

**First Regular Session  
Seventy-fourth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**REVISED**

*This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted  
on Second Reading in the Second House*

LLS NO. 23-0856.01 Jacob Baus x2173

**HOUSE BILL 23-1246**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**McCluskie and Pugliese**, Amabile, Bird, Boesenecker, Brown, Duran, English, Gonzales-Gutierrez, Hamrick, Herod, Jodeh, Joseph, Kipp, Lieder, Lindsay, Lindstedt, Lukens, Martinez, McCormick, McLachlan, Sirota, Snyder, Story, Taggart, Titone, Valdez, Velasco, Weissman, Willford, Young

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Buckner and Will**,

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**House Committees**

Education  
Appropriations

**Senate Committees**

Education  
Appropriations

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING MEASURES TO SUPPORT THE IN-DEMAND CAREER**  
102 **WORKFORCE, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN**  
103 **APPROPRIATION.**

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)*

The bill directs the state board of community colleges and occupational education (board) to administer the in-demand short-term credentials program (program) in order to support the expansion of the number of available and qualified professionals who are able to meet Colorado's in-demand workforce needs.

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.*  
*Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.*

SENATE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
April 26, 2023

HOUSE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
April 13, 2023

HOUSE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
April 12, 2023

The bill appropriates \$38.6 million from the general fund for this program. The board is required to allocate funds to community and technical colleges, area technical colleges, local district colleges, and Colorado Mesa university to provide assistance to students for eligible expenses that support their enrollment in eligible programs. If unexpended resources exist, the funds must be used to pay for a student's housing, transportation, or food expenses.

The bill requires the office of future work to provide grants to registered apprenticeship programs that provide training in the building and construction trade at no cost to apprentices. The bill appropriates \$1.4 million from the general fund for this grant program.

The bill appropriates \$5 million from the general fund to create 2 new short-term degree nursing programs at community or technical colleges.

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly  
3 finds and declares that:

4 (a) Colorado has significant workforce demands in various  
5 industries, including early childhood education, education, law  
6 enforcement, fire and forestry, construction, and nursing;

7 (b) These industries support other industries across the economy  
8 and have a positive return on public investment because: All Coloradans  
9 benefit from the availability of child care and education so that they may  
10 work while knowing their children are safe and cared for; that the  
11 foundational infrastructure is secure through high-quality construction;  
12 that fundamental public services are provided through fire protection,  
13 forest management, and law enforcement; and that people have access to  
14 quality health care;

15 (c) According to labor market index data, Colorado has an  
16 opportunity to scale these industries because demand for these industries  
17 is projected to grow based on recent patterns suggesting an average of ten

1 to fifteen percent annual increase in these industry jobs;

2 (d) These in-demand industries have significant job openings:

3 (I) The education sector consistently has approximately five  
4 thousand job openings, which openings have been exacerbated by  
5 professionals leaving the sector because of industry pressures and the  
6 COVID-19 pandemic;

7 (II) The nursing sector consistently has approximately twenty  
8 thousand job openings;

9 (III) Job openings in the construction sector are anticipated to  
10 double because of the historic federal investment in infrastructure and  
11 electrification; and

12 (IV) The early childhood sector, the fire and forestry sector, and  
13 the law enforcement sector each have approximately one thousand job  
14 openings;

15 (e) Investment in postsecondary education and training that leads  
16 to careers in these industries demonstrates to Coloradans that these  
17 professions are a priority for the state and that supporting enrollment in  
18 educational and training programs will ensure a qualified workforce with  
19 limited debt and a clear path to employment;

20 (f) The state's investment in the in-demand short-term credentials  
21 program is intended to support twenty thousand students pursuing  
22 credentials in these industries; and

23 (g) The extraordinary demand for short-term education and  
24 training in nursing exceeds the state's current capacity to meet the  
25 demand. The state's investment in increasing the capacity is intended to  
26 support the training of two hundred additional nurses annually.

