

*Dr. Ken Warden*  
Commissioner

*Graycen Bigger*  
AHECB Chair

**ARKANSAS HIGHER EDUCATION  
COORDINATING BOARD**

**REGULAR QUARTERLY MEETING**

JULY 26, 2024



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**Arkansas Division of Higher Education**

101 E. Capitol Ave., Suite 300 | Little Rock, AR 72201 | (501) 371-2000

# **ARKANSAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD**

## **REGULAR QUARTERLY MEETING**

**University of Central Arkansas  
Wingo Hall – Board of Trustees Conference Room  
101 Donaghey Ave  
Conway, AR 72035**

# **SCHEDULE**

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**Friday, July 26, 2024**

**Call to Order at 9:00 a.m.**

## **Committee Meetings**

**Convene Coordinating Board Meeting**

Coordinating Board Meeting will convene at the end of the  
Academic Committee meeting.

# ARKANSAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD REGULAR QUARTERLY MEETING

Friday, July 26, 2024

University of Central Arkansas

## AGENDA

### I. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- \*1. Certification of Intercollegiate Athletic Budgets for 2024-25 (Mr. Nick Fuller)
- \*2. Productivity-Based Funding Distribution for 2025-26 (Mr. Fuller)
- \*3. Operating Recommendations for 2025-27 Biennium (Mr. Fuller)
- \*4. Personal Services Recommendations for Institution Personnel for 2025-2027 Biennium (Mr. Fuller)
- \*5. Economic Feasibility for South Arkansas College (Mr. Fuller)
- \*6. Economic Feasibility for Arkansas State University System (Mr. Fuller)

### II. ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

- 7. Report on Faculty Performance Review 2023-2024 (Mr. Mason Campbell)
- 8. Report on Academic Program Review AY2023-AY2024 (Mr. Campbell)
- 9. Arkansas Public Institutions Letters of Notification (Mrs. Tracy Harrell)
- 10. Arkansas Public Institutions Letters of Intent (Mrs. Harrell)
- 11. Out-of-State and Arkansas Private Institutions Letters of Notification (Mrs. Colburn)
- 12. Out-of-State and Arkansas Private Institutions Letters of Intent (Mrs. Colburn)

### III. FULL BOARD

- \*13. Approve Minutes of the April 26, 2024, Regular Meeting and May 29, 2024, Special Meeting (Chair Graycen Bigger)

14. Commissioner's Report (Dr. Ken Warden)
- \*15. Concurrent Enrollment Policy Updates (Mr. Campbell)
- \*16. Rules Governing the Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship Program (Mrs. Alisha Lewis)
- \*17. Rules Governing the Arkansas Concurrent Challenge Scholarship (Mrs. Lewis)
- \*18. Rules Governing the Arkansas Future Grant Program (Mrs. Lewis)
- \*19. Rules Governing the Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program (Mrs. Lewis)
- \*20. Rules Governing the Arkansas Workforce Challenge Scholarship Program (Mrs. Lewis)
- \*21. Rules Governing the Arkansas Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program (Mrs. Lewis)
- \*22. Rules Governing the Productivity Funding Distribution Policy (Mr. Fuller)
- \*23. Rules Governing the Sustainable Building Maintenance Programs for State-Supported Institutions of Higher Education (Mr. Fuller)
- \*24. Rules Governing the Military Dependents' Scholarship Program (Mrs. Lewis)
- \*25. Rules Governing the Financial Aid Appeals Process (Mrs. Lewis)
- \*26. Rules Governing the State Teacher Education Program (Mrs. Lewis)
- \*27. Rules Governing the Teacher Opportunity Program (Mrs. Lewis)
- \*28. Rules Governing the Washington Center Scholarship (Mrs. Lewis)
- \*29. Rules Governing the Law Enforcement Officers' Dependents Scholarship Program (Mrs. Lewis)

# **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board**

**University of Central Arkansas  
Wingo Hall – Board of Trustees Conference Room  
101 Donaghey Ave  
Conway, AR 72035**

**Friday, July 26, 2024**

Finance Committee  
Lucas Pointer, Chair  
Chad Hooten

Heather Maxey  
Dr. Kyle Miller  
Graycen Bigger, Ex Officio

## **AGENDA**

- \*1. Certification of Intercollegiate Athletic Budgets for 2024-25 (Mr. Nick Fuller)
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- \*5. Economic Feasibility for South Arkansas College (Mr. Fuller)
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\*Numbers refer to main agenda.

# **ACADEMIC COMMITTEE**

**Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board**

**University of Central Arkansas  
Wingo Hall – Board of Trustees Conference Room  
101 Donaghey Ave  
Conway, AR 72035**

**Friday, April 26, 2024**

Academic Committee

Dr. Jim Carr, Chair

Dr. Jerry Cash

Dr. Katherine Dudley

Carolyn Rhinehart

Graycen Bigger, Ex Officio

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

7. Report on Faculty Performance Review 2023-2024 (Mr. Mason Campbell)
8. Report on Academic Program Review AY2023-AY2024 (Mr. Campbell)
9. Arkansas Public Institutions Letters of Notification (Mrs. Tracy Harrell)
10. Arkansas Public Institutions Letters of Intent (Mrs. Harrell)
11. Out-of-State and Arkansas Private Institutions Letters of Notification (Mrs. Colburn)
12. Out-of-State and Arkansas Private Institutions Letters of Intent (Mrs. Colburn)

\*Numbers refer to main agenda.

## **CERTIFICATION OF INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR 2024-25**

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A.C.A. §6-62-805 (Act 366 of 1991) requires each state-supported institution of higher education to annually certify by June 15 to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board that its intercollegiate athletic program will generate sufficient revenues to meet expenditures or that any athletic deficit will be met by separate institutional board-sanctioned student athletic fees.

### **Verification of Athletic Budgets and Fee Information**

Institutions with intercollegiate athletic programs submitted ADHE Form 21-2, “Certification of Budgeted Athletic Revenues and Expenditures” and proper supporting documentation. ADHE finance staff verified that the athletic data submitted by the institutions matched the overall 2024-25 institutional operating budgets.

A.C.A. §6-62-804 requires that any student athletic fees assessed must be clearly defined in all publications and institutional board minutes and listed separate and distinct from tuition or other student fees on student tuition and fee statements. All institutions assessing a student athletic fee have certified to the Department compliance with this requirement and have submitted copies of their student fee billing statements illustrating the disclosure of the athletic fee to each student.

### **Summary of Data**

The institutional submissions establish the 2024-25 operating budgets for intercollegiate athletic programs and certify to the Coordinating Board any student athletic fees that will be charged to cover operating deficits. The University of Arkansas, Fayetteville (UAF), Arkansas State University Mountain Home (ASUMH), Arkansas State University Mid-South (ASUMS), Arkansas State University Newport (ASUN), Cossatot Community College of the University of Arkansas (CCCUA), North Arkansas College (NAC), National Park College (NPC), Phillips Community College of the University of Arkansas (PCCUA), South Arkansas College (SAC), Southeast Arkansas College (SEAC), and the University of Arkansas Community College at Rich Mountain (UACCRM) do not charge an athletic fee and expect to continue to meet their athletic operating costs without assessing a student athletic fee for the 2024-25 fiscal year. The following institutions have set their athletic fee per student semester credit hour (SSCH) as follows:

<u>Inst.</u>	<u>2023-24 Athletic Fee</u>	<u>2024-25 Athletic Fee</u>
ASUJ	\$22.00	\$23.00
ATU	\$21.63	\$21.63
HSU	\$21.00	\$21.00
SAUM	\$19.00	\$19.00
UAFS	\$18.00	\$18.50
UALR	\$22.00	\$22.00
UAM	\$18.00	\$18.00
UAPB	\$22.00	\$22.00
UCA	\$21.00	\$21.00
ASUTR	\$2.00	\$2.00
NWACC	\$2.16	\$0.00
SAUT	\$10.00	\$10.00

A summary chart of 2024-25 athletic certification data from each institution is shown on page 1-3. The summary chart, excluding the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville (UAF), indicates that 26.0 percent of athletic program budgets are being funded from student athletic fees, while 14.6 percent comes from athletic generated revenues. Transfers from educational and general funds contribute 19.5 percent of the funding. The remaining 39.9 percent is funded from other auxiliary profits, endowment and investment income, contributions and other athletic income.

Other than the educational and general transfer, the use of auxiliary profits is the most sensitive source of income for financing athletic budgets. Other auxiliary profits are included as a revenue source for intercollegiate athletic programs; however, the use of auxiliary funds to support intercollegiate athletic programs should not undermine sound fiscal management of those auxiliary enterprises. A breakdown of the various auxiliary profits utilized to fund the athletic budgets is included on page 1-4.

The following resolution is presented for the board's consideration:

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board accepts the Certification of Intercollegiate Athletic Revenues and Expenditures Budgeted for 2024-25 as prepared in accordance with Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board uniform accounting standards and definitions for athletic reporting.



**Summary of 2024-2025 Athletic Certification Data from Institutional Boards of Trustees**

Inst	Athletic Generated Revenues	% of Total Inst Rev	Contributions	% of Total Inst Rev	Student Athletic Fees	% of Total Inst Rev	Endowment & Investment Income	% of Total Inst Rev	Other Auxiliary Profits	% of Total Inst Rev	Transfers from E&G	% of Total Inst Rev	Other Athletic Income	% of Total Inst Rev	Total Expected Inst Rev	Total Budgeted Expenditure	Athletic Fee Per SSCH
ASUJ	\$ 5,940,628	29.4%	\$ 3,386,095	16.8%	\$ 4,820,152	23.8%	\$ 108,301	0.5%	\$ 2,615,399	12.9%	\$ 2,637,234	13.0%	\$ 703,772	3.5%	\$ 20,211,581	\$ 20,211,581	\$23.00
ATU	\$ 221,737	3.4%	\$ 10,000	0.2%	\$ 3,161,522	48.1%	\$ 12,000	0.2%	\$ 731,479	11.1%	\$ 2,050,219	31.2%	\$ 386,936	5.9%	\$ 6,573,893	\$ 6,573,893	\$21.63
HSU	\$ 160,000	2.6%	\$ 40,000	0.6%	\$ 900,000	14.4%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 3,495,808	55.9%	\$ 1,662,441	26.6%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 6,258,249	\$ 6,258,249	\$21.00
SAUM	\$ 31,500	0.5%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 1,855,730	28.9%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 2,867,038	44.7%	\$ 1,662,441	25.9%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 6,416,709	\$ 6,416,709	\$19.00
UAFS	\$ 68,320	1.6%	\$ 15,000	0.3%	\$ 2,333,298	53.9%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 1,913,947	44.2%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 4,330,565	\$ 4,330,565	\$18.50
UALR	\$ 1,417,860	11.8%	\$ 1,753,556	14.6%	\$ 2,766,687	23.1%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 2,711,664	22.6%	\$3,341,494	27.9%	\$ 11,991,261	\$ 11,991,261	\$22.00
UAM	\$ 38,000	0.9%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 966,600	22.7%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 2,528,622	59.3%	\$ 730,793	17.1%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 4,264,015	\$ 4,264,015	\$18.00
UAPB	\$ 2,474,000	33.1%	\$ 250,000	3.3%	\$ 1,500,000	20.1%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 1,458,309	19.5%	\$ 1,391,407	18.6%	\$ 399,600	5.3%	\$ 7,473,316	\$ 7,473,316	\$22.00
UCA	\$ 2,746,000	16.8%	\$ 483,200	3.0%	\$ 5,072,565	31.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 4,785,999	29.3%	\$ 3,116,746	19.1%	\$ 138,000	0.8%	\$ 16,342,510	\$ 16,342,510	\$21.00
ASUMH	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 150,000	77.2%	\$ 44,252	22.8%	\$ 194,252	\$ 194,252	\$0.00
ASUMS	\$ 6,000	0.9%	\$ 75,000	11.6%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 568,000	87.5%	\$ 649,000	\$ 649,000	\$0.00
ASUN	\$ 10,000	5.9%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 70,000	41.3%	\$ 89,600	52.8%	\$ 169,600	\$ 169,600	\$0.00
ASUTR	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 50,000	18.2%	\$ 33,816	12.3%	\$ 30,000	10.9%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 161,412	58.6%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 275,228	\$ 275,228	\$2.00
CCCUA	\$ 40,000	14.0%	\$ 240,000	84.1%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 3,904	1.4%	\$ 1,319	0.5%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 285,223	\$ 285,223	\$0.00
NAC	\$ 5,000	1.2%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 76,835	18.0%	\$ 319,558	74.8%	\$ 26,000	6.1%	\$ 427,393	\$ 427,393	\$0.00
NPC	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 644,457	60.9%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 414,000	39.1%	\$ 1,058,457	\$ 1,058,457	\$0.00
NWACC	\$ 1,474	0.3%	\$ 8,500	2.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 414,000	97.6%	\$ 423,974	\$ 423,974	\$0.00
PCCUA	\$ 7,500	3.6%	\$ 10,000	4.7%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 193,660	91.7%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 211,160	\$ 211,160	\$0.00
SAC	\$ 7,300	1.6%	\$ 82,702	18.5%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 241,554	54.1%	\$ 114,635	25.7%	\$ 446,191	\$ 446,191	\$0.00
SAUT	\$ 16,500	3.5%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 90,215	18.9%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 152,056	31.8%	\$ 198,404	41.5%	\$ 21,000	4.4%	\$ 478,176	\$ 478,176	\$11.00
SEAC	\$ 25,000	3.4%	\$ 125,000	17.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 210,876	28.8%	\$ 372,530	50.8%	\$ 733,406	\$ 733,406	\$0.00
UACCRM	\$ 6,500	0.5%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 1,185,340	88.7%	\$ 144,509	10.8%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 1,336,349	\$ 1,336,349	\$0.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 13,223,319</b>	<b>14.6%</b>	<b>\$ 6,529,053</b>	<b>7.2%</b>	<b>\$23,500,585</b>	<b>26.0%</b>	<b>\$ 150,301</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>\$22,459,193</b>	<b>24.8%</b>	<b>\$17,654,237</b>	<b>19.5%</b>	<b>\$7,033,819</b>	<b>7.8%</b>	<b>\$ 90,550,508</b>	<b>\$ 90,550,508</b>	<b>\$9.05</b>
UAF	\$142,987,221	82.2%	\$30,500,000	17.5%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ 500,000	0.3%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%	\$173,987,221	\$173,987,221	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$156,210,540</b>	<b>59.1%</b>	<b>\$37,029,053</b>	<b>14.0%</b>	<b>\$23,500,585</b>	<b>8.9%</b>	<b>\$ 650,301</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>\$22,459,193</b>	<b>8.5%</b>	<b>\$17,654,237</b>	<b>6.7%</b>	<b>\$7,033,819</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>\$264,537,729</b>	<b>\$264,537,729</b>	<b>\$8.66</b>

**RECOMMENDATION FOR DISTRIBUTION OF PRODUCTIVITY FUNDING FOR  
STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
2025-26 FISCAL YEAR**

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**Background**

A.C.A. §6-61-234 directs the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) to adopt polices developed by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education (ADHE) necessary to implement a productivity-based funding model for state-supported institutions of higher education. That language reads as follows:

“(a) (1) (A) The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall adopt policies developed by the Division of Higher Education necessary to implement a productivity-based funding model for state-supported institutions of higher education.”

Productivity-based funding is a mechanism to align institutional funding with statewide priorities for higher education by incentivizing progress toward statewide goals. At the same time, such models encourage accountability to students and policymakers by focusing on the success of students through the achievement of their educational goals. The new funding model is built around a set of shared principles developed by institutions and aligned with goals and objectives for post-secondary attainment in our state.

At its October 27, 2017 meeting, the AHECB approved the productivity funding model policies for the two-year colleges and universities and made amendments to these policies for unintended consequences in a special meeting on May 24, 2019. The policies were developed in conjunction with presidents and chancellors after meetings and revisions. The AHECB shall use the productivity-based funding model as the mechanism for recommending funding for applicable state-supported institutions of higher education. According to A.C.A. §6-61-234, the productivity-based funding model shall not determine the funding needs of special units such as a medical school, division of agriculture, or system offices. These special units are known as non-formula entities and ADHE staff will review justification requests submitted by the non-formula entities and prepare funding recommendations for Fiscal Year 2025-26 based upon those requests.

**Productivity Funding Distribution Recommendations for the 2025-26 Fiscal Year**

The distribution recommendations are based upon the productivity funding formula policies approved by the AHECB in October 2017 and amended by the AHECB in May 2019.

The two-year college and university productivity funding models have been calculated

using academic year 2021 through academic year 2023 student data as well as academic year 2020 through academic year 2022 expenditure data reported to and published by the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). The productivity funding model calculations represent a total productivity increase of 0.12% for two-year colleges and universities. This 0.12% supports the recommendation for state funding of institutions of higher education at \$588,582,614 in 2025-26, which continues to be an overall flat request from the previous two fiscal years.

As part of the productivity funding formula, institutions are only allowed to retain a portion of their funding increase from the prior year. This amount is up to 2% of their Base Level revenue in the prior year. The remaining funds are considered one time Incentive funding and would be redistributed in the following year to reduce the need for additional state funds to meet the productivity funding need. This amount for FY2026 is \$2,011,803. With the overall productivity being such a slight increase, these incentive funds will not be fully distributed to individual institutions, but instead will be recommended for utilization by the Division of Higher Education for statewide purposes.

For the **universities**, an increase in funding is recommended for those institutions with productivity increases for a total change in university funding of \$511,153. In addition to this new funding, institutions with productivity declines will have an amount reduced and then reallocated to the institutions who showed an increase. 4 out of the 10 universities reflected increases for FY2026 resulting in a reallocation of \$3,988,999.

For the **two-year colleges**, an increase in funding is recommended for those institutions with productivity increases for a total change in two-year college funding of \$171,343. In addition to this new funding, \$1,244,601 was reallocated from 18 institutions to 4 of the other two-year colleges.

This distribution recommendation results in a total request for new general revenue funds of \$0.

ADHE Executive Staff recommend that the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approve the following resolution.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board adopts the recommendation for distribution of productivity funding to the Arkansas public institutions of higher education in the 2025-26 fiscal year as included in Table A.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education is authorized to prepare appropriate documents for transmission to the Governor and the General Assembly of the 2025-26 productivity funding distribution recommendation of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That should any errors of a technical nature be

found in this recommendation, the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education is authorized to make appropriate corrections consistent with the policy established by the Board's action on these recommendations.

## Year 8 - Productivity Index

Productivity Index for FY2026 Recommendations*	<b>0.12%</b>		
	<b>Universities</b>	<b>Colleges</b>	
FY2026 Base RSA Forecast	\$ 582,003,899	75%	25%
Productivity Recommendation	\$ 682,496	511,153	171,343

Institution	FY2025 RSA Forecast	FY2025 Incentive Funding	FY2026 Base RSA	2020-22 Productivity Index	2021-23 Productivity Index	Change in Productivity Index	% Change in Productivity Index
ASUJ	\$ 59,297,803	\$ -	\$ 59,297,803	30,940	31,697	757	2.45%
ATU	\$ 36,356,050	\$ -	\$ 36,356,050	22,500	21,326	(1,174)	-5.22%
HSU	\$ 18,752,741	\$ -	\$ 18,752,741	7,758	7,404	(354)	-4.56%
SAUM	\$ 16,861,877	\$ -	\$ 16,861,877	10,429	11,355	926	8.88%
UAF	\$ 134,584,010	\$ 1,629,889	\$ 132,954,121	66,052	69,206	3,153	4.77%
UAFS	\$ 21,045,824	\$ -	\$ 21,045,824	17,058	17,084	25	0.15%
UALR	\$ 56,008,998	\$ -	\$ 56,008,998	21,397	20,439	(958)	-4.48%
UAM	\$ 16,696,750	\$ -	\$ 16,696,750	6,367	6,212	(156)	-2.44%
UAPB	\$ 21,902,693	\$ -	\$ 21,902,693	6,635	6,240	(395)	-5.95%
UCA	\$ 56,013,219	\$ -	\$ 56,013,219	25,725	25,268	(457)	-1.78%
<b>4YR SUB</b>	<b>437,519,965</b>	<b>1,629,889</b>	<b>435,890,076</b>	<b>214,861</b>	<b>216,230</b>	<b>1,369</b>	<b>0.64%</b>
ANC	\$ 8,765,839	\$ -	\$ 8,765,839	3,248	3,309	61	1.87%
ASUB	\$ 11,356,380	\$ -	\$ 11,356,380	9,649	8,886	(763)	-7.91%
ASUMH	\$ 3,695,854	\$ 65,724	\$ 3,630,130	3,909	3,846	(63)	-1.61%
ASUMS	\$ 4,013,696	\$ -	\$ 4,013,696	2,782	2,816	34	1.21%
ASUN	\$ 6,559,812	\$ -	\$ 6,559,812	6,806	6,694	(112)	-1.65%
ASUTR	\$ 3,381,360	\$ -	\$ 3,381,360	2,828	2,794	(35)	-1.23%
BRTC	\$ 6,321,306	\$ 278,828	\$ 6,042,478	5,061	5,930	869	17.17%
CCCUA	\$ 3,757,578	\$ -	\$ 3,757,578	4,352	4,344	(8)	-0.19%
EACC	\$ 8,749,489	\$ -	\$ 8,749,489	3,045	3,030	(14)	-0.47%
NAC	\$ 7,605,726	\$ -	\$ 7,605,726	4,101	4,055	(46)	-1.13%
NPC	\$ 9,040,569	\$ -	\$ 9,040,569	5,793	5,764	(29)	-0.50%
NWACC	\$ 11,649,679	\$ -	\$ 11,649,679	16,712	16,468	(245)	-1.46%
OZC	\$ 3,248,284	\$ -	\$ 3,248,284	3,482	3,411	(71)	-2.05%
PCCUA	\$ 8,923,812	\$ -	\$ 8,923,812	2,693	2,642	(51)	-1.88%
SAC	\$ 6,084,362	\$ -	\$ 6,084,362	4,003	3,922	(81)	-2.03%
SAUT	\$ 5,530,868	\$ -	\$ 5,530,868	3,812	3,808	(4)	-0.10%
SEAC	\$ 5,354,958	\$ -	\$ 5,354,958	3,119	2,985	(133)	-4.27%
UACCB	\$ 4,406,597	\$ -	\$ 4,406,597	4,033	3,906	(127)	-3.14%
UACCHT	\$ 4,647,636	\$ -	\$ 4,647,636	3,704	3,520	(184)	-4.97%
UACCM	\$ 5,089,458	\$ -	\$ 5,089,458	6,295	6,275	(19)	-0.31%
UACCRM	\$ 3,546,964	\$ 37,362	\$ 3,509,602	2,412	2,524	112	4.63%
UA-PT	\$ 14,765,510	\$ -	\$ 14,765,510	14,512	14,442	(70)	-0.48%
<b>2 YR SUB</b>	<b>\$ 146,495,737</b>	<b>\$ 381,914</b>	<b>\$ 146,113,823</b>	<b>116,352</b>	<b>115,372</b>	<b>(980)</b>	<b>-0.84%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 584,015,702</b>	<b>\$ 2,011,803</b>	<b>\$ 582,003,899</b>	<b>331,213</b>	<b>331,601</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>0.12%</b>

\* Maximum Recommendation in any one year is 2.00% above prior year.

**Year 8 - Productivity Funding Distribution**

Productivity Index for FY2026	0.12%		
		Universities	Colleges
FY2026 RSA Forecast	\$ 582,003,899	75%	25%
Productivity Recommendation	\$ 682,496	511,153	171,343

	NEW FUNDING	REALLOCATED FUNDING
University	\$ 511,153	\$ 3,988,999
College	\$ 171,343	\$ 1,244,601
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 682,496</b>	<b>\$ 5,233,599</b>

SOURCES OF NEW FUNDING	
State Contribution	\$ -
Incentive Funding Contribution	\$ 682,496
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 682,496</b>

FUNDING TO BE USED FOR STATEWIDE PURPOSES	
State Contribution	\$ -
Incentive Funding Contribution	\$ 5,885,292
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 5,885,292</b>

Year 8 Reallocation Loss Cap	2.00%
Year 8 Cap on RSA Increase	2.00%

Institution	RSA ONLY Funding FY2025	FY2025 Incentive Funding	FY2026 Base RSA	% Change in Productivity Index	NEW GENERAL REVENUE FUNDING			PRODUCTIVITY REALLOCATION				RECOMMENDATION				
					Productivity Index Increases (Increases Only)	Contribution to Increase (by Inst. Type)	Distribution of NEW Funding	Change in Productivity Index (Increases Only)	Contribution to Increase (by Inst. Type)	Reallocation Losses (2.0%)	Reallocation of Productivity Losses	Recommended Funding 2025-2026	Total Change in Funding	% Change	RSA Increase (Capped at 2.0%)	Incentive Funding
ASUJ	\$ 59,297,803	\$ -	\$ 59,297,803	2.45%	757	15.56%	79,560	757	15.56%	\$ -	\$ 620,881	\$ 59,998,244	\$ 700,441	1.18%	\$ 700,441	\$ -
ATU	\$ 36,356,050	\$ -	\$ 36,356,050	-5.22%	-	0.00%	-	-	0.00%	\$ 727,121	\$ (727,121)	\$ 35,628,929	\$ (727,121)	-2.00%	\$ -	\$ -
HSU	\$ 18,752,741	\$ -	\$ 18,752,741	-4.56%	-	0.00%	-	-	0.00%	\$ 375,055	\$ (375,055)	\$ 18,377,686	\$ (375,055)	-2.00%	\$ -	\$ -
SAUM	\$ 16,861,877	\$ -	\$ 16,861,877	8.88%	926	19.05%	97,381	926	19.05%	\$ -	\$ 759,954	\$ 17,719,212	\$ 857,335	5.08%	\$ 337,238	\$ 520,098
UAF	\$ 134,584,010	\$ 1,629,889	\$ 132,954,121	4.77%	3,153	64.86%	331,553	3,153	64.86%	\$ -	\$ 2,587,415	\$ 135,873,090	\$ 2,918,969	2.20%	\$ 2,659,082	\$ 259,886
UAFS	\$ 21,045,824	\$ -	\$ 21,045,824	0.15%	25	0.52%	2,659	25	0.52%	\$ -	\$ 20,748	\$ 21,069,231	\$ 23,407	0.11%	\$ 23,407	\$ -
UALR	\$ 56,008,998	\$ -	\$ 56,008,998	-4.48%	-	0.00%	-	-	0.00%	\$ 1,120,180	\$ (1,120,180)	\$ 54,888,818	\$ (1,120,180)	-2.00%	\$ -	\$ -
UAM	\$ 16,696,750	\$ -	\$ 16,696,750	-2.44%	-	0.00%	-	-	0.00%	\$ 333,935	\$ (333,935)	\$ 16,362,815	\$ (333,935)	-2.00%	\$ -	\$ -
UAPB	\$ 21,902,693	\$ -	\$ 21,902,693	-5.95%	-	0.00%	-	-	0.00%	\$ 438,054	\$ (438,054)	\$ 21,464,639	\$ (438,054)	-2.00%	\$ -	\$ -
UCA	\$ 56,013,219	\$ -	\$ 56,013,219	-1.78%	-	0.00%	-	-	0.00%	\$ 994,654	\$ (994,654)	\$ 55,018,565	\$ (994,654)	-1.78%	\$ -	\$ -
<b>4YR SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>437,519,965</b>	<b>1,629,889</b>	<b>435,890,076</b>	<b>0.64%</b>	<b>4,861</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>511,153</b>	<b>4,861</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$ 3,988,999</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 436,401,229</b>	<b>\$ 511,153</b>	<b>0.12%</b>	<b>\$ 3,720,168</b>	<b>\$ 779,984</b>
ANC	\$ 8,765,839	\$ -	\$ 8,765,839	1.87%	61	5.65%	9,685	61	5.65%	\$ -	\$ 70,354	\$ 8,845,878	\$ 80,039	0.91%	\$ 80,039	\$ -
ASUB*	\$ 11,356,380	\$ -	\$ 11,356,380	-7.91%	-	0.00%	-	-	0.00%	\$ 23,084	\$ (23,084)	\$ 11,333,296	\$ (23,084)	-0.20%	\$ -	\$ -
ASUMH	\$ 3,695,854	\$ 65,724	\$ 3,630,130	-1.61%	-	0.00%	-	-	0.00%	\$ 58,430	\$ (58,430)	\$ 3,571,700	\$ (58,430)	-1.61%	\$ -	\$ -
ASUMS	\$ 4,013,696	\$ -	\$ 4,013,696	1.21%	34	3.13%	5,360	34	3.13%	\$ -	\$ 38,933	\$ 4,057,989	\$ 44,293	1.10%	\$ 44,293	\$ -
ASUN	\$ 6,559,812	\$ -	\$ 6,559,812	-1.65%	-	0.00%	-	-	0.00%	\$ 108,142	\$ (108,142)	\$ 6,451,670	\$ (108,142)	-1.65%	\$ -	\$ -
ASUTR*	\$ 3,381,360	\$ -	\$ 3,381,360	-1.23%	-	0.00%	-	-	0.00%	\$ 33,814	\$ (33,814)	\$ 3,347,546	\$ (33,814)	-1.00%	\$ -	\$ -
BRTC	\$ 6,321,306	\$ 278,828	\$ 6,042,478	17.17%	869	80.82%	138,481	869	80.82%	\$ -	\$ 1,005,903	\$ 7,186,862	\$ 1,144,384	18.94%	\$ 120,850	\$ 1,023,534
CCCUA	\$ 3,757,578	\$ -	\$ 3,757,578	-0.19%	-	0.00%	-	-	0.00%	\$ 7,245	\$ (7,245)	\$ 3,750,333	\$ (7,245)	-0.19%	\$ -	\$ -
EACC	\$ 8,749,489	\$ -	\$ 8,749,489	-0.47%	-	0.00%	-	-	0.00%	\$ 40,991	\$ (40,991)	\$ 8,708,498	\$ (40,991)	-0.47%	\$ -	\$ -
NAC*	\$ 7,605,726	\$ -	\$ 7,605,726	-1.13%	-	0.00%	-	-	0.00%	\$ 76,057	\$ (76,057)	\$ 7,529,669	\$ (76,057)	-1.00%	\$ -	\$ -
NPC	\$ 9,040,569	\$ -	\$ 9,040,569	-0.50%	-	0.00%	-	-	0.00%	\$ 45,487	\$ (45,487)	\$ 8,995,082	\$ (45,487)	-0.50%	\$ -	\$ -
NWACC	\$ 11,649,679	\$ -	\$ 11,649,679	-1.46%	-	0.00%	-	-	0.00%	\$ 170,466	\$ (170,466)	\$ 11,479,213	\$ (170,466)	-1.46%	\$ -	\$ -
OZC	\$ 3,248,284	\$ -	\$ 3,248,284	-2.05%	-	0.00%	-	-	0.00%	\$ 64,966	\$ (64,966)	\$ 3,183,318	\$ (64,966)	-2.00%	\$ -	\$ -
PCCUA	\$ 8,923,812	\$ -	\$ 8,923,812	-1.88%	-	0.00%	-	-	0.00%	\$ 167,502	\$ (167,502)	\$ 8,756,310	\$ (167,502)	-1.88%	\$ -	\$ -
SAC	\$ 6,084,362	\$ -	\$ 6,084,362	-2.03%	-	0.00%	-	-	0.00%	\$ 121,687	\$ (121,687)	\$ 5,962,675	\$ (121,687)	-2.00%	\$ -	\$ -
SAUT	\$ 5,530,868	\$ -	\$ 5,530,868	-0.10%	-	0.00%	-	-	0.00%	\$ 5,338	\$ (5,338)	\$ 5,525,530	\$ (5,338)	-0.10%	\$ -	\$ -
SEAC*	\$ 5,354,958	\$ -	\$ 5,354,958	-4.27%	-	0.00%	-	-	0.00%	\$ 53,550	\$ (53,550)	\$ 5,301,408	\$ (53,550)	-1.00%	\$ -	\$ -
UACCB	\$ 4,406,597	\$ -	\$ 4,406,597	-3.14%	-	0.00%	-	-	0.00%	\$ 88,132	\$ (88,132)	\$ 4,318,465	\$ (88,132)	-2.00%	\$ -	\$ -
UACCHT	\$ 4,647,636	\$ -	\$ 4,647,636	-4.97%	-	0.00%	-	-	0.00%	\$ 92,953	\$ (92,953)	\$ 4,554,683	\$ (92,953)	-2.00%	\$ -	\$ -
UACCM	\$ 5,089,458	\$ -	\$ 5,089,458	-0.31%	-	0.00%	-	-	0.00%	\$ 15,579	\$ (15,579)	\$ 5,073,879	\$ (15,579)	-0.31%	\$ -	\$ -
UACCRM	\$ 3,546,964	\$ 37,362	\$ 3,509,602	4.63%	112	10.40%	17,816	112	10.40%	\$ -	\$ 129,412	\$ 3,656,829	\$ 147,227	4.19%	\$ 70,192	\$ 77,035
UA-PT	\$ 14,765,510	\$ -	\$ 14,765,510	-0.48%	-	0.00%	-	-	0.00%	\$ 71,178	\$ (71,178)	\$ 14,694,332	\$ (71,178)	-0.48%	\$ -	\$ -
<b>2 YR SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 146,495,737</b>	<b>\$ 381,914</b>	<b>\$ 146,113,823</b>	<b>-0.84%</b>	<b>1,075</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>171,343</b>	<b>1,075</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$ 1,244,601</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 146,285,166</b>	<b>\$ 171,343</b>	<b>0.12%</b>	<b>\$ 315,373</b>	<b>\$ 1,100,570</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 584,015,702</b>	<b>\$ 2,011,803</b>	<b>\$ 582,003,899</b>	<b>0.12%</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>682,496</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 582,686,395</b>	<b>\$ 682,496</b>	<b>0.12%</b>	<b>\$ 4,035,541</b>	<b>\$ 1,880,554</b>

\* Denotes Institutions that met the 5% loss threshold when compared to initial funding from FY2021 per productivity distribution policy.

Institution	Initial RSA Funding FY2021	Recommended Funding 2025-2026	Difference from Initial Funding Year	Percentage Change from Initial Funding Year
ASUJ	\$ 56,114,738	\$ 59,998,244	\$ 3,883,506	6.92%
ATU*	\$ 32,809,862	\$ 35,628,929	\$ 2,819,067	8.59%
HSU	\$ 18,966,487	\$ 18,377,686	\$ (588,801)	-3.10%
SAUM	\$ 15,976,938	\$ 17,719,212	\$ 1,742,274	10.90%
UAF	\$ 120,492,533	\$ 135,873,090	\$ 15,380,556	12.76%
UAFS	\$ 20,574,769	\$ 21,069,231	\$ 494,462	2.40%
UALR	\$ 56,283,313	\$ 54,888,818	\$ (1,394,495)	-2.48%
UAM*	\$ 15,786,582	\$ 16,362,815	\$ 576,233	3.65%
UAPB	\$ 22,134,337	\$ 21,464,639	\$ (669,698)	-3.03%
UCA	\$ 54,301,814	\$ 55,018,565	\$ 716,751	1.32%
<b>4YR SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 413,441,374</b>	<b>\$ 436,401,229</b>	<b>\$ 22,959,855</b>	<b>5.55%</b>
ANC	\$ 8,491,281	\$ 8,845,878	\$ 354,597	4.18%
ASUB	\$ 11,929,786	\$ 11,333,296	\$ (596,489)	-5.00%
ASUMH	\$ 3,739,860	\$ 3,571,700	\$ (168,160)	-4.50%
ASUMS	\$ 3,945,500	\$ 4,057,989	\$ 112,488	2.85%
ASUN	\$ 6,142,999	\$ 6,451,670	\$ 308,671	5.02%
ASUTR	\$ 3,523,733	\$ 3,347,546	\$ (176,187)	-5.00%
BRTC	\$ 6,052,381	\$ 7,186,862	\$ 1,134,481	18.74%
CCCUA	\$ 3,481,206	\$ 3,750,333	\$ 269,126	7.73%
EACC	\$ 8,348,134	\$ 8,708,498	\$ 360,364	4.32%
NAC	\$ 7,925,968	\$ 7,529,669	\$ (396,299)	-5.00%
NPC	\$ 8,956,024	\$ 8,995,082	\$ 39,058	0.44%
NWACC	\$ 10,778,490	\$ 11,479,213	\$ 700,723	6.50%
OZC	\$ 3,095,210	\$ 3,183,318	\$ 88,108	2.85%
PCCUA	\$ 8,972,457	\$ 8,756,310	\$ (216,147)	-2.41%
SAC	\$ 6,124,822	\$ 5,962,675	\$ (162,147)	-2.65%
SAUT	\$ 5,648,456	\$ 5,525,530	\$ (122,926)	-2.18%
SEAC	\$ 5,580,430	\$ 5,301,408	\$ (279,022)	-5.00%
UACCB	\$ 4,193,027	\$ 4,318,465	\$ 125,438	2.99%
UACCHT	\$ 4,604,971	\$ 4,554,683	\$ (50,288)	-1.09%
UACCM	\$ 4,985,709	\$ 5,073,879	\$ 88,170	1.77%
UACCRM	\$ 3,174,800	\$ 3,656,829	\$ 482,029	15.18%
UA-PT	\$ 14,986,063	\$ 14,694,332	\$ (291,730)	-1.95%
<b>2 YR SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 144,681,307</b>	<b>\$ 146,285,166</b>	<b>\$ 1,603,858</b>	<b>1.11%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 558,122,681</b>	<b>\$ 582,686,395</b>	<b>\$ 24,563,713</b>	<b>4.40%</b>

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EDUCATIONAL AND GENERAL OPERATIONS  
STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
FISCAL YEAR 2025-26**

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**Background**

A.C.A. §6-61-234 (Act 148 of 2017) directs the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) to adopt polices developed by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education (ADHE) necessary to implement a productivity-based funding model for state-supported institutions of higher education. That language reads as follows:

“(a) (1) (A) The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall adopt policies developed by the Division of Higher Education necessary to implement a productivity-based funding model for state-supported institutions of higher education.”

Productivity-based funding is a mechanism to align institutional funding with statewide priorities for higher education by incentivizing progress toward statewide goals. At the same time, such models encourage accountability to students and policymakers by focusing on the success of students through the achievement of their educational goals. The new funding model is built around a set of shared principles developed by institutions and aligned with goals and objectives for post-secondary attainment in our state.

At its October 27, 2017 meeting, the AHECB approved the productivity funding model policies for the two-year colleges and universities. The policies were developed in conjunction with presidents and chancellors after meetings and revisions. The AHECB shall use the productivity-based funding model as the mechanism for recommending funding for applicable state-supported institutions of higher education. According to A.C.A. §6-61-234, the productivity-based funding model shall not determine the funding needs of special units such as a medical school, division of agriculture, or system offices. These special units are known as non-formula entities and ADHE staff reviewed justification requests submitted by the non-formula entities and prepared funding recommendations for Fiscal Year 2024-25 based upon those requests.

**Operating Funding Recommendations for the 2025-26 Fiscal Year**

The operating recommendations are based upon the productivity funding formula policies approved by the AHECB in October 2017 as well as requests submitted by the non-formula entities.



For the universities, an increase in funding is recommended for those institutions with productivity increases for a total change in university funding of \$511,153.

For the two-year colleges, an increase in funding is recommended for those institutions with productivity increases for a total change in two-year college funding of \$171,343.

For the **non-formula entities**, the recommendation is for a 7.0% increase based on the HEPI index and a recommendation of full funding of Operations and Program Enhancement requests which combined would require an additional \$25.6 million, of which \$7.1 million would be for the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS).

The individual institutional recommendations for all three types of institutions (Colleges, Universities, and Non-Formula Entities) were determined in the following manner: The general revenue funds were distributed based upon the productivity funding distribution policy adopted by the AHECB in October 2017. The non-formula needs were based on the justifications submitted by the institutions. **The total funding recommendation for 2025-26 for Colleges and Universities is \$0 in new revenue with \$5,885,292 of one-time incentive funds being utilized for statewide purposes. The total recommendation for 2025-2026 for the Non-Formula Entities is \$25,582,847 in new revenue.**

In addition to these funding recommendations, an additional appropriation increase of 5% of the formula-based entities funding recommendation has been added to address any changes in disbursements for Educational Excellence Trust Fund revenues or any other state funding adjustments. This increase totals \$24,808,706 for the **universities** and \$9,055,730 for the **two-year colleges**.

ADHE Executive Staff recommend that the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approve the following resolution.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board adopts the recommendations for state funding of the educational and general operations of Arkansas public institutions of higher education in the 2025-26 fiscal year as included in Tables 03A, 03B, 03C, and 04D.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education is authorized to prepare appropriate documents for transmission to the Governor and the General Assembly of the 2025-26 operating recommendations of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That should any errors of a technical nature be found in these recommendations, the Commissioner of

the Arkansas Division of Higher Education is authorized to make appropriate corrections consistent with the policy established by the Board's action on these recommendations.

**Table 03A. Summary of Operating Recommendations for the 2025-26 Fiscal Year**

Institution Type	Fiscal Year 2024-25 Base				FY2025-26 AHECB Recommendations		
	EETF Forecast	WF2000	RSA Forecast	Total Base (RSA, EETF & WF2000)	Total Recommendation	New Funds	% Inc
	Universities	57,615,273	2,157,610	437,519,965	495,662,959	496,174,112	511,153
Colleges	11,456,762	23,372,671	146,495,737	180,943,256	181,114,598	171,343	0.1%
Total	69,072,035	25,530,281	584,015,702	676,606,215	677,288,710	682,496	0.1%

Non-Formula Entity Type	Fiscal Year 2024-25 Base			FY2025-26 AHECB Recommendation		
	EETF Forecast	RSA Forecast	Total Base (RSA & EETF)	Total Recommendation	New Funds	% Inc
	Non-Formula Entities	21,935,915	94,033,560	115,969,475	134,497,279	18,527,804
Health Care-Related UAMS	15,059,852	100,786,321	115,846,173	122,901,215	7,055,042	6.1%
Total	36,995,767	194,819,881	231,815,648	257,398,495	25,582,847	11.0%

## Year 8 - Productivity Index

<b>Productivity Index for FY2026 Recommendations</b>	<b>0.12%</b>		
		<b>Universities</b>	<b>Colleges</b>
<b>FY2026 Base RSA Forecast</b>	\$ 582,003,899	75%	25%
<b>Productivity Recommendation</b>	\$ 682,496	511,153	171,343

Institution	FY2025 RSA Forecast	FY2025 Incentive Funding	FY2026 Base RSA	2020-22 Productivity Index	2021-23 Productivity Index	Change in Productivity Index	% Change in Productivity Index
ASUJ	\$ 59,297,803	-	\$ 59,297,803	30,940	31,697	757	2.45%
ATU	\$ 36,356,050	-	\$ 36,356,050	22,500	21,326	(1,174)	-5.22%
HSU	\$ 18,752,741	-	\$ 18,752,741	7,758	7,404	(354)	-4.56%
SAUM	\$ 16,861,877	-	\$ 16,861,877	10,429	11,355	926	8.88%
UAF	\$ 134,584,010	\$ 1,629,889	\$ 132,954,121	66,052	69,206	3,153	4.77%
UAFS	\$ 21,045,824	-	\$ 21,045,824	17,058	17,084	25	0.15%
UALR	\$ 56,008,998	-	\$ 56,008,998	21,397	20,439	(958)	-4.48%
UAM	\$ 16,696,750	-	\$ 16,696,750	6,367	6,212	(156)	-2.44%
UAPB	\$ 21,902,693	-	\$ 21,902,693	6,635	6,240	(395)	-5.95%
UCA	\$ 56,013,219	-	\$ 56,013,219	25,725	25,268	(457)	-1.78%
<b>4YR SUB</b>	437,519,965	1,629,889	435,890,076	214,861	216,230	1,369	0.64%
ANC	\$ 8,765,839	-	\$ 8,765,839	3,248	3,309	61	1.87%
ASUB	\$ 11,356,380	-	\$ 11,356,380	9,649	8,886	(763)	-7.91%
ASUMH	\$ 3,695,854	\$ 65,724	\$ 3,630,130	3,909	3,846	(63)	-1.61%
ASUMS	\$ 4,013,696	-	\$ 4,013,696	2,782	2,816	34	1.21%
ASUN	\$ 6,559,812	-	\$ 6,559,812	6,806	6,694	(112)	-1.65%
ASUTR	\$ 3,381,360	-	\$ 3,381,360	2,828	2,794	(35)	-1.23%
BRTC	\$ 6,321,306	\$ 278,828	\$ 6,042,478	5,061	5,930	869	17.17%
CCCUA	\$ 3,757,578	-	\$ 3,757,578	4,352	4,344	(8)	-0.19%
EACC	\$ 8,749,489	-	\$ 8,749,489	3,045	3,030	(14)	-0.47%
NAC	\$ 7,605,726	-	\$ 7,605,726	4,101	4,055	(46)	-1.13%
NPC	\$ 9,040,569	-	\$ 9,040,569	5,793	5,764	(29)	-0.50%
NWACC	\$ 11,649,679	-	\$ 11,649,679	16,712	16,468	(245)	-1.46%
OZC	\$ 3,248,284	-	\$ 3,248,284	3,482	3,411	(71)	-2.05%
PCCUA	\$ 8,923,812	-	\$ 8,923,812	2,693	2,642	(51)	-1.88%
SAC	\$ 6,084,362	-	\$ 6,084,362	4,003	3,922	(81)	-2.03%
SAUT	\$ 5,530,868	-	\$ 5,530,868	3,812	3,808	(4)	-0.10%
SEAC	\$ 5,354,958	-	\$ 5,354,958	3,119	2,985	(133)	-4.27%
UACCB	\$ 4,406,597	-	\$ 4,406,597	4,033	3,906	(127)	-3.14%
UACCHT	\$ 4,647,636	-	\$ 4,647,636	3,704	3,520	(184)	-4.97%
UACCM	\$ 5,089,458	-	\$ 5,089,458	6,295	6,275	(19)	-0.31%
UACCRM	\$ 3,546,964	\$ 37,362	\$ 3,509,602	2,412	2,524	112	4.63%
UA-PT	\$ 14,765,510	-	\$ 14,765,510	14,512	14,442	(70)	-0.48%
<b>2 YR SUB</b>	\$ 146,495,737	\$ 381,914	\$ 146,113,823	116,352	115,372	(980)	-0.84%
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ 584,015,702	\$ 2,011,803	\$ 582,003,899	331,213	331,601	388	0.12%

Table 03B. 2025-26 Four-Year Universities Recommendations

Inst	FY2024-25					PRODUCTIVITY DISTRIBUTIONS									FY2025-26 Recommendations			
	EETF Forecast	WF2000 Forecast	RSA Forecast	One-Time Incentive Funding in RSA	Total Base (RSA + EETF + WF2000 - Incentive Funding)	% Change in Productivity Index	Productivity Index Increases	Contribution to Increase	Distribution of Productivity Funding (New Funds)	% Increase over RSA	Reallocation Losses (2.0%)	Reallocation of Productivity Losses	RSA Increase (Capped at 2.0%)	Incentive Funding	Total Funding Recommendation	New Funds	5% Appropriation Adjustment	Total Recommendation
ASUJ	\$ 9,303,808	\$ -	\$ 59,297,803	\$ -	\$ 68,601,611	2.45%	757	15.56%	79,560	0.13%	-	620,881	700,441	-	\$ 69,302,052	\$ 700,441	\$ 3,465,103	\$ 72,767,154
ATU*	\$ 3,248,645	\$ 794,492	\$ 36,356,050	\$ -	\$ 40,399,187	-5.22%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	727,121	(727,121)	-	-	\$ 39,672,066	\$ (727,121)	\$ 1,983,603	\$ 41,655,669
HSU	\$ 3,360,570	\$ -	\$ 18,752,741	\$ -	\$ 22,113,311	-4.56%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	375,055	(375,055)	-	-	\$ 21,738,256	\$ (375,055)	\$ 1,086,913	\$ 22,825,169
SAUM	\$ 1,986,843	\$ -	\$ 16,861,877	\$ -	\$ 18,848,720	8.88%	926	19.05%	97,381	0.58%	-	759,954	337,238	520,098	\$ 19,706,055	\$ 857,335	\$ 985,303	\$ 20,691,358
UAF	\$ 14,169,624	\$ -	\$ 134,584,010	\$ 1,629,889	\$ 147,123,745	4.77%	3,153	64.86%	331,553	0.25%	-	2,587,415	2,659,082	259,886	\$ 150,042,714	\$ 2,918,969	\$ 7,502,136	\$ 157,544,849
UAFS	\$ 4,924,179	\$ -	\$ 21,045,824	\$ -	\$ 25,970,003	0.15%	25	0.52%	2,659	0.01%	-	20,748	23,407	-	\$ 25,993,410	\$ 23,407	\$ 1,299,671	\$ 27,293,081
UALR	\$ 8,534,190	\$ -	\$ 56,008,998	\$ -	\$ 64,543,188	-4.48%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	1,120,180	(1,120,180)	-	-	\$ 63,423,008	\$ (1,120,180)	\$ 3,171,150	\$ 66,594,158
UAM*	\$ 1,714,708	\$ 1,363,118	\$ 16,696,750	\$ -	\$ 19,774,576	-2.44%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	333,935	(333,935)	-	-	\$ 19,440,641	\$ (333,935)	\$ 972,032	\$ 20,412,673
UAPB	\$ 2,976,696	\$ -	\$ 21,902,693	\$ -	\$ 24,879,389	-5.95%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	438,054	(438,054)	-	-	\$ 24,441,335	\$ (438,054)	\$ 1,222,067	\$ 25,663,402
UCA	\$ 7,396,010	\$ -	\$ 56,013,219	\$ -	\$ 63,409,229	-1.78%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	994,654	(994,654)	-	-	\$ 62,414,575	\$ (994,654)	\$ 3,120,729	\$ 65,535,304
<b>Total</b>	\$ 57,615,273	\$ 2,157,610	\$ 437,519,965	\$ 1,629,889	\$ 495,662,959	0.64%	4,861	100%	511,153	0%	3,988,999	-	3,720,168	779,984	\$ 496,174,112	\$ 511,153	\$ 24,808,706	\$ 520,982,818

\*Includes ATU-Ozark  
 \*\*Includes UAM-Crosssett and UAM-McGehee

Table 03C. 2025-26 Two Year Colleges Recommendations

Inst	FY2024-25					PRODUCTIVITY DISTRIBUTIONS									FY2025-26 Recommendations			
	EETF Forecast	WF2000 Forecast	RSA Forecast	One-Time Incentive Funding in RSA	Total Base (RSA + EETF + WF2000 - Incentive Funding)	% Change in Productivity Index	Productivity Index Increases	Contribution to Increase	Distribution of Productivity Funding (New Funds)	% Increase over RSA	Reallocation Losses (2.0%)	Reallocation of Productivity Losses	RSA Increase (Capped at 2.0%)	Incentive Funding	Total Funding Recommendation	New Funds	5% Appropriation Adjustment	Total Recommendation
ANC	\$ 1,159,107	\$ 730,954	\$ 8,765,839	\$ -	\$ 10,655,900	1.87%	61	5.65%	9,685	0.11%	-	70,354	\$ 80,039	\$ -	\$ 10,735,939	\$ 80,039	\$ 536,797	\$ 11,272,736
ASUB	\$ 2,312,204	\$ 801,945	\$ 11,356,380	\$ -	\$ 14,470,529	-7.91%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	23,084	(23,084)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,447,445	\$ (23,084)	\$ 722,372	\$ 15,169,818
ASUMH	\$ -	\$ 823,929	\$ 3,695,854	\$ 65,724	\$ 4,454,059	-1.61%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	58,430	(58,430)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,395,629	\$ (58,430)	\$ 219,781	\$ 4,615,411
ASUMS	\$ -	\$ 2,190,914	\$ 4,013,696	\$ -	\$ 6,204,610	1.21%	34	3.13%	5,360	0.13%	-	38,933	\$ 44,293	\$ -	\$ 6,248,903	\$ 44,293	\$ 312,445	\$ 6,561,348
ASUN	\$ -	\$ 1,417,628	\$ 6,559,812	\$ -	\$ 7,977,440	-1.65%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	108,142	(108,142)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,869,298	\$ (108,142)	\$ 393,465	\$ 8,262,762
ASUTR	\$ -	\$ 1,156,386	\$ 3,381,360	\$ -	\$ 4,537,746	-1.23%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	33,814	(33,814)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,503,932	\$ (33,814)	\$ 225,197	\$ 4,729,128
BRTC	\$ -	\$ 2,245,209	\$ 6,321,306	\$ 278,828	\$ 8,287,687	17.17%	869	80.82%	138,481	2.29%	-	1,005,903	\$ 120,850	\$ 1,023,534	\$ 9,432,071	\$ 1,144,384	\$ 471,604	\$ 9,903,675
CCCUA	\$ -	\$ 1,350,337	\$ 3,757,578	\$ -	\$ 5,107,915	-0.19%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	7,245	(7,245)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,100,670	\$ (7,245)	\$ 255,033	\$ 5,355,703
EACC	\$ 1,210,034	\$ 783,221	\$ 8,749,489	\$ -	\$ 10,742,744	-0.47%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	40,991	(40,991)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,701,753	\$ (40,991)	\$ 535,088	\$ 11,236,841
NAC	\$ 714,632	\$ 575,177	\$ 7,605,726	\$ -	\$ 8,895,535	-1.13%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	76,057	(76,057)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,819,478	\$ (76,057)	\$ 440,974	\$ 9,260,452
NPC	\$ 1,809,776	\$ 668,021	\$ 9,040,569	\$ -	\$ 11,518,366	-0.50%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	45,487	(45,487)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,472,879	\$ (45,487)	\$ 573,644	\$ 12,046,523
NWACC	\$ 1,599,375	\$ -	\$ 11,649,679	\$ -	\$ 13,249,054	-1.46%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	170,466	(170,466)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,078,588	\$ (170,466)	\$ 653,929	\$ 13,732,518
OZC	\$ -	\$ 1,271,841	\$ 3,248,284	\$ -	\$ 4,520,125	-2.05%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	64,966	(64,966)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,455,159	\$ (64,966)	\$ 222,758	\$ 4,677,917
PCCUA	\$ 1,178,409	\$ 529,856	\$ 8,923,812	\$ -	\$ 10,632,077	-1.88%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	167,502	(167,502)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,464,575	\$ (167,502)	\$ 523,229	\$ 10,987,804
SAC	\$ 827,577	\$ 461,389	\$ 6,084,362	\$ -	\$ 7,373,328	-2.03%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	121,687	(121,687)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,251,641	\$ (121,687)	\$ 362,582	\$ 7,614,223
SAUT	\$ 326,243	\$ -	\$ 5,530,868	\$ -	\$ 5,857,111	-0.10%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	5,338	(5,338)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,851,773	\$ (5,338)	\$ 292,589	\$ 6,144,362
SEAC	\$ -	\$ 1,975,199	\$ 5,354,958	\$ -	\$ 7,330,157	-4.27%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	53,550	(53,550)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,276,607	\$ (53,550)	\$ 363,830	\$ 7,640,438
UACCB	\$ -	\$ 866,760	\$ 4,406,597	\$ -	\$ 5,273,357	-3.14%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	88,132	(88,132)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,185,225	\$ (88,132)	\$ 259,261	\$ 5,444,486
UACCHT	\$ -	\$ 1,958,947	\$ 4,647,636	\$ -	\$ 6,606,583	-4.97%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	92,953	(92,953)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,513,630	\$ (92,953)	\$ 325,682	\$ 6,839,312
UACCM	\$ -	\$ 1,291,186	\$ 5,089,458	\$ -	\$ 6,380,644	-0.31%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	15,579	(15,579)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,365,065	\$ (15,579)	\$ 318,253	\$ 6,683,318
UACCRM	\$ 319,405	\$ -	\$ 3,546,964	\$ 37,362	\$ 3,829,007	4.63%	112	10.40%	17,816	0.51%	-	129,412	\$ 70,192	\$ 77,035	\$ 3,976,234	\$ 147,227	\$ 198,812	\$ 4,175,046
UA-PT	\$ -	\$ 2,273,772	\$ 14,765,510	\$ -	\$ 17,039,282	-0.48%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	71,178	(71,178)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,968,104	\$ (71,178)	\$ 848,405	\$ 17,816,509
<b>Total</b>	\$ 11,456,762	\$ 23,372,671	\$ 146,495,737	\$ 381,914	\$ 180,943,256	-0.84%	1,075	100%	171,343	0.12%	1,244,601	-	\$ 315,373	\$ 1,100,570	\$ 181,114,598	\$ 171,343	\$ 9,055,730	\$ 190,170,328

**Table 03D. 2025-26 Non-Formula Entities Recommendations**

Institution/Entity	FY2024-25			FY 2025-26 Recommendations			
	EETF Forecast	RSA Forecast	Total Base (RSA & EETF)	7.0% Continuing Level of RSA	Base Operations & Program Enhancements	Total New Funds over 2024-25 Rec.	Total Recommendation
ADTEC/ADWIRED	\$ -	\$ 1,527,000	\$ 1,527,000	\$ 106,890	\$ -	\$ 106,890	\$ 1,633,890
AREON	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,100,000	\$ 2,100,000	\$ 2,100,000
ASU-System Office	\$ 387,659	\$ 2,485,029	\$ 2,872,688	\$ 173,952	\$ 278,718	\$ 452,670	\$ 3,325,358
ASU-Heritage	\$ -	\$ 368,124	\$ 368,124	\$ 25,769	\$ 2,082,229	\$ 2,107,998	\$ 2,476,122
ASU-Delta Center for Economic Development	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 453,563	\$ 453,563	\$ 453,563
ATU-AR Tech Institute	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,004,769	\$ 2,004,769	\$ 2,004,769
HSU-CEC	\$ -	\$ 79,613	\$ 79,613	\$ 5,573	\$ -	\$ 5,573	\$ 85,186
NWACC-CPTC	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
SAC-Arboretum	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
SAUT-ETA	\$ 54,518	\$ 375,036	\$ 429,554	\$ 26,253	\$ -	\$ 26,253	\$ 455,807
SAUT-FTA	\$ 137,983	\$ 1,780,943	\$ 1,918,926	\$ 124,666	\$ -	\$ 124,666	\$ 2,043,592
UA-SYS	\$ 961,957	\$ 3,479,474	\$ 4,441,431	\$ 243,563	\$ -	\$ 243,563	\$ 4,684,994
UA-AS	\$ 449,715	\$ 2,369,274	\$ 2,818,989	\$ 165,849	\$ 1,949,700	\$ 2,115,549	\$ 4,934,538
UA-DivAgri	\$ 8,467,625	\$ 65,800,138	\$ 74,267,763	\$ 4,606,010	\$ -	\$ 4,606,010	\$ 78,873,773
UA-ASMSA	\$ 11,476,458	\$ 1,133,048	\$ 12,609,506	\$ 79,313	\$ -	\$ 79,313	\$ 12,688,819
UA-CS	\$ -	\$ 2,336,896	\$ 2,336,896	\$ 163,583	\$ -	\$ 163,583	\$ 2,500,479
UA-CJI	\$ -	\$ 2,458,634	\$ 2,458,634	\$ 172,104	\$ 905,775	\$ 1,077,879	\$ 3,536,513
UALR-RAPS	\$ -	\$ 4,040,351	\$ 4,040,351	\$ 282,825	\$ 1,980,000	\$ 2,262,825	\$ 6,303,176
UAPB-Nonformula*	\$ -	\$ 5,800,000	\$ 5,800,000	\$ 406,000	\$ 190,701	\$ 596,701	\$ 6,396,701
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 21,935,915</b>	<b>\$ 94,033,560</b>	<b>\$ 115,969,475</b>	<b>\$ 6,582,349</b>	<b>\$ 11,945,455</b>	<b>\$ 18,527,804</b>	<b>\$ 134,497,279</b>

\*UAPB's Recommendation for RSA funding is for federal matching purposes.

