



N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

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

	FY24	FY25	FY26	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>	N/A	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00	Recurring	Other State Funds

(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**

HB303, as amended, creates the New Mexico Workforce Training Economic Support Pilot Program within the New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED.) It does not appropriate funds but instead utilizes one million dollars (\$1,000,000) each year for three years from FY25 through FY27. This funding is currently in HB2 for NMHED during the same time period for the purpose of developing Integrated Education and Training (IET) programs.

The pilot program intends to:

- Demonstrate that the state can measurably increase access to living-wage jobs
- Develop and implement eligibility criteria for state residents to participate in the pilot program
- Develop and administer a support program to provide New Mexico residents with ongoing monetary stipends that enable them to acquire training and skills
- Identify and approve workforce training programs in 15 specified priority industries

HB303 directs NMHED to develop, implement, and administer the pilot program, allowing for collaboration with other state agencies such as the New Mexico Health Care Authority (NMHCA), the business community, worker organizations, nonprofit organizations, and community organizations.

NMHED shall promulgate appropriate rules by April 1, 2025, to determine:

- Eligibility requirements for participants
- Application process(es)
- Processes and criteria for approval of training programs and their review
- Procedures for providing monetary stipends to participants

As amended, HB303 also asks NMHED to recommend participant eligibility requirements and appropriate amounts for monetary stipends to the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) no later than April 1, 2025.

HB303 authorizes NMHED to hire one full-time-equivalent (FTE) position to administer the program.

#### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

HB303 does not include an appropriation to the New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED) but instead utilizes funding that is currently in HB2 for NMHED. These funds are available to be spent from FY25 through FY27. The fiscal implications therefore have to do with how NMHED will be able to use the funding that is currently allocated in HB2.

#### SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Significant issues regarding funding source and rule adoption deadlines were identified by the New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED) in a previous analysis. All significant issues were addressed by HB303 sponsors in amendments. NMHED identifies no other significant issues with the amended version of HB303.

#### PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

Since this is a pilot program, the New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED) would need to develop performance measures in consultation with the New Mexico Health Care Authority (NMHCA) to evaluate the effectiveness of the program. As amended, this bill would direct NMHED to report annually and in consultation with NMHCA to the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) assessing the impact and outcomes of the pilot and providing department recommendations.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

In addition to hiring a full-time staff member, the New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED) would need to administer the program and develop mechanisms to report by December 1, 2025, and by December 1 of the two subsequent calendar years, in consultation with the New Mexico Health Care Authority (NMHCA).

#### CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

N/A

TECHNICAL ISSUES

N/A

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

N/A

ALTERNATIVES

N/A

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

If HB303 were not enacted, the New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED) might not enact the New Mexico Workforce Training Economic Support Pilot Program.

AMENDMENTS

N/A