

  
*Colorado Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note*  
**FINAL**  
**FISCAL NOTE**

**Drafting Number:** LLS 12-0126  
**Prime Sponsor(s):** Rep. Vigil  
 Sen. Schwartz

**Date:** June 5, 2012  
**Bill Status:** Signed into Law  
**Fiscal Analyst:** Josh Abram (303-866-3561)

**TITLE:** CONCERNING CHANGING THE NAME OF ADAMS STATE COLLEGE TO ADAMS STATE UNIVERSITY.

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2012-2013	FY 2013-2014
<b>State Revenue</b>		
<b>State Expenditures</b>		
<b>FTE Position Change</b>		
<b>Effective Date:</b> The bill was signed into law by the Governor and took effect May 19, 2012.		
<b>Appropriation Summary for FY 2012-2013:</b> None required.		
<b>Local Government Impact:</b> None.		

**Summary of Legislation**

This bill changes the name of Adams State College to Adams State University and makes conforming amendments. The bill also modifies the role and mission of the school to permit a limited number of graduate level programs. Current law restricts the school to two-year transfer programs, undergraduate degrees, and a limited number of master's level programs only.

**State Revenue**

This bill may increase tuition revenue at the school. Under current law, the Adams State College may only offer master's-level graduate degrees. If House Bill 12-1080 is adopted, the school is permitted to consider additional graduate programs and seek approval from the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) to offer the new degrees. Once approved, these programs may increase overall student enrollment, and therefore create additional tuition revenue. Since enrollment and tuition rates are unknown, the full impact on state revenue cannot be estimated.

**State Expenditures**

The creation of new graduate degree programs will require a level of effort by the school to establish curriculum and admissions requirements, and to obtain approval from the governing board and the CCHE. These efforts can be met within existing appropriations. If new degrees are

authorized, there will be standard operational costs for the university, but no additional state costs. Since the College Opportunity Fund (COF) stipends are available only to undergraduates, additional graduate students will not increase General Fund appropriations for COF.

Since enrollment and tuition rates are unknown, the full impact on state expenditures cannot be estimated. Once an authorized degree program is offered to new students, growth in the program will increase state revenue from tuition and operational expenses. This fiscal note assumes that any change in spending authority will be addressed through the annual budget process.

Although requested, Adams State College did not supply any information to estimate the expenses the institution will have to re-brand, or to change its name on printed materials, signs, websites, etc. This fiscal note assumes that expenses related to the name change will be paid for with existing resources at the school's disposal, and no further appropriation is required.

**Departments Contacted**

Higher Education