**Health-Related Non-Formula Entity - UAMS**

Institution/Entity	FY2024-25			FY 2025-26 Recommendations			
	EETF Forecast	RSA Forecast	Total Base (RSA & EETF)	7.0% Continuing Level of RSA	Base Operations & Program Enhancements	Total New Funds over 2024-25 Rec.	Total Recommendation
UAMS	\$ 14,694,203	\$ 93,012,881	\$ 107,707,084	\$ 6,510,902	\$ -	\$ 6,510,902	\$ 114,217,986
UAMS-ABUSE/RAPE/DV	\$ -	\$ 350,000	\$ 350,000	\$ 24,500	\$ -	\$ 24,500	\$ 374,500
UAMS-Ped/Psych/Res.	\$ -	\$ 1,985,100	\$ 1,985,100	\$ 138,957	\$ -	\$ 138,957	\$ 2,124,057
UAMS-IC	\$ 365,649	\$ 5,438,340	\$ 5,803,989	\$ 380,684	\$ -	\$ 380,684	\$ 6,184,673
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 15,059,852</b>	<b>\$ 100,786,321</b>	<b>\$ 115,846,173</b>	<b>\$ 7,055,042</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 7,055,042</b>	<b>\$ 122,901,215</b>

**PERSONAL SERVICES RECOMMENDATIONS FOR  
NON-CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL  
2025-27 BIENNIUM**

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A.C.A. §6-61-209 requires the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board to present a consolidated budget request from the state-supported colleges and universities to the General Assembly and the Governor prior to each regular session of the General Assembly. As part of this process, the quantity of positions, titles, grades, and line-item maximum salaries for all administrative, academic, and auxiliary positions at each Arkansas public institution of higher education have been reviewed, and changes are recommended.

These recommendations, to be effective July 1, 2025, recognize the varying structures and sizes of institutions, while maintaining reasonable consistency among similar positions at institutions. The primary objective of the ADHE staff was to maintain relative uniformity in titles and line-item maximums for similar positions in comparable institutions, while recognizing the varying missions and structures of institutions, priorities of the new biennium, and FTE enrollment growth.

While additional positions and titles were recommended when institutions demonstrated a compelling need, ADHE staff attempted to keep the net growth at a minimum due to concerns over budget shortfalls and the expansion of state services. Salary recommendations for new positions were based on salaries for similar positions previously established at comparable Arkansas institutions. In addition to this review, this recommendation presents additional positional pool recommendations to allow institutions greater flexibility within job roles for promotion and reduce the number of overall positions needed to accommodate these promotional paths.

Institutions of higher education, apart from UAMS, have 27,058 positions currently authorized. For the 2025-27 Biennium, institutions have requested a net new request of 52 positions. ADHE staff recommends the net increase of 52 positions, for a total recommendation of 27,110 positions (a 0.2 percent increase). UAMS currently has 11,974 authorized positions and submitted a request that does not change this total. ADHE staff recommends the current level of 11,974 positions.

Institutions' state funding is not based on the number of approved positions. Additional positions do not generate a need for new funding. If institutional growth necessitates additional positions during the year, positions may be requested from the appropriate pool.



Summaries of authorized, requested, and recommended positions for two-year and four-year institutions are shown in Table 8-A and Table 8-B. Recommended maximum salaries for selected key administrative and academic positions are shown in Table 8-C and Table 8-D.

ADHE Executive Staff recommend that the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approve the following resolution.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board adopts the recommended number of positions, titles, grades, and maximum salaries for positions in academic, administrative, and auxiliary positions for the 2025-27 Biennium as recommended by staff.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education is authorized to make technical corrections consistent with Coordinating Board action.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board requests the Director to transmit the Personal Services recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly for consideration for the 2025-27 Biennium.

TABLE 8-A 2025-27 PERSONAL SERVICES SUMMARY FOR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
NON-Classified Positions for Universities

Institution	AY 2024 FTE	Authorized 2024-25 Positions*				Filled 2023-24 Positions*				Deleted Positions				Requested Added Positions*				Recommended Added Positions				Total Positions				Percent Increase			
		Admin	Academic	Auxiliary	Total	Admin	Academic	Auxiliary	Total	Admin	Academic	Auxiliary	Total	Admin	Academic	Auxiliary	Total	Admin	Academic	Auxiliary	Total	Admin	Academic	Auxiliary	Total	Admin	Academic	Auxiliary	Total
<b>Four-Year Institutions: Sorted by Institution</b>																													
ASUJ		863	1,219	147	2,229	922	1,061	135	2,118	28	0	5	33	31	0	5	36	31	0	5	36	866	1,219	147	2,232	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
ASU-SYS		34	0	0	34	30	0	0	30	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	35	0	0	35	2.9%	0.0%	0.0%	2.9%
ASU-ABI		18	25	0	43	15	20	0	35	2	0	0	2	2	0	0	2	2	0	0	2	18	25	0	43	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
ATU		559	707	72	1,338	402	478	38	918	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	559	707	72	1,338	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
ATU-Ozark		62	143	0	205	41	86	0	127	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	62	143	0	205	0.0%	0.0%	#DIV/0!	0.0%
ATU-AR Tech Institute		18	0	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	0	0	18	0.0%	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	0.0%
HSU		184	327	44	555	117	197	38	352	7	7	4	18	4	10	4	18	4	10	4	18	181	330	44	555	-1.6%	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%
SAUM		229	282	14	525	194	258	16	468	6	0	2	8	6	0	6	12	6	0	6	12	229	282	18	529	0.0%	0.0%	28.6%	0.8%
UAF		2,201	2,620	724	5,545	2,081	2,715	676	5,472	22	9	10	41	40	11	22	73	40	11	22	73	2,219	2,622	736	5,577	0.8%	0.1%	1.7%	0.6%
UA-GWG		14	0	0	14	11	0	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	0	0	14	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
UAFS		355	630	40	1,025	266	399	29	694	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	355	630	40	1,025	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
UALR		709	1,179	107	1,995	448	951	75	1,474	53	0	0	53	12	0	35	47	12	0	35	47	668	1,179	142	1,989	-5.8%	0.0%	32.7%	-0.3%
UAM		205	282	38	525	158	199	32	389	5	0	0	5	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	200	282	39	521	-2.4%	0.0%	2.6%	-0.8%
UAMCT-C		14	39	0	53	10	18	0	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	39	0	53	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
UAMCT-M		19	34	0	53	13	20	0	33	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	34	0	52	-5.3%	0.0%	0.0%	-1.9%
UAM-AHEOTA-W		2	4	0	6	1	2	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	0	6	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
UAPB		365	262	76	703	244	186	57	487	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	364	262	77	703	-0.3%	0.0%	1.3%	0.0%
UAPB-AES & EP		18	159	0	177	11	90	0	101	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	159	0	177	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
UA SYSTEM		83	0	0	83	75	0	0	75	4	0	0	4	38	0	0	38	38	0	0	38	117	0	0	117	41.0%	0.0%	0.0%	41.0%
UA-Div of Agri		791	686	0	1,477	685	598	0	1,283	36	10	0	46	4	35	0	39	4	35	0	39	759	711	0	1,470	-4.0%	3.6%	0.0%	-0.5%
UA-AAS		8	55	0	63	6	32	0	38	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	55	0	63	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
UA-AREON		11	0	0	11	9	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	3	0	0	3	14	0	0	14	27.3%	0.0%	0.0%	27.3%
UA-ASMSA		74	48	0	122	61	28	0	89	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	74	47	0	121	0.0%	-2.1%	0.0%	-0.8%
UA-CJI		39	0	0	39	24	0	0	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	39	0	0	39	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
UA-CS		11	20	0	31	9	12	0	21	0	2	0	2	2	0	0	2	2	0	0	2	13	18	0	31	18.2%	-10.0%	0.0%	0.0%
UA-Grantham		168	42	0	210	131	7	0	138	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	168	42	0	210	100.0%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
UCA		876	1,203	226	2,305	646	1,084	175	1,905	1	0	9	10	1	0	2	3	1	0	2	3	876	1,203	219	2,298	0.0%	0.0%	-3.1%	-0.3%
Total without UAMS		7,930	9,966	1,488	19,384	6,610	8,441	1,271	16,322	166	29	30	225	144	56	76	276	144	56	76	276	7,908	9,993	1,534	19,435	-0.3%	0.3%	3.1%	0.3%
UAMS		3,730	2,583	5,661	11,974	2,705	2,509	5,319	10,533	113	0	0	113	0	0	113	113	0	0	113	113	3,617	2,583	5,774	11,974	-3.0%	0.0%	2.0%	0.0%
Total with UAMS		11,660	12,549	7,149	31,358	9,315	10,950	6,590	26,855	279	29	30	338	144	56	189	389	144	56	189	389	11,525	12,576	7,308	31,409	-1.2%	0.2%	2.2%	0.2%
Total 2-yr & 4-yr without UAMS		10,462	15,025	1,571	27,058	8,396	11,967	1,314	21,677	275	120	30	425	219	100	158	477	216	100	161	477	10,403	15,005	1,702	27,110	-0.6%	-0.1%	8.3%	0.2%

\*Moves are considered to be authorized, filled, and requested in the category to which they were moved.

TABLE 8-B 2025-27 PERSONAL SERVICES SUMMARY FOR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
NON-Classified Positions for Colleges

Institution	AY 2024 FTE	Authorized 2024-25 Positions*				Filled 2023-24 Positions*				Deleted Positions				Requested Added Positions*				Recommended Added Positions				Total Positions				Percent Increase			
		Admin	Academic	Auxiliary	Total	Admin	Academic	Auxiliary	Total	Admin	Academic	Auxiliary	Total	Admin	Academic	Auxiliary	Total	Admin	Academic	Auxiliary	Total	Admin	Academic	Auxiliary	Total	Admin	Academic	Auxiliary	Total
<b>Two-Year Institutions: Sorted by Institution</b>																													
ANC		106	192	1	299	75	57	1	133	14	35	0	49	4	1	0	5	4	1	0	5	96	158	1	255	-9.4%	-17.7%	0.0%	-14.7%
ASUB		174	329	2	505	134	197	2	333	8	0	0	8	4	0	2	6	4	0	2	6	170	329	4	503	-2.3%	0.0%	100.0%	-0.4%
ASUMH		79	120	0	199	57	89	0	146	3	4	0	7	2	4	0	6	2	4	0	6	78	120	0	198	-1.3%	0.0%	0.0%	-0.5%
ASUMS		101	198	1	300	53	77	0	130	4	25	0	29	0	25	4	29	0	25	4	29	97	198	5	300	-4.0%	0.0%	400.0%	0.0%
ASUN		107	229	5	341	82	137	2	221	2	0	0	2	0	0	2	2	0	0	2	2	105	229	7	341	-1.9%	0.0%	40.0%	0.0%
ASUTR		72	169	7	248	48	133	5	186	3	0	0	3	9	2	5	16	9	2	5	16	78	171	12	261	8.3%	1.2%	0.0%	5.2%
BRTC		91	131	0	222	70	115	0	185	4	0	0	4	0	0	4	4	0	0	4	4	87	131	4	222	-4.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
CCCUA		75	122	6	203	68	114	3	185	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	0	0	2	2	74	122	8	204	-1.3%	0.0%	33.3%	0.5%
EACC		103	182	1	286	70	138	1	209	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	104	181	1	286	1.0%	-0.5%	0.0%	0.0%
NAC		93	279	5	377	78	277	4	359	1	0	0	1	1	0	4	5	1	0	4	5	93	279	9	381	0.0%	0.0%	80.0%	1.1%
NPC		130	240	5	375	124	239	5	368	1	2	0	3	7	0	1	8	7	0	1	8	136	238	6	380	4.6%	-0.8%	20.0%	1.3%
NWACC		377	760	0	1,137	202	605	0	807	15	0	0	15	6	0	9	15	6	0	9	15	368	760	9	1137	-2.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
OZC		61	150	9	220	43	113	1	157	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	61	150	9	220	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
PCCUA		120	168	0	288	88	99	0	187	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	8	0	0	8	8	120	168	8	296	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.8%
SAC		102	173	25	300	65	83	8	156	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	1	0	1	2	103	173	26	302	1.0%	0.0%	4.0%	0.7%
SAUT		101	134	4	239	63	70	2	135	0	6	0	6	0	0	9	9	0	0	9	9	101	128	13	242	0.0%	-4.5%	0.0%	1.3%
SAUT-FTA		17	48	0	65	9	37	0	46	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	48	0	65	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
SAUT-ECC		6	20	0	26	4	16	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	20	0	26	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
SEAC		87	278	6	371	61	270	6	337	5	0	0	5	0	0	9	9	0	0	9	9	82	278	15	375	-5.7%	0.0%	0.0%	1.1%
UACCB		71	168	4	243	54	130	3	187	2	5	0	7	2	5	0	7	2	5	0	7	71	168	4	243	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
UACCH-T		83	130	1	214	65	78	0	143	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	83	130	1	214	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
UACCM		112	180	0	292	88	109	0	197	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	109	180	0	289	-2.7%	0.0%	0.0%	-1.0%
UACCRM		52	91	1	144	37	59	0	96	0	0	0	0	3	0	8	11	0	0	11	11	52	91	12	155	0.0%	0.0%	#####	7.6%
UA-PTC		212	568	0	780	148	284	0	432	43	13	0	56	35	7	14	56	35	7	14	56	204	562	14	780	-3.8%	-1.1%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>2,532</b>	<b>5,059</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>7,674</b>	<b>1,786</b>	<b>3,526</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>5,355</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>2,495</b>	<b>5,012</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>7,675</b>	<b>-1.5%</b>	<b>-0.9%</b>	<b>102.4%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>

\*Moves are considered to be authorized in the category they are moved to.

**TABLE 8-C**  
**MAXIMUM LINE ITEM COMPARISONS FOR SELECTED**  
**KEY POSITIONS - AHECB RECOMMENDATIONS**  
**FOR FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS: FY 2025-26**

INSTITUTION	CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER	CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER	CHIEF STUDENT OFFICER	DEAN	DEPT CHAIR	9-MONTH			
							PROFESSOR	ASSOC PROFESSOR	ASSIST PROFESSOR	INSTRUCTOR
UAF**	392,837	293,291	262,914	235,373	252,642	321,557	230,254	189,025	183,233	121,805
UALR	386,768	268,500	225,261	225,261	214,997	201,304	194,459	170,492	142,719	111,361
ASUJ	386,768	268,500	268,500	221,840	222,737	201,304	194,459	170,492	142,719	111,361
ATU	354,537	268,500	225,262	221,840	214,999	201,304	194,459	170,492	142,719	111,361
UCA	354,537	268,500	225,261	221,840	214,997	201,304	194,459	170,492	142,719	111,361
HSU	322,307	215,850	215,850	215,850	206,009	174,678	186,327	163,351	136,757	106,699
SAUM	322,307	201,301	194,320	188,485	173,915	160,134	149,687	132,261	121,812	100,908
UAM	290,076	201,301	194,320	188,485	173,915	160,134	149,687	132,261	121,812	100,908
UAPB	291,247	201,301	194,320	188,485	173,915	160,134	149,687	132,261	121,812	100,908
UAFS	290,076	232,104	215,850	212,570	173,915	192,886	186,326	163,351	136,756	106,699
UAMS*	483,460	466,687	394,409	N/A	385,868	562,128	392,183	359,501	339,892	269,448
ASU/SYS	435,855	253,319	273,183	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
UA/SYS	562,724	293,290	277,184	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

\*UAMS faculty salaries are for 12-month positions.

\*\*UAF Chief Student Officer is listed as a Vice Provost

**TABLE 8-D**  
**MAXIMUM LINE ITEM COMPARISONS FOR SELECTED**  
**KEY POSITIONS - AHECB RECOMMENDATIONS**  
**FOR TWO-YEAR INSTITUTIONS: FY 2025-26**

INST	CHIEF	CHIEF	CHIEF	CHIEF	DIVISION CHAIR	9-MONTH				
	EXECUTIVE OFFICER	ACADEMIC OFFICER	FISCAL OFFICER	STUDENT OFFICER		FACULTY PROFESSOR	ASSOC PROFESSOR	ASSIST PROFESSOR	INSTRUCTOR	
ANC	208,138	167,057	156,658	156,658	146,201	111,362				
ASUB	208,138	167,057	156,658	156,658	146,201		119,492	112,659	99,684	86,850
ASUMH	208,138	167,057	156,658	156,658	146,201	111,362				
ASUMS	208,138	167,057	156,658	156,658	146,201		119,492	112,659	99,684	86,850
ASUN	208,138	167,057	156,658	156,658	146,201		119,492	112,659	99,684	86,850
ASUTR	208,138	167,057	156,658	156,658	146,201	111,362				
BRTC	208,138	167,057	156,658	156,658	146,201	111,362				
CCCUA	208,138	167,057	156,658	156,658	146,201	111,362				
EACC	208,138	167,057	156,658	156,658	146,201	111,362				
NAC	208,138	167,057	156,658	156,658	146,201	111,362				
NPC	208,138	167,057	156,658	156,658	146,201	111,362				
NWACC	208,138	167,057	156,658	156,658	146,201	111,362				
OZC	208,138	167,057	156,658	156,658	146,201	111,362				
PCCUA	208,138	167,057	187,612	156,658	146,201	111,362				
SAC	208,138	167,057	167,057	156,658	146,201	111,362				
SAUT	208,138	167,057	156,658	156,658	146,201	111,362				
SEAC	208,138	167,057	156,658	156,658	146,201	111,362				
UACCB	208,138	167,057	156,658	156,658	146,201	111,362				
UACCH-T	208,138	167,057	167,057	156,658	146,201	111,362				
UACCM	208,138	167,057	156,658	156,658	146,201	111,362				
UACCRM	208,138	167,057	156,658	156,658	146,201	111,362				
UA-PTC	208,138	174,281	156,658	156,658	146,201	111,362				

**ECONOMIC FEASIBILITY OF LOAN  
 SOUTH ARKANSAS COLLEGE**

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South Arkansas College (SAC) requests approval of the economic feasibility to secure a loan not to exceed \$4.0 million with a maximum term of twenty (20) years at an annual interest rate of approximately 7.5 percent. Proceeds from the loan will be used for educational and general (E&G) purposes. The South Arkansas College Board of Trustees approved this financing at its meeting on June 20, 2024.

The E&G issue will be up to \$4.0 million with a combined estimated annual debt service of \$386,685 and a term of twenty (20) years. Proceeds from the loan will be used to construct a new facility building to house Procurement, Maintenance, Custodial and Shipping & Receiving for the College. Coordinating Board policy regarding debt service for educational and general (E&G) projects provides that sales tax proceeds must be a minimum of 120 percent of the estimated annual debt service. The policy also states that a maximum of 25 percent of tuition and fee revenue may be pledged to debt service.

Relevant data follow:

Estimated 2024-25 Sales Tax Revenue.....	\$492,290
Budgeted 2024-25 Net Tuition and Fee Revenue .....	\$3,374,887
Maximum Debt Service Sales Tax Revenue (\$3,374,887 x 25%) ...	410,242
Maximum Debt Service T&F Revenue (\$3,374,887 x 25%) .....	843,722
Existing Debt Service.....	398,078
Proposed Debt Service.....	386,685
Amount Remaining for Additional Debt Service .....	\$469,201

The above data demonstrates that South Arkansas College has sufficient sales tax revenue and tuition & fee revenue to support a loan up to \$4.0 million with a term of twenty (20) years at an annual interest rate of approximately 7.5 percent.

In accordance with board policy, any proceeds from bonds that require AHECB approval, which are used for the purchase or construction of new facilities, and result in additional square footage are subject to the AHECB maintenance policy as adopted in October 2010. South Arkansas College will sustain a building maintenance fund to be supported by millage revenue for the E&G facilities. These funds will be held in a separate account for the maintenance of the new facilities by transferring annually to plant funds based on the Association of Physical Plant Administrators (APPA) of Universities and Colleges recommendation. The current APPA recommendation is \$2.50 per gross square foot for E&G facilities.

The projects contemplated herein provide 14,399 additional square footage to the campus and therefore, based on \$2.50 per gross square foot \$36,000 will be transferred annually beginning in the fiscal year after the projects are placed into service.

ADHE Executive Staff recommends the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approve the following resolution:

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board considers economically feasible plans for South Arkansas College to secure a loan in the amount not to exceed \$4.0 million with a maximum term of twenty (20) years at an annual interest rate of approximately 7.5 percent as requested by the institution to construct a new facility building to house Procurement, Maintenance, Custodial and Shipping and Receiving for the College.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education is authorized to notify the President and the Chair of the Board of Trustees of South Arkansas College of the Coordinating Board's resolution.

**COLLEGE SAVINGS BOND PROGRAM  
COMMUNITY / TECHNICAL COLLEGE REVOLVING LOAN  
ECONOMIC FEASIBILITY OF A LOAN ISSUE  
ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY-SYSTEM**

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At its regular meeting on July 23, 1993, the State Board, acting under authority provided by Act 683 of 1989, as amended, established application procedures and criteria for the College Savings Bond Community/Technical College Revolving Loan Fund (CSB Loan Fund), including the method of establishing each loan's interest rate. The Higher Education Coordinating Board is requested to consider adjusting the interest rate calculation on these loans to ensure the lowest rate possible for qualifying institutions and for the approval of a request for a loan from the Arkansas State University System.

**CSB LOAN FUND INTEREST RATES**

In 1993, the State Board provided that rates of interest for College Savings Bond loans be fixed at the yield rate of one-year U.S. Treasury bills (as published on the third Thursday of the month preceding the State Board meeting) plus a sliding-scale margin based on the term of the loan.

In 1995, in order to encourage more active use of the CSB Loan Fund, staff recommended that the sliding-scale margin be eliminated, and that loans be issued at the yield rate of one-year U.S. Treasury bills. The service fees of the Arkansas Development Finance Authority, which is providing the collection services for these loans, will continue to be paid from the interest assessed.

Today, we are recommending that this rate determination be eliminated and replaced with the same interest rate that will be utilized for the Sustainable Building Maintenance Revolving Loan Program. This rate is set at 0.2% to provide for administrative costs associated with the loan. With the current state of interest fluctuations and inflationary measures affecting yield rates, this change will ensure a low interest loan for institutions that was the goal of this program from the outset.

Arkansas State University-System (ASU-SYS) requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to secure a loan from the College Savings Bond Revolving Loan Fund (CSBRLF) not to exceed \$2,900,000 with a term of ten (10) years at an annual interest rate not to exceed 0.2 percent. Proceeds from the loan will be used for educational & general (E&G) purposes. The Board of Trustees of Arkansas State University-System approved this financing at its meeting on June 6, 2024.

The E&G CSBRLF loan issue will not exceed \$2,900,000 with an annual debt service of approximately \$293,200 and a term of ten (10) years. Proceeds the loan will be used to proceed with various critical and deferred maintenance, renovation, and other miscellaneous projects across the System.



The debt service on the loan issue will be supported by E&G revenues derived from tuition and fees. Coordinating Board policy regarding debt service for E&G projects provides that a maximum of 25 percent of the net tuition and fee revenue may be pledged to educational and general debt service.

Relevant data follows:

Budgeted 2023-24 Net Tuition and Fee Revenue .....	\$108,113,663
Maximum Allowable Debt Service (\$108,113,663 X 25%) .....	\$ 27,028,416
Existing Debt Service .....	\$ 5,052,865
Proposed New Debt Service .....	\$ 293,200
Amount Remaining for Additional Debt Service .....	\$ 21,682,351

The above data demonstrates that ASU-SYS has sufficient tuition and fee revenue to support an E&G CSBRLF not to exceed \$2,900,000 with a term of ten (10) years at an annual interest rate not to exceed 0.2 percent.

Any proceeds from bonds that require AHECB approval, are used for the purchase or construction of new facilities, and result in additional square footage are subject to the AHECB maintenance policy as adopted in October of 2010. The projects contemplated herein do not provide additional square footage to the campus.

ADHE Executive Staff recommends that the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approve the following resolution:

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board directs that the interest rates for loans made from the College Savings Bond Community/Technical College Revolving Loan Fund (CSB Loan Fund) be fixed at the yield rate of 0.2% in line with the interest rate charged against loans from the Sustainable Building Maintenance Loan Fund.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board considers economically feasible plans for Arkansas State University-System to secure a loan not to exceed \$2,900,000 with a term of ten (10) years at an annual interest rate not to exceed 0.2 percent to proceed with various critical and deferred maintenance, renovation, and other miscellaneous projects across the System.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education is authorized to notify the President and the Chair of Arkansas State University-System of the Coordinating Board's resolution.

## **REPORT ON ANNUAL REVIEW OF FACULTY PERFORMANCE**

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Arkansas Code Annotated §6-63-104 and Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) policy require that each college and university conduct an annual performance review of faculty members. The Arkansas Division of Higher Education (ADHE) staff are also required to make an annual report to the Coordinating Board and Legislative Council. Each institution is required to submit a report to ADHE that describes the process followed during the 2023-2024 academic year. Institutional plans are on file with ADHE. Institutions are required to conduct rigorous, consistently applied, annual review of all faculty.

### **Faculty Performance Review Activities**

Annual reviews include evaluation of teaching, scholarship, service, advising, overall productivity, and planning expectations for all instructional faculty. There are various methods including assessment by students, classroom monitoring visits, administrator review, peer review, and self-evaluation activities utilized in the faculty performance review process. Evaluation methods and timeframes of the process varied among institutions. All teaching faculty members including full-time, part-time, adjunct, visiting faculty, and teaching assistants were evaluated.

### **Institutional Monitoring and Overall Satisfaction of the Evaluation Process**

Administrators and academic leaders at various levels were responsible for oversight of the evaluation process. Results, whether related to faculty performance or to the effectiveness of the process, were monitored and appropriate actions were addressed or facilitated. Evaluation results provided the basis for personnel promotion, merit salary increases, and reappointment decisions. Faculty who scored lower were provided with timely opportunities for faculty development. Institutions offered faculty mentors, workshops, critiques of course syllabi, and opportunities to collaborate on faculty development projects.

Appropriate stakeholders were involved in the formulation of the institution's faculty performance evaluation plan. Most faculty members viewed the process as a useful tool for providing continuous assessment and improvement of instructional delivery and student learning.

**Notable Findings**

Most institutions indicated no notable findings were present during the annual faculty review process.

Other mentionable findings are summarized below:

- Faculty members regularly collaborate with their peers (HEI and K12) across Arkansas as well as nationally.
- Many institutions cited Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) systems and Learning Management systems (LMS) as an area of improvement for process and efficiency. This is a result of many institutions in the state having either recently changed or are currently undergoing a change of ERP and/or LMS systems.
- Artificial Intelligence (AI) is an area of needed faculty training and development.
- Institutions continue to improve and implement assessment and evaluation software, such as Insights, Helio Campus, Watermark, and Mentor
- Several institutions specifically mentioned focused improvements in online course development and faculty support.
- Observation forms and assessment tools are being discussed, evaluated, and updated at multiple institutions.
- The faculty peer review components are being strengthened and modernized at many institutions.
- One institution mentioned improving professional development specifically for skills in teaching and instruction for industry experts who teach workforce/occupational courses.

**English Fluency of Teaching Faculty**

At most institutions both the student evaluation of the faculty and administrative evaluation of the faculty address English fluency. Responses to the student English fluency rating are monitored and faculty leadership and administration are notified when ratings raise concerns. In addition, student concerns related to English fluency may be addressed immediately with department/division leaders. English fluency is also appropriately considered in the instructor hiring process across all institutions.

No faculty deficiencies in English fluency that warranted action were identified in the past review cycle.

**Compliance with Statutory Requirements that Colleges of Education Work Collaboratively with Accredited Public Schools**

The collaboration between institutional Colleges of Education and the public schools in their respective areas was documented in these reports. Institutions partnered with public schools through Educational Renewal Zones, secondary career centers, educational cooperatives, and other programs that encouraged high school students to pursue postsecondary education. Institutions also engaged in numerous activities that provided assistance with staff development and school improvement programs, including advisory councils, field service programs, professional development, mentoring programs, teacher job fairs, and data collection and needs assessments.

**Improvement Plans Developed as a Result of These Findings**

When appropriate, improvement plans were developed between the faculty member and the administrator who conducted the evaluation. Specific remedial or disciplinary actions were taken because of performance deficiencies revealed by the evaluation process. Most often, this involved the development of professional improvement plans. In addition, changes in the institutional process have been addressed when warranted.

## Appendix

Appendix A            Template - 2023-2024 Institutional Report on the Annual Review of Faculty Performance

## **Appendix A**

### **2023-2024 Institutional Report on the Annual Review of Faculty Performance**

#### **Elements of the Faculty Performance Review Process**

1. Summarize the overall faculty performance review process.

The process to gather evaluative information includes the following:

2. How are faculty peers involved in faculty performance?
3. How are students involved in faculty performance?
4. How are administrators involved in faculty performance?
5. How do faculty members self-evaluate their performance?
6. Describe how faculty knowledge and use of student support tools (i.e. early alert) and advising techniques (i.e. intrusive advising) are used to evaluate faculty performance.
7. Describe any other activities used to evaluate faculty performance.

#### **Institutional Monitoring of the Faculty Performance Review Process**

1. Does the institution monitor the annual faculty review process?    Yes     No
2. If yes, describe the procedures and persons responsible for the monitoring.
3. If no, describe measures that are being taken to begin annual monitoring.

#### **Use of Review Findings**

1. How are faculty performance results used in decisions related to promotions, salary increases or job tenure?
2. Describe how faculty performance results are used at your institution to guide short and long- term faculty development.
3. Based on faculty performance results, identify the following area(s) of improvement that are being examined for next academic year.

#### **English Fluency of Teaching Faculty**

1. How do students and administrators review the English fluency of all teaching faculty— full- time, part-time, and graduate teaching assistants?
2. What measures are in place to assist deficient faculty in becoming English proficient?
3. Summarize English deficiency findings and note action taken by the institution.

**Support for Accredited Public Schools**

1. **Four Year Institutions:** Describe how did the College of Education and related discipline faculty members at your institution work collaboratively with accredited public schools in Arkansas this academic year.
2. **Two Year Institutions:** Describe how did the institution's related discipline faculty members work collaboratively with accredited public schools in Arkansas this academic year.

**Notable Findings and Future Plans**

1. List any notable findings from the annual faculty review process conducted during the year that may have implications for future annual faculty reviews.
2. Describe any plans or revisions to the annual faculty review process this year that have been developed as a result of the following:
  - Notable findings listed above (see question #1)
  - the institutional placement plan
  - the productivity funding formula

**Level of Faculty Satisfaction with Current Process**

1. On the scale below, indicate the faculty's overall sense of satisfaction with the annual review process. If the rating is low (1 or 2), briefly describe corrective measures that will be implemented.

1---2---3---4---5---6---7---8---9---10  
low high

## **ACADEMIC PROGRAM REVIEW AY2024**

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Arkansas Code §6-61-214 requires that the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) review existing academic programs at Arkansas public colleges and universities to identify certificate and degree programs not meeting minimum standards of quality and to establish schedules for either resolving these concerns or removing the programs from the AHECB approved program inventory. The existing academic program review policies (AHECB Policy 5.2) were adopted in 1988 and revised in 1995 and 1998. Institutions have been submitting program reviews for more than 35 years.

Beginning Fall 2010, Arkansas colleges and universities were required to employ external consultants to review all certificate and degree programs over a period of 7-10 years with the findings from the reviews reported to the Coordinating Board. Accredited, licensed and state certified programs follow the usual review practices and the schedule of the accrediting/approval body. These programs do not require further ADHE staff review.

A quality program review, or self-study, describes the status of a program, assesses program strengths, identifies areas for improvement, and provides strategic direction on program goals and specific plans to achieve those goals.

The external reviewers' written report must include a summary of each area examined and should provide examples that document the conclusions. The report will be used by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education to verify the student demand and employer need for the program, the appropriateness of the curriculum, and the adequacy of the program resources. The report does not include a recommendation to ADHE on program continuation or program deletion.

**4-year Institutions**

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Degree Code</b>	<b>Award</b>	<b>Program Name</b>	<b>Program Approval Date</b>	<b>Date of Last Program Review</b>
ASUJ	6458	MS	Sport Administration	10/30/2009	2024
ASUJ	2207	BS	Sport Management	4/19/2002	2024
ASUJ	6511	GC	Clinical Mental Health Counseling	4/30/2010	2024
ASUJ	3851	BS	Health Studies	10/25/2013	2024
ASUJ	5161	BA	World Languages & Cultures	10/30/2009	2024
ASUJ	1650	BA	Philosophy	1/1/1985	2024
ASUJ	1420	BA	English	1/1/1985	2024
ASUJ	5310	MA	English	1/1/1985	2024
ASUJ	5131	BSE	World Languages & Cultures	10/30/2009	2024
ATU	1468	BA	Anthropology and Geography	5/1/2015	2024
ATU	1560	BA	Journalism	1/1/1985	2024
HSU	6490	MS	Clinical Mental Health Counseling	1/1/1985	2024
HSU	6680	MSE	School Counseling K-12	NULL	2024
SAUM	3270	BS	Agricultural Education	1/1/1985	2024
SAUM	0191	AS	Agriculture	4/27/2012	2024
SAUM	6590	MS	Agriculture	2/2/2007	2024
SAUM	2245	BS	Agriculture Sciences	7/1/1997	2024
SAUM	1590	BA	Mass Communications	1/1/1985	2024
UAF	3730	BS	Communication Sciences and Disorders	NULL	2024
UAF	6195	PMC	Advanced School-Based Speech-Language Pathology	4/24/2020	2024
UAF	1400	BA	Economics	NULL	2024
UAF	2485	BS	Exercise Science	4/19/2019	2024
UAF	5150	MS	Exercise Science	4/24/2020	2024
UAF	7961	PhD	Health, Sport, and Exercise Science	4/22/2016	2024
UAF	6280	MS	Human Environmental Sciences	NULL	2024
UAF	1871	BA	Interdisciplinary Studies	4/25/2014	2024
UAF	2940	BSN	Nursing	4/1/1992	2024
UALR	5500	MA	Professional & Technical Writing	7/1/1985	2024
UALR	1700	BA	Professional & Technical Writing	1/1/1985	2024
UALR	5560	GC	Online Writing Instruction	10/30/2015	2024
UALR	5561	GC	Business and Professional Writing	4/22/2016	2024
UAM	1500	BA	History	NULL	2024
UAM	5151	BS	Land Surveying	1/30/2015	2024



<b>Institution</b>	<b>Degree Code</b>	<b>Award</b>	<b>Program Name</b>	<b>Program Approval Date</b>	<b>Date of Last Program Review</b>
UAM	1060	AS	Land Surveying Technology	4/1/2000	2024
UAM	1690	BA	Political Science	NULL	2024
UCA	3190	BS	Sociology	NULL	2024
UCA	3070	BS	Psychology	NULL	2024

**2-year Institutions**

Institution	Degree Code	Award	Program Name	Program Approval Date	Date of Last Program Review
ANC	0710	AAS	Nursing	NULL	2024
ASUB	0296	BC	2-D Mechanical CAD Drafting	4/25/2008	2024
ASUB	1474	CP	Advanced Agricultural Mechatronics	7/26/2013	2024
ASUB	1472	CP	Agricultural Mechatronics	7/26/2013	2024
ASUB	2475	TC	Agricultural Systems & Controls	7/26/2013	2024
ASUB	4300	TC	Agriculture	7/29/2016	2024
ASUB	0191	AS	Agriculture	2/4/2011	2024
ASUB	0175	AAS	Agriculture Equipment Technology	7/1/1995	2024
ASUB	0308	AS	Business	4/30/2010	2024
ASUB	0307	AAS	Business Technology	10/1/1994	2024
ASUB	0315	AAS	Computer Aided Drafting & Design	1/1/1985	2024
ASUB	3501	CP	Computer Fundamentals	4/25/2008	2024
ASUB	0363	AAS	Computer Systems & Networking Technology	1/1/1991	2024
ASUB	4502	TC	Computer Systems & Networking Technology	5/5/2003	2024
ASUB	2520	TC	Entrepreneurship	7/25/2008	2024
ASUB	4745	TC	Health Information Technology	5/5/2003	2024
ASUB	4740	CP	Health Information Technology	4/21/2017	2024
ASUB	4486	TC	Mechanical Drafting	7/26/2013	2024
ASUB	0220	CP	Pharmacy Technician Science	8/4/2006	2024
ASUB	0320	TC	Pharmacy Technician Science	9/11/2006	2024
ASUB	0420	AAS	Pharmacy Technician Science	10/27/2006	2024
ASUMH	0005	BC	A+ Computer Technician	10/27/2006	2024
ASUMH	4425	CP	Cisco Networking	2/2/2001	2024
ASUMH	0320	AAS	Computer Technology and Networking	2/1/2001	2024
ASUMH	0151	AAS	Cybersecurity	4/19/2019	2024
ASUMH	0125	AAS	Digital Design	4/21/2017	2024
ASUMH	0915	CGS	General Studies	10/26/2018	2024
ASUMH	0060	AGS	General Studies	7/28/2012	2024
ASUMH	1313	CP	Graphic Design	4/26/2013	2024
ASUMH	0120	TC	Information Systems Technology	10/26/2007	2024
ASUMH	1180	CP	Programming/Mobile Development	1/27/2017	2024
ASUMH	1182	AAS	Programming/Mobile Development	1/27/2017	2024
ASUMH	2005	TC	Web Development	10/25/2019	2024
ASUMH	1347	CP	Web Development	4/26/2013	2024

Institution	Degree Code	Award	Program Name	Program Approval Date	Date of Last Program Review
ASUMS	0266	BC	Nursing Assistant	10/26/2007	2024
ASUN	0266	BC	Nursing Assistant	10/27/2006	2024
BRTC	0934	AS	Agriculture	1/29/2016	2024
BRTC	0935	CP	Agriculture	1/29/2016	2024
BRTC	2256	TC	Agriculture	4/28/2023	2024
NWACC	0382	CP	Forensic Science	4/28/2006	2024
NWACC	0385	CP	Law Enforcement	2/3/2006	2024
NWACC	3418	AAS	Construction Technology	1/30/2015	2024
NWACC	3419	TC	Construction Technology	4/21/2017	2024
NWACC	3420	CP	Construction Technology	4/21/2017	2024
NWACC	1430	CP	Criminal Justice	7/31/2009	2024
NWACC	2430	TC	Criminal Justice	7/31/2009	2024
NWACC	0390	AAS	Criminal Justice	1/1/1992	2024
PCCUA	0105	CP	Medical Professions Education	4/28/2006	2024
PCCUA	4750	CP	Nurse Assistant	NULL	2024
PCCUA	4420	TC	Cosmetology	NULL	2024
PCCUA	0050	AA	General Education	NULL	2024
PCCUA	0910	AS	General Education	NULL	2024
PCCUA	0135	CP	Manicure Technology	7/1/1999	2024
SAUT	4795	TC	Practical Nursing	7/1/1994	2024
SEAC	1506	CP	Communications	10/30/2020	2024
SEAC	0910	CGS	General Studies	2/3/2006	2024
SEAC	0900	AGS	General Studies	10/1/1998	2024
SEAC	2273	TC	Health Sciences	4/25/2008	2024
UACCB	0091	TC	Agriculture Technology	10/27/2017	2024
UACCB	0250	AS	Agriculture Technology	10/27/2017	2024
UACCB	0580	AAS	Industrial Technology	7/1/1994	2024
UACCM	4900	TC	Welding	4/21/2017	2024
UACCM	4310	TC	Air Conditioning, Heating, & Refrigeration Technology	NULL	2024
UACCM	0185	AAS	Air Conditioning, Heating, & Refrigeration Technology	7/1/1999	2024
UACCM	0115	CP	Air Conditioning, Heating, & Refrigeration Technology	1/25/2019	2024
UACCM	4401	TC	Construction Technology	7/31/2020	2024
UACCM	4501	CP	Construction Technology	7/31/2020	2024
UACCM	4903	AAS	Welding	4/21/2017	2024
UACCM	4905	CP	Welding	4/21/2017	2024
UACCM	0710	AAS	Nursing	10/22/2004	2024

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Degree Code</b>	<b>Award</b>	<b>Program Name</b>	<b>Program Approval Date</b>	<b>Date of Last Program Review</b>
UAPTC	0725	AAS	Occupational Therapy Assistant	10/1/1998	2024
UAPTC	1471	CP	Auto Body and Frame Alignment	1/27/2017	2024
UAPTC	1470	CP	Auto Painting	1/27/2017	2024
UAPTC	4585	TC	Baking & Pastry	10/27/2006	2024
UAPTC	5585	AAS	Baking & Pastry Arts	2/4/2011	2024
UAPTC	4581	CP	Basic Food Preparation	7/26/2013	2024
UAPTC	1585	CP	Basic Pastry Techniques	7/26/2013	2024
UAPTC	1586	CP	Cake Decorating	7/26/2013	2024
UAPTC	4330	TC	Collision Repair Technology	NULL	2024
UAPTC	0316	BC	Damage Analysis & Estimation	2/2/2007	2024

**ARKANSAS PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS  
LETTERS OF NOTIFICATION**

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The Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education (ADHE) has approved the following program requests since the April 2024 AHECB meeting. According to AHECB policy, program actions approved by the ADHE Commissioner must be included on the AHECB meeting agenda prior to initiation and may require further review by the Coordinating Board.

