



## 2015 LEGISLATIVE SESSION RECAP

May 8, 2015

### FY 2015-16 BUDGET

- **\$66.6 million** increase for public institutions of higher education, allocated through the new higher education funding formula (11% increase).
- **\$15.2 million** increase for need based financial aid (11% increase).
- **\$5 million** investment in the College Opportunity Scholarship Initiative
- **\$230, 268** reappropriated funds to maintain research and data functions.
- **\$105,494** investment in the Colorado School of Mines geological survey.
- **\$1.3 million** allocated to meet the Ft. Lewis Native American Waiver requirement.
- **\$250,000** investment in the Alzheimer's Disease Center at the University of Colorado School of Medicine.

### HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING ALLOCATION FORMULA (HB 14-1319)

The funding allocation formula developed through the HB 14-1319 process was primarily kept intact by the Joint Budget Committee, with one modification that did not change the allocation to individual institutions:

- **Elimination of the Under Represented Minority (URM)** factor on the Role & Mission side of the formula and the Underrepresented Minority Metric on the Performance side of the formula, **with an equivalent increase to the Pell-Eligible** factor and metric to compensate.

The URM proxies were intended to provide funding to institutions of higher education for student populations that data demonstrates are not achieving higher education completion. These proxy calculations sought to provide funding for (1) student success programs and (2) reward institutions for being successful with the populations most in need of increasing post-secondary attainment.

However, the Joint Budget Committee, due to certain pressures, amended the model. Instead of making a calculation based on the number of underrepresented minorities served and who are successful, the proxy for the number of Pell-eligible students served and who are successful was increased.

While imperfect at truly capturing the breadth of the at-risk populations, this change protected the funding levels to our institutions needed to continue to serve their students.

The Funding Allocation Model Review Team, which has begun meeting to review the current funding allocation formula, will reexamine the data to determine if a more applicable proxy could be developed to meet the needs of our underserved students.

BILL #	DESCRIPTION	OUTCOME
<b>CDHE AGENCY PROPOSALS</b>		
HB 15-1294*	<b>COLORADO ALIGNMENT WITH FEDERAL VA RULES</b> Aligns state statute with federal law with regard to the newly expanded definition of "covered individuals" under the VA Choice Act and the benefits they are entitled to. <i>Representatives Lee &amp; Keyser, Senators Todd &amp; Hill</i>	<b>PASSED</b>
HB 15-1359*	<b>CREATING COLORADO ABLE</b> Allows <i>CollegInvest</i> to offer a new type of savings program for individuals with disabilities. <i>Representatives Danielson &amp; Landgraf, Senators Kefalas &amp; Martinez Humenik</i>	<b>PASSED</b>
<b>WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PACKAGE</b>		
HB 15-1170	<b>POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE READINESS</b> Among other things, adds a new performance measure "percentage of high school graduates who enroll in postsecondary immediately following high school" - to the current performance indicators, pertaining to postsecondary and workforce readiness and closing the achievement gap, used by DOE to measure level of performance. <i>Representatives Kraft-Tharp &amp; Wilson, Senators Hill &amp; Heath</i>	<b>PASSED</b>
HB 15-1227	<b>TAX CREDIT FOR EMPLOYERS THAT PAY STUDENT LOANS</b> Would have created an income tax credit for employers who pay all or a portion of certain employee's student loans directly to the lenders. <i>Representative Becker, Senator Heath</i>	<b>FAILED</b>
HB 15-1230	<b>INNOVATIVE INDUSTRY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM</b> Would create the Innovative Industries Workforce Development Program within CDLE to reimburse businesses for a portion of expenses related to a qualifying internship. <i>Representative Lee &amp; Foote, Senators Heath &amp; Cooke</i>	<b>PASSED</b>
HB 15-1231	<b>ENHANCED UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION BENEFITS</b> Would have reinstated a program for unemployed individuals to receive certain training. <i>Representatives Esgar &amp; Kraft-Tharp, Senators Merrifield &amp; Crowder</i>	<b>FAILED</b>
HB 15-1270*	<b>PATHWAYS IN TECHNOLOGY EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOLS</b> Authorizes the creation of "Pathways in Technology" providing opportunities for students to graduate with a diploma AND an Associate Degree or employable certificates. <i>Representatives Duran &amp; Foote, Senator Todd &amp; Woods</i>	<b>PASSED</b>
HB 15-1271	<b>MOBILE LEARNING LABS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT</b> Provides funding for new mobile learning labs, which provide employers with a flexible delivery option for on-site training. <i>Representatives Lontine &amp; Hamner, Senators Marble &amp; Donovan</i>	<b>PASSED</b>

