<b><u>\$5.0 million</u></b>
State Education Fund	\$5.0 million	\$5.0 million
Centrally Appropriated Costs**	11,585	12,215
<b>FTE Position Change</b>	1.0 FTE	1.0 FTE
<b>Appropriation Required:</b> \$5.0 million - Colorado Department of Education (FY 2014-15)		

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

\*\* These costs are not included in the bill's appropriation. See the State Expenditures section for more information.

## Summary of Legislation

House Bill 08-1370 created the School Counselor Corps Grant Program in the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) to improve and increase counseling services to students in secondary schools. This bill:

- redefines "secondary school" to include any school with grades 6 - 12;
- requires grant recipients to use nationally established guidelines and standards when implementing a counseling program in schools or districts;
- adds criteria to be considered when evaluating grant applications and making awards;
- extends the grant funding period from three years to four years;
- limits to \$10.0 million the amount the State Board of Education (SBE) may award annually; and
- requires that the CDE provide support to secondary schools to train principals on the most effective use of the program.

Finally, this bill creates the School Counselor Corps Advisory Board to review and evaluate grant applications and make recommendations to the CDE and the SBE for making awards from the program. The CDE must adopt guidelines for duties, membership, and responsibilities of the advisory board.

## Background

Beginning with FY 2008-09, the program has received an annual appropriation of approximately \$5.0 million from the State Education Fund and 1.0 FTE. Under current law, the CDE is permitted to retain up to three percent of appropriations to cover administrative expenses.

## State Expenditures

***This bill increases state expenditures by \$5.0 million and 1.0 FTE in FY 2014-15 and FY 2015-16.*** Increased costs are for program administration, operational expenses, and for additional school counselor grant awards to local education providers. Total costs are detailed below and displayed in Table 1.

Table 1. Expenditures Under SB 14-150		
Cost Components	FY 2014-15	FY 2015-16
Personal Services	\$78,120	\$78,120
FTE	1.0	1.0
Standard Operating and Capital Outlay	5,653	950
Professional Development Training	10,675	10,675
Printing and Postage	5,000	5,000
Staff Travel	9,300	9,300
Additional Funds for Grant Awards	4,891,252	4,895,955
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5.0 million</b>	<b>\$5.0 million</b>

***Program administration.*** The bill expands an existing grant program within the CDE. The department will update program rules, modify application procedures, create a professional development component for principals, convene and organize meetings of a new advisory board, award additional grants, track and evaluate grant recipients, and assure accountability. Program staff will also provide outreach, technical assistance, and training, requiring statewide travel. Finally, the department will expend internal resources in information technology, human resources, accounting, budgeting, and management in support of the expanded program. The CDE requires the addition of 1.0 FTE Senior Consultant and associated costs to support the program.

***School counselor corps grants.*** It is anticipated that the program will award 50 additional counselor corp grants annually with continued funding dependent on available appropriations. Each grant will be approximately \$100,000 and have a duration of four years.

***Centrally appropriated costs.*** 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 estimated in the fiscal note for informational purposes and summarized in Table 2.

<b>Table 2. Centrally Appropriated Costs Under SB 08-150*</b>		
<b>Cost Components</b>	<b>FY 2014-15</b>	<b>FY 2015-16</b>
Employee Insurance (Health, Life, Dental, and Short-term Disability)	\$6,160	\$6,160
Supplemental Employee Retirement Payments	5,425	6,055
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,585</b>	<b>\$12,215</b>

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

### **School District Impact**

Approximately \$4.9 million in additional grant awards will be provided to local education providers, including schools, school districts, the state Charter School Institute, and Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES).

Under current law, school districts and BOCES may submit estimates of fiscal impacts within seven days of a bill's introduction. As of the date of this fiscal note, no summaries of fiscal impacts were submitted by districts or BOCES for this bill. If summaries of fiscal impacts are submitted in the future, they will be noted in subsequent revisions to the fiscal note and posted at this address: <http://www.colorado.gov/lcs>

### **Effective Date**

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

### **State Appropriations**

For FY 2014-15, the bill requires an appropriation of \$5.0 million from the State Education Fund and 1.0 FTE to the Colorado Department of Education.

### **State and Local Government Contacts**

Education