**Arkansas Northeastern College – Pages 4-5**

New Certificate  
Program Inactivation  
Program Reconfiguration

**Arkansas State University – Pages 5-8**

Curriculum Revision  
Existing Program Offered Via Distance Education  
New Certificate  
Program Deletion  
Program Inactivation  
Title Change of Existing Organizational Unit

**Arkansas State University Beebe – Pages 8-13**

Curriculum Revision  
Curriculum Revision and Title Change of Existing Program  
Existing Program Offered Via Distance Education  
New Option, Concentration, Emphasis, or Minor

**Arkansas State University Newport – Pages 13-15**

Curriculum Revision  
New Certificate  
Program Reconfiguration

**Arkansas State University Three Rivers – Pages 15-16**

Curriculum Revision and Title Change of Existing Program  
Curriculum Revision, Title Change of Existing Program, and CIP Code Change of Existing Program

**Arkansas Tech University – Pages 16-17**

Existing Program Offered Via Distance Education  
Program Deletion  
Reorganization of Existing Organizational Unit  
Title Change of Existing Organizational Unit

Title Change of Existing Program  
Title Change of Existing Program, CIP Code Change of Existing Program, and Existing Program Offered Via Distance Education

**Arkansas Tech University Ozark – Page 17**

Curriculum Revision

**Black River Technical College – Page 18**

New Option, Emphasis, Concentration, or Minor

**East Arkansas Community College – Pages 18-19**

New Option, Emphasis, Concentration, or Minor

**Henderson State University – Pages 19-25**

Curriculum Revision and Title Change of Existing Program  
New Option, Concentration, Emphasis, or Minor  
Program Deletion  
Program Inactivation  
Program Reconfiguration  
Title Change of Existing Organizational Unit  
Title Change of Existing Program

**Northwest Arkansas Community College – Page 25**

Program Deletion

**Phillips Community College of the University of Arkansas – Pages 25-26**

Existing Program Offered via Distance Education  
New Certificate  
Program Deletion

**South Arkansas College – Pages 26-27**

Articulation Agreement  
Curriculum Revision  
Curriculum Revision and CIP Change of Existing Program  
New Certificate

**Southern Arkansas University Magnolia – Pages 27-29**

Curriculum Revision  
New Certificate  
Reorganization of Existing Organizational Unit

**University of Arkansas Community College Hope-Texarkana – Page 29**

Curriculum Revision

**University of Arkansas Community College Morrilton – Pages 29-30**

Curriculum Revision

Title Change of Existing Program

**University of Arkansas Community College Rich Mountain – Pages 30-31**

New Certificate

**University of Arkansas Fayetteville – Pages 31-32**

CIP Code Change of Existing Program

Curriculum Revision

New Option, Emphasis, Concentration, or Minor

Program Deletion

**University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences – Pages 33-34**

New Certificate

New Option, Concentration, Emphasis, or Minor

**University of Arkansas Fort Smith – Page 34**

Curriculum Revision

**University of Arkansas Little Rock – Page 35**

Existing Program Offered via Distance Education

**University of Arkansas Monticello – Pages 35-36**

Curriculum Revision

Deletion of Option, Concentration, Emphasis, or Minor

Program Reconfiguration

**University of Arkansas Pine Bluff – Pages 36-39**

Curriculum Revision

New Certificate

New Option, Concentration, Emphasis, or Minor

**University of Central Arkansas – Pages 39-43**

Articulation Agreement

Curriculum Revision, CIP Change of Existing Program, and Title Change of Existing Program

Deletion of Option, Concentration, Emphasis, or Minor

New Certificate

New Option, Concentration, Emphasis, or Minor

Program Reconfiguration

Title Change of Existing Option, Concentration, Emphasis, or Minor

Title Change of Existing Organizational Unit

**LETTER OF NOTIFICATION DESCRIPTIONS**

**Arkansas Northeastern College**

**New Certificate**

Certificate of Proficiency in HVAC Electrical (CIP 47.9999; DC 0115; 17 credit hours; Fall 2024)

- CE 11003 Workplace Essentials
- HV 17024 HVAC Electricity
- HV 17033 Electrical Components and Motors HV17043 Schematics
- HV 17054 Fundamentals of Gas and Electric Heat

Certificate of Proficiency in Tungsten Inert Gas Welding (TIG) (CIP 48.0508; DC 1489; 16 credit hours; Fall 2024)

- CE 11003 Workplace Essentials
- WE 17001 Oxygen/Acetylene Safety and Orientation
- WE 17064 Gas Metal Arc Welding
- WE 17074 Gas Tungsten Arc Welding (GTAW) - Manufacturing
- WE 17084 Flux Cored Arc Welding

**Program Inactivation**

Technical Certificate in Aviation Maintenance (CIP 47.0608; DC 0259; 76 credit hours; Spring 2025)

**Program Reconfiguration**

Associate of Applied Science in Aviation Maintenance (CIP 47.0608; DC 2040; 91 credit hours) reconfigured to create the Technical Certificate in Aviation Powerplant Maintenance (CIP 47.0608; DC 4360; 46 credit hours; Fall 2024)

- AV 15004 Aviation Math & Physics
- AV 15033 Aircraft Electricity I
- AV 15143 Aircraft Drawing & Weighing
- AV 15014 Aircraft Structures I
- AV 15023 Aviation Fundamentals
- AV 25007 Reciprocating Engines
- AV 25015 Turbine Engines
- AV 25023 Aircraft Lubrication & Cooling
- AV 25074 Powerplant Support Systems
- AV 25084 Powerplant Electrical Systems AV 25093 Propellers
- AV 25103 Powerplant Inspection

Associate of Applied Science in Aviation Maintenance (CIP 47.0608; DC 2040; 91 credit hours) reconfigured to create the Technical Certificate in Aviation Airframe Maintenance (CIP 47.0608; DC 4358; 47 credit hours; Fall 2024)

- AV 15004 Aviation Math & Physics
- AV 15033 Aircraft Electricity I
- AV 15143 Aircraft Drawing & Weighing



AV	15014	Aircraft Structures I
AV	15023	Aviation Fundamentals
AV	15076	Aircraft Structures II
AV	15083	Aircraft Assembly & Rigging
AV	15153	Aircraft Welding & Painting
AV	15054	Aircraft Electricity II
AV	15114	Aircraft Hydraulics & Pneumatics
AV	15103	Aircraft Instruments
AV	15162	Aircraft Ice & Atmosphere
AV	15172	Aircraft Fuel & Fire
AV	15183	Airframe Inspection

Associate of Applied Science in Computer Information Systems (CIP 11.0103; DC 3521; 60 credit hours; 70% online) reconfigured to create the Technical Certificate in Security and Analytics (CIP 11.1003; DC 1113; 22 credit hours; 60% online; Fall 2024)

CS	22043	Data Visualizations
CS	21043	Introduction to Coding
CS	21094	Database Management
CE	11003	Workplace Essentials
CS	22013	Linux Essentials
CS	21473	Introduction to Cybersecurity
CS	22023	Cyberdefense

Associate of Applied Science in Criminal Justice (CIP 43.0107; DC 0390; 60 credit hours; 80% online) reconfigured to create the Technical Certificate in Criminal Justice (CIP 43.0107; DC 4440; 30 credit hours; 80% online; Fall 2024)

CJ	15003	Introduction to Criminal Justice
CJ	15093	Criminal Justice Ethics
CJ	25013	Criminal Investigation
CJ	25023	Criminal Evidence
CJ	25053	Criminal Law & Procedure
CJ	25143	Juvenile Law & Procedure
CJ	25203	Criminology
CS	11033	Computer Applications
EN	12003	English Composition I
MA	14123	Quantitative Reasoning OR
MA	14043	College Algebra

### **Arkansas State University**

#### **Curriculum Revision**

Bachelor of Science in Clinical Laboratory Science (CIP 51.1005; DC 2890; 124 credit hours) changed to Bachelor of Science in Clinical Laboratory Science (CIP 51.1005; DC 2890; 123 credit hours; Fall 2024)

#### **Deleted Courses**

CHEM 3103	Organic Chemistry I
CHEM 3101	Organic Chemistry I Laboratory

CLS 4174 Clinical Practicum I  
 CLS 4184 Clinical Practicum II

Added Courses

CHEM 3003 Survey of Organic Chemistry  
 CLS 3112 Laboratory Quality Management  
 CLS 4173 Clinical Practicum I  
 CLS 4183 Clinical Practicum II

Bachelor of Science in Radiologic Science in Radiologic Sciences: Diagnostic Medical Sonography emphasis (CIP 51.0907; DC 3100; 120\* credit hours; 100% online) changed to Bachelor of Science in Radiologic Science in Radiologic Sciences: Diagnostic Medical Sonography emphasis (CIP 51.0907; DC 3100; 120-134 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

*\*Original credit-hour total listed incorrectly on Approved Programs List*

Deleted Courses

RSU 4544 Ultrasound Clinical Education IV  
 RSU 4551 Sonography Clinical Relevancy

Added Courses

RSU 4533 Ultrasound Clinic I

Doctor of Physical Therapy in Physical Therapy (CIP 51.2308; DC 7440; 108\* credit hours) changed to Doctor of Physical Therapy in Physical Therapy (CIP 51.2308; DC 7440; 106 credit hours; Fall 2024)

*\*Original credit-hour total listed incorrectly on Approved Programs List*

Deleted Courses

PT 7753 Clinical Exercise Physiology

**Existing Program Offered Via Distance Education**

Bachelor of Science in Global Supply Chain Management (CIP 52.0203; DC 5506; 120 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

Certificate of Proficiency in Esports Management (CIP 31.0504; DC 1601; 21 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

**New Certificate**

Certificate of Proficiency in Advanced Materials and Manufacturing (CIP 14.3601; DC 1286; 12 credit hours; Fall 2024)

*AMME 4001 Advanced Materials & Manufacturing Seminar*  
*AMME 4002 Materials Laboratory*  
 ME 3503 Introduction to Materials Science  
 ME 4563 Introduction to Manufacturing Processes OR  
 TECH 3843 Manufacturing Materials and Processes  
 TECH 3863 Industrial Safety

*Italics = New Courses*

Certificate of Proficiency in Personal Financial Wellness (CIP 52.0804; DC 1291; 9 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

FIN 2013	Personal Asset Management
FIN 3733	Personal Finance
FIN 4013	Financial Wealth Management

Graduate Certificate in PreKindergarten Academy (CIP 13.1209; DC 5772; 12 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

ECH 5033	Learning and Development in Children
ECH 6503	Early Childhood Curriculum and Environments
<i>ECH 6603</i>	<i>PreKindergarten Academy Internship 1</i>
<i>ECH 6613</i>	<i>PreKindergarten Academy Internship 2</i>

*Italics = New Courses*

Graduate Certificate in Marriage and Family Therapy (CIP 51.1505; DC 5195; 12 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

COUN 6133	Sexuality Issues in Counseling
COUN 7463	Couples and Family Counseling
<i>COUN 7563</i>	<i>Systemic Theory Study and Application</i>
<i>COUN 7573</i>	<i>Advanced Couples and Family Counseling</i>

*Italics = New Courses*

### **Program Deletion**

Associate of Applied Science in Land Surveying & Geomatics (CIP 15.1102; DC 1060; 60 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Bachelor of Science in Land Surveying & Geomatics (CIP 15.1102; DC 4025; 120 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Certificate of Proficiency in Data Visualization and Information Design (CIP 50.0409; DC 1313; 9 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

Certificate of Proficiency in Marketing Analytics (CIP 52.1402; DC 1195; 12 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Certificate of Proficiency in Museum Studies (CIP 50.1002; DC 0109; 21 credit hours; Fall 2024)

### **Program Inactivation**

Bachelor of Science in Education in Biology (CIP 13.1322; DC 3700; 120 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Bachelor of Science in Education in Chemistry (CIP 13.1323; DC 3720; 120 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Bachelor of Science in Education in Physics (CIP 13.1329; DC 3960; 120 credit hours; Fall 2024)

### **Title Change of Existing Organizational Unit**

Department of Political Science (Department Code 2060) changed to Department of Government, Law & Policy (Department Code 2060; Fall 2024)

College of Sciences and Mathematics (Department Code 2590) changed to Beck College of Sciences and Mathematics (Department Code 2590; Summer 2024)

Department of Emergency Management and Occupational Health (Department Code 1265) changed to Department of Health Sciences & Risk Management (Department Code 1265; Fall 2024)

### **Arkansas State University Beebe**

#### **Curriculum Revision**

Associate of Science in Computer Information Systems (CIP 52.1201; DC 0040; 62 credit hours; 100% online) changed to Associate of Science in Computer Information Systems (CIP 52.1201; DC 0040; 60 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

#### **Deleted Courses**

2 credit hours of Business/Computer Electives

CIS 2033 Visual Basic Programming (optional)  
ECON 2313 Principles of Macroeconomics (optional)

#### **Added Optional Courses**

PSY 2013 Introduction to Psychology  
GEOG 2613 Introduction to Geography  
HIST 1013 World Civilization to 1660  
HIST 1023 World Civilization since 1660  
HIST 2763 The United States to 1876  
HIST 2773 The United States since 1876  
POSC 2103 Introduction to U.S. Government

Associate of Applied Science in Industrial Technology (CIP 47.0105; DC 3016; 60 credit hours) changed to Associate of Applied Science in Industrial Technology (CIP 47.0105; DC 3016; 60 credit hours; Fall 2024)

#### **Deleted Courses**

ACR 1003 Electrical Motors and Components  
ACR 2102 Air Distribution  
ACR 2204 Materials  
ACR 2404 Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Components

#### **Added Courses**

ENG 2033 Technical Writing & Communication (optional)  
*HVAC 1103 Electrical Motors and Components*  
*HVAC 1603 Air Distribution I*  
*HVAC 1203 Materials*  
*HVAC 1303 HVAC-R Components*

*Italics = New Courses*

Technical Certificate in Industrial Technology (CIP 47.0105; DC 4630; 33 credit hours) changed to Technical Certificate in Industrial Technology (CIP 47.0105; DC 4630; 33 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Deleted Courses

ACR 1003 Electrical Motors and Components

Added Courses

*HVAC 1103 Electrical Motors and Components*

*Italics = New Courses*

**Curriculum Revision and Title Change of Existing Program**

Technical Certificate in Air Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Technology (CIP 47.0201; DC 4310; 34 credit hours) changed to Technical Certificate in HVAC-R Technology (CIP 47.0201; DC 4310; 30 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Deleted Courses

ACR 1003 Electrical Motors and Components  
 ACR 1203 Gas Heating Systems  
 ACR 1204 Electric Circuits and Controls  
 ACR 2102 Air Distribution  
 ACR 2204 Materials  
 ACR 2304 Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Systems  
 ACR 2404 Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Components  
 IET 1002 Introduction to General Electronics I  
 IET 2002 Introduction to General Electronics II

Added Courses

*HVAC 1103 Electrical Motors and Components*  
*HVAC 1403 Heating Systems*  
 IET 2103 Control Systems  
*HVAC 1603 Air Distribution I*  
*HVAC 1203 Materials*  
*HVAC 1503 Systems*  
*HVAC 1303 HVAC-R Components*  
 IET 1013 AC/DC Circuits

*Italics = New Courses*

Certificate of Proficiency in Air Conditioning (CIP 47.0201; DC 1470; 10 credit hours) changed to Certificate of Proficiency in HVAC-R Technology (CIP 47.0201; DC 1470; 12 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Deleted Courses

ACR 2102 Air Distribution  
 ACR 2204 Materials  
 ACR 2404 Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Components

Added Courses

*HVAC 1603 Air Distribution I*  
*HVAC 1203 Materials*

*HVAC 1303 HVAC-R Components*  
*IET 1013 AC/DC Circuits*  
*Italics = New Courses*

**Existing Program Offered Via Distance Education**

Associate of Applied Science in Nursing (CIP 51.3801; DC 3035; 64 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

Technical Certificate in Practical Nursing (CIP 51.3901; DC 4661; 46 credit hours; 50% online; Fall 2024)

**New Option, Concentration, Emphasis, or Minor**

Associate of Fine Arts in Fine Arts: Art Track (CIP 50.0101; DC 1600; 60 credit hours; 50% online; Fall 2024)

University Requirement

UNIV 1001 Principles of Academic Success I OR  
 UNIV 1003 Principles of Academic Success III

General Education

HIST 2083 History of Arkansas  
 MATH 1043 Quantitative Literacy or higher  
 ENG 1003 Freshman English I  
 CIS 1503 Microcomputer Applications I  
 ENG 1013 Freshman English II OR  
 ENG 2033 Technical Writing and Communication

Business Core

ACCT 2003 Principles of Accounting I  
 ACCT 2013 Principles of Accounting II  
 BSYS 2563 Business Communication  
 LAW 2023 The Legal Environment of Business  
 MGMT 2153 Small Business Management  
 BUS 1013 Introduction to Business  
 MGMT 2013 Business Organization and Management OR  
 MGMT 2043 Supervisory Management  
 ECON 2313 Principles of Macroeconomics OR  
 ECON 2323 Principles of Microeconomics

Choose 21 credit hours of Studio Art or Portfolio

ART 1033 Drawing I  
 ART 1043 Drawing II-Life Drawing  
 ART 1063 Digital Photography  
 ART 1093 Digital Photography II  
 ART 1073 Color Theory  
 ART 1183 Foundations of Digital Media  
 ART 1003 Foundations of 2-Dimensional Design  
 ART 1023 Foundations of 3-Dimensional Design  
 ART 1103 Introduction to Typography  
 ART 2063 Painting I

ART 2073	Painting II
ART 2093	Ceramics I
ART 2103	Ceramics II
ART 1113	Introduction to Graphic Design
ART 2433	Graphic Illustration
ART 2503	Fine Arts Visual

Associate of Fine Arts in Fine Arts: Theater Track (CIP 50.0101; DC 1600; 60 credit hours; 50% online; Fall 2024)

University Requirement

UNIV 1001	Principles of Academic Success I OR
UNIV 1003	Principles of Academic Success III

General Education

HIST 2083	History of Arkansas
MATH 1043	Quantitative Literacy or higher
ENG 1003	Freshman English I
CIS 1503	Microcomputer Applications I
ENG 1013	Freshman English II OR
ENG 2033	Technical Writing and Communication

Business Core

ACCT 2003	Principles of Accounting I
ACCT 2013	Principles of Accounting II
BSYS 2563	Business Communication
LAW 2023	The Legal Environment of Business
MGMT 2153	Small Business Management
BUS 1013	Introduction to Business
MGMT 2013	Business Organization and Management OR
MGMT 2043	Supervisory Management
ECON 2313	Principles of Macroeconomics OR
ECON 2323	Principles of Microeconomics

Theater Core

THEA 1003	Introduction to Theatre
THEA 2233	Play Analysis
THEA 1261	Theatre Practicum I
THEA 1271	Theatre Practicum II
THEA 2261	Theatre Practicum III

Choose 12 credit hours of Theater Electives

THEA 1213	Acting I
THEA 1223	Stage Makeup
THEA 1233	Costume Construction
THEA 1243	Summer Theatre Production
THEA 1253	Stage Management
THEA 1293	Stage Combat
THEA 1303	Ballet I
THEA 1323	Introduction to Scenic Rendering
THEA 2013	History of Musical Theatre

THEA 2023	Acting for Musical Theatre
THEA 2033	Creating Children's Theatre
THEA 2123	Movement and Dance for the Stage
THEA 2143	Stage Lighting
THEA 2153	Voice and Diction
THEA 2213	Acting II
THEA 2223	Fundamentals of Stagecraft
THEA 2503	Fine Arts Theatre
THEA 2513	Fine Arts Film

Associate of Fine Arts in Fine Arts: Music Track (CIP 50.0101; DC 1600; 60 credit hours; 50% online; Fall 2024)

University Requirement

UNIV 1001	Principles of Academic Success I OR
UNIV 1003	Principles of Academic Success III

General Education

HIST 2083	History of Arkansas
MATH 1043	Quantitative Literacy or higher
ENG 1003	Freshman English I
CIS 1503	Microcomputer Applications I
ENG 1013	Freshman English II OR
ENG 2033	Technical Writing and Communication

Business Core

ACCT 2003	Principles of Accounting I
ACCT 2013	Principles of Accounting II
BSYS 2563	Business Communication
LAW 2023	The Legal Environment of Business
MGMT 2153	Small Business Management
BUS 1013	Introduction to Business
MGMT 2013	Business Organization and Management OR
MGMT 2043	Supervisory Management
ECON 2313	Principles of Macroeconomics OR
ECON 2323	Principles of Microeconomics

Music Core

MUS 1413	Music Theory I
MUS 1423	Music Theory II
MUS 1411	Ear Training I
MUS 1421	Ear Training II
MUS 1201	Class Piano I
MUS 1211	Class Piano II
MUS 1 Hour	Music Elective
MUS 1000	Recital Attendance

Choose 6 credit hours from the following Applied Lessons

MUS 1102	Applied Piano I
MUS 1112	Applied Piano II
MUS 2102	Applied Piano III



MUS 1302	Applied Voice I
MUS 1312	Applied Voice II
MUS 2302	Applied Voice III
MUS 1602	Applied Guitar I
MUS 1612	Applied Guitar II
MUS 2602	Applied Guitar III
MUS 1802	Applied Lessons-Instrumental I
MUS 1812	Applied Lessons-Instrumental II
MUS 2802	Applied Lessons-Instrumental III

Choose 4 credit hours from the following Ensembles

MUS 1901	Symphonic Band I OR
MUS 1791	The Singers I
MUS 1911	Symphonic Band II OR
MUS 1891	The Singers II
MUS 2901	Symphonic Band III OR
MUS 2791	The Singers III
MUS 2911	Symphonic Band IV OR
MUS 2891	The Singers IV

**Arkansas State University Newport**

**Curriculum Revision**

Associate of Applied Science in Agriculture Technology (CIP 01.9999; DC 0250; 60 credit hours) changed to Associate of Applied Science in Agriculture Technology (CIP 01.9999; DC 0250; 60 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Deleted Courses

AGRI 1123	Precision Farming Systems
AGRI 2503	Technical Agriculture Lab II
AGRI 2403	Field Crop Harvesting
AGRI 2423	Geospatial Data Collections
AGRI 2333	Internship
MGMT 2003	Introduction to Management (optional)

Added Courses

<i>AGRI 2123</i>	<i>Field Crop harvesting Lab</i>
<i>AGRI 2303</i>	<i>Agriculture Intelligence</i>
CDT 1107	Commercial Driving Training
<i>AGRI 2302</i>	<i>Internship</i>

*Italics – New Courses*

Certificate of Proficiency in CNC Operator (CIP 48.0510; DC 0361; 15 credit hours) changed to Certificate of Proficiency in CNC Operator (CIP 48.0510; DC 0361; 13-15 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Deleted Course

ADVM 1144	CNC Turning
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Added Courses

MATH 1013	Mathematical Applications
ADVM 1253	Geometric Dimensioning and Tolerancing (optional)

ADVM 1264            CAD/CAM (optional)

Technical Certificate in High Voltage Lineman Technology (CIP 46.0303; DC 4925; 42 credit hours) changed to Technical Certificate in High Voltage Lineman Technology (CIP 46.0303; DC 4925; 41 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Deleted Course

HVLT 1001            Introduction to Utilities

**New Certificate**

Certificate of Proficiency in Manufacturing Technician (CIP 15.0613; DC 3116; 12 credit hours; Fall 2024)

ENG 1203            Workplace Essentials  
 WELD 1603           Trade Skills  
 ADVM 1053           Manufacturing Processes  
 3 credit-hour Technical Elective

**Program Reconfiguration**

Associate of Applied Science in Business Technology (CIP 52.0101; DC 0307; 60 credit hours; 100% online) reconfigured to create the Associate of Applied Science in Business Management & Supervision (CIP 52.0201; DC 0300; 60 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

ACCT 2003           Principles of Accounting I  
 ACCT 2013           Principles of Accounting II  
 BSYS 2563           Business Communications  
 BSYS 2583           Spreadsheets for Managerial Decisions  
 ECON 2313           Principles of Macroeconomics  
 ECON 2323           Principles of Microeconomics  
 ENG 1003           Composition I or Technical Composition  
 ENG 1203           Workplace Essentials or higher  
 LAW 2023           Legal Environment of Business  
 LDR 1111           Leadership Development I  
 LDR 2111           Leadership Development II  
 MATH 1083           Quantitative Literacy  
 MGMT 2003           Introduction to Management  
 MGMT 2023           Introduction to Managerial Finance  
 MGMT 2043           Supervisory Management  
 MIS 1323           Integrated Business Projects  
 MIS 1503           Microcomputer Applications  
 MIS 2403           Introduction to Database Management  
 MKTG 1013           Introduction to Business  
 PSY 1013           Human Relations  
 UNIV 1001           College & Life Skills  
 Elective – 3 credit hours

Technical Certificate in Business Technology (CIP 52.0401; DC 2520; 30 credit hours; 65% online) reconfigured to create the Technical Certificate in Business Management & Supervision (CIP 52.0201; DC 4390; 32 credit hours 100% online; Fall 2024)

BSYS 2563	Business Communications
ENG 1203	Workplace Essentials or higher
LAW 2023	Legal Environment of Business
LDR 1111	Leadership Development I
MATH 1083	Quantitative Literacy
MGMT 2003	Introduction to Management
MGMT 2043	Supervisory Management
MIS 1503	Microcomputer Applications
MIS 2403	Introduction to Database Management
MKTG 1013	Introduction to Business
PSY 1013	Human Relations
UNIV 1001	College & Life Skills

Certificate of Proficiency in Business Operations (CIP 52.0408; DC 4475; 15 credit hours; 100% online) reconfigured to create the Certificate of Proficiency in Basic Business Management & Supervision (CIP 52.0201; DC 1645; 17 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

BSYS 2563	Business Communications
LDR 1111	Leadership Development I
MATH 1083	Quantitative Literacy
MGMT 2043	Supervisory Management
MIS 1503	Microcomputer Applications
MKTG 1013	Introduction to Business
UNIV 1001	College & Life Skills

**Arkansas State University Three Rivers**

**Curriculum Revision and Title Change of Existing Program**

Certificate of Proficiency in Business Technology (CIP 52.0299; DC 1285; 9 credit hours; 100% online) changed to Certificate of Proficiency in General Business (CIP 52.0299; DC 1285; 9 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

**Deleted Courses**

DATA 1213	Word Processing
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**Added Courses**

MGMT 1113	Principles of Management
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**Curriculum Revision, Title Change of Existing Program, and CIP Code Change of Existing Program**

Associate of Applied Science in Management (CIP 52.0201; DC 0201; *blank* credit hours; 80% online) changed to Associate of Applied Science in General Business (CIP 52.0101; DC 0201; 60-61 credit hours; 60% online; Spring 2026)

**Deleted Courses**

DATA 1213	Word Processing
DATA 2303	Advanced Word Processing

DATA 1233 Database Management  
 DATA 1243 Spreadsheet Applications  
 MGMT 2013 Human Resource Management  
 MGMT 2343 Small Business Management  
 DATA 2203 Integrated Applications  
 MGMT 1123 Supervisory Management  
 Social Science – 3 credit hours

Added Courses

GBUS 1343 Financial Basics  
 GBUS 1333 Introduction to Business Analytics  
 MKTG 2113 Introduction to Marketing  
 ECON 2113 Principles of Macroeconomics OR  
 ECON 2213 Principles of Microeconomics  
 MGMT 2023 Operations Management  
 Directed Business Electives – 12 credit hours

**Arkansas Tech University**

**Existing Program Offered Via Distance Education**

Master of Education in Teaching, Learning, & Leadership (CIP 13.9999; DC 3975; 31 credit hours; 100% online; Spring 2024)

Master of Arts in Teaching in Teaching (CIP 13.0101; DC 6740; 33 credit hours; 100% online; Spring 2024)

**Program Deletion**

Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Language (CIP 16.0101; DC 1440; 120 credit hours; Fall 2025)

**Reorganization of Existing Organizational Unit**

Department of Biological Sciences (Department Code 0830), Department of Mathematics and Statistics (Department Code 1720), and Department of Physical and Earth Sciences (Department Code 2000) reorganized to create Department of Biological and Earth Sciences (Department Code 0850; Summer 2024) and Department of Mathematical and Physical Sciences (Department Code 0940; Summer 2024)

**Title Change of Existing Organizational Unit**

Department of Emergency Management, Professional Studies, and Student Affairs Administration (Department Code 1265) changed to School of Professional and Community Education (Department Code 1265; Summer 2024)

**Title Change of Existing Program**

Bachelor of Science in Emergency Administration & Management (CIP 43.0302; DC 2490; 120 credit hours; 100% online) changed to Bachelor of Science in Emergency Management and Homeland Security (CIP 43.0302; DC 2490; 120 credit hours; 100% online; Summer 2024)

Master of Arts in Organizational Development and Learning (CIP 30.9999; DC 5405; 30 credit hours; 100% online) changed to Master of Arts in Organizational Leadership and Learning (CIP 30.9999; DC 5405; 30 credit hours; 100% online; Summer 2024)

Bachelor of Science in Geology: Environmental option (CIP 40.0601; DC 2660; 120 credit hours) changed to Bachelor of Science in Geosciences: Environmental option (CIP 40.0601; DC 2660; 120 credit hours; Summer 2024)

Bachelor of Science in Geology: Petroleum option (CIP 40.0601; DC 2660; 120 credit hours) changed to Bachelor of Science in Geosciences: Emerging Resources option (CIP 40.0601; DC 2660; 120 credit hours; Summer 2024)

Bachelor of Science in Geology: Professional option (CIP 40.0601; DC 2660; 120 credit hours) changed to Bachelor of Science in Geosciences: Professional option (CIP 40.0601; DC 2660; 120 credit hours; Summer 2024)

**Title Change of Existing Program, CIP Code Change of Existing Program, and Existing Program Offered Via Distance Education**

Master of Science in Student Affairs Administration (CIP 13.1102; DC 5615; 36 credit hours; 100% online) changed to Master of Science in Higher Education & Student Affairs (CIP 13.0406; DC 5615; 36 credit hours; 50% online; Summer 2024)

**Arkansas Tech University Ozark**

**Curriculum Revision**

Associate of Applied Science in Automation Technology (CIP 15.0612; DC 3644; 60 credit hours) changed to Associate of Applied Science in Automation Technology (CIP 15.0612; DC 3644; 60 credit hours; Summer 2025)

**Deleted Courses**

AT	1303	PC Maintenance I
AT	1153	Networking I
AT	1253	Networking II

**Added Courses**

AT	1113	Industrial Networking
AT	1133	Intro to Manufacturing Components
AT	2223	Introduction to Process Technology

Associate of Applied Science in Physical Therapy Assistant (CIP 51.0806; DC 0750; 69 credit hours) changed to Associate of Applied Science in Physical Therapy Assistant (CIP 51.0806; DC 0750; 68 credit hours; Fall 2025)

**Deleted Courses**

PTA	2121	Neurological Development and Motor Control
PTA	2222	Neurological Rehabilitation
PTA	2164	Clinical Experience I

**Added Courses**

PTA	2223	Neurological Lifespan
PTA	2163	Clinical Experience I

**Black River Technical College****New Option, Emphasis, Concentration, or Minor**

Associate of Applied Science in Computer Information Technology: Fiber Optic Technician option (CIP 11.0901; DC 3523; 60-63 credit hours; Fall 2024)

ENG 1003 Freshman English I  
 ENG 1013 Freshman English II OR  
 ENG 1023 Technical Writing  
 MATH 1053 Mathematical Reasoning/Quantitative Literacy or higher

**Business Foundation** – 49 credit hours

ADMS 2073 Professional Development  
 ADMS 2563 Business Communications  
 BUAD 1043 Personal Financial Planning  
 CA 1903 Introduction to Computer Concepts  
 CIS 1024 Network Server Technology  
 CIS 1044 PC Repair I  
 CIS 2004 Network Operating System Technology  
 CIS 2014 LAN Administration  
 CIS 2044 PC Repair II  
 CIS 2204 Networking Concepts  
 CIS 2303 Network Applications  
 CIS 2424 Advanced LAN Administration  
 ECON 2313 Principles of Macroeconomics  
 MGMT 2633 Information Technology Project Management

**Directed Electives** – choose one

BSYS 2013 Web Page Design  
 CIS 1023 Network Cable Fundamentals  
 CIS 1034 Introduction to Computer Programming  
 CIS 1054 Computer Forensics  
*CIS 1123 Fiber Optics – Testing*  
*CIS 1223 Fiber Optics – Splicing*  
*CIS 1323 Fiber Optics – Fiber to the Home (FTTH)*  
 CIS 2103 Internship for Networking  
 MGMT 2623 Small Business Management

*Italics = New Courses*

**East Arkansas Community College****New Option, Emphasis, Concentration, or Minor**

Technical Certificate in Health Professions: Paramedic Pathway (CIP 51.0000; DC 2710; 25-33 credit hours; 94-100% online; Fall 2024)

BIO 2014 Anatomy & Physiology for Paramedics  
 BUS 1603 Computer Fundamentals  
 ENG 1013 English Composition I  
 ENG 1023 English Composition II  
 MTH 1113 College Algebra  
 PSY 1003 General Psychology

SPE 1003 Introduction to Oral Communication  
 EMT 1009 Emergency Medical Technician – Basic

Technical Certificate in Automotive Service Technology: General Service Technology  
 (CIP 47.0604; DC 4355; 35 credit hours; Fall 2025)

ENG 1033 Communication Skills or higher  
 MTH 1083 Technical Mathematics or higher  
 AST 2503 Electronic/Electrical Systems  
 AST 2703 Automotive Computer Systems  
 AST 1202 Application Lab I  
 AST 1102 Engine Performance  
 AST 1103 Automotive Engine Repair  
 AST 1203 Automotive Brake Systems  
 AST 2302 Application Lab II  
 AST 2402 Automatic Transmissions  
 AST 2903 Suspension and Steering  
 AST 2103 Automotive Climate Control  
 AST 2303 Automotive Power Trains

Technical Certificate in Automotive Service Technology: Hybrid/Electric Vehicle  
 Technology (CIP 47.0604; DC 4355; 35 credit hours; Fall 2025)

ENG 1033 Communication Skills or higher  
 MTH 1083 Technical Mathematics or higher  
 AST 2503 Electronic/Electrical Systems  
 AST 2703 Automotive Computer Systems  
 AST 1023 Service and Basic Maintenance  
 AST 1603 Introduction to Hybrid/Electric Vehicle Technology  
 AST 2804 Advanced Hybrid/Electric Vehicle Technology  
 AST 2254 Automotive Service Internship  
 ELE 1014 Basic Electricity  
 AST 2302 Application Lab II  
 BUS 1603 Computer Fundamentals

**Henderson State University**

**Curriculum Revision and Title Change of Existing Program**

Bachelor of Integrated Studies (CIP 24.0102; DC 1870; 120 credit hours) changed to  
 Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies (CIP 24.0102; DC 1870; 120 credit hours; Fall  
 2024)

Deleted Course

ISD 3003 Introduction to Integrated Studies  
 ISD 4033 Senior Seminar in Integrated Studies

Added Course

ISD 3003 Introduction to Interdisciplinary Studies  
 ISD 4033 Senior Seminar in Interdisciplinary Studies

**New Option, Concentration, Emphasis, or Minor**

Bachelor of Science in Natural Sciences: Biology track (CIP 30.1801; DC 2920; 120 credit hours; 20% online; Fall 2024)

General Education Core – 35 credit hours

Required courses – 24 credit hours

BIO 2104	General Botany
BIO 2114	General Zoology
BIO 2094	Microbiology
BIO 3054	Genetics
BIO 3524	General Ecology
BIO 4214	Cell Biology
BIO 3304	Plant Physiology OR
BIO 3314	Animal Physiology
BIO 3084	Comparative Anatomy and Evolution of Vertebrates OR
BIO 3244	Comparative Morphology and Evolution of Plants

Biology Electives – Complete 8 credit hours from the following

BIO 3084	Comparative Anatomy and Evolution of Vertebrates
BIO 3244	Comparative Morphology and Evolution of Plants
BIO 3294	Plant Taxonomy
BIO 3304	Plant Physiology
BIO 3314	Animal Physiology
BIO 3404	Herpetology
BIO 3544/3554	Human A&P I and Human A&P II
BIO 4074	Dendrology
BIO 4194	Animal Histology
BIO 4224	Ichthyology
BIO 4354	Mammalogy

Science and Mathematics Requirements – 30 credit hours

CHM 1014	University Chemistry I
CHM 1024	University Chemistry II
CHM 3063/3051	Organic Chemistry I and Lab
CHM 3073/3131	Organic Chemistry II and Lab
MTH 1243	College Algebra or more advanced mathematics course
STA 2053	Applied Biostatistics
PHY 2034	General Physics I
PHY 2044	General Physics II

Electives – 23 credit hours

Bachelor of Science in Education in Secondary Education: Biology Licensure track (CIP 13.1205; DC 4000; 120-125 credit hours; 20% online; Fall 2024)

General Education Core – 29 credit hours

Required Life Science Core Courses – 35 credit hours

BIO 2104	General Botany
BIO 2114	General Zoology
BIO 2094	Microbiology
BIO 3054	Genetics



BIO	3423	Teaching Methods in Biological Sciences
BIO	3524	General Ecology
BIO	4214	Cell Biology
BIO	3084	Comparative Anatomy and Evolution of Vertebrates OR
BIO	3244	Comparative Morphology and Evolution of Plants
BIO	3314	Animal Physiology OR
BIO	3304	Plant Physiology

Additional Science and Mathematics Requirements – 19 credit hours

CHM	1014	University Chemistry I
CHM	1024	University Chemistry II
MTH	1243	College Algebra or higher-level math
PHY	2034	General Physics I
PHY	2044	General Physics II

Required Education Courses – 42 credit hours

EDU	2000	Teacher Education Orientation
EDU	2423	Introduction to Education
EDU	2043	Educational Technology
RDG	3203	Reading & Writing in Content Area (WI)
EDM	4273	STEM: Collaborative Inquiry Learning
SPE	3013	Psychology of Exceptional Child
EDU	3123	Educational Psychology
EDU	4113	Classroom Management 7-12
EDU	4890	Orientation to Internship
EDU	4402	Assessment and Measurement
EDU	4546	Expl. Pers. Div. Learn.
EDU	4216	Internship Content
EDU	4256	Internship Clinical

Master of Science in Education in Teacher Leadership: Online Teaching option (CIP 13.0301; DC 5663; 30-36\* credit hours; Fall 2024)

*\*Original credit-hour total listed incorrectly on Approved Programs List*

EDU	6813	Educational Law for Teachers OR
SPE	6313	Special Education Law
EDU	5543	Exploring Perspective of Culturally & Linguistically Diverse Learner
EDL	6223	Supervision and Educational Leadership
EDL	6623	Curriculum Strategies for Instructional Leaders
EDL	6693	Technology for School Leaders
EDL	6343	School and Community Resources & Relations
EDL	6553	Digital Literacy and Technology
EDU	6653	Assessment and Measurement
SPE	5193	Universal Design for Learning
EDU	6823	Online Teaching and Learning Academy

Elective – 3 credit hours

Education Specialist in Education Leadership: Curriculum Leadership Special Education Supervisor option (CIP 13.0401; DC 5120; 24-30 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

EDL 6453	Educational Law and Political Systems
EDL 6223	Supervision and Educational Leadership
EDL 7113	Executive Leadership
EDL 7233	Educational Specialist Research
EDL 7593	Fiscal Resources & Accountability
EDL 7703	Integrating Technology
EDL 7483	Human Resource Administration
EDL 7473	Leadership for Curriculum & instruction
EDL 6343	School and Community Relations
EDL 6653	CPA Internship in Special Education Supervisor

**Program Deletion**

Certificate of Proficiency in Creative Writing (CIP 23.1302; DC 1030; 12 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Certificate of Proficiency in Philosophy & Logic (CIP 38.0101; DC 1055; 12 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Certificate of Proficiency in Women’s and Gender Studies (CIP 05.0299; DC 1605; 12 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Certificate of Proficiency in Academic & Professional Writing (CIP 23.1303; DC 1699; 12 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Certificate of Proficiency in Museum Studies (CIP 54.0105; DC 5441; 12 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Certificate of Proficiency in Statistics (CIP 27.0501; DC 6535; 15 credit hours; Fall 2024)

**Program Inactivation**

Certificate of Proficiency in Forensics (CIP 43.0406; DC 0382; 13 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Certificate of Proficiency in Public and Local History (CIP 54.0105; DC 1065; 12 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Certificate of Proficiency in Film Studies (CIP 50.0601; DC 1135; 12 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Certificate of Proficiency in Social Justice and Human Rights (CIP 44.0000; DC 1275; 12 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Bachelor of Arts in Communication (CIP 09.0100; DC 1330; 120 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Certificate of Proficiency in Project Based Learning (CIP 13.0501; DC 1441; 15 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Bachelor of Arts in Public Administration/Public Management (CIP 44.0401; DC 1720; 120 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Bachelor of Arts in Spanish (CIP 16.0905; DC 1800; 120 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Bachelor of Arts in Theater Arts (CIP 50.0501; DC 1840; 120 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Bachelor of Science in Mathematics (CIP 27.0101; DC 2870; 120 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Development (CIP 19.0706; DC 5919; 120 credit hours; Fall 2024)

### **Program Reconfiguration**

Bachelor of Science in Integrated Studies (CIP 24.0102; DC 1870; 120 credit hours) reconfigured to create the Associate of Arts in General Education (CIP 24.0102; DC 0060; 60 credit hours; 51-100% online; Fall 2024)

General Education Core – 35 credit hours

Directed Electives – 15-25 credit hours

Institutional Requirements/Advisor Approved Electives – 0-10 credit hours

Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Development (CIP 19.0706; DC 5919; 120 credit hours) reconfigured to create the Bachelor of Science in Education in Early Childhood Special Education Integrated Birth – Kindergarten (CIP 19.0706; DC 4155; 121 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

BIO	1013	Intro to Biology
BIO	1021	Intro to Biology Lab
CHM	1004	Introduction to Chemistry OR
PHY	1024	Introduction to Astronomy OR
PHY	3154	Physical Education for Teachers
COM	2013	Oral Communications
EDE	3242	Arts Integrated in the Classroom
EDE	2063	Child Development
EDE	2XXX	Early Childhood Family Collaboration
EDE	3472	Family and Community
EDE	3XXX	Organizational and Admin. Preschool
EDE	4573	Early Childhood Curriculum
EDE	4XX6	Internship B-K (Clinical)
EDE	4XX6	Internship B-K (Content)
EDU	2000	Teacher Education Orientation
EDU	2043	Educational Technology
EDU	2423	Introduction to Education
EDU	3123	Educational Psychology
EDU	4293	Early Childhood Practicum
EDU	4890	Orientation to Internship
ENG	1463	Freshman English A

ENG	1473	Freshman English B
ENG	2013	World Literature I OR
ENG	2023	World Literature II OR
ENG	2053	Studies in Literature
GEN	1031	Henderson Seminar
HHP	2103	Nutrition
HIS	1013	World Civilization to 1660 OR
HIS	1023	World Civilization since 1660
HIS	2053	US History to 1865 OR
HIS	2063	US History since 1865 OR
PSC	1013	American National Government
HPE	3502	Health & Fitness for Children
HPR	XXX1	Life Fit or P.E. Activity
MGM	3113	Management & Org. Behaviors
MTH	1234	College Algebra OR
MTH	1033	Quantitative Literacy
MTH	1053	Number Sense & Operations
PSY	1013	General Psychology
RDG	3103	Emergent & Developing Literacy
SPE	3013	Psychology of Exceptional Child
SPE	3103	Integrated Curriculum & Practicum
SPE	3503	Special Education Law
SPE	3513	Behavior Management
SPE	4103	Advanced Methods Mild/Mod Dis
SPE	4213	Intro to Autism Spectrum Disorder
SPE	4393	Advanced Method Severe/Profound Dis
SPE	4403	Assessment and Programming
XXX	XXX3	Junior/Senior Level Writing
XXX	XXX3	Non-Western Culture
XXX	XXX3	Humanities: Art, Music, or Theater

**Title Change of Existing Organizational Unit**

Arts and Humanities Learning Community (Department Code 0457) changed to College of Performing Arts and Social Sciences (Department Code 0457; Fall 2024)

Business, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship Learning Community (Department Code 0865) changed to College of Business (Department Code 0865; Fall 2024)

Health, Education, and Social Sustainability Learning Community (Department Code 3480) changed to Teachers College (Department Code 3480; Fall 2024)

Applied Professional Science and Technology Learning Community (Department Code 2840) changed to College of Aviation, Science and Nursing (Department Code 2840; Fall 2024)

**Title Change of Existing Program**

Graduate Certificate in K-12 Education (CIP 13.1019; DC 6445; 12 credit hours; 100% online) changed to Graduate Certificate in Online Teaching (CIP 13.1019; DC 6445; 12 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

**Northwest Arkansas Community College**

**Program Deletion**

Associate of Applied Science in Fire Science Administration & Technology (CIP 43.0202; DC 0495; 60 credit hours; Fall 2024)

**Phillips Community College of the University of Arkansas**

**Existing Program Offered via Distance Education**

Associate of Applied Science in Behavioral Health Technology (CIP 44.0701; DC 0825; 60 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

Associate of Applied Science in Criminal Justice (CIP 43.0104; DC 0390; 60-61 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

Certificate of Proficiency in Cybersecurity (CIP 11.1003; DC 0125; 18 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

Associate of Applied Science in Graphic Communication (CIP 10.0306; DC 0620; 60 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

Associate of Applied Science in Information Systems Technology (CIP 11.0101; DC 0290; 60 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

**New Certificate**

Certificate of Proficiency in Heavy Equipment Operations & Maintenance (CIP 47.0302; DC 1296; 16 credit hours; Summer 2024)

- IT 173 Industrial Heavy Equipment
- IT 113 Safety and Sanitation
- IT 163 Blueprint Reading
- IT 283 Advanced Excavator*
- IT 293 Advanced Backhoe*
- PE 2001 Community First Aid

*Italics = New Courses*

**Program Deletion**

Associate of Applied Science in Crime Scene Investigation (CIP 43.0406; DC 0387; 62 credit hours; Summer 2024)

Technical Certificate in Crime Scene Investigation (CIP 43.0406; DC 0386; 36 credit hours; Summer 2024)

Certificate of Proficiency in Crime Scene Investigation (CIP 43.0406; DC 0384; 18 credit hours; Summer 2024)

Associate of Applied Science in Law Enforcement Administration (CIP 43.0103; DC 0391; 63 credit hours; Summer 2024)

Technical Certificate in Law Enforcement Administration (CIP 43.0103; DC 0389; 36 credit hours; Summer 2024)

Certificate of Proficiency in Law Enforcement Administration (CIP 43.0103; DC 0388; 18 credit hours; Summer 2024)

### **South Arkansas College**

#### **Articulation Agreement**

Technical Certificate in Forestry Technology (CIP 03.0511; DC 2325; 36 credit hours) to Bachelor of Science in Forestry (CIP 03.0501; 120 credit hours) at Louisiana Tech University, 305 Wisteria Avenue, Ruston, LA 71272 effective Spring 2024

Note: SAC/LATECH Articulation Agreement on file at ADHE.

#### **Curriculum Revision**

Technical Certificate in Welding Technology (CIP 48.0508; DC 4900; *blank* credit hours) changed to Technical Certificate in Welding Technology (CIP 48.0508; DC 4900; 35 credit hours; Fall 2024)

#### **Added Optional Courses**

WELD 1264	Pipe Welding I
WELD 2264	Pipe Welding II

Technical Certificate in Computer Information Technology (CIP 11.0101; DC 2523; 31 credit hours) changed to Technical Certificate in Computer Information Technology (CIP 11.0101; DC 2523; 30 credit hours; Fall 2024)

#### **Deleted Courses**

CSCI 1263	Windows Operating Systems
CSCI 1323	Networking Fundamentals
CSCI 1114	IT Essentials
CSCI 2603	Cisco I

#### **Added Courses**

CSCI 1116	Computer Hardware and Operating Systems
<i>CSCI 1703</i>	<i>Introduction to Linux</i>

3 credit-hour Programming Elective

*Italics = New Course*

Certificate of Proficiency in Information Technology Support (CIP 11.0103; DC 0370; 12\* credit hours) changed to Certificate of Proficiency in Information Technology Support (CIP 11.0103; DC 0370; 12 credit hours; Fall 2024)

*\*Original credit-hour total listed incorrectly on Approved Programs List*

#### **Deleted Courses**

CSCI 1114 IT Essentials  
 CSCI 2603 Cisco I  
Added Courses  
 CSCI 1323 Networking Fundamentals  
 3 credit-hour Programming Elective

### **Curriculum Revision and CIP Change of Existing Program**

Associate of Applied Science in Computer Information Technology (CIP 11.0801; DC 0305; 61 credit hours; 74% online) changed to Associate of Applied Science in Computer Information Technology (CIP 11.0101; DC 0305; 60 credit hours; 74% online; Fall 2024)

#### Deleted Courses

CSCI 1263 Windows Operating Systems  
 CSCI 1323 Networking Fundamentals  
 CSCI 1114 IT Essentials  
 CSCI 2603 Cisco I

#### Added Courses

CSCI 1116 Computer Hardware and Operating Systems  
*CSCI 1703 Introduction to Linux*  
 3 credit-hour Programming Elective  
*Italics = New Course*

Certificate of Proficiency of Computer Technology (CIP 11.0103; DC 0360; 12 credit hours) changed to Certificate of Proficiency of Computer Technology (CIP 11.0101; DC 0360; 12 credit hours; Fall 2024)

#### Deleted Courses

CSCI 1263 Windows Operating Systems  
 CSCI 1323 Networking Fundamentals

#### Added Courses

CSCI 1116 Computer Hardware and Operating Systems

### **New Certificate**

Certificate of Proficiency in Pipe Welding (CIP 48.0508; DC 0076; 8 credit hours; Fall 2024)

WELD 1264 Pipe Welding I  
 WELD 2264 Pipe Welding II

## **Southern Arkansas University Magnolia**

### **Curriculum Revision**

Bachelor of Science in Cyber Criminology (CIP 45.0401; DC 1371; 120 credit hours) changed to Bachelor of Science in Cyber Criminology (CIP 45.0401; DC 1371; 120 credit hours; Fall 2024)

#### Deleted Courses

MATH 1053 Math Literacy (optional)  
 CRJU 2013 Introduction to Cyber Criminology  
 CRJU 4093/4193 Advanced Topics in Criminal Justice

CSCI 3133	Advanced UNIX/LINUX
CSCI 3153	Mobile Application Development
CSCI 3203	Assembler & Machine Organization
CSCI 3703	Computer Architecture.
CRJU/CSCI 4903	Senior Integrated Project I
CRJU/CSCI 4913	Senior Integrated Project II

Added Courses

CRJU 2003	Introduction to Criminal Justice
CRJU 3XXX	Cyber Crime
CRJU 3033	Criminal Investigations
CRJU 4XXX	Senior Project
CRJU Electives – 12 credit hours	
ENGL 3023	Technical Writing

Bachelor of Arts in Modern Languages: English (CIP 23.0101; DC 1470; 120 credit hours) changed to Bachelor of Arts in Modern Languages: English (CIP 23.0101; DC 1470; 120 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Deleted Courses

6 credit hours of Electives to total 120

Added Courses

6 credit hours of English electives at the junior-senior level

ENGL 2223	World Literature II (optional)
ENGL 4613	African American Literature (optional)
ENGL 3183	Spanish American Lit I (optional)
ENGL 3193	Spanish American Lit II (optional)
ENGL 3223	East Asian Literature in Translation (optional)
ENGL 4283	French Literature I (optional)
ENGL 4293	French Literature II (optional)
ENGL 4813	Spanish Literature I (optional)
ENGL 4823	Spanish Literature II (optional)
ENGL 4XX3	Ant TESOL Course (optional)

Bachelor of Arts in Modern Languages: Writing (CIP 23.0101; DC 1470; 120 credit hours) changed to Bachelor of Arts in Modern Languages: Writing (CIP 23.0101; DC 1470; 120 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Added Courses

ENGL 2223	World Literature II (optional)
ENGL 3023	Technical Writing (optional)
ENGL 4103	Grant Writing (optional)

**New Certificate**

Graduate Certificate in Agri Business (CIP 52.0201; DC 6885; 12 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

AGBS 6003	Agricultural Markets/Prices
AGBS 6013	International Trade of Agricultural Products
AGBS 6023	Agricultural Policies



AGBS 6033 Management of Agriculture Production

**Reorganization of Existing Organizational Unit**

Department of Counseling & Professional Studies (Department Code 2930) reorganized to create the Department of Doctoral Studies (Department Code 1125; Summer 2024)

**University of Arkansas Community College Hope-Texarkana**

**Curriculum Revision**

Certificate of Proficiency in Solar Energy Technology (CIP 15.1703; DC 1546; 13 credit hours; 100% online) changed to Certificate of Proficiency in Solar Energy Technology (CIP 15.1703; DC 1546; 13 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

Deleted Course

PVOL 2013 Solar Electric Design

Added Course

ELEC 1303 National Electric Code

Technical Certificate in Solar Power Technology (CIP 15.1703; DC 2295; 29 credit hours; 67% online) changed to Technical Certificate in Solar Power Technology (CIP 15.1703; DC 2295; 26 credit hours; 67% online; Fall 2024)

Deleted Courses

PVOL 2013 Solar Electric Design

PWRT 1033 Intro to Alternative Energy

Added Course

ELEC 1403 Industrial Motors & Controls

Certificate of Proficiency in General Business (CIP 52.0401; DC 2519; 12 credit hours) changed to Certificate of Proficiency in General Business (CIP 52.0401; DC 2519; 12 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Deleted Courses

ACCT 2103 Principles of Accounting I

ENGL 1013 Composition I

Added Courses

BUSS 1213 Business Communications

BUSS 1233 Professionalism in the Workplace

Technical Certificate in General Business (CIP 52.0401; DC 4850; 30 credit hours) changed to Technical Certificate in General Business (CIP 52.0401; DC 4850; 30 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Deleted Course

ACCT 2113 Principles of Accounting II

Added Course

BUSS 1233 Professionalism in the Workplace

**University of Arkansas Community College Morrilton**

**Curriculum Revision**

Certificate of Proficiency in Surveying Technology (CIP 15.1102; DC 4880; 15 credit hours) changed to Certificate of Proficiency in Surveying Technology (CIP 15.1102; DC 4880; 15 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Deleted Course

SUR 1001 Calculator Solutions

Added Course

SUR XXX1 Introduction to Surveying

Technical Certificate in Surveying (CIP 15.1102; DC 4885; *blank* credit hours) changed to Technical Certificate in Surveying (CIP 15.1102; DC 4885; 30 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Deleted Course

SUR 1001 Calculator Solutions

Added Course

SUR XXX1 Introduction to Surveying

Associate of Applied Science in Surveying (CIP 15.1102; DC 0837; *blank* credit hours) changed to Associate of Applied Science in Surveying (CIP 15.1102; DC 0837; 60 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Deleted Courses

SUR 1001 Calculator Solutions

SUR 2001 Calculator Solutions II

Added Courses

SUR XXX1 Introduction to Surveying

SUR 2XX1 Fundamentals of Surveying Exam Prep

**Title Change of Existing Program**

Certificate of Proficiency in Early Childhood Development (CIP 19.0706; DC 4919; *blank* credit hours) changed to Certificate of Proficiency in Early Childhood Education (CIP 19.0706; DC 4919; 9 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Technical Certificate in Early Childhood Development (Birth to Pre-K credential) (CIP 19.0706; DC 4495; *blank* credit hours) changed to Technical Certificate in Early Childhood Education (CIP 19.0706; DC 4495; 30 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Associate of Applied Science in Early Childhood Development (Birth to Pre-K credential) (CIP 19.0706; DC 0310; *blank* credit hours) changed to Associate of Applied Science in Early Childhood Education (CIP 19.0706; DC 0310; 60 credit hours; Fall 2024)