27 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** part 12 to article

1 60 of title 23 as follows:

2

PART 12

3

IN-DEMAND SHORT-TERM

4

CREDENTIALS PROGRAM

5

**23-60-1201. Support for in-demand short-term credentials**

6

**program - created - report - appropriation - definitions - repeal.**

7

(1) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, THE BOARD, IN

8

COORDINATION WITH ITS CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION ROLE AND

9

MISSION AS COLORADO'S STATE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE FEDERAL "CARL

10

D. PERKINS CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT ACT OF

11

2006", 20 U.S.C. SEC. 2301 ET SEQ., AS AMENDED, SHALL ADMINISTER THE

12

IN-DEMAND SHORT-TERM CREDENTIALS PROGRAM TO SUPPORT THE

13

EXPANSION OF THE NUMBER OF AVAILABLE AND QUALIFIED

14

PROFESSIONALS WHO ARE ABLE TO MEET COLORADO'S IN-DEMAND

15

WORKFORCE NEEDS.

16

(2) THE BOARD SHALL ALLOCATE MONEY TO AN ELIGIBLE

17

INSTITUTION BASED ON THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN ELIGIBLE

18

PROGRAMS FOR STATE FISCAL YEARS 2023-24 THROUGH 2025-26 TO

19

PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO STUDENTS FOR ELIGIBLE EXPENSES THAT SUPPORT

20

THEIR ENROLLMENT IN ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS.

21

(3) AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION THAT RECEIVES FUNDS PURSUANT TO

22

THE PROGRAM SHALL PROVIDE EMPLOYMENT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

23

TO STUDENTS WHO EXPRESS INTEREST IN PARTICIPATING IN THE ELIGIBLE

24

PROGRAM PRIOR TO THE STUDENT'S ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAM, IN

25

ACCORDANCE WITH THE FEDERAL "HIGHER EDUCATION ACT OF 1965", AS

26

AMENDED, AND REGULATIONS ADOPTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ACT.

27

(4) THE PROGRAM BEGINS NO LATER THAN THE START OF THE

1 2023-24 ACADEMIC YEAR.

2 (5) (a) A STUDENT PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM SHALL  
3 COMPLETE AND SUBMIT THE FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID  
4 OR COLORADO APPLICATION FOR STATE FINANCIAL AID.

5 (b) ANY FINANCIAL AID RECEIVED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION  
6 (5)(a) OF THIS SECTION, AND ANY OTHER FINANCIAL AID OR SCHOLARSHIPS  
7 RECEIVED BY THE STUDENT, MUST BE FULLY APPLIED TO THE STUDENT'S  
8 COST OF ATTENDANCE BEFORE PROGRAM RESOURCES ARE APPLIED TO THE  
9 STUDENT'S ELIGIBLE EXPENSES.

10 (6) (a) (I) FOR THE 2023-24 STATE FISCAL YEAR, THE GENERAL  
11 ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER  
12 EDUCATION FOR ALLOCATION BY THE BOARD THIRTY-EIGHT MILLION SIX  
13 HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM THE GENERAL FUND FOR THE  
14 PROGRAM, OF WHICH NOT MORE THAN EIGHTY THOUSAND DOLLARS MAY  
15 BE USED FOR PURPOSES OF MARKETING THE PROGRAM AND NOT MORE  
16 THAN ONE PERCENT MAY BE USED FOR ADMINISTRATION PURSUANT TO  
17 THIS SECTION.

18 (II) ANY UNEXPENDED MONEY FROM THE APPROPRIATION  
19 PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (6)(a) MUST BE USED TO PAY FOR  
20 EXPENSES THAT ARE NOT ELIGIBLE EXPENSES BUT ARE RELATED TO A  
21 STUDENT'S HOUSING, TRANSPORTATION, CHILD OR DEPENDENT CARE, AND  
22 FOOD EXPENSES.

23 (b) ANY UNEXPENDED MONEY REMAINING FROM THE  
24 APPROPRIATION PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (6) AT THE END OF THE  
25 2023-24 STATE FISCAL YEAR:

26 (I) DOES NOT REVERT TO THE GENERAL FUND OR ANY OTHER FUND;

27 (II) MAY BE USED BY THE BOARD IN THE 2024-25 OR 2025-26

1 STATE FISCAL YEAR WITHOUT FURTHER APPROPRIATION; AND

2 (III) MUST NOT BE USED FOR ANY PURPOSE OTHER THAN THE  
3 PURPOSES SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION.

