



Workforce and Skills Legislation at the Capitol

The following bills in the 2017 Colorado General Assembly focus on some issues related to skills training for Colorado workers.

SUPPORT

Senate Bill 17-118 Senator Fields (D) and Representative Weissman (D) **Information on Private Occupational Schools**

The bill increases consumer information about private occupational schools at two points:

1. Disclosure prior to signing of the enrollment contract

A private occupational school is already required to provide some information to students regarding cost and length of programs. This bill adds

- Program completion rates
- Transfer rates, if known
- Employment rates
- Median salary
- Typical student loan debt information if school participates in federal student loan program

2. An online, free comparative tool to use when researching options

Ideally this information would be on the same website as other choices such as public institutions, apprenticeships, etc. The Colorado Department of Higher Education is currently building out such a website: <https://www.cotrainingproviders.org/#/> This bill would add all private occupational schools, as compared to just those seeking Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act or other federal funding. Available information would include:

- Costs
- Completion and program credential attainment rates
- Aggregate employment and earnings information of former students
- Student Loan debt information

Senate State Affairs

MONITOR

Senate Bill 17-022 Senator Donovan (D)- **Rural Economic Advancement of Colorado Towns**

Establishes \$500,000/yr fund to help financially and with technical assistance for rural communities experiencing a significant economic event such as plant closures and industry wide layoffs. Mentions the words “job training” on page 5 line 24.

Senate Finance

House Bill 17-1004 Representative Michaelson Genet (D) **College Credit for Military Education and Training.** Requires the Commission on Higher Education to create a statewide metric for awarding college credit for military education and training This metric put into effect in 2018-19 academic year.

House Education

House Bill 17—1007 Representative Garnett (D) and Senator Gardner (R) **Tax Benefit Employer CollegeInvest Contribution.** Employers could get an income tax deduction for amounts contributed to employee’s college savings account.

House Education

House Bill 17-1041 Representative Covarrubias (R) **Inform Students and Parents of Education Leading to Jobs** Requires local education provider that provides concurrent enrollment to provide notice to students twice a year that explains the number and types of credentials a student may earn through concurrent enrollment and the types of jobs available to person who hold those credentials.

House Education

Copies of the full bills are available at <http://leg.colorado.gov/>

For more information, contact Chaer Robert, Skills2Compete Colorado Coordinator 303-573-5669 x307 or crobert@cclponline.org



@skill2competeco

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