**University of Arkansas Community College Rich Mountain**

**New Certificate**

Certificate of Proficiency in Pharmacy Technician (CIP 51.0805; DC 0220; 16 credit hours; Spring 2025)

HIMT 10541 Legal Aspects of Healthcare

HIMT 10353 Basic Human Anatomy and Physiology

HIMT 10043 Medical Terminology

NURS 20373 Math for Nurses

## ALHE 10046          Pharmacology Externship

Technical Certificate in Health Professions (CIP 51.0000; DC 2710; 36 credit hours; Fall 2024)

HIMT 10043	Medical Terminology
NURS 20373	Math for Nurses
NUTR 25243	Nutrition
PSYC 11003	General Psychology
PSYC 21003	Developmental Psychology
BIOL 24003	Human Anatomy
BIOL 24001	Human Anatomy Lab
BIOL 24103	Human Physiology
BIOL 24101	Human Physiology Lab
BIOL 20263	Microbiology and Immunology
BIOL 20161	Microbiology and Immunology Lab
ENGL 10103	English Composition I
ENGL 10203	English Composition II
CPSI 10003	Computer Applications

**University of Arkansas Fayetteville****CIP Code Change of Existing Program**

Bachelor of Arts in Geography (CIP 45.0701; DC 1460; 120 credit hours) changed to Bachelor of Arts in Geography (CIP 30.4401; DC 1460; 120 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Master of Science in Biological Engineering in Biological Engineering (CIP 14.0301; DC 6600; 30 credit hours) changed to Master of Science in Biological Engineering in Biological Engineering (CIP 14.4501; DC 6600; 30 credit hours; Fall 2024)

**Curriculum Revision**

Bachelor of Science in Earth Science (CIP 40.0601; DC 2445; 120 credit hours) changed to Bachelor of Science in Earth Science (CIP 40.0601; DC 2445; 120 credit hours; Fall 2024)

**Deleted Courses**

8 credit hours in Biology

8 credit hours in Chemistry or Physics

MATH 2053          Finite Mathematics (optional)

MATH 2183          Mathematical Reasoning in a Quantitative World (optional)

6 credit hours in a single world language at the 1013 Elem. II level or higher

GEOS 2313          Mineralogy

GEOS 3413          Sedimentary Geology

GEOS 4033          Hydrogeology

GEOS 4924          Earth System History

GEOS 3023          Introduction to Cartography

3 credit hours of General Electives

**Added Courses**

CHEM 1103/1101L    University Chemistry I & Lab

PHYS 2013/2011L College Physics I & Lab  
 BIOL 1543/1541L Principles of Biology & Lab (optional)  
 ENSC 1003/1001L Environmental Science & Lab (optional)  
 GEOS 1154 Introduction to Geology for Science Majors (optional)  
 GEOS 3543 Geospatial Applications and Information Science  
 GEOS 3673 Environmental Field Methods  
 GEOS 3873 Geological Data Analysis  
 GEOS 4383 Hazard & Disaster Assessment, Mitigation, Risk, & Policy  
 GEOS 4693 Environmental Justice  
 6 credit hours in GEOS courses (at least six credit hours at the 3000-level or higher)  
 3 credit hours of any UA-Fayetteville course numbered at the 3000-level or higher  
 9-10 credit hours of any course at the 3000-level or higher, or any 2000-level courses  
 that have a prerequisite

### **New Option, Emphasis, Concentration, or Minor**

Master of Science in Biological Engineering in Biological Engineering: Thesis option  
(CIP 14.4501; DC 6600; 30 credit hours; Fall 2024)

BENG 5801 Graduate Seminar

At least 6 credit hours of BENG 600V Master's Thesis

At least one advanced mathematics or statistics course

At least 9 credit hours of coursework (5000 level or higher) in Biological Engineering

No more than 12 credit hours of coursework at the 4000 level in Biological Engineering

Master of Science in Biological Engineering in Biological Engineering: Non-thesis option  
(CIP 14.4501; DC 6600; 30 credit hours; Fall 2024)

BENG 5801 Graduate Seminar

At least 3 credit hours of BENG 500V Technical Project and Report

At least one advanced mathematics or statistics course

No more than 12 credit hours of coursework at the 4000 level in Biological Engineering

At least 9 credit hours of coursework (5000 level or higher) in Biological Engineering

including 2 of the following:

BENG 5103 Advanced Instrumentation in Biological Engineering

BENG 5613 Simulation Modeling of Biological Systems

BENG 5703 Design and Analysis of Experiments for Engineering  
Research

Master of Science in Biological Engineering in Biological Engineering: Accelerated  
option (CIP 14.4501; DC 6600; 30 credit hours; Fall 2024)

12 credit hours of 4000- and 5000-level BENG courses or science electives

18 approved BENG courses

### **Program Deletion**

Advanced Certificate in Poultry Science (CIP 01.0907; DC 4480; 29 credit hours; Fall  
2024)

**University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences****New Certificate**

Graduate Certificate in Maternal and Child Health (CIP 51.2209; DC 6895; 13 credit hours; 23% online; Summer 2024)

HBHE 51043	Introduction to Health Behavior and Health Education
HBHE 52203	Introduction to Maternal and Child Health
HBHE 52233	Special Populations in Maternal and Child Health
HBHE 53233	Maternal and Child Health Practicum
HBHE 52143	Advanced Concepts of Human Sexuality

**New Option, Concentration, Emphasis, or Minor**

Master of Health Administration in Health Administration: Medical Laboratory Management emphasis (CIP 51.0701; DC 5950; 51 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2025)

EPID 53303	Managerial Epidemiology
HPMT 51033	The Health Care System
HPMT 51143	Management of Health Care Organizations
HPMT 51163	Communications and Negotiations for Health Leaders
HPMT 51343	Introduction to Health Systems Financial Management
HPMT 52033	Health Law and Policy
HPMT 52143	Healthcare Information Systems
HPMT 52233	Seminar in Human Resources Management
HPMT 53333	Applications in Health Systems Finance
HPMT 53403	Management Capstone
HPMT 55883	Strategic Healthcare Management
<i>HPMT 5XXX3</i>	<i>Advanced Topics in Laboratory Management</i>
<i>HPMT 5XXX3</i>	<i>Health Economics and Insurance</i>
<i>HPMT 5XXX3</i>	<i>Laboratory Management Project</i>
<i>HPMT 5XXX3</i>	<i>Laboratory Quality Management and Performance Improvement</i>
HPMT 5XXX3	Statistics for Laboratory Managers
PBHL 50033	Introduction to Public Health

*Italics = New Courses*

Doctor of Philosophy in Interdisciplinary Biomedical Sciences: Cancer Biology track (CIP 30.0101; DC 7295; 42-76 credit hours; Fall 2025)

BIOC 51033	Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
<i>BIOC 61302</i>	<i>Biology of Cancer</i>
IBSD 5100V	GPIBS Research
IBSD 5100V	Research (6 credit hours)
<i>IBSD 5110V</i>	<i>Seminar (4 credit hours)</i>
<i>IBSD 6100V</i>	<i>Special Topics in IBS (3 credit hours)</i>
NBDS 51033	Cell Biology
PCOL 51433	Experimental Design and Quantitative Analysis
PHAR 51171	Scientific Communication and Ethics I
PHAR 51191	Scientific Communication and Ethics II
PHAR 51201	Scientific Communication and Ethics III

PHAR 51231 Scientific Communication and Ethics IV

PHYO 51093 Gene Expression

Electives – 9 credit hours

For each remaining Fall and Spring semester, students will enroll in:

*IBSD 5110V Seminar*

*IBSD 6100V Special Topics in IBS*

IBSD 6200V Doctoral Dissertation (7 credit hours)

For each remaining summer semester, students will enroll in:

IBSD 6200V Doctoral Dissertation (1 credit hour)

*Italics = New Courses*

## **University of Arkansas Fort Smith**

### **Curriculum Revision**

Bachelor of Arts in History (CIP 54.0101; DC 1500; 120 credit hours) changed to

Bachelor of Arts in History (CIP 54.0101; DC 1500; 120 credit hours; Summer 2024)

### **Deleted Courses**

11 credit hours of World Language

14 credit hours of electives

### **Added Courses**

8 credit hours of World Language

3 credit hours of Intermediate Language or upper-level History elective

13 credit hours of electives

FIN 1521 Personal Finance Applications

Bachelor of Science in History: Social Studies Teacher Licensure option (CIP 13.1328;

DC 6850; 120 credit hours) changed to Bachelor of Science in History: Social Studies

Teacher Licensure option (CIP 13.1328; DC 6850; 120 credit hours; Summer 2024)

### **Deleted Courses**

MATH 1403 College Algebra or higher

ECON 2803 Principles of Macroeconomics AND

ECON 2813 Principles of Microeconomics

6 upper-level credit hours from 2 disciplines from GEOG, POLS, PSYC, or SOCI

6 credit hours of upper-level U.S. HIST electives

3 credit hours of upper-level Global History electives

3 credit hours upper-level Western Civilization elective

SPAN 1314 Beginning Spanish I

### **Added Courses**

One mathematics course approved for the General Education core

ECON 2803 Principles of Macroeconomics OR

ECON 2813 Principles of Microeconomics

6 upper-level credit hours from 2 disciplines from ANTH, POLS, PSYC, or SOCI

9 credit hours of upper-level U.S. HIST electives

6 credit hours of upper-level Global History electives

3 credit hours of upper-level HIST electives

FIN 1521 Personal Finance Applications

**University of Arkansas Little Rock****Existing Program Offered via Distance Education**

Graduate Certificate in Conflict Management (CIP 30.0501; DC 5188; 12 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

Graduate Certificate in Program Planning and Evaluation for Social Change (CIP 44.9999; DC 6932; 12 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

**University of Arkansas Monticello****Curriculum Revision**

Technical Certificate in Business Technology (CIP 52.0401; DC 2520; 36 credit hours; 100% online) changed to Technical Certificate in Business Technology (CIP 52.0401; DC 2520; 36 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

**Deleted Courses**

9 credit hours of BUS and HOSP courses

**Added Courses**

<i>BUSI 2XXX3</i>	<i>Web Design</i>
<i>BUSI 2XXX3</i>	<i>Tech Digital Marketing</i>
<i>BUSI 2XXX3</i>	<i>Tech Human Resources</i>

*Italics = New Courses*

**Deletion of Option, Concentration, Emphasis, or Minor**

Bachelor of Science in Nursing: LPN to BSN option (CIP 51.3801; DC 4240; 120 credit hours; Fall 2024)

**Program Reconfiguration**

Master of Fine Arts in Debate and Communication (CIP 13.1339; DC 5125; 48 credit hours; 100% online) reconfigured to create the Graduate Certificate in Debate Pedagogy (CIP 13.1339; DC 6905; 18 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

SPCH 50003	Advanced Argumentation and Debate
SPCH 53303	Debate Team Management
SPCH 53403	Forensics Pedagogy
STAN 53803	Research Methods for Forensics

6 elective hours in Communication at the 5000-level

Bachelor of Arts in History (CIP 54.0101; DC 1500; 120 credit hours) and Bachelor of Arts in Political Science (CIP 45.1001; DC 1690; 120 credit hours) reconfigured to create the Bachelor of Arts in History/Political Science (CIP 30.4601; DC 4945; 120 credit hours; Fall 2024)

General Education Core – 35 credit hours

History and Political Science Core – 15 credit hours

HIST 21203	American History II
PLSC 20003	American National Government
PLSC 46843	Western Political Theory
SBSC 2XXX3	<i>Social Science Research Methods</i>

3 hours of HIST non-U.S. history courses at the 30000 level

Supportive Requirements – 9 credit hours

6 credit hours of the same foreign language, 10000-level or above

GEOG 11003          General Geography I

Select one of the following emphasis areas – 45 credit hours

History Emphasis – 27 credit hours

HIST 11103          World History to 1500

HIST 11203          World History Since 1500

HIST 21103          American History I

HIST 2XXX3          Arkansas History

15 hours of HIST courses at the 30000 or 40000 level

Students in the History emphasis must select a minor or second major

Political Science Emphasis – 24 credit hours

PLSC 22343          Comparative Politics

PLSC 33143          Statistics for the Social Sciences

18 hours of PLSC courses; at least 15 hours must be at the 30000 or 40000 level

Students in the Political Science emphasis must select a minor or second major

Dual Emphasis – 45 credit hours

HIST 11103          World History to 1500

HIST 11203          World History Since 1500

HIST 21103          American History I

PLSC 22343          Comparative Politics

PLSC 33143          Statistics for the Social Sciences

Select one of the following courses:

HIST 2XXX3          Arkansas History

PLSC 21003          State and Local Government

PLSC 34543          Arkansas Politics and Government

27 hours of HIST and PLSC courses, with a minimum of 9 hours in each discipline; at least 15 hours must be at the 30000 or 40000 level

## **University of Arkansas Pine Bluff**

### **Curriculum Revision**

Bachelor of Science in Nursing in Nursing (CIP 51.3801; DC 2941; 124\* credit hours) changed to Bachelor of Science in Nursing in Nursing (CIP 51.3801; DC 2941; 121-123 credit hours; Spring 2024)

*\*Original credit-hour total listed incorrectly on Approved Programs List*

### **Deleted Courses**

3 credit-hour Humanities elective

PSYC 2300          General Psychology

ENGL 2300          English Literature

### **Added Courses**

BIOL 1455          Principles of Biology

BIOL 2302          Pathophysiology



**New Certificate**

Certificate of Proficiency in Agriculture Regulations (CIP 01.0101; DC 3482; 12 credit hours; Fall 2024)

- AGRI 4307 Post Harvest
- AGRI 4331 Risk Communication and Assessment
- AGRI 2301 Agricultural Cooperatives
- TECH 3370 Occupational & Environmental Health

Certificate of Proficiency in Construction Management (CIP 52.2001; DC 1316; 12 credit hours; Fall 2024)

- TECH 1201 Industrial Safety Management
- TECH 1302 Engineering Graphics
- TECH 1320 Materials, Construction, Procedures, and Practices
- TECH 2100 Co-op Seminar
- TECH 2315 Site Planning and Layout

Certificate of Proficiency in Data Science (CIP 30.7001; DC 1596; 12 credit hours; Fall 2024)

- DASC 1301 Data Science I*
- DASC 2301 Data Science II*
- CPSC 3347 Data Analytics
- CPSC 4394 Database Management

*Italics = New Courses*

Certificate of Proficiency in Food Production & Safety (CIP 19.0501; DC 1321; 16 credit hours; Fall 2024)

- HUSC 1200 Applied Food Service Sanitation
- HUSC 1412 Food Principles and Management
- HUSC 2433 Quantity Food Production and Management
- HUSC 3311 Food Service Systems Management
- HUSC 3370 Food Law and Regulation

Graduate Certificate in Computer Science (CIP 11.0701; DC 6925; 12 credit hours; Fall 2024)

- GCST 5344 Networking/Security
  - GCST 5345 Programming Concepts
  - GCST 5331 Software Engineering
- Complete one of the following:
- GCST 5322 Advanced Robotics OR
  - GCST 5394 Advanced Database Systems

Technical Certificate in Data Science (CIP 30.7001; DC 2455; 21 credit hours; Fall 2024)

- DASC 1301 Data Science I*
- DASC 2301 Data Science II*
- CPSC 3347 Data Analytics

CPSC 4394 Database Management  
 CPSC 3345 Artificial Intelligence  
 CPSC 3362 Special Topics/ Java  
 Choose one course from the following Math Electives  
 MATH 3311 Linear Algebra OR  
 MATH 3320 Probability & Statistics I  
*Italics = New Courses*

Technical Certificate in Life Sciences (CIP 26.0101; DC 2465; 25-26 credit hours; Fall 2024)

BIOL 1455 Principles of Biology  
 BIOL 3480 Cellular Biology  
 BIOL 2451 Human A & P I  
 BIOL 2452 Human A & P II  
 BIOL 4355 Special Topics  
 Choose two courses from the following:  
 BIOL 3470 Microbiology  
 BIOL 3390 Pharmacology  
 BIOL 4380 Immunology

### **New Option, Concentration, Emphasis, or Minor**

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration: Entrepreneurship concentration (CIP 52.0201; DC 2320; 120 credit hours; Fall 2024)

BAS 1210 Personal and Social Development  
 BAS 1120 Career and Life Planning  
 MATH 1330 College Algebra  
 BIOL 1350/1150 Biological Science & Lab  
 CHEM 1310/1111 Principles of Chemistry & Lab  
 ECON 3311 Business Statistics  
 ECON 3312 Statistics for Decision Making  
 Humanities – 6 credit hours from ART 2340, MUSI 2330, HUMN 2301, HUMN 2340, or THTR 2324  
 ECON 2311 Principles of Macroeconomics  
 ECON 2321 Principles of Microeconomics  
 History – 3 credit hours from HIST 3300, HIST 2315, HIST 2318, or PSCI 2312  
 HUSC 1311 Nutrition and Wellness OR  
 HLPE 1310 Personal Health & Safety  
 HLPE 11XX Physical Education  
 ENGL 1311 English Composition I  
 ENGL 1321 English Composition II  
 SPCH 2390 Oral Communication  
 Literature – 3 credit hours from ENGL 2300, ENGL 2360, or ENGL 2361  
 General Electives – 7 credit hours  
 ACCT 2312 Principles of Financial Accounting  
 ACCT 2324 Principles of Managerial Accounting  
 BADM 3314 Business Law I

FINA 2321	Business Math
FINA 3310	Principles of Finance
MGMT 2200	Business Ethics
MGMT 3300	Principles of Management
MGMT 4350	Business Strategies & Policies
MKTG 3300	Principles of Marketing
MIS 1312	Microcomputer Applications
MIS 3350	Management Information Systems
BUED 3301	Business Communication
<i>ENTR 3301</i>	<i>Introduction to Entrepreneurship</i>
<i>ENTR 4301</i>	<i>Entrepreneurial Marketing</i>
<i>ENTR 3417</i>	<i>Business Consulting OR</i>
<i>ENTR 4201</i>	<i>Entrepreneurial Leadership</i>
<i>ENTR 3304</i>	<i>Social Entrepreneurship</i>
MGMT 4340	Small Business Entrepreneurship
FINA 4310	Managerial Finance
Business Electives – 9 credit hours	
<i>Italics = New Courses</i>	

Minor in Entrepreneurship (CIP 52.0201; 18 credit hours; Fall 2024)

ECON 2321	Principles of Microeconomics
ACCT 2312	Principles of Financial Accounting
<i>ENTR 3301</i>	<i>Introduction to Entrepreneurship</i>
MKTG 3300	Principles of Marketing
Choose 6 credit hours from the following:	
<i>ENTR 4301</i>	<i>Entrepreneurial Marketing</i>
<i>ENTR 3417</i>	<i>Business Consulting</i>
<i>ENTR 4201</i>	<i>Entrepreneurial Leadership</i>
<i>ENTR 3304</i>	<i>Social Entrepreneurship</i>
MGMT 4340	Small Business Entrepreneurship
FINA 4310	Managerial Finance
MGMT 4350	Business Strategies & Policies
<i>Italics = New Courses</i>	

## **University of Central Arkansas**

### **Articulation Agreement**

Associate of Applied Science in Nursing from Baptist Health College Little Rock to Bachelor of Science in Nursing in Nursing (CIP 51.3801; DC 4240; 120 credit hours) effective March 26, 2024.

Note: UCA/BHCLR Articulation Agreement on file at ADHE.

### **Curriculum Revision, CIP Change of Existing Program, and Title Change of Existing Program**

Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences (CIP 51.9999; DC 2715; 120 credit hours) changed to Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Administration (CIP 51.0701; DC 2715; 120 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Lower-Division UCA Core – 38 credit hoursMajor Requirements – 31 credit hours

HLTH 3123	Medical Terminology
HLTH 3301	The Health Promotion Profession
HLTH 3320	Epidemiological Research
HLTH 3325	Disease Management
HLTH 4301	Health Promotion in the Medical Care Setting
HLTH 4312	Drug Education
HLTH 4343	Health Strategies for Multicultural Populations
HLTH 4370	Administration of Health Programs
HLTH 4391	Leadership in Health Sciences
HLTH 4600	Health Promotion Internship

Related Requirements – 19-23 credit hours

BIOL 2405	Anatomy and Physiology OR
BIOL 3406	Structure & Function I
BIOL 3407	Structure & Function II
CISA 1300	Business Computing
ACCT 2309	Principles of Managerial Accounting
ACCT 2310	Principles of Financial Accounting
MGMT 2341	Basic Management
MKTG 2350	Basic Marketing

Introductory Statistics course (choose one) – 3 credit hours

CISA 2330	Business Statistics
GEOG 2330	Quantitative Methods in Geography
MATH 2311	Elementary Statistics
PSCI 2312	Statistical Methods for Political Analysis
PSYC 2330	Psychological Statistics
SOC 2321	Social Statistics

Choose one option from the following:Health Pre-Professional Option – 28 credit hours

Complete a pre-professional program in Pre-Dentistry, Pre-Medicine, Pre-Occupational Therapy, Pre-Optometry, Pre-Pharmacy, Pre-Physical Therapy, or Pre-Physician Assistant

Business Minor Option – 18-24 credit hours

Complete a minor in Accounting, Actuarial Studies, Computer Information Systems, Data Analytics, Economics, Financial Services, General Business, Human Resource Management, Innovation & Entrepreneurship, Insurance & Risk Management, Logistics & Supply Chain Management, Marketing, or Management

General Electives – 4-14 credit hours

**Deletion of Option, Concentration, Emphasis, or Minor**

Master of Science in Education in Advanced Studies in Teacher Leadership: Teacher Leadership emphasis (CIP 13.0101; DC 6750; 30 credit hours; 75% online)

Master of Science in Education in Advanced Studies in Teacher Leadership: Early Childhood emphasis (CIP 13.0101; DC 6750; 30 credit hours; 75% online)

Master of Science in Education in Advanced Studies in Teacher Leadership: Elementary Mathematics Specialist emphasis (CIP 13.0101; DC 6750; 30 credit hours; 75% online)

Master of Science in Education in Advanced Studies in Teacher Leadership: Writing Pedagogy emphasis (CIP 13.0101; DC 6750; 30 credit hours; 75% online)

Master of Science in Education in Advanced Studies in Teacher Leadership: Career Orientation emphasis (CIP 13.0101; DC 6750; 30 credit hours; 75% online)

Master of Science in Education in Advanced Studies in Teacher Leadership: Digital Age Teaching and Learning emphasis (CIP 13.0101; DC 6750; 30 credit hours; 75% online)

Minor in German (CIP 16.0501; 18 credit hours; Fall 2024)

### **New Certificate**

Graduate Certificate in Sport Marketing and Commerce (CIP 31.0504; DC 6935; 12 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

EXSS 5327	Sport Consumer Behavior
EXSS 5337	Sport Event and Facility Management
EXSS 5347	Social Media in Sport Marketing
EXSS 5357	Sales Strategies in Sport Organizations

### **New Option, Concentration, Emphasis, or Minor**

Master of Science in Education in Advanced Studies in Teacher Leadership: Online Teaching Endorsement emphasis (CIP 13.0101; DC 6750; 30 credit hours; 75% online)

#### Core Curriculum – 15 credit hours

ASTL 6302	Models of Teaching
ASTL 6303	Teacher Leadership
ASTL 6305	Classroom Assessment
ASTL 6315	Investigation of Learning & Development Through Multiple Contexts
ASTL 6380	Research Methods

#### Online Teaching Endorsement – 15 credit hours

ITEC 6371	Universal Design for Learning
ITEC 6372	Online Education Course Design, Delivery, Implementation, and Evaluation
ITEC 6373	Online Teaching and Instructional Strategies
ITEC 6380	Supporting Student Success in Online Teaching
ITEC 6341	Design and Production of Media Resources for Online Courses

Master of Arts in Sport Management: Sport Marketing and Commerce option (CIP 31.0504; DC 7710; 30-42 credit hours; 100%\* online; Fall 2024)

*\*Percent online listed incorrectly on Approved Programs List*

EXSS 5305	Sport Management Introduction and Governance
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EXSS 5315	Leadership in Sport Management
EXSS 5325	Financial Principles in Sport Management
EXSS 5327	Sport Consumer Behavior
EXSS 5335	Sport Marketing Principles and Strategy
EXSS 5337	Sport Event and Facility Management
EXSS 5345	Sport Public Relations, Communication, and Crisis Management
EXSS 5347	Social Media in Sport Marketing
EXSS 5357	Sales Strategies in Sport Organizations
EXSS 6316	Data Analysis
EXSS 6305	Sport Organization Communication
EXSS 6325	Sport Law Aspects
EXSS 6605	Sport Management Capstone Course: Business Simulation

Master of Science in Exercise Science: Sport Marketing and Commerce (CIP 31.0505; DC 6305; 30-36 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Thesis Option – 36 credit hours

EXSS 5327	Sport Consumer Behavior
EXSS 5337	Sport Event and Facility Management
EXSS 5347	Social Media in Sport Marketing
EXSS 5357	Sales Strategies in Sport Organizations
EXSS 6310	Motor Learning
EXSS 6315	Research Methods in Exercise and Sport Science
EXSS 6316	Data Analysis
EXSS 6333	Evaluation of Cardiorespiratory Adaptation
EXSS 6336	Analysis of Human Movement
EXSS 6337	Evaluation of Neuromuscular Adaptation
EXSS 6V01	Thesis Research (6 credit hours)

Non-Thesis Option – 36 credit hours

EXSS 5327	Sport Consumer Behavior
EXSS 5337	Sport Event and Facility Management
EXSS 5347	Social Media in Sport Marketing
EXSS 5357	Sales Strategies in Sport Organizations
EXSS 6310	Motor Learning
EXSS 6315	Research Methods in Exercise and Sport Science
EXSS 6316	Data Analysis
EXSS 6333	Evaluation of Cardiorespiratory Adaptation
EXSS 6336	Analysis of Human Movement
EXSS 6337	Evaluation of Neuromuscular Adaptation

Choose 6 credit hours from the following:

EXSS 5V71	Special Topics in Exercise and Sport Science
EXSS 5331	Care and Prevention of Exercise and Sports Injuries
EXSS 5332	Critical Analysis of Research
EXSS 5352	Exercise Prescription for Special Populations
EXSS 5376	Advanced Strength and Conditioning
EXSS 6300	Independent Study in Exercise and Sport Science
EXSS 6320	Organization and Development of School and Community

	Recreation Programs
EXSS 6330	Foundations of Exercise and Sport Science
EXSS 6334	Contemporary Coaching Problems
EXSS 6360	Measurement in Exercise and Sport Science
EXSS 6370	Athletic Administration
HLTH 5370	Administration of Health Programs (formerly H ED 5370)
NUTR 5375	Nutrition in Exercise and Sports
NUTR 6330	Metabolic Nutrition

### **Program Reconfiguration**

Bachelor of Business Administration in General Business (CIP 52.0101; DC 1920; 120 credit hours; 90% online) reconfigured to create the Associate of Business Administration in General Business (CIP 52.0101; DC 0308; 60 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

Business Foundation – 30 credit hours

CISA 1300	Business Computing
ACCT 2310	Principles of Accounting I
ACCT 2311	Principles of Accounting II
ACCT 2321	Legal Environment of Business
ECON 2310	Global Environment of Business
ECON 2320	Principles of Macroeconomics
ECON 2321	Principles of Microeconomics
CISA 2330	Business Statistics
MGMT 2301	Business Communications
MATH 1395	Business Mathematics

Remaining Lower-Division UCA Core – 26 credit hours

General Electives – 4 credit hours

First-time, first-year students are required to take BUAD 1300 Introduction to Business instead of three (3) hours of general electives.

### **Title Change of Existing Option, Concentration, Emphasis, or Minor**

Minor in African/African American Studies (CIP 05.0201; 18 credit hours) changed to Minor in Africana Studies (CIP 05.0201; 15 credit hours; Fall 2024)

### **Title Change of Existing Organizational Unit**

College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics (Department Code 2750) changed to College of Science and Engineering (Department Code 2750; Fall 2024)

Department of Physics and Astronomy (Department Code 2020) changed to Department of Physics, Astronomy, and Engineering (Department Code 2020; Fall 2024)

**ARKANSAS PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS  
LETTERS OF INTENT**

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The following notifications were received through July 1, 2024.

**Black River Technical College**

New Off-Campus Instruction Center – Riverside High School  
2007 Highway 18  
Lake City, AR 72437

**Northwest Arkansas Community College**

New Program – Associate of Applied Science in Medical Laboratory Technician



**OUT-OF-STATE AND ARKANSAS PRIVATE  
INSTITUTIONS  
LETTERS OF NOTIFICATION**

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**Institutional Changes**

Jefferson Regional School of Nursing, Pine Bluff, Arkansas

Changing locations from 1600 West 40<sup>th</sup>, Pine Bluff to 4747 Dusty Lake Drive, Pine Bluff

**Decertifications**

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California

Master of Science in Food Industry Leadership

**Letter of Exemption from Certification – Church-Related Training**

Regent College, Vancouver, BC, Canada

Offering programs by distance technology

Graduate Diploma of Christian Studies

Master of Arts in Christian Studies

Master of Arts in Theological Studies

Master of Divinity

Master of Arts in Leadership, Theology & Society

Master of Theology

**Program Changes/Additions**

DeVry University, Lisle, Illinois

Master of Accounting and Financial Management

Deleted Course

FIN 510 Corporate Finance

Added Course

FIN 515 Managerial Finance

Certified Public Accountant Exam Preparation Emphasis

Deleted Courses

ACCT 503 Financial Accounting: Managerial Use and Analysis

ACCT 505 Managerial Accounting

FIN 510 Corporate Finance

Added Courses

Choose three of the following:

ACCT 525 Current Issues in Accounting

ACCT 530 Accounting Ethics and Related Regulatory Issues

ACCT 540 Professional Research for Accountants

ACCT 560 Advanced Studies in Federal Taxes and Management Decisions

ACCT 563 Advanced Managerial Accounting Issues

ACCT 564 International Accounting and Multinational Enterprises

ACCT 567 Government and Not for Profit Accounting

ACCT 568 Analytics for Accountants  
ACCT 571 Accounting Information Systems  
ACCT 573 Accounting Fraud Criminology and Ethics  
MGMT 550 Managerial Communications

Graduate Certificate in Information Security  
Title changed to Graduate Certificate in Cybersecurity and Information Assurance

Deleted Courses

NETW 583 Strategic Management of Technology  
SEC 591 Disaster Recovery/Forensics and Security  
SEC 592 IT Governance

Added Courses

SEC 585 Data Privacy and Security  
SEC 586 Cybersecurity Planning and Incident Response  
SEC 587 Governance, Regulation and Compliance

Pepperdine University, Malibu, California

Master of Dispute Resolution

Added Courses

One Arbitration Course Added to the Core Courses

Master of Legal Studies

Courses Added to Core

LAW 5110 Contracts

LAW 5111 Torts

Courses Added to Electives

LAW 5115 Civil Procedure and Litigation

LAW 5114 Constitutional Law (Structures and Rights)

LAW 5116 Criminal Law and Procedure

LAW 5112 Negotiation Theory and Practice

LAW 5113 Property

Master of Legal Studies

Courses Added to Electives

LAW 5115 Civil Procedure and Litigation

LAW 5114 Constitutional Law (Structures and Rights)

LAW 5116 Criminal Law and Procedure

LAW 5112 Negotiation Theory and Practice

LAW 5113 Property

Master of Legal Studies and Master of Dispute Resolution Dual Degree

Courses Added to Electives for Master of Legal Studies

LAW 5115 Civil Procedure and Litigation

LAW 5114 Constitutional Law (Structures and Rights)

LAW 5116 Criminal Law and Procedure

LAW 5113 Property

Course Added to Electives for Master of Dispute Resolution

LAW 5402 Arbitration Theory and Practice

Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis

Deleted Courses

PSY 617 Assessment Procedures for ABA

PSY 620 Practicum in ABA

PSY 636 Behavioral Interventions

PSY 619 Autism Spectrum Disorder

PSY 631 Multiculturalism and Diversity in ABA

PSY 630 Preparation for Practicum in ABA

University of St. Augustine

Doctor of Physical Therapy program is now offered as a hybrid immersion program; students will have more required clinical experiences in this option.

Master of Occupational Therapy program is decreasing the total number of credit hours from 93 to 82 in order to align the program with Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy standards.

Doctor of Occupational Therapy program is decreasing the total number of credit hours from 117 to 96 in order to align the program with Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy standards.

Walden University, Minneapolis, Minnesota

BS Human Services

New Option

Accelerate into Master's Program

Students take 181 Quarter Credit Hours, which includes some graduate-level courses, allowing the student to take courses leading to the master' degree at the cost of undergraduate courses.

Doctor of Nursing Practice

Deleted Courses

NURS 8201 Research for Evidence Based Practice

NURS 8302 Leading Organizations for Quality Improvement Initiatives

NURS 8702 DNP Project Mentoring

NURS 8502 Evidence-Based Practice I

NURS 8503 Evidence-Based Practice II

NURS 8702 DNP Project Mentoring

NURS 8703 DNP Project Completion

Added Courses

NURS 8211 Data Collection and Analysis for Evidence-Based Practice

NURS 8312 Leading Quality Improvement Practice Initiatives

NURS 8512 DNP Project and Practicum I

NURS 8513 DNP Project and Practicum II

NURS 8514 Executive Leadership DNP Project and Practicum I

NURS 8515 Executive Leadership DNP Project and Practicum II

PhD in Counselor Education and Supervision

Deleted Courses

COUN 8001 Foundations of Graduate Study in Counselor Education and Supervision

COUN 8110 Professional Orientation, Ethics, and Identity

COUN 8115 Advanced Counseling Theories

COUN 8135 Clinical Supervision

RSCH 8460 Advanced Mixed-Methods Reasoning and Analysis

COUN 8551 Preparing for Dissertation

Added Courses

COUN 8050 Seminar: Leadership, Ethics, and Social Justice

COUN 8501 Doc Companion 1: Introduction to Your Dissertation Journey

COUN 8502 Doc Companion 2: Building Knowledge and Skills for Your Dissertation

COUN 8503 Doc Companion 3: Establishing Research Questions and Framework for  
Your Dissertation

COUN 8504 Doc Companion 4: Developing Methods and Maintaining Alignment on  
Your Dissertation

COUN 8051 Seminar: Scholar Practitioner and Professional Identity

COUN 8505 Doc Companion 5: Transition to Doctoral Candidacy

New Specialization

Telehealth Counseling, Private Practice and Supervision

COUN 8133 Distance Based Counseling

COUN 8134 The Private Practitioner

PhD in Forensic Psychology

Deleted Courses

FPSY 8102 Intersection of Crime, Psychology, and the Law

FPSY 8910 Legal Issues and Social Change in Forensic Psychology

FPSY 8116 Understanding Forensic Psychology Research

FPSY 8412 Research Foundations

FPSY 8762 Teaching of Psychology

Added Courses

FPSY 8991 Dissertation Companion Course 1 – Welcome to the Dissertation Journey

RSCH 8110F Research Theory, Design and Methods

FPSY 8992 Dissertation Companion Course 2 – Building Knowledge and Skills

FPSY 8316 Interviewing in Psycholegal Settings

FPSY 8993 Dissertation Companion Course 3 – Establishing Research Questions and  
Framework

FPSY 8994 Dissertation Companion Course 4 – Developing Methods and Maintaining  
Alignment

FPSY 8995 Dissertation Companion Course 5 - Transition to Doctoral Candidacy

FPSY 8207 Advanced Threat Assessment and Management

FPSY 8209 Advanced Issues in Law Enforcement Psychology

FPSY 8210 Advanced Victim Issues

Graduate Certificate in Adult Learning  
Change from 12 Semester Credit Hours to 20 Quarter Credit Hours

Graduate Certificate in Business Management  
Change from 12 Semester Credit Hours to 20 Quarter Credit Hours

Graduate Certificate in College Teaching and Learning  
Change from 12 Semester Credit Hours to 20 Quarter Credit Hours

Graduate Certificate in Higher Education Leadership for Student Success  
Change from 12 Semester Credit Hours to 20 Quarter Credit Hours

Graduate Certificate in Human Resource  
Change from 12 Semester Credit Hours to 20 Quarter Credit Hours

Master of Business Administration  
Change from 30 Semester Credit Hours to 50 Quarter Credit Hours

Master of Science in Early Childhood Studies  
Change from 36 Semester Credit Hours to 60 Quarter Credit Hours

Master of Science in Higher Education  
Change from 33 Semester Credit Hours to 45 Quarter Credit Hours

Master of Science in Human Resource Management  
Change from 30 Semester Credit Hours to 50 Quarter Credit Hours

**OUT-OF-STATE AND ARKANSAS PRIVATE  
INSTITUTIONS  
LETTERS OF INTENT**

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The following notifications were received through July 1, 2024

Academy of Art University, San Francisco, California

Recertification – Distance Technology  
Associate of Arts in Fashion Marketing  
Associate of Arts in Fashion Merchandising  
Associate of Arts in Fashion Styling  
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Fashion Communication & Styling (Formerly Fashion Styling)  
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Fashion Marketing  
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Fashion Merchandising  
Master of Arts in Fashion Marketing  
Master of Arts in Fashion Merchandising  
Master of Fine Arts in Fashion Marketing and Brand Management

American Musical and Dramatic Academy College of the Performing Arts, Los Angeles,  
California

Initial Certification – Distance Technology  
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Acting  
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Music Theatre

Champion Christian College, Hot Springs, Arkansas

Recertification – Hot Springs Campus  
Associate of Arts in Professional Studies  
Bachelor of Science in Professional Studies

The Chicago School, Los Angeles, California

Initial Certification – Distance Technology  
Certificate in Clinical Rotations for Clinical Psychopharmacology  
Certificate in Forensic Psychology  
Bachelor of Arts in Criminology  
Bachelor of Science in Business Psychology  
Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Management  
Graduate Certificate in Applied Behavior Analysis  
Post Bachelor's Certificate in Applied Behavior Analysis  
Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling  
Doctor of Philosophy in Counselor Education Supervision  
Doctor of Psychology in Clinical Psychology

DeVry University, Lisle, Illinois

Initial Certification – Distance Technology  
Graduate Certificate in Leadership

Agenda Item No. 12

Recertification - Distance Technology  
Undergraduate Certificate in Business Essentials  
Undergraduate Certificate in Cloud Computing  
Undergraduate Certificate in Cyber Security  
Undergraduate Certificate in Data Mining and Analytics  
Undergraduate Certificate in IT Essentials  
Undergraduate Certificate in Internet of Things  
Undergraduate Certificate in Networking Essentials  
Undergraduate Certificate in Programming Essentials  
Undergraduate Certificate in Software Design and Solutions  
Undergraduate Certificate in Web and Mobile Application  
Associate of Applied Science in Cybersecurity and Networking  
Associate of Applied Science in Electronics and Computer Technology  
Associate of Applied Science in Engineering Technology  
Associate of Applied Science in Health Information Technology  
Associate of Applied Science in Information Technology and Networking  
Bachelor of Science in Accounting  
Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering Technology  
Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Systems  
Bachelor of Science in Communications  
Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology  
Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology - Electronics  
Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology – Computers  
Bachelor of Science in Information Technology and Networking  
Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Administration  
Bachelor of Science in Justice Administration  
Bachelor of Science in Multimedia Design and Development  
Bachelor of Science in Network and Communications Management  
Bachelor of Science in Business Administration  
Bachelor of Science in Management  
Bachelor of Science in Software Development  
Bachelor of Science in Technical Management  
Graduate Certificate in Big Data and Analytics  
Graduate Certificate in CPA Preparation  
Graduate Certificate in Global Supply Chain Management  
Master of Information Systems Management  
Master of Information Technology Management  
Master of Network and Communications Management  
Master of Public Administration  
Master of Project Management  
Master of Science in Accounting

Evangel University, Springfield, Missouri  
Initial Certification – Distance Technology  
Master of Counseling

Hannibal-LaGrange University, Hannibal, Missouri  
Initial Certification – Distance Technology

Agenda Item No. 12

Bachelor of Science in Education  
Master of Science in Education

National University, San Diego, California

Initial Certification – Distance Technology

Bachelor of Arts in Integrated Studies

Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Marriage and Family Therapy, Systemic Treatment of Addictions

Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Marriage and Family Therapy, Systemic Sex Therapy

Post-Master's Certificate in Psychology, Industrial/Organizational Psychology

Pepperdine University, Malibu, California

Initial Certification – Distance Technology

Master of Science in Applied Analytics

Master of Science in Education

Recertification – Distance Technology

Master of Arts in Psychology

Master of Business Administration

Master of Dispute Resolution

Master of Legal Studies

Master of Science in Human Resources

Master of Science in Management and Leadership

Reach University, Oakland, California

Initial Certification – Distance Technology

Master of Education in Instructional Leadership

Master of Education in Teaching

Southern California University of Health Sciences

Initial Certification – Distance Technology

Doctor of Occupational Therapy

Southwestern Law School, Los Angeles, California

Initial Certification – Distance Technology

Online Juris Doctor

Strayer University, Washington, D.C.

Recertification – Little Rock Campus

Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice

Bachelor of Business Administration

Master of Science in Human Resource Management

Bachelor of Science in Information Systems

Master of Science in Information Systems

Master of Science in Management

University of California, Davis

Initial Certification – Distance Technology

Master of Management



Agenda Item No. 12

Recertification – Distance Technology  
Master of Business Administration

University of California, Irvine, Irvine, California

Initial Certification – Distance Technology  
Master of Advanced Study in Criminology, Law, and Society  
Master of Business Administration  
Master of Human Computer Interaction and Design  
Master of Legal and Forensic Psychology  
Master of Science in Pharmacology  
Doctor of Nursing Practice

University of Massachusetts Global, Irvine, California

Recertification – Distance Technology  
Associate of Arts in General Education  
Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration  
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Studies  
Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Leadership  
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology  
Master of Arts in Organizational Leadership  
Master of Business Administration

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California

Initial Certification – Distance Technology  
Graduate Certificate in Advanced Clinical Social Work Practice  
Graduate Certificate in Aging and Health  
Graduate Certificate in Big Data Fundamentals  
Graduate Certificate in Ending Homelessness  
Graduate Certificate in Food Safety  
Graduate Certificate in Law and Government  
Graduate Certificate in Learning Design and Technology  
Graduate Certificate in Social Work Practice in Addiction  
Graduate Certificate in Technology and Entrepreneurship  
Graduate Certificate in Telebehavioral Health Practice  
Graduate Certificate in Trauma Informed Practices in Educational Settings  
Graduate Certificate in Visual Social Work  
Master of Education in Postsecondary Administration and Student Affairs  
Master of Science in Analytics  
Master of Social Work: Advanced Standing  
Recertification – Distance Technology  
Graduate Certificate in Business Law  
Graduate Certificate in Compliance  
Graduate Certificate in Entertainment Law & Industry  
Graduate Certificate in Financial Compliance  
Graduate Certificate in Geographic Information Science and Technology  
Graduate Certificate in Geospatial Intelligence  
Graduate Certificate in Health Care Compliance  
Graduate Certificate in Human Resources Law and Compliance

## Agenda Item No. 12

Graduate Certificate in Orofacial Pain  
Master of Arts in Teaching  
Master of Communication Management  
Master of Education in Learning Design and Technology  
Master of Education in School Counseling  
Executive Master of Health Administration  
Master of Management in Library and Information Science  
Master of Public Administration  
Master of Science in Orofacial Pain and Oral Medicine  
Master of Science Geriatric Dentistry  
Master of Science in Pain Medicine  
Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership  
Doctor of Education in Organizational Change and Leadership  
Doctor of Social Work

### University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences, San Marcos, California

Initial Certification – Distance Technology  
RN to Master of Science in Nursing – Tracks in Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner,  
Family Nurse Practitioner, and Psychiatric Mental health Nurse Practitioner  
Recertification – Distance Technology  
Master of Health Administration  
Master of Health Science  
Master of Occupational Therapy  
Master of Science in Nursing, Specializations in Nurse Educator, Nurse Executive, and  
Family Nurse Practitioner  
Doctor of Education  
Doctor of Occupational Therapy  
Doctor of Physical Therapy

### Walden University, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Initial Certification – Distance Technology  
Graduate Certificate in Applied Behavior Analysis  
Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis  
Master of Science in Clinical Mental Health Counseling and Master of Science in School  
Counseling – Dual Degree  
Master of Science in School Counseling  
Recertification – Distance Technology  
Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education  
Bachelor of Science in Health Studies  
Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Management  
Bachelor of Science in Human Services  
Bachelor of Social Work  
Doctor of Healthcare Administration  
Doctor of Nursing Practice  
Doctor of Philosophy in Counselor Education and Supervision  
Doctor of Philosophy in Criminal Justice  
Doctor of Public Health  
Doctor of Social Work

Agenda Item No. 12

Master of Science in Criminal Justice  
Master of Science in Developmental Psychology  
Master of Science in Early Childhood Studies  
Master of Science in Higher Education  
Master of Science in Human Resource Management  
Master of Science in Human Services  
Master of Science in Information Technology  
Master of Science in Marriage, Couple, and Family Counseling  
Master of Social Work

Webster University, Webster Groves, Missouri

Recertification – Little Rock Air Force Base  
Master of Arts in Human Resources Development  
Master of Arts in Information Technology Management  
Master of Arts in Management and Leadership  
Master of Business Administration  
Master of Public Administration

Westcliff University, Irvine, California

Initial Certification – Distance Technology  
Bachelor of Arts in Education  
Bachelor of Business Administration  
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science  
Bachelor of Science in Information Technology  
Master of Business Administration  
Master of Science in Computer Science  
Master of Science in Engineering Management  
Master of Science in Information Technology  
Doctor of Business Administration  
Doctorate of Education - Leadership, Curriculum, and Instruction

**ARKANSAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD**  
**Regular Quarterly Meeting**  
**April 26, 2024**

**Minutes of Meeting**

The April 26, 2024, regular meeting of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) was held at North Arkansas College in Harrison. Chair Graycen Bigger called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., with a quorum present.

Coordinating Board present:

Graycen Bigger, Chair  
Dr. Jerry Cash, Vice Chair  
Dr. Kyle Miller, Secretary (via zoom)  
Dr. Katherine Dudley  
Heather Maxey  
Lucas Pointer  
Carolyn Rhinehart

Coordinating Board absent:

Chad Hooten  
Dr. Jim Carr

Presidents, chancellors, institutional representatives, members of the press, ADHE staff and guests were also present.

Chair Bigger began by announcing that AHECB Member Kelley Erstine had been appointed to the University of Central Arkansas Board of Trustees and would no longer serve on the Coordinating Board.

calling on President Rick Massengale for a welcome. Dr. Massengale began by welcoming Coordinating Board members to North Arkansas College (NAC) and shared information about their institution.

Agenda Item No. 1  
Distribution of Mineral Lease Funds

Nick Fuller presented the Distribution of Mineral Lease Funds. According to the provisions of A.C.A. §6-61-801 through §6-61-808, there is established the Arkansas Research Development Program for providing Arkansas Research Development Program Grants to publicly-supported universities in Arkansas by the Division of Higher Education. Act 870 of 2023 provides that after the sum of \$13,200,000 has been deposited into the Higher Education Building Maintenance Fund, any additional deposits are to be transferred to the Research Development Fund to be used as provided by law.

**RESOLVED**, That after review by the Legislative Council, the Director of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education is authorized to distribute up to \$475,000 from the Higher Education Research Development Fund to the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville for

continuing personal services and operating expenses related to ARE-ON.

There were no questions.

Heather Maxey moved to recommend Agenda Item No. 1 to the full Board for consideration. Dr. Kyle Miller seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 2  
Economic Feasibility of Bond Issue  
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

The University of Arkansas, Fayetteville (UAF) requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to issue bonds not to exceed \$34.175 million with a maximum term of thirty (30) years at an annual interest rate of approximately 5.50 percent. Proceeds from the bond issue will be used for educational and general (E&G) purposes. The University of Arkansas Board of Trustees approved this financing at its meeting on March 12-13, 2024.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board considers economically feasible plans for the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville issue bonds not to exceed \$34.175 million with a term not to exceed thirty (30) years at an annual interest rate of approximately 5.50 percent as requested by the institution for various E&G projects.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education is authorized to notify the President and the Chair of the Board of Trustees of University of Arkansas System and the Chancellor of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville of the Coordinating Board's resolution.

Chair Bigger asked if the 5.5 percent interest rate is fixed over thirty years. Nick Fuller said it will depend on what the final rate from the bank is. He noted that ADHE staff will report the actual interest rate yearly to the Coordinating Board.

Bigger asked if UAF would raise tuition and fees in the future to cover this bond. Fuller said they will not. The feasibility was based on current revenue projections, said Fuller.

Heather Maxey moved to recommend Agenda Item No. 2 to the full Board for consideration. Dr. Kyle Miller seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 3

Economic Feasibility of Bond Issue  
University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton

The University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton (UACCM) requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to issue bonds not to exceed \$12 million with a maximum term of thirty-two (32) years at an annual interest rate of approximately 5.50 percent. Proceeds from the bond issue will be used for educational and general (E&G) purposes. The University of Arkansas Board of Trustees approved this financing at its meeting on March 12-13, 2024.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board considers economically feasible plans for the University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton to issue bonds not to exceed \$12 million with a term not to exceed thirty-two (32) years at an annual interest rate of approximately 5.50 percent as requested by the institution for various E&G projects.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education is authorized to notify the President and the Chair of the Board of Trustees of University of Arkansas System and the Chancellor of the University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton of the Coordinating Board's resolution.

Dr. Jerry Cashed questioned the negative operational margin for 2022-23 and asked what the operational margin for 2023-24 would look like.

Chancellor Lisa Willenberg and Vice Chancellor for Finance Jeff Mullen said UACCM is tracking even this year. If everything stays on track for the summer, we expect the operational margin to be even, said Mullen.

Heather Maxey moved to recommend Agenda Item No. 3 to the full Board for consideration. Dr. Kyle Miller seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 4  
Economic Feasibility of Bond Issue  
Arkansas Tech University

Arkansas Tech University (ATU) requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to issue bonds not to exceed \$10.4 million with a maximum term of fifteen (15) years at an annual interest rate of approximately 7.0 percent. Proceeds from the bond issue will be used for educational and general (E&G) purposes and auxiliary renovations supported by tuition and fee revenue. The Arkansas Tech University Board of Trustees approved this financing at its meeting on December 14, 2023.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board considers economically feasible plans for Arkansas Tech University issue bonds not to exceed \$10.4 million with a term not to exceed fifteen (15) years at an annual interest rate of approximately 7.0 percent as requested by the institution for various E&G projects and auxiliary renovations.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education is authorized to notify the President and the Chair of the Board of Trustees of Arkansas Tech University of the Coordinating Board's resolution.

There were no questions.

Heather Maxey moved to recommend Agenda Item No. 4 to the full Board for consideration. Dr. Kyle Miller seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 5  
Economic Feasibility of Bond Issue  
Arkansas Tech University

Nick Fuller announced that Agenda Items 4 and 5 were combined into Agenda Item 4.

Agenda Item No. 6  
Associate of Applied Science in Radiologic Technology  
Arkansas State University Newport

The proposed 65 credit-hour, 5 semester program in Radiologic Technology will prepare students for the American Registry of Radiologic Technology (ARRT) Certification exam by educating students on the operation of imaging or radiation therapy equipment and the preparation of patients for these imaging studies. Students completing this program will earn the Associate of Applied Science in Radiologic Technology, as well as the existing Certificate of Proficiency and Technical Certificate in Pre-Health Professions. Potential earnings of graduates within the area surrounding ASUN are approximately \$52,000 per year.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the offering of the Associate of Applied Science in Radiologic Technology (CIP 51.0911), at Arkansas State University Newport, effective Fall 2024.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education to inform the Chancellor of Arkansas State University Newport and Chair of the Board of Trustees of Arkansas State University System of the approval.

Dr. Typhanie Myers, Provost/Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, provided additional information.

Dr. Katie Dudley asked if the clinical spaces are exclusive to the ASUN students. Angie Smith, Director of Nursing Workforce and Innovation for St. Bernards Healthcare, said their clinical slots are not exclusive to any school. She explained that St. Bernards is a 437-bed facility serving 26 counties in Northeast Arkansas.

Chair Bigger asked if the clinical students would be placed would be placed primarily through St. Bernards. Dr. Myers said they are looking at St. Bernards Healthcare, Black River Health Systems and Unity Health in Searcy.

