



## Fiscal Note

### Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

## HB 25-1210: DATA REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR K-12 SCHOOLS

#### Prime Sponsors:

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**Fiscal note status:** The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

### Summary Information

**Overview.** The bill requires that the Colorado Department of Education conduct an audit of K-12 data reporting requirements and allows certain schools and districts to modify the format of improvement planning documents they are required to submit to the state.

**Types of impacts.** The bill is projected to affect the following areas in on an ongoing basis:

- State Expenditures
- School Districts

**Appropriations.** For FY 2025-26, the bill requires an appropriation of \$203,983 to the Colorado Department of Education.

**Table 1**  
**State Fiscal Impacts**

Type of Impact	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year FY 2026-27	Out Year FY 2027-28
State Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures (General Fund)	\$212,528	\$63,785	\$23,498
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.4 FTE	0.5 FTE	0.2 FTE

**Table 1A**  
**State Expenditures**

<b>Fund Source</b>	<b>Budget Year FY 2025-26</b>	<b>Out Year FY 2026-27</b>	<b>Out Year FY 2027-28</b>
General Fund	\$203,983	\$53,104	\$19,225
Cash Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0
Centrally Appropriated	\$8,545	\$10,681	\$4,273
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$212,528</b>	<b>\$63,785</b>	<b>\$23,498</b>
<b>Total FTE</b>	<b>0.4 FTE</b>	<b>0.5 FTE</b>	<b>0.2 FTE</b>

## Summary of Legislation

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### Data Reporting Audit

No later than June 30, 2026, the bill requires that the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) conduct an audit of data reporting that local education providers and the state Charter School Institute (CSI) submit to comply with state and federal law. Based on the audit, the CDE must develop an attestation process local education providers may use to verify they are in compliance with reporting protocols and training requirements.

By December 2026, the CDE must submit the result of the data audit and any recommendations for relieving data collection and reporting burdens to the education committees of the General Assembly.

### Alternative Improvement Plan Reporting

Under current law, schools, school districts, and the CSI submit one of four types of performance or improvement plans under the state's accountability process using a template created by CDE. This bill allows a school district and the CSI to use any template or format that best meets the school district's or institute's needs, so long as the included plan addresses all current statutory requirements, except that this option is not available to schools and districts that are required to submit a school priority improvement plan or a school turnaround plan.

## State Expenditures

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The bill increases state expenditures in the CDE by about \$213,000 in FY 2025-26, \$64,000 in FY 2026-27, and by about \$23,000 in FY 2027-18 and ongoing. These costs, paid from the General Fund, are summarized in Table 2 and discussed below.

**Table 2**  
**State Expenditures**  
**Department of Education**

<b>Cost Component</b>	<b>Budget Year FY 2025-26</b>	<b>Out Year FY 2026-27</b>	<b>Out Year FY 2027-28</b>
Personal Services	\$38,451	\$48,064	\$19,225
Operating Expenses	\$512	\$640	\$0
Capital Outlay Costs	\$6,670	\$0	\$0
Data Reporting Audit – Facilitator	\$100,000	\$0	\$0
Data Reporting Audit – Project Manager	\$18,750	\$0	\$0
Software Developer	\$39,600	\$4,400	\$0
Centrally Appropriated Costs	\$8,545	\$10,681	\$4,273
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>\$212,528</b>	<b>\$63,785</b>	<b>\$23,498</b>
<b>Total FTE</b>	<b>0.4 FTE</b>	<b>0.5 FTE</b>	<b>0.2 FTE</b>

### **Data Reporting Audit**

In FY 2025-26, the CDE will hire a professional facilitator to conduct the evaluation of data reporting requirements, including conducting interviews, focus groups, and other stakeholder engagement, as well as a project manager to research and design the administration of the audit, and coordinate contact with school and districts. Based on past experience conducting a similar review of competitive grant programs and assuming an existing master price agreement, this effort is estimated at 500 hours of facilitation at \$200 per hour, and 150 hours of project management at \$125 per hour.

### **Alternative Improvement Plan Reporting**

Approximately 85 percent of schools and districts (about 1,500 sites) are accredited in one of the top three categories under the state accountability system, and thus, qualify to use the reporting format flexibility provided in the bill. These schools and districts are required to submit their improvement or performance plans biennially. The CDE requires 0.5 FTE Senior Consultant to develop resources for plan reporting for eligible schools and districts, and to process alternative template formats to ensure compliance with state and federal law. Assuming half the eligible sites choose an alternative reporting format, this staff will support up to 750 sites across two years. Personal services in FY 2025-26 include standard operating and capital outlay, and are prorated for the bill's effective date. Beginning in FY 2027-28, this administrative effort is expected to decrease to 0.2 FTE after the initial resources have been created and the scale of school district participation is established.

## 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. These costs, which may include employee insurance, supplemental employee retirement payments, leased space, and indirect cost assessments, are shown in the expenditure table above.

## School District

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Schools and districts will have an increased workload to participate in the reporting audit and to develop alternative reporting templates meeting state and federal requirements, if they so choose.

## Effective Date

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The bill takes effect 90 days following adjournment of the General Assembly sine die, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

## State Appropriations

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For FY 2025-26, the bill requires a General Fund appropriation of \$203,983 to the Colorado Department of Education, and 0.4 FTE.

## State and Local Government Contacts

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Education

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The revenue and expenditure impacts in this fiscal note represent changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year. For additional information about fiscal notes, please visit the [General Assembly website](#).