4 (7) (a) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2024, AND ON OR BEFORE  
5 EVERY JANUARY 1 THEREAFTER, THE BOARD SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO  
6 THE COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION, THE EDUCATION  
7 COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE, OR  
8 ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, AND THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE. THE  
9 REPORT MUST INCLUDE:

10 (I) THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS AWARDED FUNDS PURSUANT TO THE  
11 PROGRAM IN EACH ELIGIBLE PROGRAM, IN TOTAL AND DISAGGREGATED BY  
12 ANY FACTORS DETERMINED BY THE BOARD;

13 (II) IF AVAILABLE, THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS AWARDED FUNDS  
14 PURSUANT TO THE PROGRAM WHO CONTINUED ENROLLMENT IN THE  
15 ELIGIBLE PROGRAM IN A SUBSEQUENT ACADEMIC TERM, IN TOTAL AND  
16 DISAGGREGATED BY ANY FACTORS DETERMINED BY THE BOARD;

17 (III) IF AVAILABLE, THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS AWARDED FUNDS  
18 PURSUANT TO THE PROGRAM WHO COMPLETED AN ELIGIBLE PROGRAM, IN  
19 TOTAL AND DISAGGREGATED BY ANY FACTORS DETERMINED BY THE  
20 BOARD;     

21 (IV) IF AVAILABLE, EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS OUTCOMES FOR  
22 STUDENTS AWARDED FUNDS PURSUANT TO THE PROGRAM, IN TOTAL AND  
23 DISAGGREGATED BY ANY FACTORS DETERMINED BY THE BOARD; AND

24 (V) A DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR  
25 THE PROGRAM, INCLUDING COSTS INCURRED TO ADMINISTER THE  
26 PROGRAM.

27 (b) BEGINNING IN 2024 AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE

1 COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT  
2 COMPILING THE DATA COLLECTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (7)(a) OF  
3 THIS SECTION TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
4 EDUCATION COMMITTEES, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, DURING THE  
5 HEARINGS HELD PURSUANT TO THE "SMART ACT", PART 2 OF ARTICLE 7  
6 OF TITLE 2.

7 (c) NOTWITHSTANDING SECTION 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), THE  
8 REPORTING REQUIREMENT IN THIS SUBSECTION (7) CONTINUES  
9 INDEFINITELY.

10 (8) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE  
11 REQUIRES:

12 (a) "ELIGIBLE EXPENSES" MEANS TUITION, FEES, BOOKS,  
13 MATERIALS, OR SUPPLIES FOR ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS.

14 (b) "ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION" MEANS A COMMUNITY OR TECHNICAL  
15 COLLEGE DESCRIBED IN SECTION 23-60-205, AN AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE  
16 DEFINED IN SECTION 23-60-103 (1), A LOCAL DISTRICT COLLEGE DEFINED  
17 IN SECTION 23-71-102 (1), AND COLORADO MESA UNIVERSITY  
18 ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-53-101.

19 (c) "ELIGIBLE PROGRAM" MEANS AN IN-DEMAND CREDENTIAL IN  
20 EARLY CHILDHOOD, EDUCATION, LAW ENFORCEMENT, FIRE AND FORESTRY,  
21 CONSTRUCTION, OR NURSING THAT IS TWO YEARS OR LESS IN DURATION.

22 (d) "PROGRAM" MEANS THE IN-DEMAND SHORT-TERM  
23 CREDENTIALS PROGRAM DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION.

24 (9) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2027.

25 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** part 7 to article  
26 83 of title 8 as follows:

27 **PART 7**

1 CONSTRUCTION REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP  
2 GRANT PROGRAM

3 **8-83-701. Construction registered apprenticeship grant**  
4 **program - created - reports - appropriation - definitions.**

5 (1) (a) THERE IS CREATED IN THE OFFICE OF THE FUTURE OF WORK WITHIN  
6 THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT THE CONSTRUCTION  
7 REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP GRANT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE GRANTS TO  
8 REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS IN THE BUILDING AND  
9 CONSTRUCTION TRADES THAT PROVIDE TRAINING AT NO COST TO  
10 APPRENTICES.

11 (b) THE OFFICE SHALL CONSULT WITH THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC  
12 DEVELOPMENT, THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, THE DEPARTMENT OF  
13 HIGHER EDUCATION, THE STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND  
14 OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION, LOCAL DISTRICT COLLEGES, THE WORK FORCE  
15 DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, AND AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGES IN THE  
16 DEVELOPMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE GRANT PROGRAM TO ENSURE  
17 ALIGNMENT WITH, AND REDUCE DUPLICATION OF, RELATED PROGRAMS  
18 AND INITIATIVES.