Carolyn Rhinehart moved to recommend Agenda Item No. 6 to the full Board for consideration. Dr. Katie Dudley seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 7  
Associate of Applied Science in Nursing  
University of Arkansas at Fort Smith

The proposed 65 credit-hour program consists of 15 credit hours of general education, a 30 credit-hour nursing core, and 20 additional credit hours of courses that can serve as pre-requisites or co-requisites. The program also contains a total of 450 clock hours of laboratory and/or clinical experience.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the offering of the Associate of Applied Science in Nursing (CIP 51.3801), at the University of Arkansas Fort Smith, effective Fall 2024.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education to inform the Chancellor of the University of Arkansas Fort Smith and Chair of the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System of the approval.

Dr. Shadow Robinson, Provost/Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, provided additional information.

Chair Bigger asked for additional information regarding the partnerships with Mercy Health and Baptist Health. Dr. Robinson said that Mercy Health and Baptist Health have been key members of UAFS's advisory board since its formation and said they have a symbiotic relationship.

Carolyn Rhinehart moved to recommend Agenda Item No. 7 to the full Board for consideration. Dr. Katie Dudley seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved.



Agenda Items No. 8 & 9  
Arkansas Public Institutions  
Letters of Notification and Letters of Intent

The Director of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education approved institutional requests for new programs not requiring Board action unless further review is requested by the Board. During this period, the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee received notice of requests from Arkansas public institutions to offer degree programs. The program notice lists appear in the Arkansas Public Institutions Letters of Notification on pages 8-1 through 8-28 and in the Arkansas public institutions Letters of Intent on pages 9-1 of the agenda book.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 10  
Out-of-State and Arkansas Private Institutions

**RESOLVED**, That pursuant to A.C.A. §6-61-301, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board grants initial certification to the institutions listed on pages 1 - 3 to offer the specified degree programs to Arkansas residents for a period of three years through December 31, 2027.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education is authorized to notify the administration of said institutions that the certification of the degree programs requires the institution to notify the Arkansas Division of Higher Education whenever any of the following occurs: (1) major reorganization of the controlling body; (2) changes in the charter or incorporation documents of the institution; or (3) changes in the method of operation of the institution's programs in Arkansas.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Commissioner to notify the administration of said institutions that any advertisement or published materials using the name of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board or the Arkansas Division of Higher Education must contain the following statement:

Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board certification does not constitute an endorsement of any institution or program. Such certification merely indicates that certain criteria have been met as required under the rules and regulations implementing institutional and program certification as defined in A.C.A. §6-61-301.

**Initial Program Certifications – Distance Technology**

Aspen University, Phoenix, Arizona

The Chicago School, Los Angeles, California

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California

University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences, San Marcos, California

Walden University, Minneapolis, Minnesota

**New Institution – Initial Program Certifications – Distance Technology**

University of California, Irvine, Irvine, California

**New Institution - Initial Program Certification – Campus in Arkansas**

Alice L. Walton School of Medicine, Bentonville, Arkansas

There were no questions.

Carolyn Rhinehart moved to recommend Agenda Item No. 10 to the full Board for consideration. Dr. Katie Dudley seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved.

Agenda Items No. 11 & 12  
Out-of-State and Arkansas Private Institutions  
Letters of Notification and Letters of Intent

The Director of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education approved institutional requests for new programs not requiring Board action unless further review is requested by the Board. During this period, the Institutional Certification Advisory Committee received notice of requests from out-of-state and Arkansas private institutions to offer degree programs to Arkansas residents. The program notice lists appear in the Letters of Notification on pages 11-1 through 11-6 and in the Letters of Intent on page 12-1 of the agenda book.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 13  
Approval of Minutes

Carolyn Miller moved to approve Agenda Item No. 13. Dr. Jerry Cash seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 14  
Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Warden began by thanking the Coordinating Board and ADHE staff for all they do to help move education forward in Arkansas.

*Institutional Changes*

Dr. Wade Derden has been named the new National Park College president, effective July 1, 2024. Derden is currently the executive vice president for advancement and government relations at National Park College.

*LEARNS*

The LEARNS Act requires that a Career Ready Pathway to a diploma be developed. Warden said processes and requirements are being developed to ensure they lead to high-wage, high growth careers for all graduates.

*90 Hour Bachelor's Degree Consideration*

Standard measure has a bachelor's degree at 120 credit hours, said Warden. Several schools around the country are considering implementing 90-hour bachelor's degrees. ADHE will pull together a committee to see if this is something that would work for Arkansas.

Dr. Jerry Cash what schools are currently implementing 90-hour bachelor's degrees. Mason Campbell said Brigham Young University does. Campbell said he will provide a list of all the institutions that currently implement 90-hour bachelor's degrees.

Agenda Item No. 15  
Annual Report on First-Year Student Remediation

Mason Campbell presented a summary report on the Annual Report on First-Year Student Remediation. He provided an overview of the 21,510 first-time entering, degree-seeking students who graduated high school in 2021 or 2022 and enrolled in an Arkansas public institution of higher education in AY2023. Of this population, 91% were classified as full-time students and 9% were classified as part-time students. With regards to sex, 56% were female, 44% were male, and less than 1% percent did not report. When examining the institution type, 70% of this population enrolled at a four-year institution compared to 30% enrolled at a two-year institution. Lastly, remediation status of all first-time entering students, 62% did not require remediation while 38% did require remedial coursework.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 16  
Report on Student Retention and Graduation

Sonia Hazelwood presented a summary report on the Annual Report on Student Retention and Graduation. When looking at both public sectors together The state's fall-to-fall retention rate of 74.7% for the Fall 2022 cohort had an increase of 2.1% over the Fall 2021 cohort. Both male and female cohorts for the 4-year institutions reported increases in their retention rates for the Fall 2022 cohort, while the 2-year colleges reported a 3% increase for the female cohort and a modest decline for the male cohort.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 17  
Annual Report on Retention and Graduation  
of Student-Athletes

Sonia Hazelwood presented a summary report on the Annual Report on Retention and Graduation of Student-Athletes. In Academic Year 2022-23, 4,120 students participated in athletics at ten universities and nine 2-year colleges. This is the second most student-athletes ever reported for an academic year. This is a decrease of 12 student-athletes over the 2021-22 academic year, including 751 student-athletes reported by nine 2-year colleges.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 18  
Request for ARHEG Slot Fee Increase

Arkansas Division of Higher Education administers a grant program for Arkansas students and a forgivable loan program to assist Arkansas students attending specified out-of-state health and medical professional schools. This grant program is known as the "Arkansas Health Education Grant (ARHEG) Program. In accordance with Arkansas Code 6-81-1101, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) is authorized to enter into direct contracts with selected accredited schools of dentistry, optometry, and veterinary medicine, along with podiatry, chiropractic, or osteopathy which do not participate in the program, if the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board determines that the needs of the state are not being met by institutions participating in the program. Currently, there are 13 Chiropractic slots in the ARHEG program. The Arkansas Chiropractic Physicians Association (ACPA) has requested the scholarship be increased to \$10,000 each while the 13 ARHEG slots remain the same. This is to better incentivize students into the professional program of Chiropractic care.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board, authorizes the increase of the scholarship to \$10,000 of the chiropractic slots in the Arkansas Health Education Grant (ARHEG) Program.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Commissioner of the Division of Higher Education to send a copy of this resolution to the Arkansas Chiropractic Physicians Association (ACPA).

There were no questions.

Dr. Katie Dudley moved to approve Agenda Item No. 18. Carolyn Rhinehart seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 19  
Rules Governing the Arkansas Future  
Grant Program

In compliance with Acts 413 of 2023, the rules for the Arkansas Future Grant Program were presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) for initial approval.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board reviews the rules presented in this agenda item for the Arkansas Future Grant Program to be administered by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education or his designee is authorized to make technical changes and corrections, when necessary, in the program rules for the Arkansas Future Grant Program.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Future Grant Program rules be approved for public comment release.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 20  
Rules Governing the Arkansas Higher Education  
Transition Scholarship Program

In compliance with Acts 413 of 2023, the rules for the Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program were presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) for initial approval.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board reviews the rule presented in this agenda item for the Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program to be administered by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education or his designee is authorized to make technical changes and corrections, when necessary, in the rule for the Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program rule be approved for public comment release.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 21  
Rules Governing the Arkansas  
Concurrent Challenge Scholarship Program

In compliance with Acts 413, 386, and 539 of 2023, the rules for the Arkansas Concurrent Challenge Scholarship were presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) for initial approval.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board reviews the rules presented in this agenda item for the Arkansas Concurrent Challenge Scholarship to be administered by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education or his designee is authorized to make technical changes and corrections, when necessary, in the program rules for the Arkansas Concurrent Challenge Scholarship.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Concurrent Challenge scholarship rules be approved for public comment release.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 22  
Rules Governing the Arkansas  
Governor's Scholars Program

In compliance with Acts 413 of 2023, the rules for the Governor's Scholars Program were presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) for initial approval.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board reviews the rules presented in this agenda item for the Governor's Scholars Program to be administered by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education or his designee is authorized to make technical changes and corrections, when necessary, in the program rules for the Governor's Scholars Program.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Governor's Scholars Program rules be approved for public comment release.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 23  
Rules Governing the Arkansas  
Workforce Challenge Scholarship Program

In compliance with Acts 413 and 539 of 2023, the rules for the Arkansas Workforce Challenge Scholarship were presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) for initial approval.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board reviews the rules presented in this agenda item for the Arkansas Workforce Challenge Scholarship to be administered by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education or his designee is authorized to make technical changes and corrections, when necessary, in the program rules for the Arkansas Workforce Challenge Scholarship.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Workforce Challenge Scholarship rules be approved for public comment release.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 24  
Rules Governing the Arkansas  
Teacher Academy Scholarship Program

In compliance with Act 237 of 2023, the rules for the Teacher Academy Scholarship Program were presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) for final adoption, pending review of the Administrative Rules Subcommittee of the Arkansas Legislative Council.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board reviews the rules presented in this agenda item for the Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship Program to be administered by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education or his designee is authorized to make technical changes and corrections, when necessary, in the program rules for the Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship Program.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship Program rules be approved for public comment release.

There were no questions.

Dr. Katie Dudley moved to approve Agenda Items No. 19 - 24. Dr. Jerry Cash seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 25  
Rules Governing the Productivity  
Funding Distribution Policy

In compliance with Act 215 of 2021, the rules for the Productivity Funding Distribution Policy were presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) for adoption, pending approval of the Administrative Rules Subcommittee of the Arkansas Legislative Council.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board adopts the proposed rules presented in this agenda item for amendment of the Productivity Funding Distribution Policy, pending approval of the Administrative Rules Subcommittee of the Arkansas Legislative Council.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Director of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education or her designee is authorized to make technical changes and corrections, when necessary, in the rules to amend the Productivity Funding Distribution Policy.

There were no questions.

Dr. Katie Dudley moved to approve Agenda Item No. 25. Heather Maxey seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Report of the Committees

Lucas Pointer presented the report of the Finance Committee and moved approval of Agenda Items 1 - 4. Heather Maxey seconded, and the board unanimously approved.

Chair Bigger presented the report of the Academic Committee Agenda Items 6,7 & 10. Dr. Katie Dudley seconded, and the board unanimously approved.

Remarks by Presidents/Chancellors and Guest

The next quarterly meeting will be held on July 26, 2024, at the University of Central Arkansas in Conway, at 9:00 a.m.

With no further comments, the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.



SUBMITTED BY:

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Nichole Abernathy

APPROVED:

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Dr. Kyle Miller, Secretary

**ARKANSAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD**  
**Special Meeting**  
**May 29, 2024**

**Minutes of Meeting**

The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board held a special meeting on Wednesday, May 29, 2024, via Zoom. Chair Graycen Bigger called the meeting to order at 1:00 a.m., with a quorum present.

Coordinating Board present:

Graycen Bigger, Chair  
Dr. Jerry Cash, Vice Chair  
Dr. Jim Carr  
Dr. Katherine Dudley  
Lucas Pointer  
Carolyn Rhinehart

Coordinating Board absent:

Chad Hooten  
Heather Maxey  
Dr. Kyle Miller

Presidents, chancellors, institutional representatives, members of the press, and guests were also present.

Chair Bigger welcomed presidents and chancellors to the special board meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

Agenda Item No. 1  
Economic Feasibility of Loan Issue  
University of Arkansas Community College

University of Arkansas Community College at Batesville (UACCB) requests approval of the economic feasibility to secure a loan not to exceed \$3.5 million with a maximum term of ten (10) years at an annual interest rate of approximately 6.5 percent. Proceeds from the loan will be used for educational and general (E&G) purposes. The University of Arkansas Board of Trustees approved this financing at its meeting on May 22-23, 2024.

The E&G issue will be up to \$3.5 million with a combined estimated annual debt service of \$478,921 and a term of ten (10) years. Proceeds from the loan will be used to complete renovations of the recently purchased property at 2210 E. Main Street, located approximately one-third (1/3) mile from the main campus. The debt service on the loan will be supported by sales tax revenue, lease revenue, tuition and fee revenue, and/or any additional revenue generated by the College. Coordinating Board policy regarding debt service for educational and general (E&G) projects provides that sales tax proceeds must be a minimum of 120 percent of the estimated

annual debt service. The policy also states that a maximum of 25 percent of tuition and fee revenue may be pledged to debt service.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board considers economically feasible plans for the University of Arkansas Community College at Batesville to secure a loan in the amount not to exceed \$3.5 million with a maximum term of ten (10) years at an annual interest rate of approximately 6.5 percent as requested by the institution for the E&G project.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education is authorized to notify the President and the Chair of the Board of Trustees of University of Arkansas System and the Chancellor of the University of Arkansas Community College at Batesville of the Coordinating Board's resolution.

Dr. Jim Carr asked if they still expect to receive an annual interest rate of approximately 6.5 percent.

Dr. Brian Shonk, chancellor of the University of Arkansas Community College at Batesville, said yes. They talked to the bank recently and the interest rate is still at 6.5 percent.

Chair Bigger asked if this is the expansion of an existing program. Dr. Shonk said it is a combination of new and existing programs.

Dr. Carr complimented UACCB on the wonderful job they are doing for Batesville and asked if they have any enrollment projections for this fall as compared to last fall.

Dr. Shonk explained that last fall's numbers were 20 percent higher than the previous years. He noted that he is confident this year's enrollment numbers will be up, he noted that they are a little harder to predict. UACCB is in the process of doing a conversion from their current system, which has caused their timing to be off by a month.

Dr. Jim Carr moved to approve Agenda Item No. 1. Dr. Jerry Cash seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

With no further comments, the meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

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Nichole Abernathy

APPROVED:

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Dr. Kyle Miller, Secretary

## REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER

### Commissioner Tours Higher Education Campuses

Commissioner Warden completed his pledge to visit all 33 Arkansas public institutions in his first year as commissioner. Warden met with presidents and chancellors to discuss higher education issues and toured their beautiful campuses.



### **Academic Signing Day**

On May 1, Commissioner Warden participated in the Annual Conway Area Chamber of Commerce Academic Signing Day held at the University of Central Arkansas. Recognizing some of the highest achieving graduating seniors in the Conway area, Warden addressed students, their parents, and school representatives from St. Joseph High School, Conway Christian School, and Conway High School.

### **69th SHEEO Annual Meeting**

The 69th SHEEO Annual Meeting was held at the Park Hyatt in Washington, D.C., July 15-18, 2024. Commissioner Warden joined CEOs of state higher education boards and commissions and leaders of national and regional organizations at the meeting which emphasized the discussion of key state and national higher education policy issues and relationship building.

### **CPI Case Management Training**

Thirty-eight Career Pathways Initiative (CPI) case managers and directors will complete case management training in July. CPI has an increased focus on case management to improve student success and it is a performance measure required by the Department of Human Services (DHS).

### **Arkansas Higher Education Information System**

The ADHE Data Team hosted several information meetings recently, including four in-person workshops and one online workshop for more than 80 institutional non-credit workforce staff to review the expanded Arkansas Higher Education Information System (AHEIS) Non-Credit Workforce Reporting requirements. In addition, the annual AHEIS Update Meeting was held at UAPTC for those involved with state reporting.

### **Digital Credential Ecosystem Workshop**

Several ADHE staff attended the Digital Credential Ecosystem Workshop in support of the state establishing a digital credential ecosystem to support learners, workers, employers and providers through streamlined issuance and verification of digital credentials.

### **New Leadership at UAPB**



Dr. Andrea Stewart has been named interim chancellor at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (UAPB) beginning July 1. Stewart, currently provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at UAPB, will lead the campus as a national search to replace current Chancellor Dr. Laurence Alexander, is in progress.

**Southern Arkansas University Names 13<sup>th</sup> President**

Southern Arkansas University announced the appointment of Dr. Bruno Hicks as its 13th president, effective June 17, 2024. Dr. Hicks previously served as the provost and vice president of academic affairs at Dalton State College (DSC). Before joining DSC in 2020, Hicks was the founding dean of the School of Education from 2016-2020 at Fitchburg State University.



**New President Named at Southeast Arkansas College**

The Board of Trustees of Southeast Arkansas College (SEARK) announced the appointment of Dr. Tyrone Jackson as the college's next President, effective July 1, 2024. Dr. Jackson, previously served as the President at Mississippi Delta Community College in Mississippi.

**South Arkansas College Announces New President**

South Arkansas College (SouthArk) has announced Dr. Stephanie Tully-Dartez as the college's sixth president. Having served as Interim President of SouthArk since August 2023, Dr. Tully-Dartez will assume her role as President of SouthArk, effective July 1. Dr. Tully-Dartez has served at SouthArk for 14 years.



## **AHECB Policy - CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT**

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Arkansas law allows for the enrollment of high school students in college-level courses under certain conditions. Concurrent enrollment allows students to obtain credit toward a high school diploma at the same time they earn college credit.

The concurrent enrollment policy was first approved by the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) in October 1998 with the latest revision in 2017. Proposed new language is in *italics and underlined*, and deleted language is ~~struck-through~~

### **AHECB Resolutions**

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the policy amendment on concurrent enrollment effective Fall 2024. The concurrent enrollment policy outlines the guidelines for concurrent program participation; however, Arkansas state-supported colleges and universities are not required to participate in a concurrent enrollment program; and a high school/school district may choose to partner with more than one Arkansas college/university for concurrent courses.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That any Arkansas state-supported college or university that chooses to participate in a concurrent enrollment program with a public school district, private high school, or home-school student shall implement and administer the concurrent program in accordance with the policies of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board and the rules of the Arkansas State Board of Education.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education to provide a copy of the amended policy to presidents and chancellors, academic affairs officers, students affairs officers, and institutional research officers at Arkansas state-supported colleges and universities.



## Concurrent Enrollment Policy

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### I. Definitions

**Concurrent Enrollment** is the enrollment of a high school student in a college course ~~taught on a high school campus (or in selected cases on the college campus or by distance/digital technology)~~ for high school credit and college-level credit. (Arkansas Code §6-18-223) Concurrent enrollment allows students to obtain credit toward a high school diploma at the same time they earn college credit.

**Dual enrollment** is the enrollment of a high school student in postsecondary education for college-level credit exclusively. (Arkansas Code §6-60-202)

### II. Concurrent Course Credit – Institutional Requirements

~~For concurrent course enrollments to be counted for FTE/higher education funding purposes, the following conditions must be met:~~

1. **Program Accreditation/Authorization** - If an institution of higher education offers a concurrent credit course(s) on a high school campus taught by a high school teacher, the institution must be accredited by the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP); or the college/university must be approved by the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) to offer courses, including courses offered via distance technology, for concurrent credit.
2. **Concurrent Credit Courses** - Concurrent credit courses ~~must~~ *should* be freshman-level and/or sophomore-level college/university courses, or in select cases upper-level courses that are approved through the established process of an institution and included in the institutional catalog. ~~The~~ General education courses offered for concurrent credit ~~must~~ *should* be listed in the Arkansas Course Transfer System (ACTS). Students taking general education courses that are not part of the Arkansas Course Transfer System (ACTS) must be informed by the institution and high school that the course may not transfer to another college or university. A list of the career and technical education (CTE) courses offered for concurrent credit must be attached to the signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the high school/school district and the college/university.

The course offered for concurrent credit must meet the same standards as college courses taught on the college/university campus. Students can earn college credit and/or up to one unit of high school credit for successful completion of each general education concurrent course and each blended

AP/concurrent course that is a minimum of 3 semester credit hours. Students can earn college credit and/or up to one unit of high school credit for successful completion of each CTE course that is a minimum of 3 semester credit hours.

The college/university administration must exercise direct oversight of all aspects of the concurrent course, including participation in the faculty selection, orientation, professional development, and evaluation processes.

The instructor teaching the college course for concurrent credit must:

- 1) use the approved college/university course syllabus,
- 2) use the same textbook or a textbook with aligned content and course learning outcomes as approved by the college/university,
- 3) adopt the same learning outcomes and assignments as those developed for the course offered on the college/university campus with limited exceptions approved by the college/university, and
- 4) use the same course grading/awarding standards as those on the college/university campus. If departmental exams are used in college/university campus courses, then those course exams must be used at the high school site.

Note: It is understood that one high school may have a concurrent agreement with more than one college/university; however, there should not be unnecessary duplication of college course offerings.

If there is not agreement among multiple institutions offering college courses at one high school/school district, the college/university seeking clarification on the implementation of the concurrent enrollment policy must contact the ADHE ~~Director~~ Commissioner in writing and follow AHECB Policy 5.17: Off-Campus Instruction Policy-Criteria for Conflict Resolution.

### **Criteria for Conflict Resolution from AHECB Policy 5.17**

Institutions that seek to offer concurrent courses at the same high school and cannot reach agreement between each other, either informally or with a written Memorandum of Understanding, will appeal to the ADHE ~~Director~~ Commissioner. After receiving a written request from each affected institution that includes pertinent information and data, the ADHE ~~Director~~ Commissioner will mediate the conflict. If the affected institutions reject the decision of the ADHE ~~Director~~ Commissioner, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board will hear evidence, consider staff recommendations, and make a final determination.

In order to determine the merits of presented arguments, the ADHE ~~Director~~ Commissioner and Board members will require in writing from each institution the following information:

- Mission of institution

- Willingness of institution to offer the course at the off-campus/high school location
- Capability of institution
- Type of courses/programs proposed
- Cost to students
- Desire of the community or local school district
- History of off-campus offerings in the geographical area or at the high school
- Evidence that this course offering will not result in unnecessary duplication of courses/programs
- Evidence that the course offerings will not result in overextension of state's resources
- Other relevant information as determined by the institutions, ADHE ~~Director~~ Commissioner, and/or AHECB members

Although the "30-Mile Rule" is not a criterion used to resolve institutional conflicts regarding off-campus or concurrent offerings, the AHECB does not look favorably on an institution that encroaches on the service area of a second institution.

3. **AP/Concurrent or IB/Concurrent Blended Courses** (College/University Participation Optional)

Advanced Placement (AP) courses are high school courses in which students are required to take the AP Exam and make the requisite score in order to receive college credit from an Arkansas institution of higher education. ~~(Student enrollments in AP or IB courses cannot be reported through the Arkansas Higher Education Student Information System.)~~

The merging of AP or IB courses and general education college courses is allowed under certain circumstances, and these merged courses will be referenced as blended AP/concurrent or IB/concurrent courses.

- Colleges and universities that offer blended AP/concurrent or blended IB/concurrent courses must ensure that these blended courses meet all the requirements of concurrent courses as set forth in this concurrent enrollment policy.
- The AP course guidelines specified by the College Board in its published course description must be incorporated into the blended AP/concurrent course syllabus, and the core IB program requirements must be incorporated into the blended IB/concurrent course syllabus.
- The blended AP/concurrent course syllabus must be submitted by the high school teacher for approval by the College Board AP Course Audit;

and the school district must have on file the written documentation of the College Board approval of the blended AP/concurrent course syllabus. A copy of the blended AP/concurrent course syllabus currently approved by the College Board must be submitted for college/university approval during the concurrent instructor/course approval process. A copy of the blended IB/concurrent course syllabus also must be on file at the school district.

- All students enrolled in blended AP/concurrent courses are required to take the AP exam; and the high school must have written documentation on file of the students who took the AP exam with this AP exam data provided to the college/university upon request. There also must be written documentation on file of the students who took the IB assessment with this assessment data provided to the college/university upon request.
- Students can earn at least three semester credit hours of college credit and one unit of high school credit for successful completion of one blended AP/concurrent or blended IB/concurrent course only if the student registers for concurrent course credit at the beginning of the term. (A minimum score on the AP exam or IB assessment is not required for the student to earn college credit for the blended AP/concurrent or blended IB/concurrent course.) All other students enrolled in the blended AP/concurrent or blended IB/concurrent course can earn only one unit of high school credit for the course.
- Students enrolled in these blended AP/concurrent or blended IB/concurrent courses must meet all college/university requirements included in this concurrent enrollment policy.
- Any high school that cannot furnish data on blended AP/concurrent or blended IB/concurrent test takers (during an ADE/ADHE concurrent enrollment program audit) will not be approved for the continued offering of blended AP/concurrent or blended IB/concurrent courses.

~~*(The International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme is a comprehensive two-year curriculum and assessment system that requires students to study six subjects and core components across all disciplines with assessment of student work both by external examiners as well as the students' own teachers to ensure that a common standard is applied equally to the work of all students internationally. Students also may elect to enroll in individual IB courses and receive a minimum course score for college/university recognition.)*~~

#### 4. Concurrent Course Ownership

Institutions of higher education must demonstrate “ownership” of any course offered for concurrent credit for which students are reported ~~for funding~~ ~~purposes~~. Ownership of courses means that the college/university will:

- Provide the instructors with appropriate training and orientation in course curriculum, assessment criteria, course philosophy, and administrative requirements after approval of the instructors to teach the college/university courses.
- Ensure that instructors receive continuing collegial interaction with college faculty through professional development, required seminars, and site visits. These interactions will address topics such as course content, course delivery, student learning assessment, in-class evaluation, and professional development in the field of study.
- Ensure that students have the opportunity to utilize institutional resources including the college/university library and academic advising on the college/university campus.

Simply awarding college credit to students who are enrolled in concurrent courses offered by a sponsoring college/university does not meet the principle of “course ownership” as described above.

#### 5. Teaching Credentials

Faculty teaching general education concurrent courses must have a master’s degree that includes a minimum of 18 graduate college credit hours in the subject area being taught. College or university faculty who travel to the high school or secondary center to teach concurrent courses (and/or faculty and staff that have direct, official contact with the high school student) must have a criminal background check and complete the child maltreatment training course as required of public school teachers.

The teacher of the blended AP/concurrent course(s) must have completed AP training in the subject area(s), must have a master’s degree with a minimum of 18 graduate college credit hours in the subject area being taught, must be approved to teach the concurrent course(s) by the college/university, and must provide the college/university with documentation of successful completion of AP training.

The instructor of record must be the individual that teaches the concurrent course(s); and for general education concurrent courses and blended AP/concurrent or blended IB/concurrent courses these individuals must have a

master's degree that includes a minimum of 18 graduate college credit hours in the subject areas being taught. For the purpose of teaching a concurrent course under this policy, an individual under contract with the school district as a teacher will not be considered an adjunct faculty member of the college/university; although, they must be reported as an academic rank of adjunct faculty to AHEIS.

### III. Concurrent Course Enrollment

#### Concurrent College Admission

High school students enrolled in general education concurrent courses will be those who have successfully completed the eighth grade and are admitted to the college/university as non-award seeking students per §6-16-1204 (although a major can be reported for the concurrent students to AHEIS to assist with tracking of students completing college certificates/degrees before high school graduation). Each college/university must specify the concurrent admission requirements for high school students.

#### Concurrent Course Registration

~~Because discrete classes that totally separate concurrent credit students from non-concurrent credit students may be prohibitive to operate in some cases, those classes with a mixed population must have at least a majority of the students enrolled for concurrent credit; and~~ All high school students enrolled in the concurrent course must meet the same requirements for completion of the course whether or not the student is registered for college credit. The concurrent course withdrawal process and procedures must be implemented in accordance with established college/university guidelines.

#### Concurrent/Dual Course Placement/~~Statewide Minimum Exam Scores~~

~~High school students must have scored 19 or better on the ACT Reading sub-test or equivalent test. Please refer to the annual SIS manual for ACT equivalency scores. to enroll in any general education (ACTS) course.~~

~~Enrollment in English Composition and mathematics courses also require a 19 or better on the respective ACT sub-test or equivalent test. Please refer to the annual SIS manual for ACT equivalency scores.~~

~~The designated exam scores are statewide minimum scores. Any college/university campus may elect to set higher minimum scores for general education concurrent courses, and may choose to require the COMPASS or ASSET score in addition to EXPLORE, PLAN, Aspire or PSAT scores.~~

To ensure successful placement in concurrent English, math, and reading intensive

courses, institutions are encouraged to consider a variety of factors beyond a single standardized test score. Procedures and standards for placement are outlined in the Higher Education Coordinating Board Student Placement Policy.

- A college or university may allow simultaneous enrollment in college-level credit and developmental courses.
- The board and administration of any campus may elect to set minimum scores for enrollment in college-level mathematics and English composition courses based on established and documented criteria, which demonstrate the students' ability to succeed.
- All concurrent students shall be assessed for placement into credit-bearing courses by at least one of the following methods:
  - an objective examination,
  - previous coursework and/or career training,
  - or measures supported by sufficient analysis of predicted student success.

The placement assessment should reflect a better than 75 percent likelihood of the student's ability to earn a "C" or better grade in the course in which the student is placed. A student's reading level should be strong enough for them to earn a "C" or better in courses that require substantial reading such as courses in the sciences, humanities, and social sciences. Ideally, students should possess a readiness for credit-bearing courses and the institution admitting them should develop and refine a system to determine this.

#### **IV. Concurrent Course Enrollment - Data Reporting (via Student Information System)**

~~Only students who are enrolled in concurrent courses for college credit can be counted for FTE purposes by the college/university.~~

~~Students enrolled in blended AP/concurrent or blended IB/concurrent courses can be counted for FTE purposes.~~

~~Students enrolled in career and technical education courses for concurrent credit at a secondary center can be counted for FTE purposes.~~

~~High school students enrolled in remedial/developmental courses for concurrent credit cannot be counted for FTE and higher education funding purposes.~~

All institutions are required to collect and report exam scores for the purpose of AHEIS reporting although a minimum score is not required.

~~(Note: More details on data reporting for concurrent enrollment may be included in~~

~~ADHE guidelines on institutional data submissions.)~~

Specific guidance for reporting concurrent enrollment to the Arkansas Higher Education Information System (AHEIS) is provided in the AHEIS manual.

## V. Concurrent Course Enrollment - Payment of Tuition and Fees

The college/university will establish tuition and fee rates for concurrent students.

~~Colleges and universities cannot claim student semester credit hours or funding if tuition is not received by the institution in any form.~~

The high school student shall be responsible for all costs of college/university courses taken for concurrent credit, unless the costs for these courses are paid by the public school district, a college/university scholarship, a grant, or a private foundation. If the costs for a college/university course(s) are paid by the public school district, a college/university scholarship, a grant, or a private foundation; a signed agreement must exist between the public school district, the external entity or foundation, and the Arkansas state-supported college/university.

If the college/university sets tuition and fees at a lower rate than the regular full tuition rate on campus, the ~~difference between the regular rate and the charged rate must be reported as an academic scholarship for all purposes and must be reported as such to ADHE~~ reduction in tuition shall not be considered an institutional scholarship per §6-16-1204.

~~For formula recommendation purposes, ADHE will include the regular full tuition and fees for all concurrent courses (except remedial/developmental education concurrent courses) in the funding recommendation.~~

Pursuant to Arkansas Code §6-53-501, the intent of this concurrent policy is that the college courses described above shall include but not be limited to articulated courses designed for instruction of secondary students qualifying for state aid from the public school fund. Nothing in this policy shall preclude money flowing to the secondary centers under Arkansas Code §6-51-305.

~~High school students enrolled in college/university remedial/developmental education courses for concurrent credit cannot be counted for FTE/higher education funding purposes.~~

An institution must be accredited by the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP); or effective August 1, 2015, the college/university must have an AHECB-approved Concurrent Enrollment Program to ~~claim student semester credit hours for courses offered for concurrent credit.~~ Report concurrent courses/students to AHEIS.

(Note: More details on funding for concurrent enrollment *may* be included in



AHECB ~~institutional finance~~ financial aid policy.)

**VI. Concurrent Course Enrollment - Career and Technical Education Courses**

Students enrolled in Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses that are included in the MOU agreement between the school district and college/university can be awarded college credit and/or up to one unit of high school credit for successful completion of each CTE course that is a minimum of 3 semester credit hours, as delineated in the MOU agreement.

**VII. Concurrent Course Enrollment – Remedial/Developmental Education Courses (College/University Participation Optional)**

~~A high school senior who possesses at least an ACT sub-test score of 17 in English, reading or mathematics (or comparable exam score) may enroll in the requisite remedial/developmental education courses in English, reading, and mathematics at an Arkansas state-supported college/university.~~

A high school ~~senior~~ student enrolled in college/university remedial/developmental education courses in English, reading and/or mathematics for concurrent credit must be notified verbally and in writing by the high school principal or designee that successful completion of remedial/developmental education courses at one college/university does not guarantee college-level course placement at another Arkansas college/university, unless there is a written/signed college course placement agreement with the other Arkansas college/university.

A college/university remedial/developmental education course cannot be used to meet the college/university core subject area/unit requirements in English and mathematics.

A list of the colleges/universities with a signed college course placement agreement must be:

- 1) attached to the signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the school district and college/university,
- 2) included in the Concurrent Enrollment Student Guide/Information Sheet, and
- 3) posted on the college/university website.

Nothing in this concurrent policy, shall require a college/university or school district to offer remedial/developmental education courses in English, reading and mathematics for concurrent credit.

**VIII. Partnership Agreement/Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)**

A written and signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) must exist to reflect the various expectations, obligations, and responsibilities of all parties.

The MOU must be reviewed annually, and the college/university must provide to

the high school a list of all college courses that may be offered for concurrent credit during the school year. The unit of high school credit that will be awarded for each college course must be noted for each concurrent course along with the high school course replacement/substitution. ~~Courses identified by ADE as math transitions courses will be awarded the same credit as a fourth year math for high school.~~ The high school/school district or the college/university can modify or terminate the written, signed concurrent agreement during the annual review period.

High school students who desire to enroll in a college or university first must be recommended by their high school principal or designee.

High school students enrolled in college courses for concurrent credit purposes must be 1) informed that the student is responsible for all costs associated with enrollment in the concurrent course, unless the courses are paid by another approved public or private entity; and 2) advised about the potential limitations concerning the transfer of college course credit.

If remedial/developmental education courses in English, reading or mathematics are offered for concurrent credit to high school seniors, a list of the colleges/universities with a signed college course placement agreement must be attached to the MOU, published in the student guide/information sheet, and posted on the college/university website.

The college/university must provide the school district with a student guide or information sheet for concurrent enrollment that the high school must distribute to students and parents that outlines the college/university and school district requirements for student participation. The high school will assure that the student and parent acknowledge that the student will participate in the concurrent program in accordance with the stated college/university and school district participation requirements.

Concurrent program requirements and guidelines required for course instruction must be provided by the college/university to the school district and concurrent instructors.

## **IX. State Authorization for Concurrent Enrollment Program**

A college/university must be accredited by the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP) or be authorized by the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) to participate in the Concurrent Enrollment Program (CEP).

- I. College/University offering Concurrent Courses on College/University Campus Only A college/university only offering concurrent courses on the college/university campus (and does not offer or plan to offer concurrent

courses on the high school campus) has satisfied the requirements for initial authorization for Concurrent Enrollment Program participation.

The college/university must submit to ADHE ~~no later than June 1, 2014~~, a copy of the written, signed MOU agreement between the college/university and high school/school district as verification of the on-campus college/university concurrent enrollment program. The MOU must outline in detail the concurrent enrollment arrangements between the two parties. A copy of the current written, signed MOU agreement must be submitted to ADHE ~~by June 1 of~~ each subsequent year for continued authorization.

Any college/university currently not offering concurrent courses on a high school campus must follow the concurrent program approval process outlined ~~in Item III~~ below; and the college/university must have AHECB authorization for its institutional (high school) concurrent enrollment program prior to the offering of concurrent courses on a high school campus.

## **II. College/University with NACEP Accreditation Initial Authorization for Concurrent Enrollment Program**

All colleges/universities with NACEP accreditation must provide written documentation to ADHE of NACEP accreditation status upon approval of this concurrent policy.

- 1) A college/university currently accredited by NACEP has satisfied the requirements for initial authorization for Concurrent Enrollment Program participation, and must maintain NACEP accreditation for continued CEP participation; or
- 2) A college/university currently accredited by NACEP has satisfied the requirements for initial authorization for Concurrent Enrollment Program participation and may request AHECB authorization to satisfy the requirements for continued CEP participation when current NACEP accreditation expires. The college/university must submit the written notification to ADHE no later than ~~June 1, 2014, or~~ June 1 ~~of a subsequent year~~, requesting AHECB authorization for continued CEP participation.

## **III. College/University without NACEP Accreditation (and offering Concurrent Courses on High School Campus)**

Initial Authorization for Concurrent Enrollment Program

To receive initial authorization through the state review process, developed in cooperation with the colleges and universities, and implemented by the Arkansas ~~Department~~ *Division* of Higher Education (ADHE); a college/university must demonstrate that the college/university concurrent program meets or exceeds all requirements outlined in the AHECB Concurrent Enrollment Program (CEP) policy.

AHECB approval will be granted to the college/university to offer concurrent credit courses for a period not to exceed seven (7) years once the college/university has submitted a CEP proposal that has been reviewed and recommended for approval by a 3-member review team selected from a panel of reviewers agreed upon by the Concurrent Review Committee (CRC) and ADHE.

The initial proposal for offering concurrent credit must specify how the college/university concurrent enrollment program satisfies each component of the CEP policy by providing evidence of the following:

**1. Faculty**

Each college/university must have a policy for selecting faculty to teach concurrent courses that meets AHECB guidelines. Each concurrent instructor for general education courses at a minimum must hold a master's degree and have 18 graduate-level hours in the subject to be taught.

Each college/university must have an official transcript on file for each instructor approved for concurrent courses which clearly indicates that the concurrent faculty member has the required academic credentials.

Each college/university must have a description of the orientation process for new concurrent faculty and a sample of information that is provided to concurrent faculty during orientation.

Each college/university must have a description of the plan to assure concurrent faculty receive appropriate professional development.

**2. Courses**

Each college/university must present a current list of proposed concurrent courses by course name, number (i.e. ENGL 1013), the associated Arkansas Course Transfer System (ACTS) course number *(if applicable)* and indicate any pre-requisite courses.

**3. Syllabi and Textbooks**

Each college/university must have a policy regarding final approval of concurrent syllabi and textbooks.

**4. Students**

Each college/university must verify that students have met admission criteria for the college/university and that the process conforms to AHECB guidelines.

Each college/university must provide an explanation of how grades are awarded and recorded with the college/university Registrar; *and must provide documentation that the college/university course grading/awarding and course recording standards are followed for concurrent courses.*

**5. Student Guide for Concurrent Enrollment**

Each college/university must have a student guide for concurrent enrollment available to students and parents that outlines the college/university and school district participation requirements; and includes information regarding syllabi, academic standing, grading, links to ACTS, academic dishonesty, transcripts, current contact information for the concurrent enrollment liaison at the college/university, drop/withdrawal from class, academic due process guidelines, use of the college/university library, and student evaluation of instruction procedures.

**6. Faculty Guide for Concurrent Enrollment**

Each college/university must have a faculty guide for concurrent enrollment detailing the syllabus requirements, FERPA requirements, academic dishonesty policy, grading system, access to input grades, grade changes, student academic due process, student evaluation of instruction, policy for students with disabilities, sexual harassment policy, contact information for the college/university concurrent liaison, and child maltreatment and reporting policy, non-compliance policy, and process of faculty evaluation by the academic unit head from the college/university.

**7. Assessment**

By academic discipline, each college/university must include a description of the process for assuring concurrent course content satisfies the requirements of the college/university academic unit. Examples may include common examinations, approval of concurrent tests by the college/university, common grading criteria, etc.

**8. Evaluation**

Each college/university will analyze its student success, persistence, and retention data to determine to what extent concurrent credit courses are leading to student success.

## 9. Memorandum of Understanding

The college/university must have on file a current written, signed Memorandum of Understanding with each high school with whom the college/university offers or desires to offer concurrent enrollment.

The Memorandum of Understanding must include the following:

1. The names and addresses of the college/university and the participating school district/high school;
2. Academic calendar with **dates** which the college/university and the high school must comply;
3. Guidelines and requirements for approval of instructors;
4. Guidelines for approval and assessment of courses;
5. Guidelines and requirements for admission and eligibility of students;
6. Requirements for syllabi;
7. Non-compliance statement; Length of time covered by the MOU and procedures for termination of MOU;
8. Description of the concurrent course billing process.

All evidence indicating how the college/university plans to offer a concurrent enrollment program must be submitted to ADHE by June 1, ~~2014, (or by June 1 of a subsequent year if concurrent courses will be offered for the first time during the next academic year)~~ for an evaluation by a review team selected from among those designated by the Arkansas ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education to serve on the Concurrent Review Committee. The Committee members will be selected by ADHE and will serve for a three-year period.

The CRC evaluation report will be forwarded to the Arkansas ~~Department~~ Division of Higher Education for consideration of a recommendation for AHECB approval of the institutional concurrent enrollment program.

### AHECB Continued Authorization

A college/university with AHECB initial authorization for the Concurrent Enrollment Program can offer courses for concurrent enrollment for a period of up to seven (7) years unless the AHECB requires a follow-up review within the 7- year timeframe and/or the NACEP accreditation has expired.

A college/university that wishes to continue to offer courses for concurrent enrollment must request AHECB reauthorization or must maintain NACEP accreditation.

The request for AHECB CEP reauthorization must include documentation of the following:

1. A current Memorandum of Understanding with each high school with whom the college/university desires to offer concurrent enrollment.
2. A current list of concurrent courses offered by course name, number (i.e.

- ENGL 1013), the ACTS course number, and any pre-requisites courses.
3. By academic discipline, a description of the process for assuring that concurrent course content satisfies the requirements of the college/university academic unit.
  4. A current list of concurrent instructors offering courses for concurrent credit including a statement that each instructor meets the minimum requirements for instruction as required by AHECB and the academic department offering the concurrent credit.
  5. An explanation of how grades are awarded and recorded with the college/university Registrar.
  6. An analysis of student success, persistence, and retention data to determine to what extent concurrent credit courses are leading to student success for the three years prior to the reauthorization request year.

The information for continued authorization must be submitted to ADHE by June 1 before the expiration date of AHECB CEP initial authorization; and reviewed by a 3-member team selected by ADHE from among those designated to serve on the Concurrent Review Committee. Based on the CRC review, ADHE will make a recommendation to AHECB for continued authorization or a recommendation for discontinuation of the institutional concurrent enrollment program.

A college/university with NACEP accreditation must submit written documentation to ADHE of its current accreditation status within 30 days of NACEP notification of reaccreditation to maintain AHECB CEP continued authorization.

Adopted: Agenda Item No. 19  
October 23, 1998

Revised: Agenda Item No. 38  
July 23, 1999

Agenda Item No. 12  
April 27, 2007

Agenda Item No. 2  
June 28, 2011

Agenda Item No. 5  
July 26, 2013

Agenda Item No. 2  
July 27, 2017

Agenda Item No. 15  
July 26, 2024

**RULES GOVERNING THE ARKANSAS TEACHER ACADEMY  
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

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In compliance with Act 237 (Section 57) of 2023, the rules for the Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship Program are presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) for final approval.

The following resolution is offered for the Board's consideration:

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board reviews the rules presented in this agenda item for the Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship Program to be administered by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education or his designee is authorized to make technical changes and corrections, when necessary, in the program rules for the Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship Program.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship Program rules be approved for final approval.



**DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION RULES GOVERNING THE  
ARKANSAS TEACHER ACADEMY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM  
PUBLIC COMMENTS AND RESPONSES**

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Commenter Name:

Comments: No public comments received.

Division Response: No substantive changes made.

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**DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION RULES GOVERNING  
THE ARKANSAS TEACHER ACADEMY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

**Effective Date:**

**1.00 DEFINITIONS**

1.01 “Academy attendee” means an individual who is enrolled in an Arkansas Teacher Academy at an eligible postsecondary institution who is a:

1.01.1 Current teacher;

1.01.2 Teacher who has graduated from an Arkansas Teacher Academy at an eligible postsecondary institution; or

1.01.3 Current student.

1.02 “Eligible postsecondary institution” means a public or private two-year or four-year institution of higher education that:

1.02.1 Offers a postbaccalaureate program that leads to teacher certification; and

1.02.2 Has entered into an agreement with the Division of Higher Education for purposes of the Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship Program.

1.03 “Tuition and fees” mean any one (1) of the following that is charged by an eligible postsecondary institution, associated with a program of study a part of the Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship Program, that leads to teacher certification:

1.03.1 Tuition;

1.03.2 Mandatory fees; and

1.03.3 Program fees.

**2.00 IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAM & PURPOSE**

2.01 An eligible postsecondary institution shall implement an Arkansas Teacher Academy to incentivize potential and enrolled academy attendees to:

2.01.1 Enter the teaching profession; and

2.01.2 Commit to teaching in:

2.01.2.1 Arkansas public schools; or

2.01.2.2 Critical shortage areas in Arkansas based on subject areas or geographical areas.

2.02 The Division of Higher Education, in consultation with public and private postsecondary institutions, shall develop and implement a centralized administrative process for each Teacher Academy, which shall include, without limitation, the following:

2.02.1 A marketing and promotion plan to recruit academy attendees for a Teacher Academy;

2.02.2 Data collection and reporting;

2.02.3 Tracking of postgraduation service requirements;

2.02.4 Coordination of induction services;

2.02.5 Distribution of moneys in the Teacher Academy Scholarship Program Fund between eligible postsecondary institutions;

2.02.6 Collection of reimbursements from individuals who fail to meet the service requirements under these rules;

2.02.7 A process for assessing an academy attendee's ability to repay financial assistance received if the academy attendee who receives financial assistance is physically or mentally unable to fulfill the requirements of a Teacher Academy program; and

2.02.8 A process for deferring service or repayment required by this subchapter based on factors adopted by the division.

**3.00 ELIGIBLE POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION DUTIES**

3.01 A Teacher Academy may include, without limitation, a new or existing

teacher preparation program that utilizes proven, research-based models of best practices that are already being implemented in similar program pathways.

3.02 An eligible postsecondary institution may:

3.02.1 Develop a portfolio of teacher preparation programs to offer as part of its Teacher Academy; and

3.02.2 Give priority to students in grades eleven (11) and twelve (12).

3.03 An eligible postsecondary institution shall not:

3.03.1 Exclude students in grades nine (9) and ten (10) from its Arkansas Teacher Academy; and

3.04 Use scholarship funds that exceed the cost of tuition and fees at the eligible postsecondary institution to support its Teacher Academy costs.

3.04.1 However, if the scholarship awarded does not fully cover the tuition and fees after all other financial gifts, aid, and grants are received, the academy attendee shall not be charged the remaining difference.

3.05 An eligible postsecondary institution shall develop formal partnerships with Arkansas public schools to build commitments for teacher employment upon an academy attendee's completion of a Teacher Academy program.

3.06 The targeted deployment of academy attendees who are currently teachers who have completed an Teacher Academy program shall be based on the:

3.06.1 Needs of each public school system;

3.06.2 Community that is being served; and

3.06.3 Individual skills of each current teacher who has completed an Teacher Academy program.

3.07 A program offered as part of an eligible postsecondary institution's Teacher Academy shall include accelerated program models for the following, without limitation:

3.07.1 Subject areas and geographical areas identified by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as experiencing a critical shortage of teachers;

3.07.2 An individual seeking postbaccalaureate coursework that results in a professional certification; and

3.07.3 A student in a non-education program who seeks to complete one (1) or more teacher preparation courses leading to a teaching certification following graduation.

#### **4.00 SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNTS & ACADEMY ATTENDEE REQUIREMENTS**

4.01 Each academy attendee enrolled in the Teacher Academy program at an eligible postsecondary institution shall be awarded an annual scholarship up to the actual cost of the:

4.01.1 Eligible postsecondary institution's tuition and fees, for a maximum of:

4.01.1.1 Two (2) academic years or four (4) academic semesters for academy attendees that are graduate students;

4.01.1.2 Four (4) academic years or eight (8) academic semesters for academy attendees that are undergraduate students; and

4.01.1.3 Two (2) academic years or four (4) academic semesters for academy attendees at a community college;

4.01.1.3.1 Academy attendees enrolled at a community college shall receive continued eligibility for two (2) additional academic years or four (4) additional academic semesters at an undergraduate institution; and

4.01.2 Obtainment of a teaching license issued by the State Board of Education, including, without limitation, the actual cost of one (1) exam required by the board.

4.02 A scholarship shall be distributed to academy attendees only after all other financial gifts, aid, and grants have been received by an academy attendee.

4.02.1 The total scholarship amount awarded to each academy attendee shall not exceed the total cost of tuition and fees at any in-state public institution of higher education.

4.03 Each academy attendee enrolled in a Teacher Academy shall:

4.03.1 Agree to teach at least one (1) full school year in Arkansas at a public school, or school that serves primarily public school students with disabilities, for each academic year the academy attendee successfully completes and receives a scholarship for all or part of his or her tuition and fees.

4.03.1.1 For an academy attendee who teaches and receives the scholarship concurrently, the academy attendee's commitment period to teach in an Arkansas public school shall begin after graduation from a Teacher Academy;

4.03.2 Reimburse the Division for the:

4.03.2.1 Total amount of scholarship funds received for tuition and fees for an academic year an academy attendee does not successfully complete the academic year in good academic standing; and

4.03.2.2 Proportional to the amount of the scholarship funds received by academy attendee, that corresponds to the number of school years academy attendee agreed to teach, but did not; and

4.03.3 Not include time enrolled in a summer term when calculating his or her commitment period required for teaching in an Arkansas public school.

4.04 Academy attendees must apply for the Teacher Academy scholarship during the open application period via the Division's Scholarship Application Management System (SAMS) portal.

## **5.00 SCHOLARSHIP DISTRIBUTION DUTIES & REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

5.01 On or before March 1, 2024, and each year thereafter, the Division of Higher Education shall report to the Joint Budget Committee, or if the General Assembly

is not in session, the Legislative Council and the Governor's office, the following information:

5.01.1 The total number of academy attendees enrolled in each eligible postsecondary institution's Teacher Academy in the current academic year; and

5.01.2 The total number of Teacher Academy graduates receiving induction services in the current academic year.

5.02 On or before September 1, 2024, and each year thereafter, the division shall report to the Governor, President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and Speaker of the House of Representatives, with a copy submitted to the Secretary of State, the following information:

5.02.1 The total number of academy attendees enrolled in each institution's Teacher Academy by year of college enrollment;

5.02.2 The percentage of academy attendees who complete each year of an institution's Teacher Academy that plan to continue to the subsequent year, delineated by each teacher preparation program offered by each institution as part of the Teacher Academy;

5.02.3 The number of academy attendees who are currently teachers and who complete a program of study through an institution's Teacher Academy;

5.02.4 The number of academy attendees that are currently teaching in an Arkansas public school in as part of an agreement for receiving a scholarship pursuant to this rule;

5.02.5 The total number of Teacher Academy graduates receiving induction services;

5.02.6 The number of academy attendees who have defaulted on their obligations defined in this rule, and who are in repayment agreements;

5.02.7 The number of academy attendees who have deferred repayment agreements;

5.02.8 The number of academy attendees who have completed repayment

agreements;

5.02.9 The methodology for distributing any moneys appropriated for Teacher Academy scholarships and the amounts distributed to each institution; and

5.02.10 The amount of any unused moneys in the fund from the previous fiscal year.

DRAFT



1 (\$6,000) per year for a maximum of three (3) years for a licensed teacher who  
 2 graduated from a teacher education program after April 2004 and teaches in a  
 3 public school in this state or successfully completed an alternative educator  
 4 preparation program after April 2004 and teaches in a public school in the  
 5 ~~State Teacher Education Program~~ program:

6 (A) In a subject area designated by the Division of Higher  
 7 Education in consultation with the Division of Elementary and Secondary  
 8 Education as having a critical shortage of teachers; ~~or~~ and

9 (B) Located in a geographical area of the state designated  
 10 by the Division of Higher Education in consultation with the Division of  
 11 Elementary and Secondary Education as having a critical shortage of teachers;  
 12 ~~and.~~

13 (2) ~~An additional one thousand dollars (\$1,000) per year for a~~  
 14 ~~maximum of three (3) years for a licensed teacher who:~~

15 ~~(A) Is a minority;~~

16 ~~(B) Either:~~

17 ~~(i) Graduated from a teacher education program after~~  
 18 ~~April 2004; or~~

19 ~~(ii) Successfully completed an alternative educator~~  
 20 ~~preparation program; and~~

21 ~~(C) Teaches in a public school in this state~~ A licensed  
 22 teacher who is given intensive support status under the Teacher Excellence  
 23 and Support System, § 6-17-2801 et seq., shall be ineligible for receipt of  
 24 funds under the program for the school year.

