

**EXECUTIVE AGENCY**  
**FISCAL NOTE**

AGENCY'S ESTIMATES

Date Prepared: March 15, 2019

Agency Submitting: Nevada System of Higher Education

Items of Revenue or Expense, or Both	Fiscal Year 2018-19	Fiscal Year 2019-20	Fiscal Year 2020-21	Effect on Future Biennia
Total	0	0	0	0

Explanation

(Use Additional Sheets of Attachments, if required)

If enacted, it appears that the proposed legislation would have a fiscal impact on the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) and its institutions; however, it is not possible to determine the fiscal impact. Therefore, it is not possible to determine if the proposed General Fund appropriation of \$1.75 million for FY 21 is sufficient to fund the proposed scholarship program.

The Nevada Reconnect Scholarship (NRS) program is generally modeled after the Nevada Promise Scholarship (NPS) program, which is for recent high school graduates and requires 12 credits per semester for eligibility. The NRS program is for non-traditional students who are independent, based on Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) criteria, and complete additional requirements that mirror NPS requirements, including meeting with a mentor, completing 20 hours of community service, and completing a FAFSA. However, the NRS program requires a minimum credit load of 3 credits per semester. Since this is a significant expansion over the Nevada Promise program and because NSHE does not have FAFSA data on all students, let alone the ability to predict with any accuracy which students will complete the additional program requirements, a cost estimate cannot be provided. The cost estimate for continuing the NPS program in the next biennium is approximately \$6.4 million. The significant expansion proposed under this bill will result in an exponential increase over this amount.

Name Heidi Haartz

Title Interim Budget Director

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF FINANCE COMMENTS

The agency's response appears reasonable.

Date Thursday, March 14, 2019

Name Tiffany Greenameyer

Title Executive Budget Officer