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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Ortiz y Pino LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_  
ORIGINAL DATE 2/12/24  
BILL Senate Memorial  
SHORT TITLE Behavioral Health Expansion Strategies NUMBER 11  
ANALYST Jorgensen

### ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT\* (dollars in thousands)

Agency/Program	FY24	FY25	FY26	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
HED	Indeterminate but minimal	Indeterminate but minimal	No fiscal impact	Indeterminate but minimal	Nonrecurring	General Fund

Parentheses ( ) indicate expenditure decreases.

\*Amounts reflect most recent analysis of this legislation.

### Sources of Information

LFC Files

## SUMMARY

### Synopsis of Senate Memorial 11

Senate Memorial 11 (SM11) requests the Higher Education Department (HED) to conduct a study to identify and recommend strategies for providing free tuition to students in graduate-level psychiatric nursing, psychology, social work, and counseling programs and to study behavioral health programs at two-year institutions as well. The memorial requests HED to report its findings to the Legislative Health and Human Services committee by July 15, 2024.

## FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Because SM11 does not contain an appropriation and requests HED to conduct the study in fiscal year 2024, any additional costs would be absorbed in the FY24 operating budget.

## SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

New Mexico faces a shortage of health care providers, including behavioral health care providers. It is unclear if tuition is a barrier to entry for those who may otherwise enter the field. SM11 will study this issue.

CJ/ss/ne