25 (b) The Division of Higher Education may spend no more than fifty  
 26 thousand dollars (\$50,000) annually for costs associated with the  
 27 administration of the State Teacher Education Program.

28 (c) The Division of Higher Education shall promulgate rules necessary  
 29 for the implementation of this subchapter.

30  
 31 SECTION 57. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 82, is amended to add an  
 32 additional subchapter to read as follows:

33 Subchapter 22 – Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship Program Act

34  
 35 6-82-2201. Title.

36 This subchapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Arkansas

1 Teacher Academy Scholarship Program Act".

2  
3 6-82-2202. Creation.

4 The Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship Program is created under this  
5 subchapter.

6  
7 6-82-2203. Definitions.

8 As used in this subchapter:

9 (1) "Academy attendee" means an individual who is enrolled in an  
10 Arkansas Teacher Academy at an eligible postsecondary institution who is a:

11 (A) Current teacher;

12 (B) Teacher who has graduated from an Arkansas Teacher  
13 Academy at an eligible postsecondary institution; or

14 (C) Current student;

15 (2) "Eligible postsecondary institution" means a public or  
16 private two-year or four-year institution of higher education that:

17 (A) Offers a postbaccalaureate program that leads to  
18 teacher certification; and

19 (B) Has entered into an agreement with the Division of  
20 Higher Education for purposes of the Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship  
21 Program; and

22 (3) "Tuition and fees" means any one (1) of the following  
23 charged by an eligible postsecondary institution that is associated with a  
24 program of study that is part of the Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship  
25 Program and that leads to teacher certification:

26 (A) Tuition;

27 (B) Mandatory fees; and

28 (C) Program fees.

29  
30 6-82-2204. Arkansas Teacher Academy – Implementation – Purpose.

31 (a) An eligible postsecondary institution shall implement an Arkansas  
32 Teacher Academy to incentivize potential and enrolled academy attendees to:

33 (1) Enter the teaching profession; and

34 (2) Commit to teaching in:

35 (A) Arkansas public schools; or

36 (B) Critical shortage areas in Arkansas based on subject

1 areas or geographical areas.

2 (b) The Division of Higher Education, in consultation with public and  
3 private postsecondary institutions, shall develop and implement a centralized  
4 administrative process for each Arkansas Teacher Academy, which shall include  
5 without limitation the following:

6 (1) A marketing and promotion plan to recruit academy attendees  
7 for an Arkansas Teacher Academy;

8 (2) Data collection and reporting;

9 (3) Tracking of postgraduation service requirements;

10 (4) Coordination of induction services;

11 (5) Distribution of moneys in the Arkansas Teacher Academy  
12 Scholarship Program Fund between eligible postsecondary institutions;

13 (6) Collection of reimbursements from individuals who fail to  
14 meet the service requirements under this subchapter;

15 (7) A process for assessing an academy attendee's ability to  
16 repay financial assistance received under this subchapter if the academy  
17 attendee who receives financial assistance under this subchapter is  
18 physically or mentally unable to fulfill the requirements of an Arkansas  
19 Teacher Academy program; and

20 (8) A process for deferring service or repayment required by  
21 this subchapter based on factors adopted by the division.

22  
23 6-82-2205. Arkansas Teacher Academy – Programs – Eligible  
24 postsecondary institution duties.

25 (a) An Arkansas Teacher Academy may include without limitation a new  
26 or existing teacher preparation program that utilizes proven, research-based  
27 models of best practices that are already being implemented in similar  
28 program pathways.

29 (b) An eligible postsecondary institution may:

30 (1) Develop a portfolio of teacher preparation programs to offer  
31 as part of its Arkansas Teacher Academy;

32 (2)(A) Give priority to students in grades eleven (11) and  
33 twelve (12).

34 (B) However, an eligible postsecondary institution shall  
35 not exclude students in grades nine (9) and ten (10) from its Arkansas  
36 Teacher Academy; and

1           (3)(A) Use scholarship funds that exceed the cost of tuition and  
2 fees at the eligible postsecondary institution to support its Arkansas  
3 Teacher Academy costs.

4           (B) However, if a scholarship awarded to an academy  
5 attendee under this subchapter does not cover the eligible postsecondary  
6 institution's tuition and fees after an academy attendee receives all other  
7 financial gifts, financial aid, and grants, the eligible postsecondary  
8 institution shall not charge an academy attendee awarded a scholarship under  
9 this subchapter the remaining difference.

10          (c)(1) An eligible postsecondary institution shall develop formal  
11 partnerships with Arkansas public schools to build commitments for teacher  
12 employment upon an academy attendee's completion of an Arkansas Teacher  
13 Academy program.

14          (2) The targeted deployment of academy attendees who are  
15 currently teachers who have completed an Arkansas Teacher Academy program  
16 shall be based on the:

17               (A) Needs of each public school system;

18               (B) Community that is being served; and

19               (C) Individual skills of each current teacher who has  
20 completed an Arkansas Teacher Academy program.

21          (d) A program offered as part of an eligible postsecondary  
22 institution's Arkansas Teacher Academy shall include accelerated program  
23 models for the following without limitation:

24               (1) Subject areas and geographical areas identified by the  
25 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as experiencing a critical  
26 shortage of teachers;

27               (2) An individual seeking postbaccalaureate coursework that  
28 results in a professional certification; and

29               (3) A student in a non-education program who seeks to complete  
30 one (1) or more teacher preparation courses in order to prepare him or her to  
31 receive a teaching certification following his or her graduation.

32  
33          6-82-2206. Scholarship – Amount – Academy attendee requirements.

34          (a)(1) An eligible postsecondary institution shall provide to each  
35 academy attendee who is enrolled in its Arkansas Teacher Academy an annual  
36 scholarship up to the actual cost of the:

1 (A) Eligible postsecondary institution's tuition and fees  
2 for a maximum of:

3 (i) Two (2) academic years or four (4) academic  
4 semesters for an academy attendee who is a graduate student enrolled in the  
5 Arkansas Teacher Academy at the eligible postsecondary institution;

6 (ii) Four (4) academic years or eight (8) academic  
7 semesters for an undergraduate student enrolled in the Arkansas Teacher  
8 Academy at the eligible postsecondary institution; and

9 (iii)(a) Two (2) academic years or four (4) academic  
10 semesters for a community college student enrolled in the Arkansas Teacher  
11 Academy at the eligible postsecondary institution.

12 (b) A student who qualifies under subdivision  
13 (a)(1)(A)(iii)(a) of this section shall receive continued eligibility for two  
14 (2) additional academic years or four (4) additional academic semesters at a  
15 postsecondary institution that is an undergraduate institution; and

16 (B) Obtainment of a teaching license issued by the State  
17 Board of Education, including without limitation the actual cost of one (1)  
18 exam required for obtaining a teaching license issued by the state board.

19 (2) A scholarship distributed to an academy attendee under  
20 subdivision (a)(1) of this section shall be distributed only after all other  
21 financial gifts, financial aid, and grants have been received by an Academy  
22 attendee enrolled in an Arkansas Teacher Academy at an eligible postsecondary  
23 institution.

24 (b) Each academy attendee who is enrolled in an Arkansas Teacher  
25 Academy shall:

26 (1)(A) Agree to teach at least one (1) full school year in a  
27 public school or in a school that serves primarily public school students  
28 with disabilities in the State of Arkansas for each academic year the academy  
29 attendee successfully completes and for which the academy attendee receives a  
30 scholarship for all or part of his or her tuition and fees.

31 (B) For an academy attendee who teaches and receives the  
32 scholarship concurrently, the academy attendee's commitment period to teach  
33 in a public school in the State of Arkansas as required under subdivision  
34 (b)(1)(A) of this section shall begin after the academy attendee's graduation  
35 from an Arkansas Teacher Academy;

36 (2) Reimburse the Division of Higher Education for the:

1                   (A) Total amount of scholarship funds the academy attendee  
2 received for tuition and fees for an academic year in which the academy  
3 attendee does not successfully complete the academic year in good academic  
4 standing; and

5                   (B) Proportional amount of the scholarship the academy  
6 attendee received for tuition and fees that corresponds to the number of  
7 school years the academy attendee agreed to teach in a public school in the  
8 State of Arkansas but did not teach in a public school in the State of  
9 Arkansas as required under subdivision (b)(1)(A) of this section; and

10                   (3) Not include time that the academy attendee is enrolled in a  
11 summer term in the calculation of the academy attendee's commitment period to  
12 teach in a public school in the State of Arkansas as required under  
13 subdivision (b)(1)(A) of this section.

14  
15                   6-82-2207. Division of Higher Education – Scholarship distribution  
16 duties – Reporting requirements.

17                   (a) The Division of Higher Education shall:

18                   (1) Administer the Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship Program  
19 Fund; and

20                   (2) Establish criteria for distributing scholarships from the  
21 fund.

22                   (b) On or before March 1, 2024, and each year thereafter, the division  
23 shall report to the Joint Budget Committee, or, if the General Assembly is  
24 not in session, the Legislative Council, and the Governor's office the  
25 following information:

26                   (1) The total number of academy attendees enrolled in each  
27 eligible postsecondary institution's Arkansas Teacher Academy in the current  
28 academic year; and

29                   (2) The total number of Arkansas Teacher Academy graduates  
30 receiving induction services in the current academic year.

31                   (c) On or before September 1, 2024, and each year thereafter, the  
32 division shall report to the Governor, President Pro Tempore of the Senate,  
33 and Speaker of the House of Representatives, with a copy submitted to the  
34 Secretary of State, the following information:

35                   (1) The total number of academy attendees enrolled in each  
36 eligible postsecondary institution's Arkansas Teacher Academy by year of

1 college enrollment;

2 (2) The percentage of academy attendees who complete each year  
3 of an eligible postsecondary institution's Arkansas Teacher Academy and who  
4 plan to continue to the subsequent year, delineated by each teacher  
5 preparation program offered by each eligible postsecondary institution as  
6 part of the Arkansas Teacher Academy;

7 (3) The number of academy attendees who are currently teachers  
8 and who complete a program of study through an eligible postsecondary  
9 institution's Arkansas Teacher Academy;

10 (4) The number of academy attendees who are currently teaching  
11 in a public school in the State of Arkansas as part of an agreement for  
12 receiving a scholarship under this subchapter;

13 (5) The total number of Arkansas Teacher Academy graduates  
14 receiving induction services;

15 (6) The number of academy attendees who have defaulted on their  
16 obligations under this subchapter and who are in repayment agreements;

17 (7) The number of academy attendees who have deferred repayment  
18 agreements;

19 (8) The number of academy attendees who have completed repayment  
20 agreements;

21 (9) The methodology for distributing any moneys appropriated for  
22 the scholarships distributed under this subchapter to each eligible  
23 postsecondary institution and the amounts distributed to each eligible  
24 postsecondary institution; and

25 (10) The amount of unused moneys in the fund from the previous  
26 fiscal year.

27 (d) The division may promulgate rules to implement this subchapter.

28  
29 SECTION 58. Arkansas Code Title 6 is amended to add an additional  
30 subtitle to read as follows:

31 SUBTITLE 7

32 EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION.

33  
34 CHAPTER 86

35 GENERAL PROVISIONS [RESERVED.]

36

**RULES GOVERNING THE ARKANSAS CONCURRENT CHALLENGE  
SCHOLARSHIP**

---

In compliance with Acts 413, 386, and 539 of 2023, the rules for the Arkansas Concurrent Challenge Scholarship are presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) for final approval.

The following resolution is offered for the Board's consideration:

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board reviews the rules presented in this agenda item for the Arkansas Concurrent Challenge Scholarship to be administered by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education or his designee is authorized to make technical changes and corrections, when necessary, in the program rules for the Arkansas Concurrent Challenge Scholarship.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Concurrent Challenge Scholarship rules be approved for final approval.



**DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION RULES GOVERNING ARKANSAS  
CONCURRENT CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM  
PUBLIC COMMENTS AND RESPONSES**

---

Commenter Name:

Comments: No public comments received.

Division Response: No substantive changes made.

---

**DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION RULES GOVERNING THE  
ARKANSAS CONCURRENT CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM  
Effective Date:**

**POLICY STATEMENT**

These rules shall be known as the ~~Arkansas Department of Education,~~ Division of Higher Education Rules Governing the Arkansas Concurrent Challenge Scholarship Program. This policy addresses the student eligibility criteria, method for recipient selection, continuing eligibility requirements and procedures for making payments to an approved institution of higher education, and other administrative procedures necessary for operation of the program.

**APPLICABLE ARKANSAS CODE**

~~Act 456 of 2019~~ Ark. Code Ann. § 6-85-401 et seq.

**APPLICABILITY**

This rule is applicable to students who are eligible for a scholarship under the Arkansas Concurrent Challenge Scholarship Program.

**1.00 DEFINITIONS**

1.01 “Academic year” means a measure of the academic work to be accomplished by the recipient.

1.01.1 The academic year is defined as fall, spring, and summer semesters, in that order.

1.02 ~~4~~ “Approved Institution of higher education” means an institution of higher education that:

1.02.1 ~~a.~~ Is approved by the Division of Higher Education to participate in the Arkansas Concurrent Challenge Scholarship Program;

1.02.2 ~~b.~~ Offers at least a fifty percent (50%) discount on the tuition and mandatory fees of an endorsed concurrent enrollment course or certificate program to a student who is enrolled in an endorsed concurrent enrollment course or certificate program, unless other opportunities are provided that lower the tuition and mandatory fees below fifty percent (50%); and

1.02.3 ~~e.~~ Is a:

1.02.3.1 ~~i.~~ State-supported two-year or four-year college or university;  
~~or~~

1.02.3.2 ~~ii.~~ Private, nonprofit two-year or four-year college or university that has its primary headquarters located in Arkansas and that is eligible to receive Title IV federal student aid funds; or

1.02.3.3 Beginning January 1, 2025, public or private vocational-technical school or technical institute, only if its primary headquarters is located in Arkansas, and it is eligible to receive Title IV federal student aid funds.

1.03 2) "Eligible course" means any endorsed concurrent enrollment course or certificate program.

1.04 3) "Certificate program" means a program that is offered or made available to a student by an approved institution of higher education that leads to the obtainment of a certification or license.

1.04.1 This definition does not include a program operated or sponsored by a third party.

1.05 4) "Endorsed concurrent enrollment course" means a college-level course offered by an approved institution of higher education in Arkansas that upon completion would qualify for academic credit in both the approved institution of higher education and a public high school that;

1.05.1 ~~a.~~ Is in one (1) of the four (4) core areas of math, English, science, and social studies;

1.05.2 ~~b.~~ Meets the requirements of § 6-16-1204(b); and

1.05.3 ~~e.~~ Is listed in the Arkansas Course Transfer System of the division ~~Division of Higher Education~~;

1.05.3.1 This definition does not include programs operated or sponsored by a third party;

1.06 5) "Student" means a person who has sophomore, junior or senior status and who is enrolled at a:

1.06.1 ~~a.~~ Public high school in Arkansas;

1.06.2 ~~b.~~ Private high school in Arkansas; or

1.06.3 ~~e.~~ Home school, as defined in § 6-15-501 et seq.;

1.07 ~~6~~) “Student success plan” means a plan developed by school personnel in collaboration with parents and the student that is reviewed annually.

1.07.1 The plan shall, at a minimum:

1.07.1.1 ~~a~~: Guide the student along pathways to graduation;

1.07.1.2 ~~b~~: Address accelerated learning opportunities;

1.07.1.3 ~~c~~: Address academic deficits and interventions; and

1.07.1.4 ~~d~~: Include college and career planning components;

1.08 ~~7~~) “Third party” means a person or entity that does not receive disbursement directly from the ~~D~~ivision for this program, including a subcontractor of the institution.

## **2.00 ELIGIBILITY**

2.01 ~~4~~) A student is eligible to receive an Arkansas Concurrent Challenge Scholarship for an academic semester or academic year during which the student is enrolled in an endorsed concurrent enrollment course or certificate program if the student:

2.01.1 ~~a~~: Is an Arkansas resident or, if the student is less than twenty-one (21) years of age, either the student or one (1) parent of the student is an Arkansas resident; and

2.01.2 ~~b~~: Provides proof that a completed student success plan has been submitted to the student’s high school or home school.

2.02 ~~2~~)—The student success plan for a student who is enrolled in an endorsed concurrent enrollment course or certificate program shall:

2.02.1 ~~a~~: Be prepared in consultation with school personnel, the student, and the student’s parent or legal guardian or a college advisor.

2.02.2 ~~b~~: Include an endorsed concurrent enrollment course or certificate program that is relevant to the student’s success plan and include measures that ensure the successful completion of the endorsed concurrent enrollment course or certificate program in which the student is enrolled.

2.02.3 ~~c~~: A student whose enrollment in a vocational center is reimbursable under § 6-51-305 is not eligible for a scholarship under this program.

2.02.4 ~~d~~: Students must meet all established requirements for endorsed concurrent enrollment courses set by the Division of Higher Education.

### **3.00 CONTINUING ELIGIBILITY**

- 3.01 1) A student is eligible to continue to receive the Arkansas Concurrent Challenge Scholarship if the student successfully completes an endorsed concurrent credit course or certificate program course and receives a minimum grade point average of 2.5.
- 3.02 2) A student who fails to complete an endorsed concurrent credit course or certificate program course with a minimum grade point average of 2.5 shall retain eligibility and enroll in no more than one (1) endorsed concurrent credit course or certificate program course for the first semester following the semester in which the student failed to successfully complete an endorsed concurrent credit course or certificate program course.
- 3.02.1 a. If a student fails to complete an endorsed concurrent credit course or certificate program course a second time, the student shall be ineligible to reapply or receive the scholarship again.
- 3.02.1.1 This also applies to a student that drops out of an endorsed concurrent credit course or certificate program course before the end of the semester.

### **4.00 AMOUNT OF AWARDS**

- 4.01 1) If funds are available, the Division of Higher Education shall award Arkansas Concurrent Challenge Scholarships to all students eligible for the scholarship for the fall, ~~and~~ spring or summer terms.
- 4.02 2) The maximum scholarship award a student may receive in an academic year shall be the lesser of:
- 4.02.1 a. ~~Five hundred dollars (\$500)~~
- 4.02.1.1 i. ~~Eligible students shall be awarded one-hundred and twenty-five dollars (\$125) for each eligible course the student is enrolled, up to two (2) eligible courses per semester; or~~
- 4.02.2 b. ~~The actual tuition and mandatory fees cost to the student for up to two (2) eligible courses per semester.~~
- 4.03 3) A scholarship granted under this section may be awarded in addition to any funds received for the enrollment in an endorsed concurrent enrollment course under § 6-16-1204(e)(3).
- 4.04 4) Unless a student's high school or community-based program provides financial assistance for the cost of tuition and mandatory fees for an endorsed concurrent

credit course or certificate program course, the remaining cost of tuition and mandatory fees for an endorsed concurrent enrollment course or certificate program is the responsibility of the eligible student who is enrolled in the endorsed concurrent credit course or certificate program course.

- 4.05 The division shall distribute scholarships from the funds available in an equal amount to every approved institution of higher education that has enrolled a student eligible to receive this scholarship.

## **5.00 INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

Approved institution of higher education responsibilities.

- 5.01 1) Administrative agreement.

5.01.1 The chief executive officer of the approved institution of higher education is responsible for appointing one (1) representative from the financial aid office to act as administrator of the Arkansas Concurrent Challenge Scholarship Program and to receive all communications, forms, etc.

5.01.1.1 This representative is responsible for verification, data, and compliance with these rules.

5.01.2 The approved institution of higher education shall comply with all rules in order to maintain the status of an approved institution of higher education.

- 5.02 2) Disbursement records.

5.02.1 The approved institution of higher education shall maintain information on the student indicating disbursement of scholarship funds.

- 5.03 3) Verification.

5.03.1 The approved institution of higher education shall provide certification of enrollment in courses that will meet satisfactory academic progress standards, as of the eleventh day of classes, by completing a Verification Roster each semester after registration.

5.03.1.1 The Verification Roster is an alphabetical listing by an approved institution of higher education of all students receiving the award for a given academic term.

5.03.1.2 The certifying official is responsible for completing the verification rosters each semester.

- 5.04 4) Deadlines for disbursement of funds.

5.04.1 The deadline for disbursement of funds is no later than ten (10) days after receipt of funds.

5.04.1.1 Any outstanding funds not disbursed by this date must be returned to the division.

5.04.1.2 For those students whose applications are received by the division too late to allow disbursement by this date, disbursement will be made within ten (10) working days of receipt of the verification roster and electronic transfer of funds to the approved institution of higher education.

5.05 ⇨ Due diligence.

5.05.1 The approved institution of higher education will exercise due diligence in providing complete, accurate, and timely information as requested by the division on any scholarship recipient or former scholarship recipient.

5.05.2 In addition, the approved institution of higher education will exercise due diligence in complying with these rules.

5.05.3 The division may periodically review the approved institution of higher education's records concerning this scholarship program to ensure the compliance with due diligence requirements.

5.06 ⇨ Course eligibility.

5.06.1 The approved institution of higher education is responsible for verifying that the endorsed concurrent credit courses and certificate program courses meet the requirements set in Arkansas Code Ann. § 6-16-1202 and policies of the division.

## **6.00 HIGH SCHOOL AND HOME SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES**

6.01 ⇨ The high school or home school shall provide certification of eligibility for a student to enroll in an endorsed concurrent enrollment course or certificate program.

6.02 A high school or home school shall verify the completion of the student's student success plan before certifying that a student is eligible for the scholarship.

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2023  
4

As Engrossed: H2/14/23

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1412

5 By: Representative J. Mayberry  
6 By: Senator J. English  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT CONCERNING RULES PROMULGATED BY THE DIVISION  
10 OF HIGHER EDUCATION; TO REQUIRE THE DIVISION OF  
11 HIGHER EDUCATION TO PROMULGATE CERTAIN RULES  
12 CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS FUNDED  
13 WITH STATE FUNDS AND LOTTERY PROCEEDS; TO DECLARE AN  
14 EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
15  
16

## Subtitle

17 TO REQUIRE THE DIVISION OF HIGHER  
18 EDUCATION TO PROMULGATE CERTAIN RULES  
19 CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF  
20 SCHOLARSHIPS FUNDED WITH STATE FUNDS AND  
21 LOTTERY PROCEEDS; AND TO DECLARE AN  
22 EMERGENCY.  
23  
24  
25

26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
27

28 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 80, Subchapter 1, is amended  
29 to add an additional section to read as follows:

30 6-80-109. Division of Higher Education – Rules.

31 (a) The Division of Higher Education shall promulgate or update  
32 existing division rules to allow a student who is a recipient of a  
33 scholarship to utilize scholarship funds to enroll in and attend courses  
34 offered during a summer term at the postsecondary institution in which the  
35 student is enrolled.

36 (b) Rules promulgated under this section shall include without





1 limitation requirements concerning:

2 (1) Student eligibility; and

3 (2) The disbursement and administration of scholarship funds  
4 utilized by a student to enroll in and attend courses offered during a summer  
5 term.

6 (c) As used in this section, "scholarship" shall include a scholarship  
7 program that is:

8 (1) Funded with state funds or lottery proceeds; and

9 (2) Administered by the division.

10  
11 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-85-204(14), concerning the definition of  
12 "semester" under the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 (14)(A) "Semester" means one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of a traditional academic  
15 year at an institution of higher education, or an equivalent approved by the  
16 division, in which a student enrolls for not less than:

17 ~~(A)(i)~~ Fifteen (15) credit hours as a full-time student,  
18 except that in the first semester as a first-time full-time freshman, a  
19 traditional student shall enroll in not less than twelve (12) credit hours;  
20 or

21 ~~(B)(ii)~~ Six (6) credit hours as a part-time student.

22 (B) For purposes of summer courses at an institution of  
23 higher education, a "semester" shall mean the same as is defined by the  
24 division, as required by § 6-80-109;

25  
26 SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
27 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the Division of Higher  
28 Education must make certain arrangements to facilitate the use of Arkansas  
29 Academic Challenge Scholarship funds for upcoming summer courses; and that  
30 many of these arrangements must occur in time for the 2023-2024 school year.  
31 Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being necessary  
32 for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become  
33 effective on July 1, 2023.

34  
35 /s/J. Mayberry

36 **APPROVED: 3/30/23**

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2023  
4

As Engrossed: H3/16/23

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1333

5 By: Representatives Lundstrum, Long, McAlindon, R. Scott Richardson, Rose, Underwood, Unger  
6 By: Senator J. English  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT CONCERNING THE ARKANSAS CONCURRENT CHALLENGE  
10 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM; TO AMEND THE DEFINITION OF A  
11 STUDENT UNDER THE ARKANSAS CONCURRENT CHALLENGE  
12 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
13  
14

## Subtitle

15 TO AMEND THE DEFINITION OF A STUDENT  
16 UNDER THE ARKANSAS CONCURRENT CHALLENGE  
17 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.  
18  
19  
20

21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
22

23 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-85-402(4), concerning the definition of  
24 "student" under the Arkansas Concurrent Challenge Scholarship Program, is  
25 amended to read as follows:

26 (4) "Student" means a person ~~who has junior or senior status and~~  
27 in grade ten (10), grade eleven (11), or grade twelve (12) who is enrolled at  
28 a:

- 29 (A) Public high school in Arkansas;  
30 (B) Private high school in Arkansas; or  
31 (C) Home school, as defined in § 6-15-501.  
32

33 /s/Lundstrum  
34

35 APPROVED: 4/4/23  
36



1 State of Arkansas *As Engrossed: H2/20/23 H4/5/23*

2 94th General Assembly

# A Bill

3 Regular Session, 2023

HOUSE BILL 1417

4

5 By: Representative Lundstrum

6 *By: Senator J. English*

7

8

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9

*AN ACT TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS ACADEMIC CHALLENGE*

10

*SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM TO INCLUDE VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL*

11

*SCHOOLS AND TECHNICAL INSTITUTES AS APPROVED*

12

*INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION; TO ENSURE THAT*

13

*CERTAIN FUNDS FROM THE HIGHER EDUCATION GRANTS FUND*

14

*ACCOUNT ARE EXPENDED ON STUDENTS ENROLLED IN A*

15

*TECHNICAL INSTITUTE OR A VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOL;*

16

*AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.*

17

18

19

## Subtitle

20

*TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS ACADEMIC CHALLENGE*

21

*SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM CONCERNING APPROVED*

22

*INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION; AND*

23

*CONCERNING THE HIGHER EDUCATION GRANTS*

24

*FUND ACCOUNT.*

25

26

27 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

28

29 *SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-85-204(3), concerning the definition of*  
30 *an "approved institution of higher education" under the Arkansas Academic*  
31 *Challenge Scholarship Program, is amended to read as follows:*

32 *(3)(A) "Approved institution of higher education" means an*  
33 *institution of higher education approved by the division to participate in*  
34 *the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program and that is:*

35 *~~(A)(i)~~ A state-supported two-year or four-year*  
36 *college or university;*



1 ~~(B)(ii)~~ A private, nonprofit two-year or four-year  
2 college or university with its primary headquarters located in Arkansas that  
3 is eligible to receive Title IV federal student aid funds; ~~or~~

4 ~~(C)(iii)~~ An approved school of nursing, subject to  
5 the provisions of § 6-85-213(c);

6 (iv)(a) A public or private vocational-technical  
7 school.

8 (b) A public or private vocational-technical  
9 school shall be bonded and insured; or

10 (v)(a) A public or private technical institute.

11 (b) A public or private technical institute  
12 shall be bonded and insured.

13 (B) An approved institution of higher education that is a  
14 private, nonprofit two-year or four-year college or university shall be  
15 eligible to receive Title IV federal student aid funds;

16  
17 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 85, Subchapter 2, is amended  
18 to add an additional section to read as follows:

19 6-85-222. Vocational-technical school and technical institute  
20 eligibility.

21 (a) An applicant for a scholarship under this subchapter who has  
22 applied to or is currently enrolled in a public or private vocational-  
23 technical school or a public or private technical institute shall, in  
24 addition to the relevant eligibility requirements under this subchapter, be  
25 accepted for admission in a program of study that leads to an associate  
26 degree or a certificate program in one (1) of the following high-demand  
27 fields:

28 (1) Industry;

29 (2) Health care; or

30 (3) Information technology.

31 (b) The Division of Higher Education shall file annually by November 1  
32 a report to the Legislative Council in the manner and format that the  
33 Legislative Council requires regarding:

34 (1) All state-supported student financial assistance awarded by  
35 the division under this subchapter to students enrolled in vocational-  
36 technical schools and technical institutes; and



## **RULES GOVERNING THE ARKANSAS FUTURE GRANT PROGRAM**

---

In compliance with Acts 413 of 2023, the rules for the Arkansas Future Grant Program are presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) for final approval.

The following resolution is offered for the Board's consideration:

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board reviews the rules presented in this agenda item for the Arkansas Future Grant Program to be administered by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education or his designee is authorized to make technical changes and corrections, when necessary, in the program rules for the Arkansas Future Grant Program.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Future Grant Program rules be approved for final approval.

**DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION RULES GOVERNING THE ARKANSAS  
FUTURE GRANT PROGRAM**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS AND RESPONSES**

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Commenter Name:

Comments: No public comments received.

Division Response: No substantive changes made.

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**DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION RULES GOVERNING THE  
ARKANSAS FUTURE GRANT PROGRAM  
Effective Date:**

**POLICY STATEMENT**

These rules shall be known as the ~~Arkansas~~ Division of Higher Education Rules Governing the Arkansas Future Grant Program. This policy addresses the student eligibility criteria, method for recipient selection, continuing eligibility requirements, procedures for making payments to an approved institution of higher education, and other administrative procedures necessary for operation of the program.

**APPLICABLE ARKANSAS CODE**

Ark. Code Ann. 6-82-1801 ET. Seq.

**1.00 PROGRAM DEFINITIONS**

- 1.01 “Approved institution of higher education” means an institution of higher education, approved by the Division of Higher Education to participate in the Arkansas Future Grant Program, ~~and that is:~~
- 1.01.1 ~~(A)~~ A state-supported two-year or four-year college or university;
  - 1.01.2 ~~(B)~~ A state-supported technical institute; ~~or~~
  - 1.01.3 ~~(C)~~ An approved state-supported school of nursing; or
  - 1.01.4 ~~(D)~~ A private, nonprofit two-year or four-year college or university.
- 1.02 “Approved state-supported school of nursing” means a state-supported school of nursing with its primary headquarters located in Arkansas that:
- 1.02.1 ~~(A)~~ Prepares students as registered nurses;
  - 1.02.2 ~~(B)~~ Grants nursing diplomas;
  - 1.02.3 ~~(C)~~ Is eligible to participate in the federal student aid programs of the Higher Education Act of 1965, 20 U.S.C. § 1070 et seq.;
  - 1.02.4 ~~(D)~~ Is approved by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing;
  - 1.02.5 ~~(E)~~ Has been approved by the Division of Higher Education as eligible to participate in the Arkansas Future Grant Program; and



- 1.02.6 ~~(F)~~ Is not a two-year or four-year college or university;
- 1.03 “Federal student financial assistance” means scholarships or grants awarded to a student as a result of:
- 1.03.1 ~~(A)~~ An approved Free Application for Federal Student Aid, including without limitation a Pell Grant; or
- 1.03.2 ~~(B)~~ The student's or other family member's service in the United States Armed Forces, including without limitation the Army National Guard or Air National Guard;
- 1.04 “Private scholarship” means a scholarship or grant awarded by a private entity or donor;
- 1.05 “Regional high-demand field” means any field of study identified as:
- 1.05.1 ~~in~~ demand by the Arkansas Division of Workforce Services as published on its annual regional Projected Employment Opportunities List; or
- 1.05.2 any field of study identified as In high demand by an approved institution of higher education and approved by the Division of Higher Education.
- 1.06 “State-supported student financial assistance” means a state-supported scholarship, grant, tuition waiver, or tuition reimbursement, funded with state funds or net proceeds from the state lottery, awarded by:
- 1.06.1 ~~(A)~~ The Division of Higher Education; or
- 1.06.2 ~~(B)~~ A scholarship or grant awarded by an approved institution of higher education in this state, funded, in whole or in part, by state funds, including without limitation:
- 1.06.2.1 ~~(i)~~ Scholarships awarded on the basis of entrance exam scores or high school academic achievement;
- 1.06.2.2 ~~(ii)~~ Tuition waivers based on:
- 1.06.2.2.1 ~~a~~Age,
- 1.06.2.2.2 ~~m~~Military service,
- 1.06.2.2.3 ~~o~~Occupation, or
- 1.06.2.2.4 ~~o~~Other factors;

- 1.06.2.3 ~~(iii)~~ Performance scholarships for band, musical performing groups, arts, theater, forensics, and similar activities that are not awarded on the basis of entrance exam scores or high school academic achievement; and
- 1.06.2.4 ~~(iv)~~ Any other publicly funded program under which students are not charged or are reimbursed by the approved institution of higher education for:
  - 1.06.2.4.1 ~~t~~Tuition,
  - 1.06.2.4.2 ~~f~~Fees,
  - 1.06.2.4.3 ~~b~~Books, or
  - 1.06.2.4.4 ~~o~~Other costs of attendance.

**Procedures**

**2.00 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

2.01 ~~(a)~~ A student is eligible for an Arkansas Future Grant if the student is an Arkansas resident who: ~~(1)~~ Mmeets one ~~(1)~~ of the following requirements:

2.01.1 ~~(A)~~ Has either:

2.01.1.1 ~~(i)~~ Graduated from an Arkansas:

2.01.1.1.1 ~~(a)~~ Public high school;

2.01.1.1.2 ~~(b)~~ Private high school; or

2.01.1.1.3 ~~(c)~~ Home school under § 6-15-501 et seq.; or

2.01.1.2 ~~(ii)~~ Received a high school equivalency diploma approved by the Division of Workforce Services; or

2.01.2 ~~(B)~~ Verifies that he or she has resided in Arkansas for the three (3) years immediately preceding application for the grant, and has either:

2.01.2.1 ~~(i)~~ Graduated from an out-of-state:

2.01.2.1.1 ~~(a)~~ Public high school;

2.01.2.1.2 ~~(b)~~ Private high school; or

2.01.2.1.3 ~~(e)~~ Home school recognized by another state; or

2.01.2.2 ~~(ii)~~ Received a high school equivalency diploma approved by another state;

2.01.3 ~~(2)~~ Is enrolled part-time or full-time at an approved institution of higher education, in a program of study that leads to an associate degree or a certification in a:

2.01.3.1 ~~(A)~~ Science, technology, engineering, accounting, finance, nursing, education, or mathematics field, including without limitation;

2.01.3.1.1 ~~e~~ Computer science;:

2.01.3.1.2 ~~i~~ Information technology;:

2.01.3.1.3 ~~d~~ Data analysis; or

2.01.3.1.4 ~~g~~ Graphic design;

2.01.3.2 ~~(B)~~ Regional high-demand field; or

2.01.3.3 ~~(C)~~ State high-demand field; and

2.01.4 ~~(3)~~ Has completed and submitted to the United States Department of Education a Free Application for Federal Student Aid or a subsequent application required by the United States Department of Education for federal financial aid.

### **3.00 CONTINUED ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

3.01 ~~(a)~~ A student may continue to be eligible until the student has:

3.01.1 ~~(1)~~ Received the grant for five (5) academic semesters;

3.01.2 ~~(2)~~ Obtained an associate degree;

3.01.3 ~~(3)~~ Failed to maintain satisfactory academic progress, as determined by the approved institution of higher education in which the student is enrolled; or

3.01.4 ~~(4)~~ Failed to complete the mentoring or community service requirements under the Grant Recipient Responsibilities section of this rule.

#### **4.00 GRANT AWARD AMOUNTS**

4.01 ~~(a)(1)~~ An Arkansas Future Grant shall be in an amount equal to the tuition, fees, and other charges incurred by a student who meets the requirements under the Eligibility Requirements and Continuing Eligibility Requirements sections of this rule to attend an approved institution of higher education, less the amount the student receives in:

4.01.1 ~~(A)~~ State-supported student financial assistance;

4.01.2 ~~(B)~~ Federal student financial assistance; and

4.01.3 ~~(C)~~ Private scholarships.

4.02 ~~(2)~~ If the approved institution of higher education in which the student is enrolled is a state supported four-year institution of higher education, or a private, nonprofit four-year institution of higher education, the total amount of tuition, fees, and other charges under subdivision ~~(a)(1)~~ 4.01 of this section shall be calculated as the average cost of tuition, fees, and other charges, at approved institutions of higher education that are state-supported two-year institutions of higher education, or private, nonprofit two-year institutions of higher education.

4.03 ~~(b)~~ The Division of Higher Education shall disburse the grant directly to the approved institution of higher education.

4.04 ~~(c)~~The division shall award grants under this rule in the order in which the division receives applications from eligible students and based on availability of funds, to include summer terms, semesters, quarters, or their equivalent, at the postsecondary institution in which the student is enrolled.

#### **5.00 GRANT HOLD**

5.01 ~~(a)(1)~~ The Division of Higher Education may approve a grant hold for a period of twenty-four (24) months or less.

5.01.1 ~~(2)~~ The reasons for a grant hold may include without limitation:

5.01.1.1 ~~(A)~~A medical condition of the student or a member of the student's immediate family that, on the basis of a physician's good-faith judgment, necessitates the student or the student's immediate family member, to be hospitalized or receive outpatient or home-based medical care, or to recuperate until released by the attending physician;

5.01.1.2 ~~(B)~~ A personal or family emergency that requires the student to:

5.01.1.2.1 ~~(i)~~ Attend the funeral of an immediate family member;  
or

5.01.1.2.2 ~~(ii)~~ Visit a relative of the student if the relative has a medical condition in which death is possible or imminent;

5.01.1.3 ~~(C)~~ Military service under Arkansas Code § 6-61-112; or

5.01.1.4 ~~(D)~~ ~~(i)~~ A commitment of twelve (12) to twenty-four (24) months for service in a national or international humanitarian project, sponsored by a nonprofit corporation organized with a charitable or educational purpose.

5.01.1.4.1 ~~(ii)~~ The student's commitment shall be expressed in a written agreement with the nonprofit organization, including the terms of completion for the student's service on the related project.

5.01.1.4.2 ~~(iii)~~ The division shall release a grant hold if the division determines that the student did not complete the commitment under the written agreement.

## **6.00 GRANT RECIPIENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

6.01 ~~(a)~~ A student who receives an Arkansas Future Grant shall enter into a written agreement with the Division of Higher Education to:

6.01.1 ~~(1)~~ ~~(A)~~ Receive monthly mentoring from a mentor from an organization determined by the division ~~Division of Higher Education~~;

6.01.2 ~~(B)~~ A mentor under subdivision ~~(a)~~ ~~(1)~~ ~~(A)~~ 6.01.1 of this section shall:

6.01.2.1 ~~(i)~~ Receive annual mentoring training:

6.01.2.1.1 ~~(a)~~ Developed by the division ~~Division of Higher Education~~; and

6.01.2.1.2 ~~(b)~~ Provided by a local volunteer group approved by the division ~~Division of Higher Education~~; and

6.01.2.2 ~~(ii)~~ Certify to the division ~~Division of Higher Education~~ that at least one (1) time each semester the mentor has provided mentoring services by telephone, email, or in person to each student he or she is mentoring;

6.01.3 ~~(2)(A)~~ Complete at least ten (10) hours of community service each semester the student receives a grant;

6.01.3.1 ~~(B)(i)~~ A student may select a community service project that meets requirements developed by the division ~~Division of Higher Education~~.

6.01.3.1.1 ~~(ii)~~ An approved institution of higher education may provide community services opportunities designed to benefit the approved institution of higher education community or the broader local community.

6.01.3.2 ~~(C)~~ A student shall certify his or her community service to the approved institution of higher education by the last regular day of the semester the student received the grant; and

6.01.4 ~~(3)(A)~~ Reside in this state for three consecutive (3) years and be employed beginning within six (6) months after receiving an associate degree or a certification.

6.01.4.1 ~~(B)~~ The division ~~Division of Higher Education~~ may defer the requirement under subdivision ~~(a)(3)(A)~~ 6.01.4 of this section if:

6.01.4.1.1 ~~(i)~~ The Division of Higher Education, in consultation with the Division of Workforce Services, determines that there was no employment position available that would reasonably enable the student to meet this requirement; or

6.01.4.1.2 ~~(ii)~~ Special circumstances as determined by the Division of Higher Education exist.

6.01.4.2 ~~(C)~~ After the period of deferral, the student shall begin or resume working in this state or become subject to repayment under ~~subsection (b)~~ 6.02 of this section.

6.02 ~~(b)~~ The written agreement under ~~subsection (a)~~ 6.01 of this section shall provide that the grant converts into a loan and the student shall repay the grant amount:

6.02.1 ~~(4)~~ On a pro rata basis at an interest rate and on a schedule as determined by the division, ~~Division of Higher Education~~ for each year the student does not reside in this state for three (3) consecutive years, and become employed beginning within six (6) months after receiving an associate degree or a certification; or

6.02.2 ~~(2)~~In its entirety, at an interest rate and on a schedule as determined by the division, ~~Division of Higher Education~~ if the recipient does not comply with the written agreement under ~~subsection (a)~~ 6.01 of this section.

6.03 ~~(e)~~It is the recipient's responsibility to notify the division ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ of any change in status within twenty-one (21) days.

6.03.1 Failure to notify the division ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ of a change of status may affect future eligibility.

6.03.1.1 Change of status will include:

6.03.1.1.1 ~~(1)~~Change in name;

6.03.1.1.2 ~~(2)~~Change in address; and

6.03.1.1.3 ~~(3)~~Change in institution.

## **7.00 COLLECTION OF LOAN**

7.01 ~~(a)~~Accounts will be retained by the Division of Higher Education's ~~in the~~ Financial Aid Division until the individual is no longer eligible for deferment, at which point ~~the~~ account will be turned over to a vendor for repayment.

7.01.1 The student will be notified by mail that their account is being placed with a vendor for collections and ~~they will be sent~~ receive a loan amortization schedule ~~along with the letter~~.

7.01.2 The account will remain with the vendor until repaid or 120 days past due.

7.01.2.1 Loan recipients who are determined by the division ~~Division of Higher Education~~ to be one hundred twenty (120) days delinquent will be mailed their first letter of notification ten (10) days after the installment payment is due.

7.01.2.2 If payment is not forthcoming within sixty (60) days from the original payment due date, a second letter of notification will be sent to the loan recipient declaring their account is delinquent and requesting that the account be immediately brought up to date.

7.01.2.3 If the loan recipient has not responded within ninety (90) days from the original payment due date, the third and final letter of notification will be sent to the recipient informing them that the

account will officially be in default if outstanding payments are not made within thirty (30) days.

7.02 ~~(b)~~ Skip Tracing Mechanisms

7.02.1 ~~(1) ADHE~~ The division will use these ~~following~~ steps to locate recipients if communications are returned as undelivered:

- 7.02.1.1 ~~(A)~~ Contact the Motor Vehicle Division of the Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration;
- 7.02.1.2 ~~(B)~~ Contact references listed on the recipient's application;
- 7.02.1.3 ~~(C)~~ Utilize telephone directory or check with directory assistance in the area of the recipient's last known address;
- 7.02.1.4 ~~(D)~~ Contact institutional offices (alumni office, admissions office, registrar's office, fraternity or sorority, and the department that the recipient majored in) at the campus where the recipient last attended;
- 7.02.1.5 ~~(E)~~ Contact creditors, such as credit card companies, credit bureaus, or GSL lender;
- 7.02.1.6 ~~(F)~~ Contact recipient's:
  - 7.02.1.6.1 ~~f~~Field of study;
  - 7.02.1.6.2 ~~p~~Professional organization;
  - 7.02.1.6.3 ~~u~~Union; or
  - 7.02.1.6.4 ~~l~~Licensing board;
- 7.02.1.7 ~~(G)~~ Contact post office;
- 7.02.1.8 ~~(H)~~ Contact utility companies; and,
- 7.02.1.9 ~~(I)~~ Contact Chamber of Commerce.

7.03 ~~(e)~~ Credit Reporting Agencies

7.03.1 ~~(1)~~ Defaulted recipients will be reported to the following ~~C~~credit ~~R~~reporting ~~A~~agencies:

- 7.03.1.1 ~~(A)~~ CSC Credit Reporting Services, Inc.;



7.03.1.2 ~~(B)~~ TRW Credit Data; and

7.03.1.3 ~~(C)~~ Trans Union Credit Reporting.

7.03.2 ~~(2)~~ Forms for reporting defaulted loan recipients are located in the collections file.

7.03.2.1 The ~~division~~ Division of Higher Education will also respond promptly to any inquiries it receives from credit reporting agencies concerning delinquent or defaulted loan recipients.

7.04 ~~(d)~~ State Income Tax Set Off

7.04.1 ~~(1)~~ By the authority of Acts ~~345 of 1993, No. 345,~~ the ~~division~~ Division of Higher Education has been included as a claimant agency for the setoff of debts against state tax refunds.

7.05 ~~(e)~~ Litigation

7.05.1 No sooner than thirty (30) days after sending the third letter of notification, the ~~division~~ Division of Higher Education shall institute a civil suit against the recipient for repayment of the loan.

7.05.1.1 Small ~~C~~laims ~~C~~courts will be used to satisfy debts of accounts up to three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00).

7.05.1.2 If the account is over three thousand dollars and one cent (\$3,000.01), the ~~division~~ Division of Higher Education must use circuit court.

7.05.1.3 If the account is three thousand dollars and one cent (\$3,000.01) or above, the ~~division~~ Division of Higher Education may choose to use ~~S~~small ~~C~~laims ~~C~~courts and waive the difference because of the expense involved in going to Circuit Court.

7.05.1.4 If the ~~division~~ Division of Higher Education chooses to waive the difference, it cannot later try to collect the difference.

7.05.1.5 Forms to take the recipient to ~~S~~small ~~C~~laims ~~C~~courts are requested from the recipient's county of residence. ~~(1)~~

7.06 ~~(f)~~ Write-Offs

7.06.1 ~~(1)~~ Arkansas Future Grants that convert to loans may be written off as uncollectible if the ~~division~~ ~~Division of Higher Education~~ shows due diligence to satisfy the collection of the debt, and documents in the recipient's file that:

7.06.1.1 ~~(A)~~ The cost of litigation would exceed the likely recovery if litigation were commenced; or

7.06.1.2 ~~(B)~~ The recipient does not have the means to satisfy a judgment on the debt, or a substantial portion thereof.

7.06.2 ~~(2)~~ Proof of due diligence collection activities must be submitted to the Administrator of the Department of Finance and Administration and approval from the Administrator must be received before Arkansas Future Grant loan accounts may be written off.

7.07 ~~(g)~~ Nonpayment Penalties

7.07.1 Loan recipients who fail to meet their repayment obligations may have added to their total obligation any costs for collection of the debt.

**8.00 INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES—COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY RESPONSIBILITIES**

~~(a) College/University Responsibilities~~

8.01 ~~(1)~~ Administrative Agreement

8.01.1 The chief executive officer of the eligible institution is responsible for appointing one representative from the financial aid office to act as administrator of the Arkansas Future Grant Program and to receive all communications, forms, etc.

8.01.1.1 This representative is responsible for verification, data and compliance with all program rules ~~and regulations~~.

8.01.2 The institution must comply with all rules and regulations in order to maintain continued eligibility status.

8.02 ~~(2)~~ Disbursement Records

8.02.1 The institution shall maintain information on the student indicating disbursement of scholarship funds.

8.03 (3) Institutional Verification

8.03.1 The institution shall provide certification of enrollment in an eligible program of study, and enrollment in courses that will meet satisfactory academic progress standards, as of the eleventh day of classes, by completing a ~~V~~erification R~~oster~~ each semester after registration.

8.03.1.1 The ~~V~~erification R~~oster~~ is an alphabetical listing by institution of all persons receiving the award for a given academic term.

8.03.1.2 The certifying official is responsible for completing the verification rosters each semester or trimester.

8.03.1.3 The ~~Arkansas~~ Division of Higher Education shall provide electronic ~~V~~erification R~~osters~~ to the Financial Aid Administrator for each semester or trimester as needed.

8.03.2 The electronic ~~V~~erification R~~oster~~ shall be returned to the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division by November 1 for the fall term and by March 15 for the spring term.

8.03.3 The ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division shall also provide electronic continuing eligibility rosters to the ~~F~~inancial A~~id~~ A~~administrator~~ before the end of the fall and spring term.

8.03.3.1 The ~~continuing eligibility~~ rosters shall be returned to the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division no later than January 15 based on the ~~F~~all semester and June 1 based on the ~~S~~pring semester to ensure that adequate time is provided to notify students of their status in the program.

8.04 (4) Deadlines for Disbursement of Funds

8.04.1 The deadline for disbursement of funds is no later than ten (10) days after receipt of funds.

8.04.1.1 Any outstanding funds not disbursed by these dates must be returned to the division ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~.

8.04.1.2 For those students whose applications are received by ~~ADHE~~ the division too late to allow disbursement by these dates, disbursement will be made within ten (10) working days of receipt of the verification roster and electronic transfer of funds.

8.05 ~~(5)~~ Due Diligence

8.05.1 The institution will exercise due diligence in providing complete, accurate, and timely information as requested by the division ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ on any Arkansas Future Grant recipient or former recipient.

8.05.2 In addition, the institution will exercise due diligence in complying with all the rules and regulations of the Arkansas Future Grant Program.

8.05.3 The division ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ shall periodically review the institution's records concerning this program in an effort to exercise its due diligence requirements as a steward of state funds.

Draft

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2023  
4

As Engrossed: H2/14/23

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1412

5 By: Representative J. Mayberry  
6 By: Senator J. English  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT CONCERNING RULES PROMULGATED BY THE DIVISION  
10 OF HIGHER EDUCATION; TO REQUIRE THE DIVISION OF  
11 HIGHER EDUCATION TO PROMULGATE CERTAIN RULES  
12 CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS FUNDED  
13 WITH STATE FUNDS AND LOTTERY PROCEEDS; TO DECLARE AN  
14 EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

15  
16  
17  
18 TO REQUIRE THE DIVISION OF HIGHER  
19 EDUCATION TO PROMULGATE CERTAIN RULES  
20 CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF  
21 SCHOLARSHIPS FUNDED WITH STATE FUNDS AND  
22 LOTTERY PROCEEDS; AND TO DECLARE AN  
23 EMERGENCY.  
24  
25

26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
27

28 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 80, Subchapter 1, is amended  
29 to add an additional section to read as follows:

30 6-80-109. Division of Higher Education – Rules.

31 (a) The Division of Higher Education shall promulgate or update  
32 existing division rules to allow a student who is a recipient of a  
33 scholarship to utilize scholarship funds to enroll in and attend courses  
34 offered during a summer term at the postsecondary institution in which the  
35 student is enrolled.

36 (b) Rules promulgated under this section shall include without



1 limitation requirements concerning:

2 (1) Student eligibility; and

3 (2) The disbursement and administration of scholarship funds  
4 utilized by a student to enroll in and attend courses offered during a summer  
5 term.

6 (c) As used in this section, "scholarship" shall include a scholarship  
7 program that is:

8 (1) Funded with state funds or lottery proceeds; and

9 (2) Administered by the division.

10  
11 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-85-204(14), concerning the definition of  
12 "semester" under the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 (14)(A) "Semester" means one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of a traditional academic  
15 year at an institution of higher education, or an equivalent approved by the  
16 division, in which a student enrolls for not less than:

17 ~~(A)(i)~~ Fifteen (15) credit hours as a full-time student,  
18 except that in the first semester as a first-time full-time freshman, a  
19 traditional student shall enroll in not less than twelve (12) credit hours;  
20 or

21 ~~(B)(ii)~~ Six (6) credit hours as a part-time student.