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HB 15-1274*	<p><b>CREATION OF CAREER PATHWAYS FOR STUDENTS</b></p> <p>Requires the creation of new “career pathways” for students in critical occupations in growing industries.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Representatives Garnett &amp; Melton, Senators Kerr &amp; Woods</i></p>	<b>PASSED</b>
HB 15-1275*	<p><b>CAREER AND TECHNICAL PROGRAMS</b></p> <p>Allows course work related to apprenticeship and internship programs to be counted in concurrent enrollment programs. In addition, requires CCHE to establish a tuition assistance program for Pell-eligible students whose coursework does not meet Pell-eligibility requirements.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Representative Winter, Senators Heath &amp; Marble</i></p>	<b>PASSED</b>
HB 15-1276	<p><b>RECRUITMENT FOR SKILLED WORKER TRAINING PROGRAMS</b></p> <p>Would establish a matching grant program to provide assistance to entities and organizations that offer skilled worker training programs in their outreach, training and recruitment efforts.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Representatives Pabon &amp; Williams, Senators Cooke &amp; Heath</i></p>	<b>PASSED</b>
<b>OTHER BILLS IMPACTING HIGHER EDUCATION</b>		
HB 15-1027	<p><b>IN STATE TUITION AMERICAN INDIAN TRIBES TIES</b></p> <p>Would provide in-state tuition status for individuals from American Indian tribes with historical affiliation with Colorado.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Representative Salazar, Senator Guzman</i></p>	<b>FAILED</b>
HB 15-1156	<p><b>HIGHER EDUCATION PERFORMANCE FEE-FOR-SERVICE CONTRACTS</b></p> <p>Would have prohibited the new higher education funding formula from counting non-residents students in certain performance metrics.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Representative Van Winkle</i></p>	<b>FAILED</b>
HB 15-1165	<p><b>SCHOOL USE OF AMERICAN INDIAN MASCOTS</b></p> <p>Would have created a committee to consider the use of American Indian mascots by public school and institutions of higher education.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Representatives Salazar &amp; Melton, Senator Ulibarri</i></p>	<b>FAILED</b>
HB 15-1215	<p><b>IN STATE TUITION DEPENDENTS OF MILITARY MEMBERS</b></p> <p>Would provide certain military dependents in-state tuition.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Representative Priola, Senator Johnston</i></p>	<b>PASSED</b>
HB 15-1220	<p><b>CAMPUS SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIM MEDICAL CARE</b></p> <p>Requires institutions of higher education to take certain actions to ensure proper preparation to response to incidents of sexual assault, including published resources for victims, response protocol, and public awareness.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Representatives Danielson &amp; Ryden, Senators Cooke &amp; Martinez-Humenik</i></p>	<b>PASSED</b>
HB 15-1224	<p><b>STATE FUNDS RECEIVED BY LOCAL DISTRICT JUNIOR COLLEGES</b></p> <p>Clarifies that all state appropriated funds received by Colorado Mountain College, in addition to any other revenue, is eligible to be used for both baccalaureate and 2-year programs. In addition, creates a line item in the Long Bill for the annual grant level to Colorado Mountain College and Aims Community College.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Representative Mitsch Bush, Senators Hill &amp; Todd</i></p>	<b>PASSED</b>

