

**FISCAL NOTE**  
 LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

<b>ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES</b> (See narrative for political subdivision estimates)				
	<b>FY 2025-26</b>		<b>FY 2026-27</b>	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS				
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.**

LB 119 seeks to codify the Rural Health Opportunity Program, also known as RHOP. RHOP is a collaborative educational initiative between the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) and the Nebraska State Colleges (NSCS). It was designed to address the healthcare needs of rural Nebraska by encouraging and financially supporting rural residents to pursue a career in a number of healthcare fields. The program first began in 1989 for Chadron State and Wayne State, with Peru State added in 2012.

Students selected for the RHOP Program are provided an RHOP Tuition Waiver which fully covers the cost of tuition for all coursework completed at the State Colleges. They are also guaranteed admission to UNMC, provided all program requirements are met and the per-professional studies are completed. In order to ensure the RHOP “slots” continue to be filled, NSCS also selects and financially supports a number of students as “RHOP Alternates”, who are offered slots if they become available through attrition or changes of major.

The goal of the State College System is to cover 50% of tuition and fees for all RHOP slot recipients and alternatives by FY27. For FY25, about 71 students are projected to be in rotation, with the goal of reaching 110 students in FY26 and 150 by FY27.

The FY25 base appropriation for this program is \$600,000. According to NSCS, the cost to achieve the by-FY27 goal is an additional \$600,000 per year. The agency has a pending budget request for FY25-27 related to this increase over the upcoming biennium.

This bill includes intent to appropriate sufficient funds for the program.

If passed, LB 119 would require the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) to administer the program with a 0.20 FTE Student Success Coordinator. The activities and responsibilities of the Coordinator are described in the University of Nebraska’s fiscal note. The Fiscal Office has no basis to disagree with the University’s stated cost of \$24,906 for FY26 and \$25,370 for FY27, with \$10,000 each year designated for program-related travel expenses. It is assumed that the UNMC currently absorbs these costs as program coordination is already in effect.

<b>ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES STATE BUDGET DIVISION: REVIEW OF AGENCY &amp; POLT. SUB. RESPONSE</b>			
<b>LB: 119</b>	AM:	AGENCY/POLT. SUB: <b>Nebraska State College System</b>	
REVIEWED BY: Kimberly Burns	DATE: 01/16/2025	PHONE: (402) 471-4171	
COMMENTS: Agree with the Nebraska State College System’s assessment of no fiscal impact from LB 119.			

<b>ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES STATE BUDGET DIVISION: REVIEW OF AGENCY &amp; POLT. SUB. RESPONSE</b>			
<b>LB: 119</b>	AM:	AGENCY/POLT. SUB: <b>University of Nebraska System</b>	
REVIEWED BY: Kimberly Burns	DATE: 01/22/2025	PHONE: (402) 471-4171	
COMMENTS: No reason to dispute the University of Nebraska System’s estimate of fiscal impact from LB 119.			

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

2025

**LB <sup>(1)</sup>0119 Provide requirements for the Rural Health Opportunity Program and provide tuition waivers**

**FISCAL NOTE**

State Agency OR Political Subdivision Name:<sup>(2)</sup> University of Nebraska System

Prepared by:<sup>(3)</sup> Anne Barnes

Date Prepared:<sup>(4)</sup> 01/17/2025

Phone:<sup>(5)</sup> (402) 559-6300

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

	FY 2025 - 26		FY 2026 - 27	
	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	<u>24,906.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>25,370.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
CASH FUNDS	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
FEDERAL FUNDS	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
OTHER FUNDS	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>24,906.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>25,370.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>

**Explanation of Estimate:**

LB0119, if passed, requires UNMC to administer the program with a .20 FTE Student Success Coordinator.

This Student Success Coordinator in the College of Public Health works with undergraduate campus coordinators and the office of rural initiatives to admit and develop undergraduate PH-RHOP students and travels the undergraduate campuses to educate the undergraduate and high school student bodies on public health professions and recruit students from the respective campuses to the program.

Once admitted, students participate in monthly development calls on leadership, career and graduate school readiness topics, and visit the UNMC two times for in-person and development sessions, during their undergraduate enrollment at the State Colleges.

These activities are developed and supported by the College of Public Health Student Success and Pathways Program Coordinator.

**BREAKDOWN BY MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE**

Personal Services:

<u>POSITION TITLE</u>	<u>NUMBER OF POSITIONS</u>		<u>2025 - 26</u>	<u>2026 - 27</u>
	<u>25 - 26</u>	<u>26 - 27</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
<u>Student Success Coordinator</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>14,906.00</u>	<u>15,370.00</u>
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>		
Benefits.....				
Operating.....				
Travel.....			<u>10,000.00</u>	<u>10,000.00</u>
Capital outlay.....				
Aid.....				
Capital improvements.....				
TOTAL.....			<u>24,906.00</u>	<u>25,370.00</u>

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

**2025**

**LB<sup>(1)</sup> 119**

**FISCAL NOTE**

State Agency OR Political Subdivision Name: <sup>(2)</sup> Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education

Prepared by: <sup>(3)</sup> Gary Timm Date Prepared: <sup>(4)</sup> 1/13/2025 Phone: <sup>(5)</sup> 402.471.0020

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

	<u>FY 2025-26</u>		<u>FY 2026-27</u>	
	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
CASH FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
FEDERAL FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
OTHER FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL FUNDS	=====	=====	=====	=====

Explanation of Estimate:

No Fiscal Impact

**BREAKDOWN BY MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE**

**Personal Services:**

<u>POSITION TITLE</u>	<u>NUMBER OF POSITIONS</u>		<u>2025-26</u>	<u>2026-27</u>
	<u>25-26</u>	<u>26-27</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
Benefits.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Operating.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Travel.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Capital outlay.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Aid.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Capital improvements.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL.....	_____	_____	_____	_____

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

**2025**

**LB<sup>(1)</sup> 119**

**FISCAL NOTE**

State Agency OR Political Subdivision Name: <sup>(2)</sup> Nebraska State College System

Prepared by: <sup>(3)</sup> Brenda Owen Date Prepared: <sup>(4)</sup> 1-15-25 Phone: <sup>(5)</sup> 402-471-2507

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

	<u>FY 2025-26</u>		<u>FY 2026-27</u>	
	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
CASH FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
FEDERAL FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
OTHER FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>=====</b>	<b>=====</b>	<b>=====</b>	<b>=====</b>

Explanation of Estimate:

No fiscal impact.

The legislation demonstrates an intent to provide ‘a sufficient amount of money for each fiscal year to carry out this section.’ Currently, the program is funded at \$600,000 for FY25. The Nebraska State Colleges have submitted a 2025-2027 biennium budget request seeking to increase this funding by an additional \$300,000 for both FY26 and FY27, raising the total funding to \$900,000 and \$1,200,000, respectively. Importantly, if the bill passes as drafted, there will be no fiscal impact. This is because the budget request and the bill were explicitly designed to function independently and are mutually exclusive in their fiscal implications.

**BREAKDOWN BY MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE**

Personal Services:

<u>POSITION TITLE</u>	<u>NUMBER OF POSITIONS</u>		<u>2025-26</u>	<u>2026-27</u>
	<u>25-26</u>	<u>26-27</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Benefits.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Operating.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Travel.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Capital outlay.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Aid.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Capital improvements.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	_____	_____	_____	_____