22 (B) For purposes of summer courses at an institution of  
23 higher education, a "semester" shall mean the same as is defined by the  
24 division, as required by § 6-80-109;

25  
26 SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
27 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the Division of Higher  
28 Education must make certain arrangements to facilitate the use of Arkansas  
29 Academic Challenge Scholarship funds for upcoming summer courses; and that  
30 many of these arrangements must occur in time for the 2023-2024 school year.  
31 Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being necessary  
32 for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become  
33 effective on July 1, 2023.

34  
35 */s/J. Mayberry*

36 **APPROVED: 3/30/23**

**RULES GOVERNING THE ARKANSAS GOVERNOR'S SCHOLARS  
PROGRAM**

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In compliance with Acts 413 of 2023, the rules for the Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program are presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) for final approval.

The following resolution is offered for the Board's consideration:

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board reviews the rules presented in this agenda item for the Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program to be administered by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education or his designee is authorized to make technical changes and corrections, when necessary, in the program rules for the Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program rules be approved for final approval.

**DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION RULES GOVERNING THE ARKANSAS  
GOVERNOR'S SCHOLARS PROGRAM  
PUBLIC COMMENTS AND RESPONSES**

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Commenter Name:

Comments: No public comments received.

Division Response: No substantive changes made.

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**DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION RULES GOVERNING THE  
ARKANSAS GOVERNOR'S SCHOLARS PROGRAM  
Effective Date:**

**POLICY STATEMENT**

A scholarship program to promote academic excellence and to encourage the state's most talented graduates to enroll in Arkansas postsecondary educational institutions is created and established which shall be cited as the Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program. These rules shall be known as the ~~Arkansas~~ Division of Higher Education Rules Governing the Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program. This policy addresses the student eligibility criteria, method for recipient selection, and continuing eligibility requirements procedures for making payments to an approved institution of higher education and other administrative procedures necessary for operation of the program.

**APPLICABLE ARKANSAS CODE**

Ark. Code Ann. § 6-82-301 et. seq.

**1.00 DEFINITIONS**

1.01 ~~(1)~~ “Academic ability” means the intellectual standing of a student.

1.01.1 In determining superior academic ability, the Division of Higher Education shall examine:

1.01.1.1 ~~t~~The student's high school records;<sub>;</sub>

1.01.1.2 ~~e~~Competitive examination scores;<sub>;</sub> and

1.01.1.3 ~~d~~Demonstrated leadership capabilities;

1.02 ~~(2)~~ “Academic Year” means fall, spring, first and second summer semesters in that order, or as defined by the ~~D~~division of Higher Education;

1.03 ~~(3)~~ “Approved institution” means a public or private college or university:

1.03.1 ~~(A)~~ Which is dedicated to educational purposes, located in Arkansas, or located out of state and educating Arkansas residents in dentistry, optometry, veterinary medicine, podiatry, chiropractic, or osteopathy under agreement with the Board of Control for Southern Regional Education, accredited by an accrediting agency certified and recognized by the United States Department of Education or the Division of Agency Evaluation and Institutional Accreditation, or a school giving satisfactory assurance that it

has the potential for accreditation and is making progress which, if continued, will result in its achieving accreditation;

1.03.2 ~~(B)~~ Which does not discriminate in the admission of students on the basis of:

1.03.2.1 ~~r~~Race;

1.03.2.2 ~~e~~Color;

1.03.2.3 ~~r~~Religion;

1.03.2.4 ~~s~~Sex; or

1.03.2.5 ~~n~~National origin; and

1.03.3 ~~(C)~~ Which subscribes to the principle of academic freedom;

1.04 ~~(4)~~ "Arkansas resident" means a natural person who provides evidence deemed sufficient by the ~~D~~ivision of Higher Education.

1.04.1 Such evidence includes but is not limited to:

1.04.1.1 ~~a~~A valid Arkansas voter's registration card;

1.04.1.2 ~~v~~Valid Arkansas motor vehicle driver's license;

1.04.1.3 Arkansas residence address used for federal or state tax purposes; or

1.04.1.4 ~~e~~Claims Arkansas as a residence to hold public office or for judicial actions;

1.05 ~~(5)~~ "Competitive examination" means a standardized examination measuring achievement which is administered annually on a specified date and at a specified location and which is announced publicly;

1.06 ~~(6)~~ "Division" means the Division of Higher Education;

1.07 ~~(7)~~ "Eligible student" means a resident of the State of Arkansas as defined by the ~~D~~ivision of Higher Education who:

1.07.1 ~~(A)~~ Is eligible for admission as a full-time student;

1.07.2 ~~(B)~~ Declares an intent to matriculate in an approved institution in Arkansas; and

1.07.3 ~~(C)~~ Graduates from:

1.07.3.1 ~~(i)~~ A high school in this state, for Arkansas Governor's Scholars; or

1.07.3.2 ~~(ii)~~ A high school, for Arkansas Governor's Distinguished Scholars;

1.08 ~~(8)(A)~~ "Extraordinary academic ability" means:

1.08.1 ~~(i)~~ Achievement of a superscore of thirty-two (32) or above on the American College Test (ACT) or a score of 1410 or above on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT); and

1.08.2 ~~(ii)(a)~~ Achievement of a high school grade point average of 3.5 or above on a 4.0 scale; or

1.08.3 ~~(b)~~ Selection as a finalist in either the National Merit Scholarship competition, the National Hispanic Recognition Program, or the National Achievement Scholarship competition conducted by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

1.08.4 ~~(B)~~ The American College Test superscores and Scholastic Aptitude Test scores shall be earned by December 31 prior to the application deadline in order for the scores to be considered by the division for a scholarship award;

1.09 ~~(9)~~ "Full-time student" means a resident of Arkansas who is in attendance at an approved private or public institution and who is enrolled in at least twelve (12) credit hours the first semester and fifteen (15) hours thereafter, or other reasonable academic equivalent as defined by the division;

1.09.1 For purposes of summer semesters, "full-time student" means a resident of Arkansas who is in attendance at an approved private or public institution and who is enrolled fifteen (15) hours.

1.10 ~~(10)~~ "Part-time student" means a resident of Arkansas who is in attendance at an approved private or public institution and who is enrolled in less than fifteen (15) credit hours for their fourth academic year;

1.10.1 For purposes of summer semesters, "part-time student" means a resident of Arkansas who is in attendance at an approved private or public institution and who is enrolled in less than fifteen (15) hours.

1.11 ~~(11)~~ "Scholarship" means an award to an eligible student for matriculation in an approved institution in the State of Arkansas;

1.12 ~~(12)~~ "Undergraduate student" means an individual who is enrolled in a postsecondary educational program, which leads to or is directly creditable toward the individual's first baccalaureate degree; and

1.13 ~~(13)~~ "U.S. Citizen" means the student must be either a United States citizen or a permanent resident alien.

1.13.1 If the student is not a United States citizen, but a permanent resident alien, the student must attach a copy of the permanent resident alien form I 151, I 551, I 94, or G 641 to the application.

## **Procedures**

### **2.00 ORGANIZATION AND STRUCTURE**

2.01 The ~~Arkansas~~ Division of Higher Education shall administer the Governor's Scholars Program within the policies set by the ~~Arkansas~~ Higher Education Coordinating Board.

2.01.1 All formal communications shall be addressed to or signed by the ~~Director~~ commissioner of the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division or his/ or her designee.

2.01.2 The Governor's Scholars Advisory Council shall provide advice to the ~~Division of Higher Education~~ division regarding the administration of the program.

2.02 Governor's Scholars Program Advisory Council

2.02.1 ~~A.~~ The ~~Governor's Scholars Program Advisory Council~~ shall consist of ten (10) members appointed by the ~~Arkansas Higher Education~~ Coordinating Board for staggered two-year terms and shall represent the public and private sectors of postsecondary education and secondary schools.

2.02.2 ~~B.~~ The ~~Governor's Scholars Program Advisory Council~~ shall advise the division ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ in the determination of guidelines and ~~regulations~~ rules for the administration of this program.

2.02.3 ~~C.~~ The ~~Director~~ commissioner of the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division or his/ or her designee shall serve as presiding officer of the ~~Governor's Scholars Program Advisory Council~~ and shall ensure that staff services for the Council are provided.

2.02.3.1 The final responsibility for selecting scholarship recipients shall rest with the ~~Director commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ pursuant to the provisions of Arkansas Code ~~Annotated~~ § 6-82-301 et. ~~S~~seq.

2.02.3.2 When functioning under Arkansas Code ~~Annotated~~ § 6-82-301 et. ~~S~~seq., the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division shall follow the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, Arkansas Code § 25-15-201 et seq.

### **3.00 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

3.01 ~~(a)~~ The Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program scholarships are to be awarded to those students who demonstrate the highest capabilities for successful college study.

3.02 ~~(b)~~ A student is eligible for this scholarship if he or she:

3.02.1 ~~(1)~~ Meets the admission requirements and is accepted for enrollment as a fulltime undergraduate student in an eligible public or private college or university in Arkansas;

3.02.2 ~~(2)(A)~~ Is a bona fide resident of the state, as defined by the Division of Higher Education, and is either:

3.02.2.1 ~~a~~ A citizen of the United States or a permanent resident alien;

3.02.2.2 ~~b~~ The holder, or the child of a holder, of a Federal Form I-766 United States Citizenship and Immigration Services-issued Employment Authorization Document, known popularly as a "work permit"; or

3.02.2.3 ~~c~~ A person who is a migrant from the Compact of Free Association Islands.

3.02.3 ~~(3)~~ Graduates from a high school;

3.02.4 ~~(4)~~ Completes and submits to the ~~U.S.~~ United States Department of Education a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or a subsequent application required by the ~~U.S.~~ United States Department of Education for federal financial aid;

3.02.5 ~~(5)(A)~~ Satisfies the qualifications of superior academic ability as established by the division ~~Division of Higher Education~~ with criteria

consisting of value points for academic achievement and leadership, including without limitation:

3.02.5.1 ~~(i)~~ American College Test (ACT) or Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) score, National Merit Finalist, or National Achievement Finalist;

3.02.5.2 ~~(ii)~~ High school grade point average;

3.02.5.3 ~~(iii)~~ Rank in high school class; and

3.02.5.4 ~~(iv)~~ Leadership in school, community, and employment.

3.02.6 ~~(B)~~ ~~(i)~~ The ~~division~~ Division of Higher Education may alter the weight assigned to the individual criterion to more appropriately meet the needs of the state as determined by the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

3.03 Value points assigned to each selection criterion are weighted as follows:

American College Test (ACT) or Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) score, National Merit Finalist, or National Achievement Finalist ----- forty-five percent 45%

High school grade point average ----- thirty-five percent 35%

Rank in high school class ----- ten percent 10%

Leadership in school, community, and employment ----- ten percent 10%

3.03.1.1 ~~(ii)~~ The ~~D~~ivision of Higher Education shall ensure that the weight assigned to each individual criterion under ~~this~~ subdivision ~~(b)(5)(B)~~ 3.02.6 does not place a homeschooled, public school, or private school student at a disadvantage.

3.03.1.2 ~~(iii)~~ ~~(a)~~ After determining qualified recipients based on the qualifications under subdivision ~~(b)(5)(A)~~ 3.02.5 of this section, the ~~D~~ivision of Higher Education shall ensure that at least one (1) recipient is selected from each of the seventy-five (75) counties in Arkansas.

3.03.1.2.1 ~~(b)~~ If any of the seventy-five (75) counties is not represented, the ~~D~~ivision of Higher Education shall select a student from each nonrepresented county with the highest qualifications under subdivision ~~(b)(5)(A)~~ 3.02.5 of this section who was not initially qualified.

3.03.1.2.2 ~~(e)~~ The scholarship shall be weighed on the factors of:

3.03.1.2.2.1 ~~a~~ Achievement;

3.03.1.2.2.2 ~~a~~ Ability; and

3.03.1.2.2.3 ~~d~~ Demonstrated leadership capabilities.

3.03.1.2.3 ~~(d)~~ Students who are selected as Arkansas Governor's Scholars who also exhibit extraordinary academic ability as defined in the definitions section of this rule shall be designated as Arkansas Governor's Distinguished Scholars.

3.03.1.2.4 ~~(e)~~ Preference will be given to students who plan to enter college at the beginning of the academic year directly following their last year of high school attendance.

#### **4.00 CONTINUED ELIGIBILITY**

4.01 ~~(a)~~ An Arkansas Governor's Scholarship or Arkansas Governor's Distinguished Scholarship may be awarded annually for a period not to exceed an academic year.

4.01.1 ~~(b)(1)~~ A scholarship shall correspond to fall, spring, and summer academic terms, semesters, quarters, or equivalent time periods at the eligible institutions.

4.01.2 ~~(2)~~ In no instance may the entire amount of the grant for an educational year be paid to or on behalf of students in advance.

4.02 ~~(e)~~ Provided sufficient funds are available, a scholarship shall be awarded for one (1) academic year, to include summer terms, and renewed annually for three (3) additional academic years if the following conditions for renewal are met:

4.02.1 ~~(1)~~ The student maintains not less than a 3.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scholastic grading scale;

4.02.2 ~~(2)~~ A student receiving a scholarship under the Scholarship Amounts subsection ~~(a)~~ 8.00 maintains not less than a 3.25 grade point average on a 4.0 scholastic grading scale;

4.02.3 ~~(3)~~ The recipient has successfully completed a total of at least twenty-seven (27) hours during the first full academic year and, if applicable, a total of at least thirty (30) hours per academic year thereafter; and

4.02.4 ~~(4)~~The recipient has met any other continuing eligibility criteria established by the Division of Higher Education.

4.02.5 ~~(5)~~If a student who has continuously been a recipient of the scholarship for at least three (3) consecutive years is enrolled as a part-time student in the student's fourth academic year, the student shall be eligible to continue to receive the scholarship if the student has completed, by his or her fourth academic year, or is enrolled in, for his or her fourth academic year, the requisite number of credit hours to complete the student's degree program.

## **5.00 APPLICATION**

5.01 Students must submit an on-line application, available at the ~~ADHE~~ Division of Higher Education website <http://scholarships.adhe.edu/>.

5.02 The application deadline shall be established by the ~~D~~division of Higher Education of the calendar year in which a student graduates from high school.

5.03 At its discretion, the ~~D~~division of Higher Education may extend the deadline, provided sufficient notice is provided to the public.

5.04 The applicant is responsible for submitting the application and all supporting documentation in a timely manner.

## **6.00 NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS**

6.01 ~~(a)~~If sufficient funds are available, effective for students receiving their initial awards beginning in fall 2007, the number of initial scholarship awards to eligible high achievers shall not exceed three hundred seventy-five (375) each year.

6.02 ~~(b)~~If there are more eligible applicants than available scholarships, the ~~division~~ Division of Higher Education may determine a procedure for awarding additional scholarships while not exceeding available funds.

## **7.00 USE OF SCHOLARSHIP**

7.01 ~~(a)~~No student may utilize scholarship funds for educational purposes beyond the baccalaureate degree.

7.02 ~~(b)~~ There shall be an exception to the requirement of ~~subsection (a)~~ subsection (a) 7.01 of this section for any student who receives a baccalaureate degree in three (3) years or less.



7.02.1 The student may receive an award of the scholarship for a fourth academic year to be used as a full-time student enrolled in a postgraduate program at an approved institution.

## **8.00 SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNTS**

8.01 ~~(1)~~ An Arkansas Governor's Scholarship or Arkansas Governor's Distinguished Scholarship awarded to a new recipient who enrolls in an approved institution as a first-time entering freshman shall be in an amount that equals the lesser of:

8.01.1 ~~(1)~~ Ten thousand dollars (\$10,000); or

8.01.2 ~~(2)~~ Tuition, room and board, and mandatory fees charged for a regular full-time course load by the approved institution in which the recipient is enrolled.

8.02 ~~(2)~~ A student selected as a recipient under the "Eligibility Criteria" subsection ~~(b)(6)(B)(iii)(b)~~ 3.03.121 who enrolls in an approved institution as a first-time entering freshman after July 1, 2017, shall be awarded in an amount that equals the lesser of:

8.02.1 ~~(1)~~ Five thousand dollars (\$5,000); or

8.02.2 ~~(2)~~ Tuition, room and board, and mandatory fees charged for a regular full-time course load by the approved institution in which the recipient is enrolled.

8.03 ~~(3)~~ The scholarship amount for each semester in which a student who is the recipient of a scholarship is enrolled as a part-time student during their fourth academic year shall be prorated by the number of credit hours in which the student is enrolled.

## **9.00 NOTIFICATION OF APPLICATION AND AWARD STATUS**

9.01 ~~(a)~~ An Arkansas Governor's Scholarship or Arkansas Governor's Distinguished Scholarship shall receive an award notice and information sheet explaining disbursement procedures and conditions of the Arkansas Governor's Scholars Award.

9.02 ~~(b)~~ The Arkansas Division of Higher Education shall notify applicants who are determined to be ineligible and provide the reason for ineligibility.

9.02.1 They will also be given instructions on how to correct any information on the application they believe to be incorrect.

9.03 (e) Applicants who fail to submit complete applications, or who fail to supply the required documentation to process the application, will be classified as Incomplete.

9.03.1 ~~The Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ shall notify these students of their status.

9.03.2 The ~~Incomplete Notice~~ provides a list of the incomplete items and the actions necessary for completion.

## **10.00 SCHOLARSHIP PAYMENT POLICIES**

10.01 (a) Payment of Scholarships

10.01.1 Funds will be disbursed to the approved institution of the Governor's Scholars choice by state warrant.

10.01.2 After verification of full-time enrollment, the institution shall disburse the Governor's Scholars Award to the student according to the individual institution's disbursement procedures.

10.01.3 Disbursement of the Governor's Scholars award shall correspond with the institution's fall, spring, and summer academic terms (semesters, trimesters, quarters, or equivalent time periods).

10.01.4 In no instance may the entire amount of the award for an educational year be paid to or on behalf of the student in advance.

10.02 (b) Transfer to Another Institution of Higher Education

10.02.1 A student who receives a Governor's Scholars Award may transfer to another eligible Arkansas institution of higher education, provided the recipient notifies the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~, in writing, of the change of institution by October 1 for the fall term, ~~and by~~ February 1 for the winter and/or spring terms, and by June 1st for summer terms.

10.02.2 Failure to notify the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ by the specified deadlines shall result in the loss of the Governor's Scholars award for the term in question.

10.03 (c) Scholarship Hold

10.03.1 The ~~Division of Higher Education~~ may approve a scholarship hold for a student for a period of twenty-four (24) months or less for the following reasons without limitation:

10.03.1.1 ~~(1)~~ A medical condition of the student or a member of the student's immediate family that, on the basis of a physician's good-faith judgment, necessitates that the student or the student's immediate family member be hospitalized or receive outpatient or home-based medical care or recuperate until released by the attending physician;

10.03.1.2 ~~(2)~~ A personal or family emergency that requires the student to:

10.03.1.2.1 ~~(a)~~ Attend the funeral of an immediate family member; or

10.03.1.2.2 ~~(b)~~ Visit a relative of the student if the relative has a medical condition in which death is possible or imminent;

10.03.1.3 ~~(3)~~ Military service under Arkansas Code § 6-61-112; or

10.03.1.4 ~~(4)~~~~(a)~~ A commitment of twelve (12) to twenty-four (24) months for service in a national or international humanitarian project sponsored by a nonprofit corporation organized with a charitable or educational purpose.

10.03.1.4.1 ~~(b)~~ The student's commitment shall be expressed in a written agreement with the nonprofit organization, including the terms of completion for the student's service on the related project.

10.03.1.4.2 ~~(c)~~ The division shall release a scholarship hold if the division determines that the student did not complete the commitment under the written agreement.

10.03.2 The recipient must submit a written request for a scholarship hold.

10.03.2.1 The petition shall give the reason for withdrawal and be supported by documentation.

10.03.2.2 In the absence of extraordinary circumstances, the award will be revoked if the recipient fails to enroll fulltime in an eligible institution in Arkansas, and the ~~Arkansas~~ Division of Higher Education receives neither notification of transfer of the scholarship to another eligible institution, nor a petition for withdrawal by the recipient by October 1 for the fall term, ~~and~~ February 1 for the winter and/or spring terms, and by June 1st for summer terms.

10.03.2.3 At the discretion of the ~~D~~ivision of Higher Education, the award will not be revoked if it is determined by the division ADHE that extraordinary circumstances prevented the student from notifying the division ADHE by the required dates.

10.04 ~~(d)~~ Cancellation of Governor's Distinguished Scholar Award

10.04.1 ~~(4)~~ The Governor's Scholars Award and the Governor's Distinguished Scholar Award shall be terminated for any one of the following reasons:

10.04.1.1 ~~(a)~~ Failure to maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative college grade point average (Governor's Scholars) or a minimum 3.25 cumulative college grade point average (Governor's Distinguished Scholars) on a 4.0 scale and successfully complete and pass a minimum of at least twenty-seven (27) credit hours the first academic year and thirty (30) hours each academic year thereafter;

10.04.1.2 ~~(b)~~ Failure to complete a baccalaureate degree within five (5) years from initial college entrance; or

10.04.1.3 ~~(c)~~ Failure to petition the ~~Arkansas D~~ivision of Higher Education for a temporary withdrawal for two (2) consecutive academic terms; or

10.04.1.4 ~~(d)~~ Failure to enroll as a full time student in an eligible Arkansas college or university after a two-year temporary withdrawal.

10.04.2 ~~(2)~~ Failure by the Governor's Scholar to provide written notification to the ~~Arkansas D~~ivision of Higher Education of a change in status (such as a transfer to another eligible institution, change in address, change in name, etc.) before appropriate deadline dates shall result in cancellation of the Governor's Scholars award for the term in question.

10.05 ~~(e)~~ Refunds and Overpayments

10.05.1 If a Governor's Scholar withdraws from an eligible institution, and under the refund policy of that institution the student is entitled to a refund of any tuition, fees, or other charges, the institution shall pay the refund amount in question to the ~~Arkansas D~~ivision of Higher Education.

10.05.2 Acts ~~1180~~ of 1999, No. 1180, states that students who receive scholarships from public funds may not use those funds in a financial aid

package to exceed the recognized cost of attendance at the institution where the student enrolls.

- 10.05.3 The institution must follow ~~division ADHE~~ policy in repaying public funds in the amount exceeding the total cost of attendance for any student who receives public funds in a financial aid package above the cost of attendance.

## **11.00 HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **11.01 (a) Administrative Agreement**

- 11.01.1 The chief executive officer of the eligible institution is responsible for appointing one (1) representative from the financial aid office to act as administrator of the Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program and to receive all communications, forms, etc.
- 11.01.2 This representative is responsible for Governor's Scholars disbursement, completion of all forms and rosters, verification of data, and compliance with all Governor's Scholars Program rules ~~and regulations~~.
- 11.01.3 The institution must comply with the following responsibilities in order to maintain continued eligibility status.

### **11.02 (b) Disbursement Records**

- 11.02.1 The institution shall maintain information on the student indicating disbursement of Governor's Scholars funds.

### **11.03 (c) Institutional Information Sheet**

- 11.03.1 The administrator is responsible for designating a certifying official responsible for certifying full-time enrollment and a disbursing official responsible for the disbursement of Governor's Scholars Program funds.

### **11.04 (d) Institutional Verification**

- 11.04.1 The institution shall provide certification to the ~~Arkansas~~ Division of Higher Education each semester after registration, giving the names of the Governor's Scholars who are officially enrolled as full-time students as of the end of the ~~11th~~ eleventh class day of enrollment.
- 11.04.2 This information is reported on a verification roster.
- 11.04.3 The person responsible for verification of full-time enrollment is the registrar or a member of the registrar's staff.

11.04.4 The certifying official is responsible for completing the verification roster twice (2) a year for those schools on the semester system and three (3) times a year for those schools on the quarter system.

11.04.5 The verification roster shall be mailed to the ~~F~~inancial Aid Administrator prior to registration for the semester or quarter.

11.04.6 The completed and signed Governor's Scholars verification roster shall be returned to the ~~Arkansas D~~ivision of ~~H~~igher Education by the dates specified on the roster.

11.04.7 The verification roster is an alphabetical listing by institution of all persons receiving a Governor's Scholars award for a given academic term.

11.04.8 Students who are not enrolled full-time in the current term shall not receive Governor's Scholars funds for that term.

11.05 ~~(e)~~ Deadlines for Disbursement of Funds

11.05.1 All funds must be disbursed within ten (10) days of written receipt of funds.

11.05.2 Any outstanding funds not disbursed by these dates must be returned within ten (10) days to the ~~Arkansas D~~ivision of ~~H~~igher Education.

11.06 ~~(f)~~ Refund Policy

11.06.1 It is the institution's responsibility to notify the ~~Arkansas D~~ivision of ~~H~~igher Education of the:

11.06.1.1 ~~n~~ame of the person who withdrew;

11.06.1.2 ~~the d~~ate of the withdrawal; and

11.06.1.3 ~~the r~~efund amount.

11.06.2 This information shall be placed on the institution's verification roster before the roster is returned to the ~~Arkansas D~~ivision of ~~H~~igher Education.

11.06.3 The institution shall be responsible for the refund amount and shall pay that amount to the ~~Arkansas D~~ivision of ~~H~~igher Education.

11.07 ~~(g)~~ Continuing Eligibility

- 11.07.1 It is the responsibility of each institution to complete annually the ~~C~~ontinuing ~~E~~ligibility roster.
- 11.07.2 This roster shall be mailed to all institutions that have a ~~G~~overnor's ~~S~~cholar enrolled.
- 11.07.3 The ~~C~~ontinuing ~~E~~ligibility roster shall be returned to the ~~Arkansas~~ ~~D~~ivision of ~~H~~igher ~~E~~ducation by the date specified on the roster.
- 11.07.4 The person responsible for completing the ~~C~~ontinuing ~~E~~ligibility roster is the ~~F~~inancial ~~A~~id ~~A~~administrator.
- 11.07.5 The ~~C~~ontinuing ~~E~~ligibility roster is an alphabetical listing by institution of all persons receiving a Governor's Scholars award that attended that institution for the academic year immediately preceding receipt of the ~~C~~ontinuing ~~E~~ligibility roster.
- 11.07.6 The certifying official must complete the roster by providing the number of hours completed for the previous academic year and the cumulative grade point average achieved for each student listed.

11.08 (h) Due Diligence

- 11.08.1 The institution shall exercise due diligence in providing complete, accurate, and timely information as requested by the ~~Arkansas~~ ~~D~~ivision of ~~H~~igher ~~E~~ducation for any ~~G~~overnor's ~~S~~cholar or former ~~G~~overnor's ~~S~~cholar.
- 11.08.2 In addition, the institution shall exercise due diligence in complying with all the rules and regulations of the Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program.
- 11.08.3 The ~~Arkansas~~ ~~D~~ivision of ~~H~~igher ~~E~~ducation shall periodically review the institution's records concerning the Governor's Scholars Program in an effort to exercise its due diligence requirements as a steward of State of Arkansas funds.

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2023  
4

As Engrossed: H2/14/23

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1412

5 By: Representative J. Mayberry  
6 By: Senator J. English  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT CONCERNING RULES PROMULGATED BY THE DIVISION  
10 OF HIGHER EDUCATION; TO REQUIRE THE DIVISION OF  
11 HIGHER EDUCATION TO PROMULGATE CERTAIN RULES  
12 CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS FUNDED  
13 WITH STATE FUNDS AND LOTTERY PROCEEDS; TO DECLARE AN  
14 EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

18 TO REQUIRE THE DIVISION OF HIGHER  
19 EDUCATION TO PROMULGATE CERTAIN RULES  
20 CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF  
21 SCHOLARSHIPS FUNDED WITH STATE FUNDS AND  
22 LOTTERY PROCEEDS; AND TO DECLARE AN  
23 EMERGENCY.  
24  
25

26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
27

28 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 80, Subchapter 1, is amended  
29 to add an additional section to read as follows:

30 6-80-109. Division of Higher Education – Rules.

31 (a) The Division of Higher Education shall promulgate or update  
32 existing division rules to allow a student who is a recipient of a  
33 scholarship to utilize scholarship funds to enroll in and attend courses  
34 offered during a summer term at the postsecondary institution in which the  
35 student is enrolled.

36 (b) Rules promulgated under this section shall include without





1 limitation requirements concerning:

2 (1) Student eligibility; and

3 (2) The disbursement and administration of scholarship funds  
4 utilized by a student to enroll in and attend courses offered during a summer  
5 term.

6 (c) As used in this section, "scholarship" shall include a scholarship  
7 program that is:

8 (1) Funded with state funds or lottery proceeds; and

9 (2) Administered by the division.

10  
11 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-85-204(14), concerning the definition of  
12 "semester" under the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 (14)(A) "Semester" means one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of a traditional academic  
15 year at an institution of higher education, or an equivalent approved by the  
16 division, in which a student enrolls for not less than:

17 ~~(A)(i)~~ Fifteen (15) credit hours as a full-time student,  
18 except that in the first semester as a first-time full-time freshman, a  
19 traditional student shall enroll in not less than twelve (12) credit hours;  
20 or

21 ~~(B)(ii)~~ Six (6) credit hours as a part-time student.

22 (B) For purposes of summer courses at an institution of  
23 higher education, a "semester" shall mean the same as is defined by the  
24 division, as required by § 6-80-109;

25  
26 SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
27 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the Division of Higher  
28 Education must make certain arrangements to facilitate the use of Arkansas  
29 Academic Challenge Scholarship funds for upcoming summer courses; and that  
30 many of these arrangements must occur in time for the 2023-2024 school year.  
31 Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being necessary  
32 for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become  
33 effective on July 1, 2023.

34  
35 /s/J. Mayberry

36 **APPROVED: 3/30/23**

**RULES GOVERNING THE ARKANSAS WORKFORCE CHALLENGE  
SCHOLARSHIP**

---

In compliance with Acts 413 and 539 of 2023, the rules for the Arkansas Workforce Challenge Scholarship are presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) for final approval.

The following resolution is offered for the Board's consideration:

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board reviews the rules presented in this agenda item for the Arkansas Workforce Challenge Scholarship to be administered by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education or his designee is authorized to make technical changes and corrections, when necessary, in the program rules for the Arkansas Workforce Challenge Scholarship.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Workforce Challenge Scholarship rules be approved for final.

**DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION RULES GOVERNING THE ARKANSAS  
WORKFORCE CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS AND RESPONSES**

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Commenter Name:

Comments: No public comments received.

Division Response: No substantive changes made.

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**DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION RULES GOVERNING THE  
ARKANSAS WORKFORCE CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**  
**Effective Date:**

**POLICY STATEMENT**

These rules shall be known as the Division of Higher Education Rules Governing the Arkansas Workforce Challenge Scholarship Program. This policy addresses the student eligibility criteria, method for recipient selection, continuing eligibility requirements and procedures for making payments to an approved institution of higher education, and other administrative procedures necessary for operation of the program.

**APPLICABLE ARKANSAS CODE**

Ark. Code Ann. § 6-85-302 et seq.

**APPLICABILITY**

This rule is applicable to students who are eligible for a scholarship under the Arkansas Workforce Challenge Scholarship Program.

**1.00 DEFINITIONS**

1.01 “Academic year” means a measure of the academic work to be accomplished by the recipient.

1.01.1 The academic year is defined as fall, spring, and summer semesters, in that order.

1.02 ~~1~~ “Approved Institution of higher education” means an institution of higher education that is approved by the Division of Higher Education to participate in the Arkansas Workforce Challenge Scholarship Program and that is:

1.02.1 ~~(A)~~ A state-supported two-year or four-year college or university; ~~or~~

1.02.2 ~~(B)~~ A private, nonprofit two-year or four-year college or university with its primary headquarters located in Arkansas and that is eligible to receive Title IV federal student aid funds; or

1.02.3 Beginning January 1, 2025, public or private vocational-technical school or technical institute, only if its primary headquarters is located in Arkansas, and it is eligible to receive Title IV federal student aid funds.

1.03 ~~(2)(A)~~ “Certificate program” means a program that is offered or made available to a student by an approved institution of higher education that leads to the

obtainment of a certification or license, including without limitation a program operated or sponsored by a third party.

1.03.1 ~~(B)~~ The credit hours or contact hours awarded for a certificate program may include credit hours or contact hours that are not creditable toward an associate or a baccalaureate degree.

## **2.00 FUNDING**

2.01 ~~(1)~~ For an academic year, the following shall be used to fund Arkansas Workforce Challenge Scholarships under these rules:

2.01.1 ~~(A)~~ Excess funding returned to the Office of the Arkansas Lottery under Ark. Code Ann. § 6-85-212(d)(2)(B)(i) from the previous academic year; and

2.01.2 ~~(B)~~ Net proceeds remaining from the previous academic year after the Office of the Arkansas Lottery:

2.01.2.1 ~~(i)~~ Transfers the funds requested by the Division of Higher Education under Ark. Code Ann. § 23-115-801(c)(2); and

2.01.2.2 ~~(ii)~~ Deposits the amount necessary to maintain the Scholarship Shortfall Reserve Trust Account under Ark. Code Ann. § 23-115-802 in an amount equal to twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000).

2.02 ~~(2)~~ A scholarship under these rules shall not be awarded for an academic year if:

2.02.1 ~~(A)~~ Less than two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) is available under ~~subsection (1)~~ 2.01 of this section; or

2.02.2 ~~(B)~~ The ~~Division of Higher Education~~ division received a loan from the Scholarship Shortfall Reserve Trust Account under Ark. Code Ann. § 23-115-802 for the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program -- Part 2, Ark. Code Ann. § 6-85-201 et seq., for the previous academic year.

2.03 ~~(3)~~ Any funds under ~~subsection (1)~~ 2.01 of this section that are not disbursed for scholarships under these rules shall be carried over to the next academic year to be used for scholarships under these rules.

## **Procedures**

### **3.00 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

3.01 ~~(A)~~ A student is eligible to receive an Arkansas Workforce Challenge Scholarship for an academic year if the student applies to the Division of Higher Education by a date determined by the division ~~Division of Higher Education~~ preceding the academic year and:

3.01.1 ~~(A)~~ Is an Arkansas resident or, if the student is less than twenty-one (21) years of age, either a parent of the student or the student is an Arkansas resident;

3.01.2 ~~(B)~~ Meets either of the following requirements:

3.01.2.1 ~~(i)~~ Graduated from a:

3.01.2.1.1 ~~(a)~~ Public high school in Arkansas or another state;

3.01.2.1.2 ~~(b)~~ Private high school in Arkansas or another state; or

3.01.2.1.3 ~~(c)~~ Home school as recognized under Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-501 et seq. or recognized by another state; or

3.01.2.2 ~~(ii)~~ Received a high school equivalency diploma approved by the ~~Arkansas~~ Division of Workforce Services or another state;

3.01.2.3 ~~(C)~~ Is not receiving a scholarship under the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program -- Part 2, Ark. Code Ann. § 6-85-201 et seq.;

3.01.2.4 ~~(D)~~ Is accepted for admission in a program of study at an approved institution of higher education that leads to an associate degree or a certificate program in one (1) of the following high-demand fields:

3.01.2.4.1 ~~(i)~~ Industry;

3.01.2.4.2 ~~(ii)~~ Health care; and

3.01.2.4.3 ~~(iii)~~ Information technology; and

3.01.2.5 ~~(E)~~ ~~(i)~~ Whose program of study or certificate program will result in the student's being qualified to work in an occupation identified by the ~~Arkansas~~ Division of Workforce Services under 3.01.2.5.1 ~~subdivision (1)(E)(ii)(a)~~ of this section.

3.01.2.5.1 ~~(ii)(a)~~ The Division of Workforce Services shall provide annually to the Division of Higher Education by March 1 a list that identifies the five (5) most in-demand occupations in this state in each high-demand field under ~~subdivision (1)(D)~~ 3.01.2.4 of this section that require the completion of a program of study that leads to an associate degree or a certificate program.

3.01.2.5.2 ~~(b)~~ The Division of Workforce Services shall publish on its website the list under 3.01.2.5.1 ~~subdivision (1)(E)(ii)(a)~~ of this section and data supporting the list.

3.02 ~~(2)~~ A student who received a scholarship under these rules and successfully completed a program of study or certificate program that meets the requirements under ~~subdivision (1)(D)~~ 3.01.2.4 of this section is eligible to reapply for a scholarship under these rules if the student is accepted for admission in a different program of study or certificate program that meets the requirements under 3.01.2.4 ~~subdivision (1)(D)~~ of this section.

3.03 ~~(3)~~ A student who received a scholarship under these rules and does not successfully complete the program of study or certificate program is eligible to reapply for and receive a scholarship one (1) time only.

#### **4.00 DISTRIBUTION – AWARD AMOUNTS**

4.01 ~~(1)~~ If funds are available, the Division of Higher Education (“~~Division~~”) shall distribute Arkansas Workforce Challenge Scholarships to all students who meet the eligibility requirements.

4.02 ~~(2)(A)~~ The ~~D~~ivision shall distribute scholarships from the funds available in an equal amount to every student eligible to receive a scholarship.

4.02.1 ~~(B)~~ Except as provided in 4.03 ~~subsection (3)~~ of this section, the maximum scholarship award a student may receive in an academic year shall be the lesser of:

4.02.1.1 ~~(i)~~ Eight hundred dollars (\$800); or

4.02.1.2 ~~(ii)(a)~~ The cost of the certificate program or program of study.

4.02.1.3 ~~(b)~~ The cost of a certificate program or program of study shall be limited to:

4.02.1.3.1 ~~1)~~ Tuition, fees, or other charges;

4.02.1.3.2 ~~2)~~ Textbooks or other course materials; and

4.02.1.3.3 ~~3)~~–Equipment needed for a course.

4.02.2 ~~(C)~~–The scholarship awards may be used for expenses included in the cost of the certificate program or program of study.

4.02.3 ~~(D)~~–A scholarship under this section shall be only for the academic year for which it is awarded, which includes the fall, spring, and summer semesters.

4.03 ~~(3)(A)~~–If the division has funds remaining after making the distributions under 4.02 subsection (2) of this section, the division shall distribute scholarships to students for the summer term of the academic year.

4.03.1 ~~(B)~~ If funds are available under 4.03 subdivision (3)(A) of this section, a student shall apply for a scholarship for a summer term by a date determined by the division preceding the summer term.

4.03.2 ~~(C)(i)~~–The division shall distribute scholarships for a summer term in the same manner as under 4.02 subsection (2) of this section.

4.03.2.1 ~~(ii)~~–Scholarships for a summer term may be used in the same manner as under 4.02 subsection (2) of this section.

4.03.3 ~~(D)~~–A student who received a scholarship under 4.02 subsection (2) of this section may also receive a scholarship for a summer term

4.04 ~~(4)~~–The division shall disburse scholarship awards on behalf of an eligible student directly to the approved institution of higher education.

## **5.00 INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

~~(4)~~ College/ and University Responsibilities.

5.01 ~~(A)~~–Administrative agreement.

5.01.1 The chief executive officer of the eligible institution is responsible for appointing one representative from the financial aid office to act as administrator of the Arkansas Workforce Challenge Scholarship and to receive all communications, forms, etc.

5.01.1.1 This representative is responsible for verification, data and compliance with all program rules and regulations.

5.01.2 The institution must comply with all rules and regulations in order to maintain continued eligibility status.



5.02 ~~(B)~~ Disbursement records.

5.02.1 The institution shall maintain information on the student indicating disbursement of scholarship funds.

5.03 ~~(C)~~ Institutional Verification.

5.03.1 The institution shall provide certification of enrollment in an eligible program of study and enrollment in courses that will meet satisfactory academic progress standards, as of the eleventh day of classes, by completing a Verification Roster each semester after registration.

5.03.1.1 The Verification Roster is an alphabetical listing by institution of all persons receiving the award for a given academic term.

5.03.1.2 The certifying official is responsible for completing the verification rosters each semester or trimester.

5.03.2 The ~~Arkansas~~ Division of Higher Education shall provide electronic Verification Rosters to the Financial Aid Administrator for each semester or trimester as needed.

5.03.2.1 The electronic Verification Rosters shall be returned to the ~~division~~ Arkansas Division of Higher Education by November 1 for the fall term and by March 15 for the spring term.

5.03.3 The ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division shall also provide electronic continuing eligibility rosters to the Financial Aid Administrator before the end of the fall and spring term.

5.03.3.1 The continuing eligibility rosters shall be returned to the ~~division~~ Arkansas Division of Higher Education no later than January 15 based on the Fall semester and June 1 based on the Spring semester to ensure that adequate time is provided to notify students of their status in the program.

5.04 ~~(D)~~ Deadlines for disbursement of funds.

5.04.1 The deadline for disbursement of funds by the eligible institution is no later than ten (10) days after receipt of funds.

5.04.1.1 Any outstanding funds not disbursed by these dates must be returned to the division ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~.

5.04.1.2 For those students whose applications are received by the division ADHE too late to allow disbursement by these dates, disbursement will be made within ten (10) working days of receipt of the verification roster and electronic transfer of funds.

5.05 ~~5~~) Due diligence.

5.05.1 The institution will exercise due diligence in providing complete, accurate, and timely information as requested by the division Arkansas Division of Higher Education on any Arkansas Workforce Challenge Scholarship recipient or former recipient.

5.05.2 In addition, the institution will exercise due diligence in complying with all the rules and regulations of the Arkansas Workforce Challenge Scholarship.

5.05.3 The division Arkansas Division of Higher Education shall periodically review the institution's records concerning this program in an effort to exercise its due diligence requirements as a steward of state funds.

5.06 ~~(F)~~ Agreements Between Institutions.

5.06.1 An approved institution of higher education may enter into agreements with other institutions of higher education, including without limitation technical institutes, to allow students enrolled in the approved institution of higher education under these rules to take courses at the other institutions of higher education.

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2023  
4

As Engrossed: H2/14/23

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1412

5 By: Representative J. Mayberry  
6 By: Senator J. English  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT CONCERNING RULES PROMULGATED BY THE DIVISION  
10 OF HIGHER EDUCATION; TO REQUIRE THE DIVISION OF  
11 HIGHER EDUCATION TO PROMULGATE CERTAIN RULES  
12 CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS FUNDED  
13 WITH STATE FUNDS AND LOTTERY PROCEEDS; TO DECLARE AN  
14 EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

15  
16  
17  
18 TO REQUIRE THE DIVISION OF HIGHER  
19 EDUCATION TO PROMULGATE CERTAIN RULES  
20 CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF  
21 SCHOLARSHIPS FUNDED WITH STATE FUNDS AND  
22 LOTTERY PROCEEDS; AND TO DECLARE AN  
23 EMERGENCY.  
24  
25

26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
27

28 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 80, Subchapter 1, is amended  
29 to add an additional section to read as follows:

30 6-80-109. Division of Higher Education – Rules.

31 (a) The Division of Higher Education shall promulgate or update  
32 existing division rules to allow a student who is a recipient of a  
33 scholarship to utilize scholarship funds to enroll in and attend courses  
34 offered during a summer term at the postsecondary institution in which the  
35 student is enrolled.

36 (b) Rules promulgated under this section shall include without



1 limitation requirements concerning:

2 (1) Student eligibility; and

3 (2) The disbursement and administration of scholarship funds  
4 utilized by a student to enroll in and attend courses offered during a summer  
5 term.

6 (c) As used in this section, "scholarship" shall include a scholarship  
7 program that is:

8 (1) Funded with state funds or lottery proceeds; and

9 (2) Administered by the division.

10  
11 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-85-204(14), concerning the definition of  
12 "semester" under the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 (14)(A) "Semester" means one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of a traditional academic  
15 year at an institution of higher education, or an equivalent approved by the  
16 division, in which a student enrolls for not less than:

17 ~~(A)(i)~~ Fifteen (15) credit hours as a full-time student,  
18 except that in the first semester as a first-time full-time freshman, a  
19 traditional student shall enroll in not less than twelve (12) credit hours;  
20 or

21 ~~(B)(ii)~~ Six (6) credit hours as a part-time student.

22 (B) For purposes of summer courses at an institution of  
23 higher education, a "semester" shall mean the same as is defined by the  
24 division, as required by § 6-80-109;

25  
26 SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
27 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the Division of Higher  
28 Education must make certain arrangements to facilitate the use of Arkansas  
29 Academic Challenge Scholarship funds for upcoming summer courses; and that  
30 many of these arrangements must occur in time for the 2023-2024 school year.  
31 Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being necessary  
32 for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become  
33 effective on July 1, 2023.

34  
35 /s/J. Mayberry

36 **APPROVED: 3/30/23**

1 State of Arkansas *As Engrossed: H2/20/23 H4/5/23*

2 94th General Assembly

# A Bill

3 Regular Session, 2023

HOUSE BILL 1417

4

5 By: Representative Lundstrum

6 *By: Senator J. English*

7

8

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9

*AN ACT TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS ACADEMIC CHALLENGE*

10

*SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM TO INCLUDE VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL*

11

*SCHOOLS AND TECHNICAL INSTITUTES AS APPROVED*

12

*INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION; TO ENSURE THAT*

13

*CERTAIN FUNDS FROM THE HIGHER EDUCATION GRANTS FUND*

14

*ACCOUNT ARE EXPENDED ON STUDENTS ENROLLED IN A*

15

*TECHNICAL INSTITUTE OR A VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOL;*

16

*AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.*

17

18

19

## Subtitle

20

*TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS ACADEMIC CHALLENGE*

21

*SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM CONCERNING APPROVED*

22

*INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION; AND*

23

*CONCERNING THE HIGHER EDUCATION GRANTS*

24

*FUND ACCOUNT.*

25

26

27 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

28

29 *SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-85-204(3), concerning the definition of*  
30 *an "approved institution of higher education" under the Arkansas Academic*  
31 *Challenge Scholarship Program, is amended to read as follows:*

32

*(3)(A) "Approved institution of higher education" means an*

33

*institution of higher education approved by the division to participate in*

34

*the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program and that is:*

35

*~~(A)(i)~~ A state-supported two-year or four-year*

36

*college or university;*



1 ~~(B)(ii)~~ A private, nonprofit two-year or four-year  
2 college or university with its primary headquarters located in Arkansas that  
3 is eligible to receive Title IV federal student aid funds; ~~or~~

4 ~~(C)(iii)~~ An approved school of nursing, subject to  
5 the provisions of § 6-85-213(c);

6 (iv)(a) A public or private vocational-technical  
7 school.

8 (b) A public or private vocational-technical  
9 school shall be bonded and insured; or

10 (v)(a) A public or private technical institute.

11 (b) A public or private technical institute  
12 shall be bonded and insured.

13 (B) An approved institution of higher education that is a  
14 private, nonprofit two-year or four-year college or university shall be  
15 eligible to receive Title IV federal student aid funds;

16  
17 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 85, Subchapter 2, is amended  
18 to add an additional section to read as follows:

19 6-85-222. Vocational-technical school and technical institute  
20 eligibility.

21 (a) An applicant for a scholarship under this subchapter who has  
22 applied to or is currently enrolled in a public or private vocational-  
23 technical school or a public or private technical institute shall, in  
24 addition to the relevant eligibility requirements under this subchapter, be  
25 accepted for admission in a program of study that leads to an associate  
26 degree or a certificate program in one (1) of the following high-demand  
27 fields:

28 (1) Industry;

29 (2) Health care; or

30 (3) Information technology.

31 (b) The Division of Higher Education shall file annually by November 1  
32 a report to the Legislative Council in the manner and format that the  
33 Legislative Council requires regarding:

34 (1) All state-supported student financial assistance awarded by  
35 the division under this subchapter to students enrolled in vocational-  
36 technical schools and technical institutes; and



**RULE GOVERNING THE GOVERNOR’S HIGHER EDUCATION  
TRANSITION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

---

In compliance with Acts 413 of 2023, the rule for the Governor’s Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program is presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) for final approval.

The following resolution is offered for the Board’s consideration:

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board reviews the rule presented in this agenda item for the Governor’s Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program to be administered by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education or his designee is authorized to make technical changes and corrections, when necessary, in the rule for the Governor’s Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Governor’s Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program rule be approved for final.



**DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION RULES GOVERNING THE GOVERNOR'S  
HIGHER EDUCATION TRANSITION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS AND RESPONSES**

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Commenter Name:

Comments: No public comments received.

Division Response: No substantive changes made.

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**DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION**  
**RULES GOVERNING THE GOVERNOR'S HIGHER EDUCATION TRANSITION**  
**SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

Effective Date:

**1.00 REGULATORY AUTHORITY AND PURPOSE**

- 1.01 These rules shall be known as the Division of Higher Education Rules Governing the Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program.
- 1.02 This rule is enacted pursuant to the Higher Education Coordinating Board's authority under Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-61-202 and 6-82-105.
- 1.03 The purpose of these rules is to establish the requirements and processes governing the Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program.

**2.00 GOVERNOR'S HIGHER EDUCATION TRANSITION SCHOLARSHIP**

- 2.01 The Division of Higher Education shall oversee the establishment of the Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program.
- 2.02 Continuation of the Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program shall be contingent upon available funding.

**3.00 ORGANIZATION AND STRUCTURE**

- 3.01 The Division of Higher Education shall administer the Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program.
- 3.02 The division shall establish application periods and deadlines.

**4.00 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

- 4.01 The Governor's Higher Education Transition Program Scholarship may only be awarded to those students who are admitted into transition programs that are accredited by The Institute for Community Inclusion as Comprehensive Training Programs.

4.01.1 In order to be considered a qualifying institution, an institution must offer a transition program as described in 4.01 of these rules.

4.02 Students, or representatives acting on behalf of students, must complete the online scholarship application provided by the Division of Higher Education.

## **5.00 CONTINUED ELIGIBILITY**

5.01 Recipients of the Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship will maintain award eligibility for a maximum of four (4) semesters as long as the recipients are continuously enrolled in a transition program.

## **6.00 SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNTS**

6.01 Scholarship awards are contingent upon availability of funds.

6.02 Awards may not exceed the institutional cost of attendance. The maximum award amount is \$2,500.00 per semester that the student qualifies for the scholarship.

6.03 Awards may be applied to tuition, mandatory fees, programmatic fees, room and board, supplies, or extended support services.

## **7.00 PAYMENT OF SCHOLARSHIPS**

7.01 The Division of Higher Education shall disburse scholarship funds to the qualifying institution of the recipient's choice via electronic funds transfer or state warrant.

7.02 After verification of enrollment, the institution will disburse the scholarship funds to the student according to the institution's disbursement procedures.

7.03 The scholarship payment will correspond to academic terms, semesters, quarters, or equivalent time periods at the institution.

7.03.1 For purposes of scholarship payments, academic terms at the institution may include summer terms, semesters, quarters, or their equivalent.

7.04 In no instance may the entire amount of the scholarship disbursement for an educational year be paid in advance to or on behalf of such student.

7.05 If the recipient of a scholarship withdraws, drops out, or is expelled on or after the first day of class of a payment period, the institution will determine whether the

student received an overpayment of financial aid funds for non-institutional expenses.

7.05.1 Overpayment is the difference between the amount received as cash disbursements and the amount incurred for non-institutional costs during the portion of the payment period that the student was actually enrolled.

7.05.2 It is the institution's responsibility to contact students and recover overpayment(s).

7.05.3 The institution shall refund the overpayment(s) to the division.

7.06 If the award of a Governor's Higher Education Transition Program Scholarship results in an overpayment to the student per Ark. Code Ann. § 6-80-105, the institution shall follow the division's Scholarship Stacking Policy in reducing the student's financial package so that the student does not receive funds above the federally-recognized cost of attendance.

## **8.00 RESPONSIBILITIES OF QUALIFYING INSTITUTIONS**

8.01 The chief executive officer of the qualifying institution is responsible for appointing one representative from the financial aid office to act as administrator of the Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program and to receive all communications, forms, and other correspondence related to the program. This representative will be responsible for verification, data and compliance with all program rules.

8.02 The institution shall maintain information regarding disbursement of scholarship funds.

8.03 The deadline for disbursement of funds is no later than ten (10) days after receipt of funds.

8.03.1 Any outstanding funds not disbursed by these dates must be returned to the Division of Higher Education.

8.03.2 If the division receives an application beyond the deadline referenced in section 8.03, disbursement will be made within ten (10) business days of receipt of the verification roster and electronic transfer of funds.

