

Colorado Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note

**STATE
FISCAL IMPACT**

Drafting Number: LLS 15-1030 **Date:** April 21, 2015
Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Pettersen; Esgar **Bill Status:** House Education
Fiscal Analyst: Josh Abram (303-866-3561)

BILL TOPIC: DEFINE TUITION STATUS UNACCOMPANIED HOMELESS YOUTH

Fiscal Impact Summary*	FY 2015-2016	FY 2016-2017
State Revenue Institutional Cash Funds - Tuition	Potential change.	
State Expenditures Institutional Cash Funds - Tuition General Fund	Potential change. Potential increase.	
FTE Position Change		
Appropriation Required: None.		

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

Summary of Legislation

This bill adds "unaccompanied homeless youth" to the list of persons who are qualified to determine their own domicile and to be classified as a resident for tuition purposes at state supported institutions of higher education.

State Revenue and Expenditures

There is no data to estimate the number of students who will meet the conditions of the bill. This fiscal note assumes that few if any homeless youth are currently enrolled in institutions of higher education; however, to the extent that some students are reclassified as residents, tuition revenue to the institutions will decrease. Conversely, the bill may create an incentive for students who otherwise would not attend a state institution. For each student who enrolls as a result of becoming eligible for a reduced tuition cost, the school's tuition revenue is increased.

The bill potentially increases state expenditures for the College Opportunity Fund (COF). Students classified as resident students for tuition will receive stipend payments on their behalf from the COF, paid to the institution of higher education in which they enroll. For FY 2015-16, the COF stipend is estimated to be \$75 per credit hour or \$2,250 for 30 credit hours. Appropriations to the COF are made from the General Fund. Because the number of additional students who will qualify for COF stipends is unknown, any change in General Fund appropriations to the COF must be made during the annual budget setting process, once actual data are collected by the institutions.

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