19 (2) (a) THE OFFICE SHALL CREATE A COMPETITIVE APPLICATION  
20 PROCESS THROUGH WHICH IT SELECTS REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP  
21 PROGRAMS IN THE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES AS GRANT  
22 RECIPIENTS. A GRANT RECIPIENT MUST SATISFY, AT A MINIMUM, THE  
23 FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

24 (I) TRAIN APPRENTICES IN THE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION  
25 TRADES;

26 (II) AS A PART OF ITS GRANT APPLICATION, DEMONSTRATE HOW IT  
27 WILL USE THE GRANT AWARD TO PROVIDE TRAINING TO APPRENTICES AT



1 NO COST TO THE APPRENTICES;

2 (III) AS A PART OF ITS GRANT APPLICATION, DEMONSTRATE HOW  
3 IT WILL USE THE GRANT AWARD TO DIRECTLY PROVIDE TRAINING, OR  
4 REMOVE BARRIERS TO ACCESSING TRAINING, TO PERSONS FROM TARGET  
5 POPULATIONS;

6 (IV) AS A PART OF ITS GRANT APPLICATION, COMMIT TO  
7 DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION IN ITS REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP  
8 PROGRAM; AND

9 (V) AS PART OF ITS GRANT APPLICATION, PROVIDE ANY OTHER  
10 CRITERIA OR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION DETERMINED NECESSARY BY THE  
11 DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT.

12 (b) THE OFFICE SHALL DEVELOP PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS FOR  
13 GRANT RECIPIENTS. THE OFFICE OF THE FUTURE OF WORK MAY TERMINATE  
14 A REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM'S PARTICIPATION IN THE GRANT  
15 PROGRAM IF THE REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM FAILS TO SATISFY  
16 THE PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS.

17 (c) THE OFFICE SHALL DEVELOP A SCALE FOR THE AMOUNT OF  
18 MONEY TO BE AWARDED TO GRANT RECIPIENTS BASED UPON FACTORS  
19 INCLUDING THE NUMBER OF APPRENTICES IN THE REGISTERED  
20 APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM AND THE LOCATION OF THE REGISTERED  
21 APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM.

22 (3) (a) THE OFFICE SHALL REQUIRE GRANT RECIPIENTS TO  
23 ANNUALLY REPORT DATA TO THE OFFICE. AT A MINIMUM, THE GRANT  
24 RECIPIENTS MUST REPORT:

25 (I) THE NUMBER OF APPRENTICES AWARDED FUNDS PURSUANT TO  
26 THE GRANT PROGRAM, IN TOTAL AND DISAGGREGATED BY ANY FACTORS  
27 DETERMINED BY THE OFFICE;

1 (II) IF AVAILABLE, THE NUMBER OF APPRENTICES AWARDED FUNDS  
2 PURSUANT TO THE GRANT PROGRAM WHO COMPLETED A REGISTERED  
3 APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM, IN TOTAL AND DISAGGREGATED BY ANY  
4 FACTORS DETERMINED BY THE OFFICE;     

5 (III) IF AVAILABLE, EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS OUTCOMES FOR  
6 APPRENTICES AWARDED FUNDS PURSUANT TO THE GRANT PROGRAM, IN  
7 TOTAL AND DISAGGREGATED BY ANY FACTORS DETERMINED BY THE  
8 OFFICE; AND

9 (IV) A DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR  
10 THE PROGRAM, INCLUDING COSTS INCURRED TO ADMINISTER THE  
11 PROGRAM.

12 (b) BEGINNING IN 2025 AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE OFFICE  
13 SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT COMPILING THE DATA COLLECTED PURSUANT TO  
14 SUBSECTION (3)(a) OF THIS SECTION TO THE SENATE BUSINESS, LABOR,  
15 AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
16 BUSINESS AFFAIRS AND LABOR COMMITTEE, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR  
17 COMMITTEES, DURING THE HEARINGS HELD PURSUANT TO THE "SMART  
18 ACT", PART 2 OF ARTICLE 7 OF TITLE 2.

