



SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE

STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT

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This fiscal impact statement is produced in compliance with the South Carolina Code of Laws and House and Senate rules. The focus of the analysis is on governmental expenditure and revenue impacts and may not provide a comprehensive summary of the legislation.

Bill Number:	S. 0984	Introduced on March 5, 2026
Subject:	Opioid and Fentanyl Education and Awareness Programs in Colleges and Universities	
Requestor:	Senate Education	
RFA Analyst(s):	Tipton	
Impact Date:	April 15, 2026	

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill requires all public and private institutions of higher education in the state to make opioid and fentanyl prevention education and awareness information available to enrolled students. The bill also provides that institutions of higher education may possess, store, and maintain naloxone or other opioid overdose reversal medication for the purposes of responding to a suspected overdose on institution owned property, and must provide training on the administration of overdose reversal medication to staff assigned to student residence halls.

Based on responses from the University of South Carolina (USC), the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC), the College of Charleston (CofC), Winthrop University (Winthrop), and Lander University (Lander), as well as the Technical College System (Tech System), this bill is not expected to have a significant impact on expenditures for institutions of higher education. MUSC reports that opioid and fentanyl awareness and educational information is currently available to students, while the Tech System indicates that some technical colleges currently have staff trained in the administration of opioid overdose reversal medication and that compliance with the overall bill would have a minimal expenditure impact. USC indicates that the bill would have a minimal expenditure impact on the institution, with estimated costs associated with compliance of no more than \$7,500 in FY 2026-27 and no more than \$5,000 each year thereafter, which would be managed with current institutional resources. Similarly, Lander indicates that any additional costs to develop the educational materials and to train staff would be managed with current institutional resources. CofC and Winthrop anticipate no material expenditure impact as a result of the bill.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on March 5, 2026

State Expenditure

This bill requires all public and private institutions of higher education in the state to make opioid and fentanyl prevention education and awareness information available to enrolled students. The bill provides that this education must include information on recognizing an opioid overdose, appropriate response including contacting emergency services, and the legal protections available to people who seek medical assistance or render aid in good faith pursuant to Section 15-1-310 and Chapter 130 of Title 44, the South Carolina Overdose Prevention Act.

The bill requires the educational materials to be posted on a publicly accessible portion of each institution's website.

Additionally, the bill authorizes institutions of higher learning to possess, store, and maintain naloxone or other opioid overdose reversal medication under a standing order, statewide protocol, or other lawful mechanism authorized under the South Carolina Overdose Prevention Act for the purposes of responding to a suspected overdose on property owned or controlled by the institution. The bill requires the institution to provide training on the administration of naloxone or other opioid overdose reversal medication to staff assigned to work in student residence halls.

Based on responses from USC, MUSC, CofC, Winthrop, and Lander, as well as the Tech System, this bill is not expected to have a significant impact on expenditures for institutions of higher education. MUSC reports that opioid and fentanyl awareness and educational information is currently available to students, while the Tech System indicates that some technical colleges currently have staff trained in the administration of opioid overdose reversal medication and that compliance with the overall bill would have a minimal expenditure impact. USC indicates that the bill would have a minimal expenditure impact on the institution, with estimated costs associated with compliance of no more than \$7,500 in FY 2026-27 and no more than \$5,000 each year thereafter, which would be managed with current institutional resources. Similarly, Lander indicates that any additional costs to develop the educational materials and to train staff would be managed with current institutional resources. CofC and Winthrop anticipate no material expenditure impact as a result of the bill.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director