

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add part 3 to article 30 of title 22 as follows:

PART 3

COLORADO PERSONALIZED AI-DRIVEN EDUCATION ACT

22-30-301. Declaration.

(1) The provisions of this part 3 are interconnected and pertain to a single subject: establishing and funding AI-powered education models in public schools. The people of Colorado find and declare that:

(a) Advances in adaptive learning technology and artificial intelligence enable personalized instruction that can accelerate student progress;

(b) A flexible education model can allow motivated students to complete high school earlier, while ensuring continued opportunities for higher education or career training through age eighteen;

(c) AI-powered schools integrate adaptive learning with existing public school infrastructure to expand access to modern instruction; and

(d) This part seeks to create innovation in Colorado's public education system without raising new taxes, by reallocating existing per-pupil funding, meaning the redirection of funds allocated under the public school finance act of 2025 (article 54 of this title) without increasing total appropriations, and infrastructure resources.

22-30-302. Definitions.

As used in this part 3, unless the context otherwise requires:

(a) "AI-powered elements" means adaptive learning software, which adjusts instruction based on student performance; artificial intelligence systems, including machine learning algorithms for personalized tutoring; or related tools authorized for integration into public school instruction. Such elements must include features that promote collaborative learning, such as group simulations or peer interaction modules, to support social-emotional development.

(b) "AI-powered program" means a district-authorized course of study using AI-powered elements within an existing public school.

(b.5) "Core academic content" means subjects including mathematics, science, reading, writing, and social studies, as aligned with Colorado academic standards under section 22-7-1005.

(c) "AI-powered school" means an existing public school or district-authorized program that delivers core academic content primarily through AI-powered elements, supplemented by licensed teachers and adult guides.

(d) "Continuing education pathway" means state-supported opportunities between ages sixteen and eighteen, including early college enrollment, community college or career and technical training, apprenticeships, or extended advanced learning

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programs, which must incorporate mentorship and life skills training to support student maturity and development.

(e) "Guide" means an adult employee of an AI-powered school, subject to background checks and training established by the department of education, who supports student learning, motivation, and well-being by providing non-instructional facilitation, such as goal-setting assistance and emotional support, but is not required to hold a Colorado teacher license and does not deliver core curriculum. Guide training must include social-emotional learning components, including emotional recognition, mental health referral protocols, and strategies to foster student engagement and well-being.

22-30-303. Establishment of AI-powered schools and programs.

(1) The state board of education or a local school district may authorize the integration of AI-powered elements into existing public schools.

(1.5) The provisions of this part apply to charter schools authorized by the state charter school institute pursuant to article 30.5 of this title.

(2) AI-powered programs must operate within classrooms and infrastructure existing as of the effective date of this part or subsequently developed, with guides present to support students alongside licensed teachers.

(3) Participation is voluntary for schools and families.

(3.5) For mixed classrooms with opt-in and opt-out students, licensed teachers shall oversee academic progress for all students, with guides assisting only opt-in participants. Families may opt in to specific AI-powered elements on a per-subject basis.

(4) Implementation must prioritize upgrades to broadband, devices, and facilities rather than new construction, except where new construction is necessary to support required upgrades. The department of education shall conduct device and broadband access audits prior to authorizing AI-powered schools or programs in any district, with state subsidies provided from the state education fund to address identified gaps.

(5) AI-powered elements shall not exceed sixty percent of instructional time for core academic content to ensure sufficient human interaction and oversight. For students with individualized education programs under section 22-20-108, AI-powered elements must be explicitly incorporated into the individualized education program with accommodations for special needs.

(6) AI-powered schools and programs must include age-appropriate AI literacy curricula, starting in elementary grades, to educate students on data privacy, ethical AI use, and digital citizenship.

22-30-304. Graduation and continuing education.

(1) A student enrolled in an AI-powered school is eligible to receive a Colorado high school diploma upon completing all state-required coursework or competencies, which may occur as early as age sixteen.

