

FISCAL NOTE

This bill contains appropriations totaling \$880,000 from the GENERAL FUND to the Wyoming Department of Education (WDE).

This bill contains an appropriation of \$40,000,000 from the GENERAL FUND to the EDUCATION SAVINGS ACCOUNTS EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT created by this bill.

This bill contains an authorization of 2 full-time position(s).

DETAIL OF APPROPRIATION

Agency #: 206 Agency Name: Department of Education
 Unit: N/A

EXPENDITURE BY SERIES AND YEAR	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
0100 Personnel/Benefit Costs	\$0	\$240,000	\$240,000
0900 Contractual Services Costs	\$0	\$200,000	\$200,000
 Total Expenditure Per Year:	 \$0	 \$440,000	 \$440,000
 Grand Total Expenditure:	 \$880,000		
Total Appropriated to Agency:	\$880,000		
Total Appropriated by Fund:			
GENERAL FUND	\$880,000		

Description of Appropriations:

This bill creates the Wyoming Education Savings Accounts Act (Act) that is administered by the WDE. The WDE is authorized two (2) full-time employees to administer the Act and anticipates expending \$240,000 each fiscal year (FY) of the FY 2025-2026 biennium for these positions' salaries and benefits. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction is authorized to allocate funds from the Education Savings Accounts Expenditure Account to pay for qualifying education expenses for each education savings account (ESA) student to education service providers. The WDE anticipates expending \$200,000 each fiscal year in the FY 2025-2026 biennium in contractual services costs to a third-party to assist the WDE in administering each ESA.

Subject to the availability of funds within the Education Savings Accounts Expenditure Account, a child who is a Wyoming resident and whose household income is: (i) at or below 250 percent of the federal poverty level is eligible to receive an ESA equal to \$5,000 per year; (ii) at or below 350 percent of the federal poverty level but more than 250 percent of the poverty level is eligible to receive an ESA equal to \$3,000 per year; or (iii) at or below 400 percent of the federal poverty level but more than 350 percent of the poverty level is eligible to receive an ESA equal to \$1,000 per year.

In addition to the household income guidelines, the following qualifications apply: (i) the child is not less than four (4) years of age as of August 1 of the year in which an application is made and has not yet attained the age to attend public school in Wyoming (early childhood education ESA); or (ii) has not graduated from high school, received a high school equivalency certification or completed the

equivalent of high school through a home-based educational program and is eligible to attend public school in Wyoming (K-12 education ESA).

Beginning in fiscal year 2026, an ESA can be authorized to eligible students, with 30 percent of the ESAs to be awarded for early childhood education and 70 percent of the ESAs to be awarded for K-12 education.

Assumptions:

The 2024 federal poverty guidelines for the 48 contiguous states and the District of Columbia, published by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, are detailed below with columns indicating the 250 percent, 350 percent, and 400 percent eligibility requirement in this bill. The poverty guidelines for FY 2026 would be determined using the most recent federal poverty guidelines.

2024 Federal Poverty Guidelines.

Persons in Family/ Household	Poverty Guideline	250 Percent of Poverty Guideline	350 Percent of Poverty Guideline	400 Percent of Poverty Guideline
1	\$15,060	\$37,650	\$52,710	\$60,240
2	\$20,440	\$51,100	\$71,540	\$81,760
3	\$25,820	\$64,550	\$90,370	\$103,280
4	\$31,200	\$78,000	\$109,200	\$124,800
5	\$36,580	\$91,450	\$128,030	\$146,320
6	\$41,960	\$104,900	\$146,860	\$167,840
7	\$47,340	\$118,350	\$165,690	\$189,360
8	\$52,720	\$131,800	\$184,520	\$210,880

Any additional fiscal or personnel impact is not determinable due to insufficient time to complete the fiscal note process.

NOTICE-AGENCY ESTIMATE OF ADMINISTRATIVE IMPACT REQUESTED

This bill has administrative impact that appears to increase duties or responsibilities of one or more state agencies and may impact agency spending or staffing requirements. As introduced, the bill does not modify any state agency budget or current personnel authorizations.

The following state agencies will be asked to provide their estimate of the administrative fiscal impact prior to the first committee meeting held to consider the bill:

Department of Education

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