



GOVERNMENT

Colorado's 2026 Legislative Session: What to Expect



This will be the 17th year Open Media Foundation live streams the Colorado legislative session.

Colorado's 2026 legislative session kicks off on January 14, marking the second regular session of the 75th General Assembly. Lawmakers have a full agenda ahead, focusing on budget challenges, affordability, energy policy, and emerging issues like technology and public safety. This session follows a busy 2025 calendar that included a special session focused on budget and policy priorities — a reminder of just how dynamic state government has been lately.

Affordability remains front and center — especially **housing and healthcare**, including the growing cost of Medicaid. **Energy and environmental policy** will spark plenty of debate as the state weighs carbon-neutral goals alongside economic impacts. Another emerging topic: how Colorado should approach **artificial intelligence policy**, especially as federal guidance continues to evolve.

Education and governance issues will also receive attention, including potential court involvement in matters around **school funding and civil rights**. Meanwhile, business groups are calling for regulatory reforms, and discussions around **tax policy** and oversight of **PERA** (the state retirement system) are expected as well.

All of this unfolds in a busy political backdrop: the upcoming midterm elections, differing priorities within and across parties, and the usual balancing act between ambition and budget realities. With Governor Jared Polis in his final term, there's also added interest in shaping meaningful policy wins that help define his legacy.

The session runs 120 days, giving lawmakers time to introduce, debate, and refine proposals that will shape Colorado's future.

[Watch Legislative Sessions Live and On Demand at ColoradoChannel.net](#)

[Read more about Colorado Issues for 2026 in The Colorado Sun](#)

WEB SERVICES



Did you know that in addition to building professional and engaging Wordpress sites, Open Media can help you maintain and improve your WP site? We can perform accessibility and security audits to make sure your site is meeting your users' needs!

Open Media provides monthly maintenance services, training, and support for content management.

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CAREER ENGINE

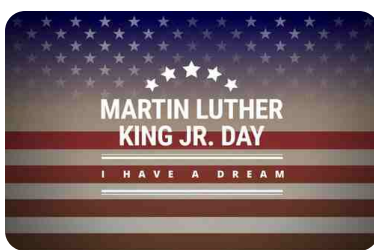


Our [Open Media Career Engine](#) is a service offered to Employers in the Media & Journalism sector to help you find and hire more diverse jobseekers. This program has helped over 40 employers in Colorado's Media & Journalism field hire POC jobseekers at more than the industry average. We help craft your job description to appeal to diverse applicants, post it to over 20 job boards proven to generate more diverse jobseekers, and manage the screening process so that even the smallest HR team can afford a broad and inclusive hiring process developed by industry leaders.

Email careers@openmediafoundation.org to explore how the OMCE can help you with your next hire.

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Fundraising Committee - Contact Tony Shawcross at tony@openmediafoundation.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Martin Luther King Jr. Day January 19

Martin Luther King Jr. Day will be observed on Monday, January 19, 2026, offering communities across Colorado and the nation a chance to reflect on Dr. King's legacy of justice, equity, and nonviolent leadership.

The holiday isn't just a day off — it's often celebrated as a "day on," encouraging service projects, educational events, and conversations about how we can build more inclusive, resilient communities. Whether through volunteering, attending local events, or simply taking time to learn more about the civil rights movement, it's a meaningful opportunity to consider how each of us can help move that work forward today.

MLK Jr. Events:

[Denver MLK Jr. "Marade"](#)

[Lafayette 21st Annual Celebration](#)

[MLK Jr. African American Heritage Rodeo](#)



Data Privacy Day January 28

Data Privacy Day is observed on January 28, and while it isn't a federal holiday, it's a widely recognized opportunity to raise awareness about how personal information is collected, protected, and used in our digital world. In Colorado, this falls against the backdrop of the Colorado Privacy Act (CPA) — a state law that gives residents rights like access to, deletion of, and clear information about how their personal data is processed, and requires businesses to be transparent and safeguard that data.

The day is a great reminder for individuals and organizations alike to review privacy settings, strengthen data practices, and learn about tools like Global Privacy Control that help exercise privacy choices online.

[Learn more about the Colorado Privacy Act](#)