(2) Principals may tailor graduation requirements for individual students enrolled in an AI-powered program and pursuing a continuing education pathway, in consultation with the student, parents, and counselors, provided alignment with Colorado academic standards is maintained.

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(3) A student graduating before age eighteen remains eligible for per-pupil funding to support a continuing education pathway until their eighteenth birthday, with funding continuing through the end of the semester in which the student graduates, or through the end of the school year if the student is in their senior cycle.

(5) Continuing education funding may be applied toward:

- (a) Tuition-free enrollment in a Colorado community college, college, or university;
- (b) Participation in a state-approved career and technical education, apprenticeship, or certificate program; or
- (c) Extended advanced learning opportunities offered by an AI-powered school or partner entity.

(6) If the cost of tuition or program fees in a continuing education pathway exceeds the student's per-pupil funding allocation, the student or institution may seek supplemental funding from existing state grants under article 3.5 of title 23.

22-30-305. Accountability and oversight.

(1) AI-powered schools shall align instruction with Colorado academic standards and administer state assessments.

(2) Independent norm-referenced tests, meaning standardized assessments benchmarked against national norms, must be administered twice annually to measure student academic growth in core subjects relative to peers.

(3) The department of education shall review student outcomes, privacy compliance, and equity impacts every three years and shall publish findings annually, recommending corrective actions to the state board if outcomes fall below state averages. Reviews must include annual student well-being surveys to assess mental health, engagement, and social-emotional impacts.

(4) An independent evaluation of the model's effectiveness, conducted by a third-party entity selected by the department of education, shall be completed and published within five years of the effective date of this part. The evaluation must assess student achievement, cost-effectiveness, equity, and scalability, including algorithmic bias audits of AI-powered elements to ensure non-discriminatory outcomes for diverse student populations.

22-30-306. Student data privacy.

(1) AI-powered schools and vendors shall comply with all state and federal student privacy laws.

(2) Data may be used only for educational purposes and not for commercial gain.

(3) Parents must be informed of data collected and may consent to additional educational uses; no non-educational uses are permitted. AI vendors are prohibited from using student data for training models or other purposes without explicit parental consent. The department of education shall conduct annual privacy audits of AI-powered schools and vendors.

22-30-307. Funding.

(1) Per-pupil funding, as calculated under article 54 of this title, shall follow the student to an AI-powered school or program within existing public systems, subject to local school board approval for locally raised funds.

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(2) Funds may be reallocated from current budgets for AI licenses, device upgrades, professional development, and infrastructure enhancements, with priority grants for underserved schools funded from the state education fund under section 17 (4) of article IX of the state constitution.

(3) Continuing education pathways shall be funded from the student's per-pupil allocation through the semester or school year of graduation, with eligibility extending until the student's eighteenth birthday.

22-30-308. Implementation.

(1) The department of education shall adopt rules within twelve months of the effective date of this part.

(2) A pilot cohort of no fewer than five and no more than ten existing public schools, selected by the department to reflect geographic and demographic diversity, may be authorized in the first four years. At least fifty percent of pilot slots must be reserved for schools serving low-income or rural populations.

(3) Following the independent evaluation required in section 22-30-305 (4), the general assembly and state board may expand or modify the program.

22-30-309. Severability. If any provision of this part is held invalid, the remaining provisions shall remain in effect.

22-30-310. Oversight. The department of education shall oversee guide training, independent evaluations, and grant distribution, with annual reporting to the general assembly. Oversight must include input from child psychologists or developmental experts to assess impacts on student well-being and development.

SECTION 2. Conforming amendments. Amend sections 22-32-109 (1)(f) and 22-54-104 to conform with funding reallocation requirements. The general assembly shall enact conforming amendments to title 22 as necessary to harmonize with this act. In the event of conflicting provisions, the provisions of this part control until amended by law.

SECTION 3. Effective date. This act takes effect upon the proclamation of the governor following the official declaration of the vote, as provided in article V, section 1 (4)(a) of the Colorado constitution.