

STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION

April 10, 2024

TOPIC: Legislative Update

PRESENTED BY:

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EXPLANATION:

(Report generated on April 3, 2024.) The second regular session of the 74th General Assembly convened on January 10th and is nearing its final month. On April 10th, it will be Day 92 of the 120-day legislative session. For the first half of March, all eyes were on the six-members that make up the Joint Budget Committee (JBC) as they finalized decisions for higher education funding, including tuition authority, and closed out their recommendations for the state's \$40.6 billion budget that is packaged in the 2024-2025 Long Bill.

The FY-25 budget package, which reflects an 3.7% increase above last year's budget, only leaves the General Assembly with \$22 million to spend on bills moving through the legislative process. Typically, these funds are split equally between the Senate and House Chambers, meaning each Chamber will likely only have \$11 million to spend on bills that have a fiscal note. Note, funding for several bills related to housing, workforce, education, and other priority bills with a fiscal note are accounted for via placeholders in the budget. All bills with fiscal notes that CCCS is a partner on have been slated for funding.

The Long Bill, [House Bill 1430](#), was introduced in the House Chamber in late March. The Long Bill passed the House Chamber with amendments on April 1st and the Senate Chamber is scheduled to deliberate and conduct a final vote the first week of April. Once the bill clears the Senate, the Conference Committee (made up of the JBC members) will consider amendments from both Chambers to create a consensus bill. From there, the Long Bill will head to the Governor for signature, likely before the end of April. The Gov will have 10 days to sign it.

Since the Long Bill's introduction, CCCS's efforts have focused on ensuring the higher ed budget items recommended by the JBC remain intact:

- **Tuition Flexibility:** The budget caps tuition increases at 3% for in-state students and 4% for non-resident students. The level of funding in the introduced Long Bill that flows through the higher education funding formula provides enough state

funding into the CCCS allocation for the State Board for Community Colleges to limit tuition rate increases to 3% or less.

- **Funding for Higher Education:** The budget increases state funding for operations by 10% (\$114.3 million). For CCCS, this equates to an 8.8% increase over last year.

Additional components of the proposed budget for higher ed and CCCS include:

- \$26.6 million in the General Fund for aligned financial aid support.
- \$3.6 million Funding for Colorado Northwestern Community College’s capital renewal project for the Rangely Campus.
- \$18+million for CCCS Controlled Maintenance Level 1 projects.
- Extended cybersecurity dollars per SB18-086 that allocates funding to Pikes Peak State College, MSU-Denver, CSU, and CU for cyber workforce development.
- \$2.4 million one-time appropriation to the state's three smallest rural universities: Fort Lewis College, Western State Colorado University, and Adams State University.

Update on CCCS Priority Bills

[SB24-051 Adult Education](#): Passed and signed by the Governor on March 6, 2024.

[SB24-104 Career and Technical Education & Apprenticeships](#): Passed the Senate Chamber with amendments on March 13. Passed House Education Committee unamended on March 27 and now waiting to be scheduled for House Appropriations Committee.

[SB24-164 Institution of Higher Education Transparency Requirements](#): Passed Senate Education Committee with amendments on March 27. Senate Second Reading of the bill is scheduled for April 5.

[HB24-1231 State Funding for Higher Education Projects](#): Passed House Committees and is waiting to be scheduled for House Appropriations Committee.

Monitored Bills

As of April 3rd, over 630 bills have been introduced and CCCS is tracking nearly 50 bills. The table below lists bills that CCCS is tracking.

#	Bill
Passed	
1	HB24-1044 Additional PERA Service Retirees for Schools

2	HB24-1082 First-Generation-Serving Higher Education Institutions
3	HB24-1087 Professional Endorsement Special Education Teaching
4	HB24-1131 Local College Districts
5	HB24-1139 Death Benefit for State Employee Surviving Spouse
6	HB24-1203 Capital Construction Supplemental
7	HB24-1204 Capital Construction Information Technology
8	HB24-1210 Higher Education Longitudinal Data System Report Deadline
9	SB24-051 Adult Education
10	SB24-135 Modification of State Agency & Department Reporting Requirements
Postponed Indefinitely	
11	HB24-1049 School Mental Health Professional Loan Repayment Program
12	HB24-1070 Allowing Certain Items at School Graduation
13	SB24-012 Reentry Workforce Development Cash Assistance Pilot Program
14	SB24-156 College Preparation & Enrichment Program
Under Construction	
15	HB24-1015 Workplace Suicide Prevention Education
16	HB24-1018 College Textbook Sales Use Tax Exemption
17	HB24-1168 Equal Access to Public Meetings
18	HB24-1226 Tuition Assistance for Colorado National Guard & Dependents
19	HB24-1231 State Funding for Higher Education Projects
20	HB24-1235 Reduce Aviation Impacts on Communities
21	HB24-1260 Prohibition Against Employee Discipline
22	HB24-1262 Maternal Health Midwives
23	HB24-1278 Continuation of Concurrent Enrollment Advisory Board
24	HB24-1296 Modifications to the Colorado Open Records Act
25	HB24-1305 Changes for Concurrent Enrollment Students
26	HB24-1317 Workforce Data Collection
27	HB24-1323 School Graduation Attire
28	HB24-1324 Attorney General Restrictive Employment Agreements
29	HB24-1325 Tax Credits for Quantum Industry Support
30	HB24-1340 Incentives for Post-Secondary Education
31	HB24-1364 Education-Based Workforce Readiness
32	HB24-1365 Opportunity Now Grants & Tax Credit
33	HB24-1403 Higher Education Support Homeless Youth
34	HB24-1422 Capital Renewal Project Cost Threshold
35	HB24-1424 College Opportunity Fund Transfer to General Fund
36	HB24-1425 Transfers for Capital Construction
37	HB24-1430 FY-25 Long Appropriations Bill
38	HB24-1439 Financial Incentives Expand Apprenticeship Programs
39	SB24-014 Seal of Climate Literacy Diploma Endorsement
40	SB24-044 Public Employees' Retirement Association Retiree Refundable Income Tax Credit
41	SB24-050 Colorado Workforce Demonstration Grants Pilot Program
42	SB24-053 Racial Equity Study

43	SB24-104 Career & Technical Education & Apprenticeships
44	SB24-131 Prohibiting Carrying Firearms in Sensitive Spaces
45	SB24-143 Credential Quality Apprenticeship Classification
46	SB24-164 Institution of Higher Education Transparency Requirements
47	SB24-173 Regulate Mortuary Sciences Occupations
48	SB24-178 Duplicative Inventory of State-Owned Real Property

RECOMMENDATION:

No Board action required.

ATTACHMENT(S):