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HB 15-1254	<p><b>TECHNICAL FIX TO HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING MODEL</b> Clarifies what is included in “total state appropriations” for the purpose of calculating the formula for allocating higher education operating funds. <i>Representative Hamner, Senator Lambert</i></p>	<b>PASSED</b>
HB 15-1261	<p><b>PROTECTIONS FOR IHE’S</b> Among other things, protects institutions of higher education that lose enterprise status in a given year as a result of the level of capital construction funding from the state. <i>Representative Young, Senators Grantham &amp; Steadman</i></p>	<b>PASSED</b>
HB 15-1264	<p><b>HOMELESS PERSONS ACCESS TO PUBLIC PROPERTY</b> Would have limited the ability of public institutions of higher education to disallow certain individuals from property or buildings deemed public property. <i>Representatives Salazar &amp; Melton, Senator Kefalas</i></p>	<b>FAILED</b>
HB 15-1295	<p><b>INSPECTIONS OF ELECTRICAL AND PLUMBING</b> Provides the University of Colorado the same authority to conduct electrical and plumbing inspections for a limited number of buildings downtown as was codified to CU Boulder and CSU Ft. Collins last year, which they have been doing since 1991. <i>Representatives Melton &amp; Priola, Senator Holbert</i></p>	<b>PASSED</b>
HB 15-1296	<p><b>SEXUAL ASSAULT TASK FORCE</b> Would have established a task force to review and report on how allegations of sexual assault are being addressed on our campuses of higher education. <i>Representatives Fields &amp; Priola, Senators Hill &amp; Newell</i></p>	<b>FAILED</b>
HB 15-1326	<p><b>ACCREDITATION STATUS OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS</b> Would have prohibited the consideration of the accreditation status of a Colorado school district or charter school when evaluating first-time freshman students for admissions. <i>Representatives Moreno &amp; Esgar, Senator Garcia</i></p>	<b>FAILED</b>
HB 15-1335	<p><b>FISCAL NOTES FOR INTERIM COMMITTEE BILLS</b> Requires fiscal impacts to be provided for legislative measures considered by committees during the interim. <i>Representative Sias, Senator Woods</i></p>	<b>PASSED</b>
HB 15-1344	<p><b>NATIONAL WESTERN CENTER</b> Among other things, creates a National Western Center (NWC) partnership for the purpose of building and operating a new year-round, multi-purpose national western center on and near the existing site of the Denver coliseum and historic national western stock show complex. The NWC master plan provides for an integrated facilities program that includes a variety of facilities for CSU and allows for COP’s to be issued to meet the goals of this bill. <i>Representatives Duran &amp; Becker J., Senators Sonnenberg &amp; Steadman</i></p>	<b>PASSED</b>
HB 15-1347	<p><b>MODIFYING DEDUCTIBILITY OF COLLEGE SAVINGS CONTRIBUTIONS</b> Would have changed the tax deductibility of contributions made to college savings plans. <i>Representatives Pettersen &amp; Young, Senators Merrifield &amp; Todd</i></p>	<b>FAILED</b>

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HB 15-1349	<b>“GROW YOUR OWN TEACHER”</b> Would allow high schools to offer credit bearing courses that will increase student awareness of the teaching profession and opportunities to pursue such a career. <i>Representative Fields, Senator Ulibarri</i>	<b>FAILED</b>
HB 15-1366	<b>EXPANDED JOB GROWTH TAX CREDIT</b> Would expand the Colorado Job Growth Incentive Tax Credit to include a "qualified partnership" between a taxpayer and a state institution of higher education that aligns with or furthers the academic mission of the institution and results in positive benefits for the community and local economy. <i>Representatives Pabon &amp; Willett, Senator Balmer</i>	<b>PASSED</b>
HB 15-1369	<b>IN-STATE TUITION FOR HOMELESS YOUTH</b> Would provide in-state tuition status for certain unaccompanied homeless youth. <i>Representatives Pettersen &amp; Esgar</i>	<b>FAILED</b>
HB 15-1382	<b>WORKFORCE INNOVATION &amp; OPPORTUNITY ACT</b> Aligns Colorado with the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act as required. <i>Representative Duran &amp; DelGrosso, Senators Heath &amp; Martinez Humenik</i>	<b>FAILED</b>
HB 15-1388	<b>PENSION BONDS</b> Would have authorized the issuance of bonds to address the unfunded PERA liability. <i>Representatives Pabon &amp; Rankin, Senator Kerr</i>	<b>FAILED</b>
HB 15-1389	<b>HOSPITAL PROVIDER FEE, ENTERPRISE STATUS</b> Would create the health care affordability enterprise to hold any hospital provider fee revenues. <i>Representatives Hullinghorst &amp; Court, Senator Steadman</i>	<b>FAILED</b>
HB 15-186	<b>EXEMPTION FROM DPOS</b> Creates an exemption from the requirements of the Private Occupational School Act for yoga teacher training programs. <i>Senator Woods, Representatives Dore &amp; Garnett</i>	<b>PASSED</b>
SB 15-50	<b>SCHOLARSHIP FOR TOP THREE GRADUATES</b> Would have provided a scholarship to the top three graduates from each Colorado high school for full tuition at a Colorado public institution of higher education. <i>Senator Heath</i>	<b>FAILED</b>
SB 15-62	<b>EXTEND RESTRICTION TUITION INCREASES HIGHER EDUCATION</b> Would have placed an indefinite tuition cap of 6% for Colorado public institutions of higher education. <i>Representative Petterson, Senator Kerr</i>	<b>FAILED</b>
SB 15-68	<b>LOWER DEBT FOR HIGHER EDUCATION</b> Would have capped the annual interest rate on nongovernmental student loans. <i>Senator Jones, Representative Moreno</i>	<b>FAILED</b>
SB 15-72	<b>METROPOLITAN STATE UNIVERSITY OF DENVER ADMISSIONS</b> Would have modified the admissions standards for Metropolitan State University. <i>Representative Lundeen, Senator Lambert</i>	<b>FAILED</b>

