

LFC Requester:	Liu
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AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS - 2025 REGULAR SESSION

WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, UPLOAD ANALYSIS TO

AgencyAnalysis.nmlegis.gov and email to billanalysis@dfa.nm.gov

(Analysis must be uploaded as a PDF)

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

{Indicate if analysis is on an original bill, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}

Date Prepared: 26 February 2025 *Check all that apply:*
Bill Number: SB480 Original Correction
 Amendment Substitute

Sponsor: Nava, Trujillo, Brandt **Agency Name and Code** NM Independent Community Colleges 994
Short Title: Student Graduation Reporting **Person Writing** Vanessa K. Hawker
Title: _____ **Phone:** _____ **Email** vhawker@hawkerhynson.com

SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY25	FY26	FY27	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total		Indeterminate	Indeterminate		R	PED staff time

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis: Senate Bill 480 (SB480) requires the public education department to create an annual report of all school aged students who have not graduated from high school within four years from entering ninth grade.

The report shall be created annually, no later than July 15th, and provided to the higher education department, public post-secondary educational institutions, adult basic education providers, workforce development programs, and school districts and charter schools that serve out-of-cohort students in attaining a high school diploma or high school equivalency credential.

SB480 defines “out-of-cohort students” as school aged individuals who have not graduated from high school within four years from entering the ninth grade.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

SB480 does not contain an appropriation. There will be some costs at the public education department as staff resources will be required to develop and distribute the annual report.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to the April 2024 legislative finance committee (LFC) report: *Improving New Mexico's Workforce Participation*, there are 206 thousand able-bodied prime-working-age people in New Mexico who are not formally employed. Of that population, over 35,000 are between the ages of 20 – 24.

Out-of-cohort students who are not employed are almost unknown. This report would enable public post-secondary community colleges to reach disengaged individuals. We can guide the individuals who have not completed high school to a path that leads not only to high school equivalency but also to further training that can result in a good job. Per the LFC report, higher labor force participation leads to improved societal and economic outcomes.