

Minutes of Presidents Council Meeting

July 7, 2026

The Presidents Council met at 11:00 a.m. on July 7, 2026, via conference call. Executive Council members present were Houston Davis (co-chair), Jennifer Methvin (co-chair), Tyrone Jackson, Brian Shonk, Terisa Riley, and Todd Shields. Charles Robinson and Wade Derden were unable to attend.

Brian Shonk moved to approve the minutes of the June 19, 2026, meeting. Terisa Riley seconded, and the council unanimously concurred.

Presidents Council members reviewed the agenda items for the July 24, 2026, Coordinating Board meeting. The finance section included the Certification of Intercollegiate Athletic Budgets for 2026-27, Productivity-Based Funding Distribution for 2027-28, Operating Recommendations for 2027-29 Biennium, Personal Services Recommendations for Institution Personnel for 2027-29 Biennium, and the Recommendations for State Funding of Capital Projects: 2027-29 Biennium.

The academic section included: Report on Academic Program Review; Concurrent Enrollment Continued Authorization; Associate of Applied Science in Surgical Technology by Northwest Arkansas Community College; Master of Science in Nursing: Family Nurse Practitioner (Rural Health) by Southern Arkansas University Magnolia; Associate of Applied Science in Environmental Management (Municipal) by Southern Arkansas University Tech; Arkansas Public Institutions Letters of Notification and Letters of Intent; Out-of-State and Arkansas Private Institutions, and the Out-of-State and Arkansas Private Institutions Letters of Notification and Letters of Intent.

The Rules Governing the Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program, Arkansas Heroes Scholarship, Military Dependents' Scholarship Program, Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program, Arkansas Direct Admission Program, Arkansas Future Grant Program, Arkansas Geographical Critical Needs Scholarship Program and the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program, were also on the agenda.

Tyrone Jackson moved to approve the review of the agenda for the July 24, 2026, AHECB meeting. Jennifer Methvin seconded, and the council unanimously concurred.

Information Items

Mason Campbell provided a brief update on the Arkansas ACCESS Portal. He noted that the portal is scheduled to open August 17 to public high school seniors for provisional college/university admission in Fall 2027.

Announcements

The next Presidents Council meeting will be October 6, 2026.

The next AHECB meeting will be on Friday, July 24, 2026, at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville.

With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 11:06 a.m.