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SB 15-82	<p><b>COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROPERTY TAX INCENTIVES</b> Allows for the creation of local Workforce Development Funds to assist high school graduates pursue post-secondary education or credentials from an accredited institution.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Representatives Moreno &amp; Lawrence, Senators Marble &amp; Hodge</i></p>	<b>PASSED</b>
SB 15-94	<p><b>EMPLOYMENT OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE FACULTY</b> Would have required the Community College System provide level pay and benefits to adjunct instructors as they do permanent instructors.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Representative Salazar, Senator Kefalas</i></p>	<b>FAILED</b>
SB 15-117	<p><b>DISCRIMINATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING</b> Would have prohibited to allocation of state higher education dollars solely based on certain factors such as race, sex, religion, etc.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Representative Joshi, Senator Lambert</i></p>	<b>FAILED</b>
SB 15-118	<p><b>MODIFYING DEDUCTIBILITY OF COLLEGE SAVINGS CONTRIBUTIONS</b> Would have changed the tax deductibility of contributions made to college savings plans.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Senator Merrifield</i></p>	<b>FAILED</b>
SB 15-138	<p><b>STUDENT CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT PROGRAM FUNDING</b> Provides greater flexibility for the spending of ASCENT funding and allow districts to carry over remaining funds for up to one year.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Representative Wilson, Senator Donovan</i></p>	<b>PASSED</b>
SB 15-171	<p><b>SUNSET PRIVATE OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION ACT</b> Reauthorizes the Private Occupational Schools Act, as recommended by the sunset review.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Representative Moreno, Senator Hill</i></p>	<b>PASSED</b>
SB 15-200	<p><b>PRIVATE STUDENT LOAN DISCLOSURES</b> Would have set certain restrictions and requirements on private lenders of educational loans.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Senator Kerr</i></p>	<b>FAILED</b>
SB 15-208	<p><b>CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION</b> Allows the State Controller to allow the modification of spending authority for a nonmonetary adjustment of a capital construction project.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Senator Kefalas, Representative Brown</i></p>	<b>PASSED</b>
SB 15-225	<p><b>HISTORY COLORADO – GOVERNANCE</b> Modifies the governance structure of History Colorado in response to recent audit recommendations.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Senators Holbert &amp; Neville T., Representatives Ryden &amp; Saine</i></p>	<b>PASSED</b>
SB 15-236	<p><b>HISTORY COLORADO – LONG BILL</b> Reorganizes the state historical society line items within the Long Bill.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Senator Grantham, Representative Rankin</i></p>	<b>PASSED</b>

