



Fiscal Note
Legislative Council Staff
Nonpartisan Services for Colorado’s Legislature

SB 25-278: EPINEPHRINE ADMINISTRATION IN SCHOOLS

Prime Sponsors:

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Fiscal note status: The revised fiscal note reflects the reengrossed bill.

Summary Information

Overview. The bill broadens the use of epinephrine on school property by changing the phrase “epinephrine auto-injector” to “emergency-use epinephrine.”

Types of impacts. The bill is projected to affect the following areas on a temporary basis:

- State Expenditures
- School Districts

Appropriations. For FY 2025-26, the fiscal note estimates that the bill requires an appropriation of \$9,379 to the Department of Education; however, no appropriation is currently included in the bill.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts

Type of Impact ¹	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year FY 2026-27
State Revenue	\$0	\$0
State Expenditures	\$11,494	\$0
Transferred Funds	\$0	\$0
Change in TABOR Refunds	\$0	\$0
Change in State FTE	0.1 FTE	0.0 FTE

¹ Fund sources for these impacts are shown in the tables below.

Table 1A
State Expenditures

Fund Source	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year FY 2026-27
General Fund	\$9,379	\$0
Cash Funds	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0
Centrally Appropriated	\$2,115	\$0
Total Expenditures	\$11,494	\$0
Total FTE	0.1 FTE	0.0 FTE

Table 1B
**Comparison of LCS Fiscal Note Estimate and
FY 2025-26 Appropriations Included in Bill¹**

Department	LCS Estimate	Current Appropriation	Difference
Department of Education	\$9,379	\$0	-\$9,379
Total Appropriations	\$9,379	\$0	-\$9,379

¹ Fiscal notes reflect the nonpartisan fiscal assessment of Legislative Council Staff. However, fiscal notes are decision-making tools for the General Assembly and it is the General Assembly that determines how much funding is appropriated to state agencies. Table 1B highlights the differences between the LCS estimate identified in this fiscal note and appropriation decisions made by the General Assembly for the bill thus far in the legislative process.

Summary of Legislation

The bill broadens the use of epinephrine on school property by changing the phrase "epinephrine auto-injector" to "emergency-use epinephrine." Emergency-use epinephrine is defined as a portable, disposable drug delivery device or product approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) that contains a premeasured, single dose of epinephrine that is used to treat anaphylaxis in an emergency situation.

Background

The new definition of epinephrine is inclusive of the recently FDA-approved nasal epinephrine spray.

During the 2023-24 school year, Colorado K-12 schools reported 226 anaphylaxis events that included 179 students and 47 non-students. Of those experiencing anaphylaxis, 66 percent had a known allergy, 27 percent had no known allergy, and the allergy status of 7 percent was unknown. School nurses administered 89 doses of emergency epinephrine at school, and non-school nurses administered 112 doses. Stock epinephrine was used 127 times, and a student's epinephrine was used 74 times. Of the 226 anaphylaxis events at school, 25 events did not result in school staff administering epinephrine at school. Of the 201 events, 127 events occurred in the classroom, 32 in the cafeteria, 16 on the playground, 17 in the health office, 2 on the bus, and 27 in other locations.

State Expenditures

The bill increases state expenditures in the Department of Education by \$11,000 in FY 2025-26 and in any future fiscal year the FDA approves a new form of epinephrine. These costs, paid from the General Fund, are summarized in Table 2 and discussed below.

Table 2
State Expenditures
Department of Education

Cost Component	Budget Year FY 2025-26	Out Year FY 2026-27
Personal Services	\$9,379	\$0
Centrally Appropriated Costs	\$2,115	\$0
Total Costs	\$11,494	\$0
Total FTE	0.1 FTE	0.0 FTE

Department of Education

CDE's Student Health Services division requires 0.1 FTE Nurse Consultant in FY 2025-26 only to update all rules, guidance documents, trainings, and reporting procedures concerning anaphylaxis treatments on school grounds to allow for the use of nasal epinephrine. This cost may reoccur in any future years when a new form of emergency epinephrine receives FDA approval, and will vary depending on how complicated the administration of the new form of epinephrine is.

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 include employee insurance and supplemental employee retirement payments, are shown in the expenditure table above.

School Districts

Workload will minimally increase for school districts to update policies concerning epinephrine use on school property and to train staff on new anaphylaxis treatments.

Effective Date

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

State Appropriations

For FY 2025-26, the fiscal note estimates the bill requires a General Fund appropriation of \$9,379 to the Department of Education, and 0.1 FTE; however, no appropriation is currently included in the bill.

State and Local Government Contacts

Education

Public Health and Environment

Judicial

School Districts

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](#).