

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS
FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

LS 6323

BILL NUMBER: SB 68

NOTE PREPARED: Nov 21, 2025

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Accelerated Graduate Degree Programs.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Yoder

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill requires each state educational institution (SEI) that offers a two year graduate degree program in mental or behavioral health to evaluate the graduate degree program to determine the feasibility of providing the program in a specifically structured manner to allow full-time students to complete the program within: (1) one year; or (2) five years if the program is combined with a baccalaureate degree program.

The bill requires certain SEIs to offer at least one graduate degree program in one or more certain disciplines that is structured to allow full-time students to complete the program within: (1) one year; or (2) five years if the program is combined with a baccalaureate degree program.

The bill also requires certain SEIs to report to the Commission for Higher Education (CHE) regarding the graduate degree programs. It requires the CHE to post the submitted reports on the CHE's website.

Effective Date: July 1, 2026.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Indiana State University* - The bill will increase workload and may increase expenditures for Indiana State University to, by FY 2029, establish an accelerated program in one of the following disciplines:

- (1) social work,
- (2) clinical addiction counseling,
- (3) mental health counseling,
- (4) marriage and family therapy,
- (5) school counseling,
- (6) counseling, or
- (7) psychology

The additional funds and resources required by Indiana State University could be supplied through existing staff and resources currently being used in another program or with new appropriations. Ultimately, the source of funds and resources required to satisfy this requirement will depend on legislative and

administrative actions. [SEIs receive state funding through General Fund appropriations.]

Accelerated Graduate Degree Program Report - This bill requires SEIs subject to the provisions of the bill to create, and CHE to review and publish, reports on accelerated graduate degree programs as prescribed in the bill. This workload increase will be implemented with existing staff and resources.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Ball State University; Indiana State University; Indiana University; Purdue University; University of Southern Indiana.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources:

<https://indianastate.edu/academics/academic-program-finder/>;

<https://www.usi.edu/liberal-arts/social-work/msw-tracks/>;

<https://graduate.indiana.edu/degrees-programs/accelerated-masters.html>;

<https://www.bsu.edu/admissions/graduate/accelerated-masters-program>;

<https://www.pnw.edu/program-finder/masters-degree-in-social-work/>.

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