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SB 15-237	<b>TECHNICAL CHANGES TO HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING</b> Makes technical and conforming changes, along with providing an extension of one year for the trigger date for SB 14-52. <i>Senator Lambert, Representative Hamner</i>	<b>PASSED</b>
SB 15-270*	<b>OFFICE OF STATE ARCHITECT</b> Would create an Office of the State Architect to assist with creating a master capital construction priority list that incorporates the CCHE priority list and all other state agency projects. <i>Senator Lambert, Representative Rankin</i>	<b>PASSED</b>
SB 15-275	<b>DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION</b> Would have allowed the General Assembly to ask for and receive confidential information that is protected under certain laws. <i>Senators Lambert &amp; Carroll, Representatives Hullinghorst &amp; Young</i>	<b>FAILED</b>
SB 15-282	<b>BUSINESS/HIGHER EDUCATION COLLABORATION</b> Provides opportunities for institutions of higher education in distressed counties to partner with new businesses to aid in the economic recovery of a region. <i>Senators Scott &amp; Johnston, Representatives Duran &amp; Willett</i>	<b>PASSED</b>
<b>BILLS AFFECTING K-12, COLORADO ACADEMIC STANDARDS, AND/OR ASSESSMENTS</b>		
HB 15-1105	<b>EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES</b> Would have modified the Colorado education accountability measures. <i>Representative Everett, Senator Marble</i>	<b>FAILED</b>
HB 15-1123	<b>FEDERAL TEST REQUIREMENTS OPTION</b> Would have made changes to the state requirements concerning student performance testing. <i>Representative Tate</i>	<b>FAILED</b>
HB 15-1208	<b>REPEAL OF COMMON CORE EDUCATION STANDARDS</b> Would have made changes to the state requirements concerning student assessments and to the Colorado Academic Standards. <i>Representative Klingenschmitt</i>	<b>FAILED</b>
HB 15-1125	<b>ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND FLEXIBLE ASSESSMENTS</b> Would have made changes to the state requirements concerning student assessments and to the Colorado Academic Standards. <i>Representatives Lundeen &amp; Carver, Senator Holbert</i>	<b>FAILED</b>
HB 15-1323	<b>1202 TASKFORCE RECOMMENDATIONS</b> Would implement the recommendations of the 1202 task force. <i>Representatives Buckner &amp; Wilson, Senators Holbert &amp; Kerr</i>	<b>PASSED</b>
HB 15-1334	<b>OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FINANCE</b> Would have created a legislative oversight committee on school finance to study tax policy issues relating to school finance and the components of a new school finance system. <i>Representative Hamner &amp; Rankin, Senators Hill &amp; Kerr</i>	<b>FAILED</b>

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SB 15-215	<p><b>1202 TASKFORCE RECOMMENDATIONS</b></p> <p>Would implement the recommendations of the 1202 task force.  <i>Senators Hill &amp; Kerr, Representatives Buckner &amp; Wilson</i></p>	<b>FAILED</b>
SB 15-223	<p><b>PARENTS RIGHT TO REFUSE CHILD STANDARDIZED TESTS</b></p> <p>Would ensure that a parents' right to refuse to have his or her child take standardized tests does not result in negative consequences to the school due to a reduced student participation rate.  <i>Senators Holbert &amp; Todd, Representatives Lebsock &amp; Ransom</i></p>	<b>FAILED</b>
SB 15-233	<p><b>EDUCATION STANDARDS/ASSESSMENTS</b></p> <p>Would have made changes to the state requirements concerning student assessments and to the Colorado Academic Standards.  <i>Senators Marble &amp; Woods, Representatives Everett &amp; Saine</i></p>	<b>FAILED</b>
SB 15-257	<p><b>EDUCATION ASSESSMENTS FLEXIBILITY PILOT PROGRAM</b></p> <p>Would have made changes to the state requirements concerning student assessments and to the Colorado Academic Standards.  <i>Senators Hill &amp; Merrifield, Representatives Becker J. &amp; Singer</i></p>	<b>FAILED</b>
SB 15-267	<p><b>SCHOOL FINANCE ACT</b></p> <p>Makes the annual appropriation for K-12 financing.  <i>Senator Hill, Representative Hamner</i></p>	<b>PASSED</b>

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