19 (4) FOR THE 2023-24 STATE FISCAL YEAR, THE GENERAL  
20 ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND  
21 EMPLOYMENT FOR ALLOCATION BY THE OFFICE ONE MILLION FOUR  
22 HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM THE GENERAL FUND FOR PURPOSES  
23 OF THIS SECTION. ANY UNEXPENDED MONEY REMAINING AT THE END OF  
24 THE 2023-24 STATE FISCAL YEAR FROM THE APPROPRIATION LISTED IN THIS  
25 SUBSECTION (4):

26 (a) DOES NOT REVERT TO THE GENERAL FUND OR ANY OTHER  
27 FUND;

1 (b) MAY BE USED BY THE OFFICE IN THE 2024-25 OR 2025-26  
2 STATE FISCAL YEAR WITHOUT FURTHER APPROPRIATION; AND

3 (c) MUST NOT BE USED FOR ANY PURPOSE OTHER THAN THE  
4 PURPOSES SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION.

5 (5) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE  
6 REQUIRES:

7 (a) "GRANT PROGRAM" MEANS THE CONSTRUCTION REGISTERED  
8 APPRENTICESHIP GRANT PROGRAM CREATED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS  
9 SECTION.

10 (b) "OFFICE" MEANS THE OFFICE OF THE FUTURE OF WORK  
11 DESCRIBED IN SECTION 8-77-110.

12 (c) "REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM" HAS THE SAME  
13 MEANING AS DEFINED IN SECTION 8-15.7-101 (13).

14 (d) "TARGET POPULATIONS" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS DEFINED  
15 IN SECTION 8-83-601 (13).

16 **8-83-702. Repeal of part.** THIS PART 7 IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE  
17 JULY 1, 2027.

18 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-1-104, **amend**  
19 **(1)(b)(I); and add (1)(c.5) as follows:**

20 **23-1-104. Financing the system of postsecondary education -**  
21 **report.** (1) (b) (I) For the 2010-11 fiscal year and for fiscal years  
22 beginning on or after July 1, 2016, the general assembly shall make  
23 annual appropriations of general fund money, of cash funds received from  
24 tuition income, and of money that is estimated to be received by an  
25 institution, under the direction and control of the governing board, as  
26 stipends, as defined in section 23-18-102, and through fee-for-service  
27 contracts, as authorized in section 23-1-109.7 or 23-18-303.5, whichever

1 is applicable, as a single line item to each governing board for the  
2 operation of its campuses; except that, if the general assembly  
3 appropriates money, as described in subsection (1)(c) of this section, to  
4 the Colorado state forest service, the agricultural experiment station  
5 department of the Colorado state university, or the Colorado state  
6 university cooperative extension service, OR TO THE STATE BOARD FOR  
7 COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION AS DESCRIBED IN  
8 SUBSECTION (1)(c.5) OF THIS SECTION, such money shall not be included  
9 within the single line item appropriations described in this subsection  
10 (1)(b).

11 (c.5) IN ADDITION TO ANY APPROPRIATIONS MADE PURSUANT TO  
12 SUBSECTION (1)(b) OR (1)(c) OF THIS SECTION, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
13 MAY MAKE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS OF GENERAL FUND MONEY AS  
14 SEPARATE LINE ITEMS TO THE STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES  
15 AND OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION FOR THE IN-DEMAND SHORT-TERM  
16 CREDENTIALS PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION 23-60-1201.

17 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-3.3-103, **add** (12)  
18 as follows:

19 **23-3.3-103. Annual appropriations - repeal.** (12) (a) THE  
20 PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION CONCERNING  
21 APPROPRIATIONS FOR STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THIS  
22 ARTICLE 3.3 DO NOT APPLY TO APPROPRIATIONS MADE PURSUANT TO  
23 SECTION 23-60-1201 FOR THE IN-DEMAND SHORT-TERM CREDENTIALS  
24 PROGRAM.

25 (b) THIS SUBSECTION (12) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2027.

26 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 23-60-214 as  
27 follows:

1           **23-60-214. Develop short-term degree nursing programs -**  
2           **appropriation - repeal.** (1) FOR THE 2023-24 STATE FISCAL YEAR, THE  
3           GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER  
4           EDUCATION FOR ALLOCATION BY THE BOARD FIVE MILLION DOLLARS FROM  
5           THE GENERAL FUND TO ESTABLISH TWO NEW SHORT-TERM DEGREE  
6           NURSING PROGRAMS AT COMMUNITY OR TECHNICAL COLLEGES DESCRIBED  
7           IN SECTION 23-60-205. THE FUNDS MUST BE USED FOR THE FOLLOWING  
8           PURPOSES, AS APPLICABLE, TO SUPPORT THE EXPANSION OF SHORT-TERM  
9           DEGREE NURSING PROGRAMS:

10           (a) NEW SHORT-TERM DEGREE PROGRAM CURRICULUM  
11           DEVELOPMENT;

12           (b) NEW SHORT-TERM DEGREE PROGRAM EQUIPMENT AND  
13           SUPPLIES;

14           (c) NEW SHORT-TERM DEGREE PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION,  
15           INCLUDING ACCREDITATION COSTS; AND

16           (d) NEW SHORT-TERM DEGREE ADMINISTRATION COSTS, INCLUDING  
17           REPORTING ON AN ANNUAL BASIS UNTIL ALL FUNDS ARE EXPENDED.

