

PREPARED BY: Bill Biven, Jr.  
 DATE PREPARED: February 08, 2024  
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**LB 964**

Revision: 00

**FISCAL NOTE**  
 LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

<b>ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES (See narrative for political subdivision estimates)</b>				
	<b>FY 2024-25</b>		<b>FY 2025-26</b>	
	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>REVENUE</b>
GENERAL FUNDS	See Below		See Below	
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	See Below		See Below	

**Any Fiscal Notes received from state agencies and political subdivisions are attached following the Legislative Fiscal Analyst Estimate.**

LB964 amends §85-3004 to adopt the Special Education Teacher Forgivable Loan Program Act; & to provide for scholarships under the Nebraska Career Scholarship Act.

The Special Education Teacher Forgivable Loan Program Act will be administered through the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) to assist up to twenty-five individuals enrolled in at a state college in Nebraska or the University of Nebraska to become special education teachers by supporting forgivable loans to those individuals who commit to teaching in Nebraska following their certification as a teacher with a special education endorsement.

The bill also amends the Career Scholarship Act to utilize scholarship funds for students studying special education for University of Nebraska students only.

**EXPENDITURES:**

Depending on the institution that the twenty-five applicants attended, it is estimated that the range of the aid being given would be between \$144,000 & \$250,000 for each year.

NDE estimates the for an additional FTE to create, monitor, track, & confirm compliance of the act. For FY2024-25, the FTE has a salary/benefits expense of \$82,605; & operating expenses of \$16,150. For FY2025-26, the FTE has a salary/benefits expense of \$85,168; & operating expenses of \$13,035.

NDE estimates the for an additional FTE to create the application system to comply with the act. For FY2024-25, the FTE has a salary/benefits expense of \$133,036; & operating expenses of \$26,009.

The provision related to Career Scholarships will affect eligible students and may change distribution of scholarship funds. An estimate of need pursuant to these changes is not available at this time.

<b>ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES STATE BUDGET DIVISION: REVIEW OF AGENCY &amp; POLT. SUB. RESPONSE</b>				
LB:	964	AM:	AGENCY/POLT. SUB: Nebraska Department of Education	
REVIEWED BY:	Gary Bush	DATE:	2/9//24	PHONE: (402) 471-4161
COMMENTS: The need for a developer to make changes to their program appears to be reasonable and a program specialist to run new program. However, I disagree that a developer would be need in FY2025-26.				

Please complete ALL (5) blanks in the first three lines.

**2024**

**LB<sup>(1)</sup> 964**

**FISCAL NOTE**

State Agency OR Political Subdivision Name: <sup>(2)</sup> Education

Prepared by: <sup>(3)</sup> Lane Carr Date Prepared: <sup>(4)</sup> 2.7.24 Phone: <sup>(5)</sup> 402.419.3012

**ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION**

	<u>FY 2024-25</u>		<u>FY 2025-26</u>	
	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	\$510,384		\$511,688	
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>\$510,384</u>		<u>\$511,688</u>	

**Explanation of Estimate:**

LB964 establishes the Special Education Teacher Forgivable Loan Program to be administered by the NDE. Per the bill, the NDE could provide up to 25 forgivable loans to those entering and staying in the field of special education. To create the application, track applicants and compliance, and manage the system the NDE would need two additional staff.

The estimated cost of tuition per year at the University of Nebraska is \$10,000. The cost at a state college is \$5,760. While the bill notes forgivable loans would apply only to any portion not covered by financial aid or scholarships, the potential maximum fiscal impact could range from \$144,000 to \$250,000 per year.

The bill also extends eligibility for the Nebraska Career Scholarship Act to those students studying special education. There would be no additional cost as a result of this provision.

**BREAKDOWN BY MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE**

**Personal Services:**

<u>POSITION TITLE</u>	<u>NUMBER OF POSITIONS</u>		<u>2024-25</u>	<u>2025-26</u>
	<u>24-25</u>	<u>25-26</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
Program Specialist I	1	1	51,079	53,633
IT Applications Developer Senior	1	1	82,263	86,376
Benefits.....			82,299	84,990
Operating.....			42,159	34,028
Travel.....			2,584	2,661
Capital outlay.....				
Aid.....			250,000	250,000
Capital improvements.....				
<b>TOTAL.....</b>			<u>\$510,384</u>	<u>511,688</u>