



JBC Staff Comeback Law

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Legal Services Common Policy

On March 16, 2026, the Committee adopted Staff recommendation on the Legal Services Common Policy and allocations by agency. At that time, Staff requested permission to make adjustments to the Common policy based on future decisions related to compensation if the Blended Legal Rate changed by \$2 or less. The Legal Services Common Policy is closely tied to decisions involving compensation because the largest factors that influence it are the costs of attorneys and legal assistants.

The previously approved rates that are used to determine allocations of legal services appropriation is summarized in the following table.

FY 2026-27 Legal Services Rates As Approved March 16, 2026

Attorney rate	\$146.05
Legal Assistance Rate	98.03
Blended rate	138.82

On March 30, 2026, the Committee decided on Compensation Common Policies. After making adjustments to the Legal Services Common Policy components influenced by compensation, Staff recommends approval of the following Legal Services Rate for FY 2026-27.

FY 2026-27 Legal Services Rates Revised Staff Recommendation

Attorney rate	\$141.81
Legal Assistance Rate	88.82
Blended rate	134.44

Because the compensation decision reduced the Blended Legal Rate by more than \$2, JBC Staff seeks approval of the adjusted rates. JBC Staff also request permission for all analysts to work with their agencies to determine the best way to split the total appropriation between fund types. The table on the following pages outline total legal services appropriation by each agency and compare it to the prior recommendation.

After taking the compensation common policy into account, approving the March 30, 2026 Staff recommendation results in a total statewide reduction of just under \$1.3 million total funds. This is estimated to result in a General Fund saving of \$482,400.

Summary of Legal Services Common Policy By State Agency (Table 1)

March 16 Recommended Allocations	Change from March 16 Recommendation	March 30 New Staff Recommendation	Client Agency
\$1,280,338	-\$19,900	\$1,260,438	Agriculture and State Fair
3,741,449	-56,782	3,684,667	Corrections
1,443,375	-22,446	1,420,929	Education
2,324,988	-30,527	2,294,461	Governor's Office
1,752,848	-27,161	1,725,687	Governor's Energy Office, Legal Services
11,397	-178	11,219	Energy Office Community Access Enterprise
339,670	-5,293	334,377	Office of Information Technology, Management and Administration of OIT, Legal Services
4,770,716	-73,550	4,697,166	Health Care Policy and Financing
5,338,715	-82,591	5,256,124	Human Services
511,287	-6,956	504,331	Judicial
43,850	-682	43,168	Alternate Defense Council
83,301	-1,298	82,003	Bridges of CO
26,698	-416	26,282	Administrative Services for Independent Agencies
79,302	-1,231	78,071	Child Protection Ombudsmen
0	0	0	Child Representation
152,508	-2,376	150,132	Independent Ethics Commission
48,277	-754	47,523	Attorney Regulation Counsel
110,684	-1,684	109,000	Public Defender
57,171	-891	56,280	Office of the Public Guardianship
65,142	-1,015	64,127	Respondent Parents Counsel
0	0	0	Judicial Discipline
2,483,658	-34,109	2,449,549	Labor and Employment
373,073	-5,816	367,257	Law
8,527	-133	8,394	General Assembly
1,112,661	-15,632	1,097,029	Local Affairs
80,221	-1,270	78,951	Military and Veterans Affairs
8,456,173	-127,356	8,328,817	Natural Resources
925,050	-4,808	920,242	Personnel and Administration
34,806	-543	34,263	Personnel Board
10,593,560	-157,861	10,435,699	Risk Management And Workers Compensation
0	\$0	0	PERA
6,335,898	-99,382	6,236,516	Public Health and Environment
1,252,938	-19,303	1,233,635	Public Safety
17,847,506	-273,865	17,573,641	Regulatory Agencies
5,654,544	-87,699	5,566,845	Revenue
817,829	-9,482	808,347	State
3,428,561	-43,526	3,385,035	Transportation
307,120	-4,783	302,337	Treasury
1,485,512	-22,011	1,463,501	Early Childhood

Summary of Legal Services Common Policy By Higher Education Institution (Table 2)

March 16 Recommended Allocations	Change from March 16 Recommendation	March 30 New Staff Recommendation	Higher Education Client Agency
\$64,536	-\$1,009	\$63,527	CCHE
0	0	0	Arapahoe Community College
89,092	-1,390	87,702	Adams State University
143,463	-2,189	141,274	Auraria Higher Education Center
0	0	0	Board of Governors
0	0	0	Aurora Community College
33,779	-525	33,254	Community College of Denver
838	-13	825	CCCOES
208,396	-2,688	205,708	Colorado State University
327,749	-5,094	322,655	University of Colorado - Boulder
0	0	0	University of Colorado - Denver
1,538	-24	1,514	University of Colorado - Health Science
16,634	-259	16,375	State Colleges Employee Disability Insurance Trust
74,077	-1,165	72,912	Fort Lewis College
0	0	0	Front Range Community College
0	0	0	College Assist
63,403	-995	62,408	State Historical Society of Colorado
4,613	-72	4,541	Institute of Cannabis Research
0	0	0	Lamar Community College
0	0	0	Metropolitan State University of Denver
53,551	-821	52,730	Colorado School of Mines
118,417	-1,845	116,572	Colorado Mesa University
112,686	-1,752	110,934	University of Northern Colorado
0	0	0	Northwestern Community College
839	-13	826	Collegeinvest
0	0	0	Otero Junior College
0	0	0	Auraria Parking Enterprise
35,187	-529	34,658	Pikes Peak Community College
158,773	-2,466	156,307	Private Vocational Schools
0	0	0	Pueblo Community College
25,308	-375	24,933	Red Rocks Community College
0	0	0	Colorado State University - Pueblo
0	0	0	Colorado Scholarship Initiative
0	0	0	Trinidad State Junior College
209,015	-3,128	205,887	Western State Colorado University
0	0	0	CSU Global
0	0	0	Northeastern Junior College
0	0	0	Colorado Mountain College
0	0	0	Morgan Community College
59,444	-843	58,601	University of Colorado - Colorado Springs
\$85,180,691	-\$1,270,505	\$83,910,186	Total All Agencies (Table 1 + Table 2)