18           (2) ANY UNEXPENDED MONEY REMAINING AT THE END OF THE  
19           2023-24 STATE FISCAL YEAR FROM THE APPROPRIATION PURSUANT TO  
20           SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION:

21           (a) DOES NOT REVERT TO THE GENERAL FUND OR ANY OTHER  
22           FUND;

23           (b) MAY BE USED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN  
24           THE 2024-25 OR 2025-26 STATE FISCAL YEAR WITHOUT FURTHER  
25           APPROPRIATION; AND

26           (c) MUST NOT BE USED FOR ANY PURPOSE OTHER THAN THE  
27           PURPOSES SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION.

1 (3) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2027.

2 **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-1.5-102, **amend**

3 (1)(e) as follows:

4 **25-1.5-102. Epidemic and communicable diseases - powers and**  
5 **duties of department - rules - definitions.** (1) The department has, in  
6 addition to all other powers and duties imposed upon it by law, the  
7 powers and duties provided in this section as follows:

8 (e) For fiscal year 2022-23, the general assembly shall appropriate  
9 ten million dollars from the economic recovery and relief cash fund  
10 created in section 24-75-228 to the department. The department shall use  
11 this appropriation for recruitment and re-engagement efforts of workers  
12 in the health-care profession with current or expired licenses and staffing.  
13 ANY MONEY REMAINING AT THE END OF THE 2022-23 STATE FISCAL YEAR  
14 FROM THIS APPROPRIATION IS FURTHER APPROPRIATED TO THE  
15 DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION. ANY MONEY THAT IS  
16 NOT EXPENDED OR OBLIGATED BY DECEMBER 30, 2024, REVERTS TO THE  
17 "AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021" CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION  
18 24-75-226 (2) IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 24-75-226 (4)(d). ANY  
19 MONEY OBLIGATED BY DECEMBER 30, 2024, MUST BE EXPENDED BY  
20 DECEMBER 31, 2026.

21 **SECTION 8.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25-1.5-406, **amend**  
22 (9) as follows:

23 **25-1.5-406. School nurse grant program - creation - eligibility**  
24 **- award of grants - rules - report - legislative declaration - definitions.**  
25 (9) The general assembly shall appropriate three million dollars from the  
26 economic recovery and relief cash fund created in section 24-75-228 to  
27 the department for the GRANT program. ANY MONEY REMAINING AT THE

1 END OF THE 2022-23 STATE FISCAL YEAR FROM THIS APPROPRIATION IS  
2 FURTHER APPROPRIATED TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS  
3 SECTION. ANY MONEY THAT IS NOT EXPENDED OR OBLIGATED BY  
4 DECEMBER 30, 2024, REVERTS TO THE "AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF  
5 2021" CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 24-75-226 (2) IN ACCORDANCE  
6 WITH SECTION 24-75-226 (4)(d) . ANY MONEY OBLIGATED BY DECEMBER  
7 30, 2024, MUST BE EXPENDED BY DECEMBER 31, 2026.

8 **SECTION 9. Appropriation.** (1) For the 2023-24 state fiscal  
9 year, \$43,600,000 is appropriated to the department of higher education  
10 for allocation to the state board for community colleges and occupational  
11 education. This appropriation is from the general fund. To implement this  
12 act, the board may use this appropriation as follows:

- 13 (a) \$38,600,000 for the in-demand short-term credentials program;
- 14 and
- 15 (b) \$5,000,000 for short-term degree nursing programs.

16 (2) For the 2023-24 state fiscal year, \$1,400,000 is appropriated  
17 to the department of labor and employment. This appropriation is from  
18 the general fund, and is based on an assumption that the department will  
19 require an additional 1.2 FTE. To implement this act, the department may  
20 use this appropriation for the construction registered apprenticeship grant  
21 program administered by the office of the future of work.

22 **SECTION 10. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
23 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
24 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.