

LFC Requester:	Connor Jorgensen
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**AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS
2024 REGULAR SESSION**

WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, UPLOAD ANALYSIS TO:

AgencyAnalysis.nmlegis.gov

{Analysis must be uploaded as a PDF}

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

{Indicate if analysis is on an original bill, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}

Check all that apply:

Original **Amendment**
Correction **Substitute**

Date 1/30/24
Bill No: HB100

Sponsor:	<u>Reps. Castellano, Sanchez, and Hernandez</u>	Agency Name and Code	<u>UNM-Valencia</u>
Short Title:	<u>Adult Online Learner Scholarship Act</u>	Person Writing	<u>Lenaya Montoya</u>
		Phone:	<u>5052771670</u>
		Email	<u>lenayamontoya@unm.edu</u>

SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY24	FY25		
\$5,000.00	\$2,000.00	Nonrecurring	General

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to:
 Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis: HB100 enacts the “Adult Online Learner Scholarship Act”. HB 100 creates the “Adult Online Learner Scholarship Program” within the Higher Education Department (HED) and prescribes powers and duties to HED. In HB 100, HED is tasked with developing and maintaining a list (updated annually) of critical workforce needs. An eligible student can receive a scholarship through the Program if they are at least twenty-six years of age, have not received a terminal certificate or degree in a profession or occupation on the critical workforce need list, demonstrates financial need and consistent with any criteria promulgated by HED, and are currently enrolled or enrolling at least half-time at an eligible institution in an online post-secondary degree program or vocational certificate program in a field of study on the critical workforce need list. HB 100 creates and appropriates funding to two funds

within the bill; first, HB 100 appropriates \$5,000,000 from the general fund to the adult online learner endowment fund in FY24 to endow the adult online learner scholarship program, and second, \$2,000,000 is appropriated in FY25 for the purpose of providing scholarships to students who are pursuing programs on the critical workforce need list approved by HED.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Since the program and funds created through HB 100 are administered through HED, the University of New Mexico (UNM) and its branch campuses agree that there should be no significant fiscal impacts to UNM.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

UNM and its branch campuses anticipate no significant issues. Once the list of critical workforce need programs is determined, UNM would further analyze how many students might be eligible for these scholarships. Most of UNM's students receive financial aid from other sources; these scholarships would further enable students to succeed in their education by providing economic support for various areas of their lives. This scholarship will benefit adult learners that may not qualify for other types of aid or scholarships. Focusing on critical workforce needs this scholarship will assist UNM in the recruitment of students in these programs and promote retention and completion. Financial support to adult learners, enrolled at least half time, in workforce degrees and certificates will increase access to higher education, improve retention in workforce training programs, and enable students to succeed and be employed in high need areas.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

None

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

None

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

None

TECHNICAL ISSUES

None

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

None

ALTERNATIVES

Most UNM students qualify for a variety of different types of financial aid and scholarships.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Students defined as adult learners have limited opportunities for eligible scholarships and some will have to pay tuition which may limit access. The students would have to rely on other sources of financial aid. If the bill is not enacted, students will not have access to these potential scholarships in key workforce areas.

AMENDMENTS