



LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **SB 524** SLS 26RS 2719
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.: SB 520

Date: May 5, 2026	9:46 AM	Author: REESE
Dept./Agy.: Education		
Subject: Louisiana Jump Start Modernization Act		Analyst: Julie Silva

CURRICULA OR INCREASE GF EX See Note Page 1 of 2
 Creates the Louisiana Jump Start Modernization Act. (8/1/26)

Present law provides for a high school career option that allows students to pursue a career major combining academic coursework and career and technical education, culminating in a career diploma recognized as equivalent to a standard diploma. It requires alignment with workforce needs, includes early career exploration activities, and provides structured pathways, including alternative graduation options for students with exceptionalities.

Proposed legislation repeals present law and instead establishes the Louisiana Jump Start Career Diploma Program, providing for a comprehensive, statewide career and technical education framework that includes defined Jump Start pathways, a four-stage K-12 career development model, and a required nine-credit career and technical course sequence aligned to industry credentials and workforce needs. The proposed law also creates a multi-agency collaborative to oversee pathway approval, performance accountability, and alignment with labor market demand, while maintaining that the resulting career diploma is equivalent to a standard diploma and does not restrict postsecondary access.

EXPENDITURES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
Annual Total						
REVENUES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Proposed legislation is anticipated to increase state expenditures by approximately \$1.8 M beginning in FY 27 to implement an expanded governance, accountability, and delivery structure for the Jump Start program. This includes five additional T.O. positions at the Louisiana Department of Education (\$760,216), one additional T.O. position at the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (\$104,074), four additional positions at Louisiana Works (\$433,568), and additional staffing costs at LCTCS (\$500,000). Local expenditures are also anticipated to increase, likely to a significant degree, due to new staffing, advising, reporting, and pathway delivery requirements. Implementation will occur on a phased basis beginning in FY 27 and will include a transition period of at least 18 months during which existing programs and requirements remain in effect.

Note: While the LFO anticipates that the increased workload resulting from the proposed legislation will necessitate additional staffing and related expenditures, the number of additional positions and associated costs as reported by the agencies cannot be independently verified.

Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) and Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE)

LDOE reports proposed legislation will require five (5) additional authorized T.O. positions to support implementation and ongoing administration of program requirements. Responsibilities include statewide administration of Individual Career and Academic Plans (ICAPs) for students in grades seven through 12, maintenance of Jump Start pathway frameworks, interagency coordination, development of career awareness and pathway resources, administration of counselor and career coach reporting requirements, oversight of training vendor approvals, publication of required reports and pathway data, and implementation of the K-12 career development framework. These positions include four (4) Education Consultant 4 positions at an estimated cost of \$150,155 each (\$134,625 personal services and \$15,530 operating expenses) and one (1) Education Consultant Supervisor at \$159,595 (\$144,065 personal services and \$15,530 operating expenses), for a total cost of \$760,216 in FY 27. LDOE assumes annual increases of 4% for personal services and 5% for operating expenses.

BESE reports the need for one (1) Policy Analyst position (\$104,074 salary and related benefits) to support expanded responsibilities related to pathway oversight and credential governance, including review and approval of industry-based credentials and administration of related processes. A 4% annual increase in compensation is assumed.

Continued on page two.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental revenues as a result of this measure.

Senate
 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}
 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}

House
 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}
 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

Patrice Thomas
Deputy Fiscal Officer



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CONTINUED EXPLANATION from page one:

Louisiana Works (LA Works) and the Louisiana Workforce Investment Council

Proposed legislation establishes a multi-agency collaborative to be facilitated by LA Works and the Louisiana Workforce Investment Council. LA Works is anticipated to incur increased expenditures to provide staffing support for the collaborative, maintain labor market and wage record data systems, conduct credential and pathway reviews, and support statewide and regional workforce alignment activities.

LA Works estimates expenditures will increase by approximately \$449,568 in FY 27, including \$443,568 in salaries and related benefits for four (4) additional T.O. positions (two Business Analytics Specialists, one Administrative Program Manager, and one Administrative Coordinator) and \$6,000 in one-time equipment costs. Personnel expenditures are projected to increase by 4% annually.

Local Education Agencies (LEAs) and Charter Schools

LEAs and charter schools are anticipated to experience a significant fiscal impact due to expanded implementation requirements under proposed legislation. Cost drivers include increased staffing and operational demands associated with career counseling or coaching services, ICAP development and ongoing documentation, work-based learning supervision, employer engagement, credential attainment support, data reporting, and ensuring student access to required coursework and experiences.

Proposed legislation authorizes LEAs to provide advising services through school counselors, career coaches, or a combination of both, subject to a BESE-established maximum caseload ratio. To the extent existing staffing levels are insufficient to meet these requirements, additional personnel may be necessary. The total local fiscal impact is indeterminable but likely significant.

Public Postsecondary Institutions and Board of Regents (BOR)

The BOR reports it will implement the requirements of proposed legislation, including participation in the collaborative, development of course numbering and articulation frameworks, and execution of data-sharing agreements, using existing staff and resources.

The Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) reports proposed legislation is anticipated to result in approximately \$500,000 in additional annual expenditures associated with staffing to support expanded data collection, reporting, and analysis requirements, as well as regional workforce alignment activities and coordination with federal Perkins Career and Technical Education requirements. LCTCS is expected to play a lead role in facilitating regional teams and coordinating workforce-aligned program delivery.

Other public postsecondary systems, including the Louisiana State University System, University of Louisiana System, and Southern University System, were contacted but did not provide a response as of the publication of this fiscal note; the note will be updated if additional, relevant fiscal information is provided. However, these systems may incur additional administrative and instructional costs associated with transfer credit processing, dual enrollment participation, and coordination with secondary pathway programs. The total fiscal impact is indeterminable.

Senate
Dual Referral Rules
 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}
 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}

House
 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}
 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}


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