- 8.04 In exercising its due diligence requirements as a steward of state funds, the division shall periodically review the qualifying institution's records concerning this program.
- 8.05 Upon request, the qualifying institution shall exercise due diligence in providing the division with complete, accurate, and timely information regarding current and former Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program recipients.
- 8.06 Institutions with accredited transition programs will certify students' admittance and enrollment prior to scholarship award.
- 8.07 The institution shall comply with all applicable law and rules in order to maintain its status as a qualified institution.

## **9.00 RESPONSIBILITIES OF RECIPIENTS**

- 9.01 It is the recipient's responsibility to notify the Division of Higher Education of any change in status within twenty-one (21) days, including the recipient's:
  - 9.01.1 Change in name;
  - 9.01.2 Change in address; and
  - 9.01.3 Change in institution.
- 9.02 Failure to notify the division of a change in status may affect future eligibility.

**ARKANSAS DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION**  
**RULES GOVERNING THE GOVERNOR'S HIGHER EDUCATION TRANSITION**  
**SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

(Effective Date: ~~September 28, 2022~~)

**1.00 REGULATORY AUTHORITY AND PURPOSE**

- 1.01 These rules shall be known as the ~~Arkansas Department of Education~~ Division of Higher Education Rules Governing the Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program.
- 1.02 These rules are enacted pursuant to the ~~Arkansas~~ Higher Education Coordinating Board's authority under Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-82-105 and Acts 2022, No. 215.
- 1.03 The purpose of these rules is to establish the requirements and processes governing the Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program.

**2.00 GOVERNOR'S HIGHER EDUCATION TRANSITION SCHOLARSHIP**

- 2.01 The ~~Arkansas~~ Division of Higher Education (~~ADHE~~) shall oversee the establishment of the Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program.
- 2.02 Continuation of the Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program shall be contingent upon available funding.

**3.00 ORGANIZATION AND STRUCTURE**

- 3.01 ~~ADHE~~ The Division of Higher Education shall administer the Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program.
- 3.02 ~~ADHE~~ The division shall establish application periods and deadlines.

**4.00 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

- 4.01 The Governor's Higher Education Transition Program Scholarship may only be awarded to those students who are admitted into transition programs that are accredited by The Institute for Community Inclusion as Comprehensive Training Programs.

4.01.1 In order to be considered a qualifying institution, an institution must offer a transition program as described in 4.01 of these rules.

4.02 Students, or representatives acting on behalf of students, must complete the online scholarship application provided by ~~ADHE~~ the Division of Higher Education.

## **5.00 CONTINUED ELIGIBILITY**

5.01 Recipients of the Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship will maintain award eligibility for a maximum of four (4) semesters as long as the recipients are continuously enrolled in a transition program.

## **6.00 SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNTS**

6.01 Scholarship awards are contingent upon availability of funds.

6.02 Awards may not exceed the institutional cost of attendance. The maximum award amount is \$2,500.00 per semester that the student qualifies for the scholarship.

6.03 Awards may be applied to tuition, mandatory fees, programmatic fees, room and board, supplies, or extended support services.

## **7.00 PAYMENT OF SCHOLARSHIPS**

7.01 ~~ADHE~~ The Division of Higher Education shall disburse scholarship funds to the qualifying institution of the recipient's choice via electronic funds transfer or state warrant.

7.02 After verification of enrollment, the institution will disburse the scholarship funds to the student according to the institution's disbursement procedures.

7.03 The scholarship payment will correspond to academic terms, semesters, quarters, or equivalent time periods at the institution.

7.03.1 For purposes of scholarship payments, academic terms at the institution may include summer terms, semesters, quarters, or their equivalent.

7.04 In no instance may the entire amount of the scholarship disbursement for an educational year be paid in advance to or on behalf of such student.

- 7.05 If the recipient of a scholarship withdraws, drops out, or is expelled on or after the first day of class of a payment period, the institution will determine whether the student received an overpayment of financial aid funds for non-institutional expenses.
- 7.05.1 Overpayment is the difference between the amount received as cash disbursements and the amount incurred for non-institutional costs during the portion of the payment period that the student was actually enrolled.
- 7.05.2 It is the institution's responsibility to contact students and recover overpayment(s).
- 7.05.3 The institution shall refund the overpayment(s) to ~~ADHE~~ the division.
- 7.06 If the award of a Governor's Higher Education Transition Program Scholarship results in an overpayment to the student per Ark. Code Ann. § 6-80-105, the institution shall follow the ADHE Scholarship Stacking Policy in reducing the student's financial package so that the student does not receive funds above the federally-recognized cost of attendance.

## **8.00 RESPONSIBILITIES OF QUALIFYING INSTITUTIONS**

- 8.01 The chief executive officer of the qualifying institution is responsible for appointing one representative from the financial aid office to act as administrator of the Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program and to receive all communications, forms, and other correspondence related to the program. This representative will be responsible for verification, data and compliance with all program rules.
- 8.02 The institution shall maintain information regarding disbursement of scholarship funds.
- 8.03 The deadline for disbursement of funds is no later than ten (10) days after receipt of funds.
- 8.03.1 Any outstanding funds not disbursed by these dates must be returned to ~~ADHE~~ the Division of Higher Education.
- 8.03.2 If ~~ADHE~~ the division receives an application beyond the deadline referenced in 8.03 of these rules, disbursement will be made within ten (10)



business days of receipt of the verification roster and electronic transfer of funds.

- 8.04 In exercising its due diligence requirements as a steward of state funds, ~~ADHE~~ the division shall periodically review the qualifying institution's records concerning this program.
- 8.05 Upon request, the qualifying institution shall exercise due diligence in providing ~~ADHE~~ the division with complete, accurate, and timely information regarding current and former Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program recipients.
- 8.06 Institutions with accredited transition programs will certify students' admittance and enrollment prior to scholarship award.
- 8.07 The institution shall comply with all applicable ~~ADHE~~ law and rules in order to maintain its status as a qualified institution.

## **9.00 RESPONSIBILITIES OF RECIPIENTS**

- 9.01 It is the recipient's responsibility to notify ~~ADHE~~ the Division of Higher Education of any change in status within twenty-one (21) days. ~~This will include, including~~ the recipient's:
  - 9.01.1 Change in name;
  - 9.01.2 Change in address; and
  - 9.01.3 Change in institution.
- 9.02 Failure to notify ~~ADHE~~ the division of a change in status may affect future eligibility.

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2023  
4

As Engrossed: H2/14/23

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1412

5 By: Representative J. Mayberry  
6 By: Senator J. English  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT CONCERNING RULES PROMULGATED BY THE DIVISION  
10 OF HIGHER EDUCATION; TO REQUIRE THE DIVISION OF  
11 HIGHER EDUCATION TO PROMULGATE CERTAIN RULES  
12 CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS FUNDED  
13 WITH STATE FUNDS AND LOTTERY PROCEEDS; TO DECLARE AN  
14 EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

15  
16  
17  
18 TO REQUIRE THE DIVISION OF HIGHER  
19 EDUCATION TO PROMULGATE CERTAIN RULES  
20 CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF  
21 SCHOLARSHIPS FUNDED WITH STATE FUNDS AND  
22 LOTTERY PROCEEDS; AND TO DECLARE AN  
23 EMERGENCY.  
24  
25

26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
27

28 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 80, Subchapter 1, is amended  
29 to add an additional section to read as follows:

30 6-80-109. Division of Higher Education – Rules.

31 (a) The Division of Higher Education shall promulgate or update  
32 existing division rules to allow a student who is a recipient of a  
33 scholarship to utilize scholarship funds to enroll in and attend courses  
34 offered during a summer term at the postsecondary institution in which the  
35 student is enrolled.

36 (b) Rules promulgated under this section shall include without



1 limitation requirements concerning:

2 (1) Student eligibility; and

3 (2) The disbursement and administration of scholarship funds  
4 utilized by a student to enroll in and attend courses offered during a summer  
5 term.

6 (c) As used in this section, "scholarship" shall include a scholarship  
7 program that is:

8 (1) Funded with state funds or lottery proceeds; and

9 (2) Administered by the division.

10  
11 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-85-204(14), concerning the definition of  
12 "semester" under the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 (14)(A) "Semester" means one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of a traditional academic  
15 year at an institution of higher education, or an equivalent approved by the  
16 division, in which a student enrolls for not less than:

17 ~~(A)(i)~~ Fifteen (15) credit hours as a full-time student,  
18 except that in the first semester as a first-time full-time freshman, a  
19 traditional student shall enroll in not less than twelve (12) credit hours;  
20 or

21 ~~(B)(ii)~~ Six (6) credit hours as a part-time student.

22 (B) For purposes of summer courses at an institution of  
23 higher education, a "semester" shall mean the same as is defined by the  
24 division, as required by § 6-80-109;

25  
26 SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
27 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the Division of Higher  
28 Education must make certain arrangements to facilitate the use of Arkansas  
29 Academic Challenge Scholarship funds for upcoming summer courses; and that  
30 many of these arrangements must occur in time for the 2023-2024 school year.  
31 Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being necessary  
32 for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become  
33 effective on July 1, 2023.

34  
35 /s/J. Mayberry

36 **APPROVED: 3/30/23**

**RULES GOVERNING THE PRODUCTIVITY FUNDING DISTRIBUTION  
POLICY**

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In compliance with Act 237 of 2023, which repealed the Succeed Scholarship Program, the rules for the Productivity Funding Distribution Policy are presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) for final approval.

The following resolution is offered for the Board's consideration:

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board reviews the rules presented in this agenda item for the Productivity Funding Distribution Policy to be administered by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education or his designee is authorized to make technical changes and corrections, when necessary, in the program rules for the Productivity Funding Distribution Policy.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Productivity Funding Distribution Policy rules be approved for final approval.

**DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION RULES GOVERNING THE PRODUCTIVITY  
FUNDING DISTRIBUTION POLICY  
PUBLIC COMMENTS AND RESPONSES**

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Commenter Name:

Comments: No public comments received.

Division Response: No substantive changes made.

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# **PRODUCTIVITY FUNDING DISTRIBUTION POLICY**

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## **Background**

Act 148 of 2017 repealed the needs-based and outcome-centered funding formulas as prescribed in Arkansas Code § 6-61-210, Arkansas Code § 6-61-224, Arkansas Code § 6-61-228, Arkansas Code § 6-61-229, Arkansas Code § 6-61-230, and Arkansas Code § 6-61-233, and amended Arkansas Code § 6-61-234. The Act directs the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) to adopt policies developed by the Department of Higher Education (ADHE) necessary to implement a productivity-based funding model for state-supported institutions of higher education.

Productivity-based funding is a mechanism to align institutional funding with statewide priorities for higher education by incentivizing progress toward statewide goals. At the same time, such models encourage accountability to students and policymakers by focusing on the success of students through the achievement of their educational goals. The new funding model is built around a set of shared principles developed by institutions and aligned with goals and objectives for post-secondary attainment in our state.

The AHECB shall use the productivity-based funding model as the mechanism for recommending funding for applicable state-supported institutions of higher education. The Board shall recommend funding for the state-supported institutions of higher education as a whole and the allocation of funding to each state-supported institution of higher education. The AHECB shall make separate recommendations for the two-year institutions and four-year institutions. The framework for those recommendations is described in this policy.

## **Funding Distribution Framework**

A productivity index for each institution will be calculated based on the Productivity Funding Model policies for four and two-year institutions. Each institution's current productivity index will be compared to its previous year's index to determine productivity changes. One productivity index will be calculated to represent productivity changes for institutions of higher education as a whole and will be used to determine how much new state funding is recommended. The AHECB will limit the funding recommendation generated by the productivity-based funding model to no more than a 2% growth over the prior year's Revenue Stabilization Act (RSA) general revenue funding amount for four and two-year institutions.

When new state funding is recommended, the proportion of new monies to be distributed among four and two-year institutions will be divided into two separate funding pools based upon the percentage of existing RSA general revenue. If any RSA general revenue funds remain unallocated to state-supported institutions of higher education

~~due to productivity declines, ADHE shall utilize the funds to address statewide needs in higher education.~~

~~New RSA general revenue allocated to four and two-year institutions will be distributed among the institutions with productivity index increases. The percentage of new RSA general revenue funding recommended for institutions with productive index increases will be calculated as a percentage of the contribution to the overall four or two-year institutions productivity index increases.~~

~~Within each four and two-year institution group, RSA general revenue funding will be recommended for reallocation from institutions with productivity index declines to institutions with productivity index increases. Reallocation of RSA general revenue funding to institutions with productivity increases will be calculated as a percentage of the contribution to the overall four or two-year institution productivity index increases. Reallocation for institutions with productivity index declines will be based on their percentage of productivity index decline. Recommended reallocation will be introduced on a graduated scale starting with 1% of an institution's RSA general revenue funding being reallocated in 2019-2020; up to 1.5% in 2020-2021; and up to 2% in 2021-2022 and thereafter.~~

~~The total RSA general revenue recommendation for each four and two-year institution will include any new state funding recommendation and reallocated funding recommendation. If an institution's funding recommendation is greater than a 1% increase in 2018-2019; 1.5% increase in 2019-20; 2% increase thereafter over its existing RSA general revenue funding, the Board will recommend that the amount of funding recommendation up to 2% based on the graduated scale would be added to an institutions existing RSA general revenue and any funding recommendation in excess would be one-time incentive funding for that institution. The AHECB will recommend redistribution of one-time incentive funding in the following year based on productivity index changes.~~

~~In the event that an institution of higher education's RSA general revenue funding declines by more than 5% of the 2018-2019 fiscal year level due to productivity declines, ADHE shall not further recommend reductions in funding for that institution, but shall assist the institution in developing a plan for improvement and progression.~~

~~In any fiscal year for which the aggregate general revenue funding forecast to be available for state-supported institutions of higher education is greater than 2% less than the amount provided for the immediate fiscal year, the ADHE shall not further implement the productivity-based funding model until the following fiscal year.~~

~~This policy will be reviewed every three (3) years to ensure that productivity funding distribution continues to respond to the needs and priorities of the state. However, if it is determined that the funding distribution framework created unintended consequences, this policy will be reviewed immediately.~~

**Division of Higher Education Rules Governing Productivity-Based Funding for State-Supported Institutions of Higher Education**

**1.00 Purpose.**

- 1.01 The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall use the productivity-based funding model as the mechanism for recommending to the General Assembly funding for applicable institutions.
- 1.02 The board shall recommend funding for the institutions as a collective and funding to each individual institution.
- 1.03 The board shall make separate recommendations for the two-year institutions and four-year institutions.

**2.00 Definitions.**

- 2.01 “Institution” means a state supported:
  - 2.01.1 Two-year institution of higher education; or
  - 2.01.2 Four-year institution of higher education.
- 2.02 “Productivity-based funding” means a mechanism to align institutional funding with statewide priorities for postsecondary education by incentivizing progress toward statewide goals.
- 2.03 “RSA” means the Revenue Stabilization Act.

**3.00 Funding Distribution Framework**

- 3.01 A productivity index for each institution will be calculated based on the Productivity Funding Model Policies for Universities and Colleges.
  - 3.01.1 Each institution’s current productivity index will be compared to its previous year’s index to determine productivity changes.
  - 3.01.2 One productivity index will be calculated to represent productivity changes for institutions as a collective and will be used to determine how much new state funding is recommended.
  - 3.01.3 The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board will limit the funding recommendation generated by the productivity-based funding model to no more than a 2% growth over the prior year’s RSA general revenue funding amount for institutions.



- 3.02 When new state funding is recommended, the proportion of new monies to be distributed among institutions will be divided into two separate funding pools for four and two-year institutions based upon the percentage of existing RSA general revenue.
- 3.02.1 If any RSA general revenue funds remain unallocated to institutions due to productivity declines, the Division of Higher Education shall utilize the funds to address statewide needs in higher education.
- 3.02.2 New RSA general revenue allocated to institutions will be distributed among the institutions with productivity index increases.
- 3.02.3 The percentage of new RSA general revenue funding recommended for institutions with productivity index increases will be calculated as a percentage of the contribution to the overall institutions' productivity index increases.
- 3.03 Within each four and two-year institution group, RSA general revenue funding will be recommended for reallocation from institutions with productivity index declines to institutions with productivity index increases.
- 3.03.1 Reallocation of RSA general revenue funding to institutions with productivity increases will be calculated as a percentage of the contribution to the overall four or two-year institution productivity index increases.
- 3.03.2 Reallocation for institutions with productivity index declines will be based on their percentage of productivity index decline.
- 3.03.3 Recommended reallocation will be introduced on a graduated scale starting with 1% of an institution's RSA general revenue funding being reallocated in 2019-2020; up to 1.5% in 2020-2021; and up to 2% in 2021-2022 and thereafter.
- 3.04 The total RSA general revenue recommendation for each institution will include any new state funding recommendation and reallocated funding recommendation.
- 3.04.1 If an institution's funding recommendation is greater than a 1% increase in 2018-2019; 1.5% increase in 2019-20; or 2% increase thereafter over its existing RSA general revenue funding, the board will recommend that the amount of funding recommendation up to 2% based on the graduated scale would be added to an institutions existing RSA general revenue and any funding recommendation in excess would be one-time incentive funding for that institution.

- 3.04.2 The board will recommend redistribution of one-time incentive funding in the following year based on productivity index changes.
- 3.05 In the event that an institution of higher education's RSA general revenue funding declines by more than 5% within any consecutive five-year period due to productivity declines, the division shall not further recommend reductions in funding for that institution.
- 3.06 In any fiscal year for which the aggregate general revenue funding forecast to be available for state-supported institutions of higher education is greater than 2% less than the amount provided for the immediate fiscal year, the division shall not further implement the productivity-based funding model until the following fiscal year.
- 3.07 This rule will be reviewed every three (3) years to ensure that productivity funding distribution continues to respond to the needs and priorities of the state.
- 3.08 However, if the division determines that the funding distribution framework created unintended consequences, this rule will be reviewed immediately.

1 State of Arkansas  
2 91st General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2017  
4

*As Engrossed: H1/25/17*

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1209

5 By: Representatives Lowery, Cozart, M. Gray, Ladyman, Maddox, Richmond, Rye, Sturch, Sullivan,  
6 Vaught, Wing

7 By: Senators E. Williams, J. English  
8

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9  
10 AN ACT TO ADOPT A PRODUCTIVITY-BASED FUNDING MODEL  
11 FOR STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION;  
12 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
13  
14

### Subtitle

15  
16 TO ADOPT A PRODUCTIVITY-BASED FUNDING  
17 MODEL FOR STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS OF  
18 HIGHER EDUCATION.  
19  
20

21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
22

23 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 61, Subchapter 2, is amended  
24 to add an additional section to read as follows:

25 6-61-234. Productivity-based funding model.

26 (a)(1)(A) The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall adopt  
27 policies developed by the Department of Higher Education necessary to  
28 implement a productivity-based funding model for state-supported institutions  
29 of higher education.

30 (B) The board shall adopt separate policies for two-year  
31 institutions of higher education and four-year institutions of higher  
32 education.

33 (2) The policies adopted to implement a productivity-based  
34 funding model for state-supported institutions of higher education shall  
35 contain measures for effectiveness, affordability, and efficiency that  
36 acknowledge the following priorities:



1 (A) Differences in institutional missions;  
2 (B) Completion of students' educational goals;  
3 (C) Progression toward students' completion of programs of  
4 study;

5 (D) Affordability through:  
6 (i) On-time completion of programs of study;  
7 (ii) Limiting the number of excess credits earned by  
8 students; and

9 (iii) Efficient allocation of resources;  
10 (E) Institutional collaboration that encourages the  
11 successful transfer of students;

12 (F) Success in serving underrepresented students; and

13 (G) Production of students graduating with credentials in  
14 science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and high-demand fields.

15 (3) The productivity-based funding model shall not determine the  
16 funding needs of special units such as a medical school, division of  
17 agriculture, or system offices.

18 (b) The productivity-based funding model shall be:

19 (1) Used to align institutional funding with statewide  
20 priorities for higher education by:

21 (A) Encouraging programs and services focused on student  
22 success; and

23 (B) Providing incentives for progress toward statewide  
24 goals; and

25 (2) Built around a set of shared principles that:

26 (A) Are embraced by state-supported institutions of higher  
27 education;

28 (B) Employ appropriate productivity metrics; and

29 (C) Are aligned with goals and objectives for  
30 postsecondary education attainment in this state.

31 (c)(1) The board shall use the productivity-based funding model as the  
32 mechanism for recommending funding for state-supported institutions of higher  
33 education.

34 (2) The board shall recommend funding for:

35 (A) State-supported institutions of higher education as a  
36 whole; and

1                   (B) The allocation of funding to each state-supported  
2 institution of higher education.

3                   (3) The board shall make separate recommendations for two-year  
4 institutions of higher education and four-year institutions of higher  
5 education.

6                   (d) Funds unallocated to state-supported institutions of higher  
7 education due to productivity declines shall be reserved by the department to  
8 address statewide needs in higher education.

9                   (e) The department shall review the policies every five (5) years to  
10 ensure the productivity-based funding model continues to respond to the needs  
11 and priorities of the state.

12                   (f) In any fiscal year for which the aggregate general revenue funding  
13 forecast to be available for state-supported institutions of higher education  
14 is greater than two percent (2%) less than the amount provided for the  
15 immediate previous fiscal year, the department shall not further implement  
16 the productivity-based funding model until the following fiscal year.

17  
18                   SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-61-210 is repealed.

19                   ~~6-61-210. Allocation of additional state funds.~~

20                   ~~(a) The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board is authorized and~~  
21 ~~directed to establish criteria and standards for the allocation of additional~~  
22 ~~state funds provided for such purposes to state-supported institutions of~~  
23 ~~higher learning experiencing enrollment increases greater than were~~  
24 ~~anticipated at the time the board prepared its budget recommendations for~~  
25 ~~allocations of funds to the respective institutions prior to each regular~~  
26 ~~session and fiscal session.~~

27                   ~~(b)(1) The criteria and standards shall be applicable to all state-~~  
28 ~~supported institutions of higher learning experiencing enrollment growth.~~

29                   ~~(2) However, with respect to the State Medical Center, the board~~  
30 ~~shall develop criteria and standards for measuring and determining the~~  
31 ~~additional financial support required, within the limitation of funds~~  
32 ~~provided therefor, because of unusual factors which create additional~~  
33 ~~spending responsibilities of the State Medical Center.~~

34                   ~~(c) The criteria and standards developed by the board for allocating~~  
35 ~~additional financial support to state-supported institutions of higher~~  
36 ~~learning from moneys provided therefor shall be subject to review and~~

1 approval of the Governor, and the amount to be allocated to each institution  
2 shall be upon certification and approval by the Governor.

3  
4 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-61-224 is repealed.

5 ~~6-61-224. Funding formula—Department of Higher Education.~~

6 ~~(a) The Department of Higher Education, in collaboration with the~~  
7 ~~state college and university presidents and chancellors, shall develop~~  
8 ~~funding formulas consisting of a needs-based component and an outcome-~~  
9 ~~centered component which will, in principle, seek to provide fair and~~  
10 ~~equitable state support to all postsecondary students across the state,~~  
11 ~~regardless of the state institution attended, while at the same time~~  
12 ~~recognizing:~~

13 ~~(1) The different needs for lower level, upper level, and~~  
14 ~~graduate level instruction at the various institutions;~~

15 ~~(2) The requirements for specialized equipment, labs, and~~  
16 ~~smaller class sizes in some disciplines;~~

17 ~~(3) Unique missions such as agricultural extension services,~~  
18 ~~research, medical sciences, workforce development, and public service; and~~

19 ~~(4) Growth, economies of scale, and other appropriate factors.~~

20 ~~(b)(1) The funding formulas for two-year colleges and universities~~  
21 ~~shall be composed of a needs-based component under § 6-61-228(b)-(m) and § 6-~~  
22 ~~61-229(b)-(m) and an outcome-centered component.~~

23 ~~(2) The outcome-centered component shall constitute twenty-five~~  
24 ~~percent (25%) of funding for two-year colleges and universities by the 2017-~~  
25 ~~2018 school year and shall be phased in at a rate of five percent (5%) per~~  
26 ~~year beginning in the 2013-2014 school year.~~

27 ~~(3) The needs-based component shall constitute seventy-five~~  
28 ~~percent (75%) of funding for two-year colleges and universities by the 2017-~~  
29 ~~2018 school year.~~

30 ~~(c) The outcome-centered component measures shall begin in the 2012-~~  
31 ~~2013 school year but may include outcomes from multiple previous years.~~

32 ~~(d)(1) The outcome-centered component shall seek to promote and~~  
33 ~~increase the satisfactory progression, matriculation, and graduation of all~~  
34 ~~students enrolled in two-year colleges and universities.~~

35 ~~(2) The department shall consider the unique factors of each~~  
36 ~~two-year college and university when developing the outcome-centered~~

1 ~~component, including utilizing variables that may be weighted to reinforce~~  
 2 ~~the mission of each two year college and university and provide incentives~~  
 3 ~~for increased credential production.~~

4 ~~(3) The outcome centered component may include without~~  
 5 ~~limitation:~~

6 ~~(A) End of course enrollment;~~

7 ~~(B) Student retention;~~

8 ~~(C) Student progression toward credential completion;~~

9 ~~(D) Number of credentials awarded, including an emphasis~~  
 10 ~~on high demand credentials;~~

11 ~~(E) Student transfer activity;~~

12 ~~(F) Research activity; and~~

13 ~~(G) Number of graduates from underserved populations.~~

14 ~~(e) By December 31, 2011, the department shall present the funding~~  
 15 ~~formulas approved by the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board,~~  
 16 ~~including both the needs based component and the outcome centered component,~~  
 17 ~~to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of~~  
 18 ~~Representatives, and the Governor.~~

19 ~~(f) It is the intent of the General Assembly that the outcome centered~~  
 20 ~~component of funding formulas for two year colleges and universities become~~  
 21 ~~the primary component for funding purposes.~~

22  
 23 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 6-61-228 is repealed.

24 ~~6-61-228. Creation of funding formula model for universities.~~

25 ~~(a) The funding formula model for universities shall:~~

26 ~~(1) Serve as a framework for implementing the broad goals of the~~  
 27 ~~State of Arkansas and the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board;~~

28 ~~(2) Ensure adequate, equitable, and stable funding and be based~~  
 29 ~~on reliable and uniform data;~~

30 ~~(3) Be simple to understand, sensitive to universities'~~  
 31 ~~differing missions, and responsive to changes within the universities and~~  
 32 ~~shall make provisions for special purpose units;~~

33 ~~(4) Hold universities accountable for increasing the educational~~  
 34 ~~attainment levels of Arkansas citizens by:~~

35 ~~(A) Addressing the state's economic development and work~~  
 36 ~~force needs;~~

1                   ~~(B) Promoting increased degree production while~~  
2 ~~maintaining a high level of rigor; and~~

3                   ~~(C) Acknowledging the unique mission of each university~~  
4 ~~and allowing for collaboration and minimal redundancy in degree offerings and~~  
5 ~~competitive research;~~

6                   ~~(5) Promote a seamless and integrated system of postsecondary~~  
7 ~~education designed to meet the needs of all students; and~~

8                   ~~(6) Address institutional accountability for the quality of~~  
9 ~~instruction and student learning, including remedial instruction.~~

10                  ~~(b)(1) The model shall determine the funding needs of universities~~  
11 ~~using six (6) student-semester-credit-hour-based expenditure functions, one~~  
12 ~~(1) square-footage-based function for facilities, and two (2) or more~~  
13 ~~special-mission functions.~~

14                  ~~(2) The model shall also provide for economy or diseconomy of~~  
15 ~~scale for universities with fewer than three thousand five hundred (3,500)~~  
16 ~~full-time-equivalent student enrollment.~~

17                  ~~(c)(1) The six (6) student-semester-credit-hour-based expenditure~~  
18 ~~functions shall be:~~

19                         ~~(A) Teaching salaries;~~

20                         ~~(B) Other instructional costs;~~

21                         ~~(C) Library costs;~~

22                         ~~(D) General institutional support;~~

23                         ~~(E) Research; and~~

24                         ~~(F) Public service.~~

25                  ~~(2) The square-footage-based expenditure function shall be for~~  
26 ~~facilities maintenance and operations.~~

27                  ~~(3) The special missions to receive consideration in the funding~~  
28 ~~formula model shall be universities with a traditional minority mission or a~~  
29 ~~land grant mission, or both.~~

30                  ~~(d)(1) Teaching Salaries.— To determine the teaching salary needs of~~  
31 ~~the universities, the student-semester-credit-hour component of each~~  
32 ~~university shall be summarized into four (4) discipline cost categories:~~

33                         ~~(A) Cost Category I shall include the following~~  
34 ~~instructional discipline classifications:~~

35                                 ~~(i) English;~~

36                                 ~~(ii) General studies;~~



- 1                   ~~(iii) — Mathematics;~~
- 2                   ~~(iv) — Interdisciplinary studies;~~
- 3                   ~~(v) — Health-related knowledge;~~
- 4                   ~~(vi) — Interpersonal skills;~~
- 5                   ~~(vii) — Leisure and recreational activities;~~
- 6                   ~~(viii) — Personal awareness;~~
- 7                   ~~(ix) — Philosophy;~~
- 8                   ~~(x) — Psychology;~~
- 9                   ~~(xi) — Public administration; and~~
- 10                   ~~(xii) — Social sciences;~~
- 11                   ~~(B) — Cost Category II shall include:~~
- 12                   ~~(i) — Ethnic and cultural studies;~~
- 13                   ~~(ii) — Marketing;~~
- 14                   ~~(iii) — Communications;~~
- 15                   ~~(iv) — Education;~~
- 16                   ~~(v) — Languages;~~
- 17                   ~~(vi) — Home economics;~~
- 18                   ~~(vii) — Law;~~
- 19                   ~~(viii) — Biological sciences;~~
- 20                   ~~(ix) — Parks and recreation;~~
- 21                   ~~(x) — Basic skills;~~
- 22                   ~~(xi) — Construction trades;~~
- 23                   ~~(xii) — Mechanics;~~
- 24                   ~~(xiii) — Precisions;~~
- 25                   ~~(xiv) — Production;~~
- 26                   ~~(xv) — Transportation; and~~
- 27                   ~~(xvi) — Business management;~~
- 28                   ~~(C) — Cost Category III shall include:~~
- 29                   ~~(i) — Agriculture;~~
- 30                   ~~(ii) — Conservation;~~
- 31                   ~~(iii) — Architecture;~~
- 32                   ~~(iv) — Communication technologies;~~
- 33                   ~~(v) — Computer and information sciences;~~
- 34                   ~~(vi) — Library science;~~
- 35                   ~~(vii) — Physical sciences;~~
- 36                   ~~(viii) — Science technology;~~

1                                   ~~(ix) Visual and performing arts; and~~  
 2                                   ~~(x) Health professions; and~~  
 3                                   ~~(D) Cost Category IV shall include:~~  
 4                                   ~~(i) Engineering; and~~  
 5                                   ~~(ii) Engineering-related technology.~~

6                                   ~~(2) A university's annualized student semester credit hours~~  
 7 ~~component in each cost category shall be summarized into three (3)~~  
 8 ~~instructional levels, undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral, to produce a~~  
 9 ~~four by three matrix or table containing the university's student semester~~  
 10 ~~credit hours in each cost category and level.~~

11                                   ~~(3)(A) Teaching salary computations shall be determined by~~  
 12 ~~dividing each of the twelve (12) cells of the table by the number of student~~  
 13 ~~semester credit hours that have been determined by research to be needed to~~  
 14 ~~produce a full-time equivalent faculty member.~~

15                                   ~~(B) Those student semester credit hour standards shall be:~~

<del>Cost Category</del>	<del>Undergraduate</del>	<del>Graduate</del>	<del>Doctoral</del>
17           I	645	170	130
18           II	480	250	145
19           III	365	160	120
20           IV	230	102	70

21                                   ~~(4)(A) A university's student semester credit hours in each cost~~  
 22 ~~category shall be divided by the applicable standards in subdivision~~  
 23 ~~(d)(3)(B) of this section to determine the number of full-time equivalent~~  
 24 ~~faculty needed at each of the three (3) instructional levels.~~

25                                   ~~(B)(i) The number of faculty at each instructional level~~  
 26 ~~shall be multiplied by an average Southern Regional Education Board faculty~~  
 27 ~~salary for a university at that level to ensure that every university~~  
 28 ~~receives the same funds for the same discipline and level of student semester~~  
 29 ~~credit hours.~~

30                                   ~~(ii) The sum of the teaching salaries at the three~~  
 31 ~~(3) instructional levels plus a fringe benefits rate that will be determined~~  
 32 ~~by the department staff shall constitute the teaching salaries need of the~~  
 33 ~~university.~~

34                                   ~~(e) Other Instructional Costs. Other instructional costs of the~~  
 35 ~~university shall be calculated as an amount equal to forty five percent (45%)~~  
 36 ~~of teaching salaries of the university.~~

1           ~~(f) Library Costs.~~ Library costs shall be calculated as an amount  
2 equal to eleven percent (11%) of the sum of the teaching salaries and other  
3 instructional costs of the university.

4           ~~(g) General Institutional Support.~~ General institutional support of  
5 the university shall be calculated as an amount equal to fifty four percent  
6 (54%) of the sum of teaching salaries and other instructional costs of the  
7 university.

8           ~~(h) Research.~~ Research funding of the university shall be calculated  
9 as an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the undergraduate teaching  
10 salaries need plus twenty five percent (25%) of graduate teaching salaries  
11 plus fifty percent (50%) of doctoral teaching salaries.

12           ~~(i) Public Service.~~ Public service funding of the university shall be  
13 an amount equal to three percent (3%) of teaching salaries of the university.

14           ~~(j)(1) Facilities Maintenance and Operations.~~ Facilities maintenance  
15 and operations funding of the university shall be based upon the university's  
16 needed square footage as determined by the Five-Factor Academic Space  
17 Prediction Model that considers the discipline and level of the student  
18 semester credit hours of each university.

19           ~~(2) For each year of a biennium, the Arkansas Higher Education~~  
20 ~~Coordinating Board staff shall determine a funding rate per square foot based~~  
21 ~~upon the most recent cost experiences of the universities.~~

22           ~~(3) The rate calculated in subdivision (j)(2) of this section~~  
23 ~~shall be multiplied by the university's actual square footage that the space~~  
24 ~~prediction model has determined the university needs.~~

25           ~~(4) Excess square footage above the space prediction model's~~  
26 ~~established need shall be funded at a rate determined by the Arkansas Higher~~  
27 ~~Education Coordinating Board staff.~~

28           ~~(5) Universities with less square footage than the space~~  
29 ~~prediction model determined need shall be funded at a rate determined by the~~  
30 ~~Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board staff.~~

31           ~~(k)(1) Special Missions.~~ A federally designated land grant  
32 university shall receive special mission funding in the amount of ten percent  
33 (10%) of teaching salaries of the university in recognition of its federally  
34 mandated research and public service mission.

35           ~~(2) The universities with a traditional minority mission shall~~  
36 ~~receive an additional amount equal to fifteen percent (15%) of all student~~

1 ~~semester credit hours or full-time equivalent-based portions of the funding~~  
2 ~~formula.~~

3 ~~(1)(1) Economy/Diseconomy of Scale.—The funding formula shall~~  
4 ~~include an economy/diseconomy of scale provision for universities with fewer~~  
5 ~~than three thousand five hundred (3,500) full-time equivalent student~~  
6 ~~enrollment.~~

7 ~~(2) The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board staff in~~  
8 ~~consultation with the presidents and chancellors of the universities shall~~  
9 ~~determine the method of calculation.~~

10 ~~(m)(1) Funding Formula Model.—The total expenditure needs of each~~  
11 ~~university shall be determined by adding all of the funding needs determined~~  
12 ~~under subsections (d)-(1) of this section.~~

13 ~~(2)(A) Appropriation needs for a university shall be determined~~  
14 ~~by subtracting from the total expenditure needs the tuition and fee revenues.~~

15 ~~(B) The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall~~  
16 ~~establish biennially a tuition rate per credit hour for universities to be~~  
17 ~~used for funding formula purposes.~~

18 ~~(3)(A) This funding formula model is designed to produce~~  
19 ~~educational and general operating funds for universities of higher education~~  
20 ~~that generate student semester credit hours.~~

21 ~~(B) This model does not determine the funding needs of~~  
22 ~~special units, such as the medical school, division of agriculture, and~~  
23 ~~system offices.~~

24 ~~(4) This model does not provide for capital or personal services~~  
25 ~~recommendations.~~

26 ~~(5) This model does not provide funds for institutional~~  
27 ~~scholarships, debt service, or fund transfers.~~

28 ~~(6)(A) The revenue domain for the funding formula model shall~~  
29 ~~include only state appropriations and student tuition and fee income and does~~  
30 ~~not include private contributions and other discretionary funds.~~

31 ~~(B) The revenue domain shall exclude funding at the~~  
32 ~~universities from all sources other than from state appropriations and~~  
33 ~~student tuition, including, but not limited to, the federal government,~~  
34 ~~private sources, and self-supporting activities.~~

35 ~~(C) Because the general definition specifies operating~~  
36 ~~funds, the funding formula model also does not consider the appropriation and~~

1 ~~allocation of capital funds.~~

2 ~~(n)(1) The funding formula model shall be utilized only to allocate~~  
3 ~~funds to the universities.~~

4 ~~(2) This funding formula model shall not be used to prescribe~~  
5 ~~the allocation of those funds within the universities.~~

6 ~~(o)(1) By December 31, 2011, the Arkansas Higher Education~~  
7 ~~Coordinating Board shall develop an outcome-centered funding formula model~~  
8 ~~that implements the broad goals for the state in subsection (a) of this~~  
9 ~~section and seeks to promote and increase the satisfactory progression,~~  
10 ~~matriculation, and graduation of all students enrolled in state-supported~~  
11 ~~institutions of higher education.~~

12 ~~(2) The outcome-centered funding formula model shall take into~~  
13 ~~consideration, at a minimum:~~

14 ~~(A) Course completion;~~

15 ~~(B) Degree completion;~~

16 ~~(C) Critical needs shortage areas;~~

17 ~~(D) Minority students;~~

18 ~~(E) Economically disadvantaged students; and~~

19 ~~(F) Nontraditional students.~~

20 ~~(p)(1) Each university's total state funding received shall be~~  
21 ~~calculated at:~~

22 ~~(A) Ninety five percent (95%) under the funding formula~~  
23 ~~model under subsections (b) (m) of this section and five percent (5%) on the~~  
24 ~~outcome-centered funding formula model for the 2013-2014 school year;~~

25 ~~(B) Ninety percent (90%) under the funding formula model~~  
26 ~~under subsections (b) (m) of this section and ten percent (10%) on the~~  
27 ~~outcome-centered funding formula model for the 2014-2015 school year;~~

28 ~~(C) Eighty five percent (85%) under the funding formula~~  
29 ~~model under subsections (b) (m) of this section and fifteen percent (15%) on~~  
30 ~~the outcome-centered funding formula model for the 2015-2016 school year; and~~

31 ~~(D) Eighty percent (80%) under the funding formula model~~  
32 ~~under subsections (b) (m) of this section and twenty percent (20%) on the~~  
33 ~~outcome-centered funding formula model for the 2016-2017 school year.~~

34 ~~(2) Beginning in the 2017-2018 school year, university funding~~  
35 ~~shall be based seventy five percent (75%) under the funding formula model~~  
36 ~~under subsections (b) (m) of this section and twenty five percent (25%) on~~

1 ~~the outcome-centered funding formula model.~~

2  
3 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 6-61-229 is repealed.

4 ~~6-61-229. Funding formula model for two-year colleges.~~

5 ~~(a) The funding formula model for two-year colleges shall:~~

6 ~~(1) Serve as a framework for implementing the broad goals of the~~  
7 ~~State of Arkansas and the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board;~~

8 ~~(2) Be based on reliable and uniform data;~~

9 ~~(3) Make provisions for special purpose units;~~

10 ~~(4) Hold two-year colleges accountable for increasing the~~  
11 ~~educational attainment levels of Arkansas citizens by:~~

12 ~~(A) Addressing the state's economic development and work-~~  
13 ~~force needs;~~

14 ~~(B) Promoting increased certificate and degree production~~  
15 ~~while maintaining a high level of rigor; and~~

16 ~~(C) Acknowledging the unique mission of each two-year~~  
17 ~~college and allowing for collaboration and minimal redundancy in degree~~  
18 ~~offerings and certificates;~~

19 ~~(5) Promote a seamless and integrated system of postsecondary~~  
20 ~~education designed to meet the needs of all students; and~~

21 ~~(6) Address institutional accountability for the quality of~~  
22 ~~instruction and student learning, including remedial instruction.~~

23 ~~(b)(1) The model shall determine the funding needs of two-year~~  
24 ~~colleges in four (4) student-semester credit hour or full-time equivalent~~  
25 ~~student-based expenditure functions, one (1) square footage-based expenditure~~  
26 ~~function, and one (1) contact-hour expenditure function.~~

27 ~~(2)(A) The student-semester credit hour or full-time equivalent-~~  
28 ~~based expenditure functions shall include:~~

29 ~~(i) Teaching salaries;~~

30 ~~(ii) Academic support;~~

31 ~~(iii) Student services; and~~

32 ~~(iv) Institutional support.~~

33 ~~(B) The square footage-based expenditure function shall be~~  
34 ~~designated for facilities maintenance and operations.~~

35 ~~(C) Funding for workforce education programs shall be~~  
36 ~~determined from student contact hours.~~

1           ~~(c) In order to determine the teaching salaries needs of the two-year~~  
2 ~~colleges, the student semester credit hour shall be summarized into four (4)~~  
3 ~~academic discipline categories based upon the relative costs of academic~~  
4 ~~programs as determined by historical expenditure patterns.~~

5           ~~(d) The cost categories shall be designated as general education,~~  
6 ~~technical education, basic skills, and allied health as follows:~~

7           ~~(1) General education shall include the following academic~~  
8 ~~disciplines:~~

9                           ~~(A) Agriculture business;~~

10                           ~~(B) Natural resources;~~

11                           ~~(C) Archeology;~~

12                           ~~(D) Communications;~~

13                           ~~(E) Education;~~

14                           ~~(F) Engineering;~~

15                           ~~(G) Foreign languages;~~

16                           ~~(H) Home economics;~~

17                           ~~(I) Law;~~

18                           ~~(J) Letters;~~

19                           ~~(K) Liberal studies;~~

20                           ~~(L) Biology or life sciences, or both;~~

21                           ~~(M) Mathematics;~~

22                           ~~(N) Interdisciplinary;~~

23                           ~~(O) Health;~~

24                           ~~(P) Recreation;~~

25                           ~~(Q) Philosophy;~~

26                           ~~(R) Physical sciences;~~

27                           ~~(S) Psychology;~~

28                           ~~(T) Public administration;~~

29                           ~~(U) Social sciences;~~

30                           ~~(V) Transportation;~~

31                           ~~(W) Visual arts; and~~

32                           ~~(X) Performing arts;~~

33           ~~(2) Technical education shall include the following academic~~  
34 ~~disciplines:~~

35                           ~~(A) Agriculture;~~

36                           ~~(B) Marketing;~~

1 ~~(C) Communications technology;~~

2 ~~(D) Engineering technology;~~

3 ~~(E) Technical education;~~

4 ~~(F) Science technology;~~

5 ~~(G) Protective services;~~

6 ~~(H) Construction trades;~~

7 ~~(I) Mechanics;~~

8 ~~(J) Precision production; and~~

9 ~~(K) Business management;~~

10 ~~(3) Basic skills shall include remedial or developmental, or~~  
11 ~~both, student semester credit hours; and~~

12 ~~(4) Allied health shall include health professions.~~

13 ~~(e)(1) The number of full-time equivalent faculty needed by a college~~  
14 ~~shall be determined using the established workload standards required to~~  
15 ~~produce a need for one (1) full-time equivalent faculty member.~~

16 ~~(2) The workload standards to produce a full-time equivalent~~  
17 ~~faculty member shall be:~~

18 ~~(A) Six hundred sixty (660) student semester credit hours~~  
19 ~~for general education;~~

20 ~~(B) Four hundred eighty (480) student semester credit~~  
21 ~~hours for technical education and basic skills; and~~

22 ~~(C) Three hundred sixty (360) student semester credit~~  
23 ~~hours for allied health.~~

24 ~~(f)(1) The full-time equivalent faculty needs of each college shall be~~  
25 ~~determined by dividing the workload standards into the college's student~~  
26 ~~semester credit hours in that cost category.~~

27 ~~(2) Funding for teaching salaries for each college shall be~~  
28 ~~determined by multiplying the total or full-time equivalent faculty needs of~~  
29 ~~each college by the predicted Board of Control for Southern Regional~~  
30 ~~Education average salary for two-year colleges with no academic rank.~~

31 ~~(3) The teaching salary funding shall be adjusted for the use of~~  
32 ~~part-time faculty or full-time equivalent faculty needs generated by student~~  
33 ~~semester credit hours taught by part-time faculty and shall be funded at one-~~  
34 ~~half (1/2) of the rate of those student semester credit hours taught by full-~~  
35 ~~time faculty members.~~

36 ~~(4) The part-time faculty adjustment for each college will be~~



1 ~~determined each biennium by the Department of Higher Education staff.~~

2 ~~(5) The fringe benefits for teaching salaries shall be~~  
3 ~~determined by multiplying the teaching salaries funding by the current~~  
4 ~~average fringe benefit rate, which shall be determined for the biennium by~~  
5 ~~the department staff.~~

6 ~~(6) The total teaching salaries needs of a college shall include~~  
7 ~~the fringe benefits and teaching salary needs.~~

8 ~~(g)(1) Funding needs for the academic support functions shall be equal~~  
9 ~~to sixty percent (60%) of adjusted teaching salaries plus thirty five~~  
10 ~~thousand dollars (\$35,000) for a staff salary in public service.~~

11 ~~(2) Fringe benefits for academic support shall be determined by~~  
12 ~~multiplying the fringe benefit rate determined for the biennium by sixty~~  
13 ~~percent (60%) of the academic support funding described in subdivision (g)(1)~~  
14 ~~of this section.~~

15 ~~(h)(1) The funding needs for student services shall be calculated~~  
16 ~~based on a variable rate per student using the mean of full-time-equivalent~~  
17 ~~enrollment and headcount enrollment.~~

18 ~~(2) Student services funding shall include an economy-of-scale~~  
19 ~~component that will provide progressively less funding per student over~~  
20 ~~established enrollment levels.~~

21 ~~(3) For the 2005-2007 biennium, student services funding for the~~  
22 ~~first seven hundred fifty (750) students shall be funded at a higher rate to~~  
23 ~~be determined each biennium; the next two thousand two hundred fifty (2,250)~~  
24 ~~students shall be funded at a lesser rate; and all students in excess of a~~  
25 ~~three thousand (3,000) full-time-equivalent enrollment level shall be funded~~  
26 ~~at a lower rate.~~

27 ~~(4) The funding rates for each level shall have a full-time-~~  
28 ~~equivalent enrollment level that shall be adjusted biennially for inflation.~~

29 ~~(5) Full-time-equivalent enrollment levels shall be reviewed~~  
30 ~~annually to determine whether they require adjustment.~~

31 ~~(6) Fringe benefits for student services shall be calculated as~~  
32 ~~an amount equal to the biennial fringe benefit rate multiplied by sixty~~  
33 ~~percent (60%) of the calculated student services funding needs under~~  
34 ~~subdivision (h)(3) of this section.~~

35 ~~(i) Institutional support funding shall be as follows based on the~~  
36 ~~college's full-time-equivalent student enrollment.~~

1           ~~(1) For one thousand (1,000) or fewer students enrolled, an~~  
2 ~~amount equal to twenty one percent (21%) of the total teaching salaries,~~  
3 ~~academic support, student services, and facilities maintenance and~~  
4 ~~operations;~~

5           ~~(2) For one thousand one (1,001) to three thousand (3,000)~~  
6 ~~students enrolled, an amount equal to eighteen percent (18%) of the total of~~  
7 ~~the teaching salaries, academic support, student services, and facilities~~  
8 ~~maintenance and operations; and~~

9           ~~(3) For more than three thousand (3,000) students enrolled, an~~  
10 ~~amount equal to fifteen percent (15%) of the total teaching salaries,~~  
11 ~~academic support, student services, and facilities maintenance and~~  
12 ~~operations.~~

13           ~~(j)(1) Facilities maintenance and operations funding shall be based~~  
14 ~~upon each college's square footage needs as determined by the "space needs~~  
15 ~~model" that determines need based on the college's full-time equivalent~~  
16 ~~enrollment and the mix of academic programs that the college offers.~~

17           ~~(2)(A) For each year of the biennium, the Arkansas Higher~~  
18 ~~Education Coordinating Board shall determine a funding rate per square foot~~  
19 ~~based on the most recent cost experiences of the college.~~

20           ~~(B) That rate shall be multiplied by the college's actual~~  
21 ~~square footage that does not exceed one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the~~  
22 ~~space need model's determined need of the college.~~

23           ~~(C) Square footage in excess of one hundred fifty percent~~  
24 ~~(150%) of the space need model's determined need of the college shall be~~  
25 ~~funded at a lower rate.~~

26           ~~(D) Colleges with a deficit in square footage as defined~~  
27 ~~by the space need model will have the square footage shortfall partially~~  
28 ~~funded to compensate for the intensity of the use of the facilities.~~

29           ~~(k) Funding for workforce education shall be based on contact hours~~  
30 ~~and shall be calculated by using an established rate for the first ten~~  
31 ~~thousand (10,000) contact hours, a lesser rate for the next ten thousand~~  
32 ~~(10,000), and a lesser rate for all noncredit contact hours in excess of~~  
33 ~~twenty thousand (20,000).~~

34           ~~(l) The total expenditure needs of each college shall be equal to the~~  
35 ~~sum of teaching salaries, academic support, student services, institutional~~  
36 ~~support, facilities maintenance and operations, and workforce education.~~

1           ~~(m)(1) The appropriation needs of each college shall be the total~~  
2 ~~expenditure needs of the college less the calculated tuition and fee income.~~

3           ~~(2) The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall~~  
4 ~~establish biennially a tuition rate per credit hour for two-year colleges~~  
5 ~~with revenue derived from a local tax, including, but not limited to, a sales~~  
6 ~~tax or an ad valorem tax, and a higher per credit hour tuition rate for those~~  
7 ~~colleges without revenue derived from a local tax.~~

8           ~~(n)(1) The formula does not provide funds for institutional~~  
9 ~~scholarships, debt service, or fund transfers.~~

10           ~~(2) The revenue domain for the funding model shall include only~~  
11 ~~state appropriations and student tuition and fee income and shall not include~~  
12 ~~private contributions and other discretionary funds.~~

13           ~~(3) The revenue domain shall exclude funding at the colleges~~  
14 ~~from all sources other than from student tuition and state appropriations,~~  
15 ~~including, but not limited to, local tax levies, the federal government,~~  
16 ~~private sources, and self-supporting activities.~~

17           ~~(4) Because the general definition specifies operating funds,~~  
18 ~~the funding model also does not consider the appropriation and allocation of~~  
19 ~~capital funds.~~

20           ~~(o)(1) The funding formula model shall be utilized only to allocate~~  
21 ~~funds to the two-year colleges.~~

22           ~~(2) It shall not be used to prescribe the allocation of those~~  
23 ~~funds within the colleges.~~

24           ~~(p)(1) By December 31, 2011, the Arkansas Higher Education~~  
25 ~~Coordinating Board shall develop an outcome-centered funding formula model~~  
26 ~~that implements the broad goals for the state in subsection (a) of this~~  
27 ~~section and seeks to promote and increase the satisfactory progression,~~  
28 ~~matriculation, and graduation of all students enrolled in state-supported~~  
29 ~~institutions of higher education.~~

30           ~~(2) The outcome-centered funding formula model shall take into~~  
31 ~~consideration at a minimum:~~

32                   ~~(A) Course completion;~~

33                   ~~(B) Certificate and degree completion;~~

34                   ~~(C) Critical needs shortage areas;~~

35                   ~~(D) Minority students;~~

36                   ~~(E) Economically disadvantaged students; and~~

1 ~~(F) Nontraditional students.~~

2 ~~(q)(1) Each two year college's total state funding received shall be~~  
3 ~~calculated at:~~

4 ~~(A) Ninety five percent (95%) under the funding formula~~  
5 ~~model under subsections (b) (m) of this section and five percent (5%) on the~~  
6 ~~outcome centered funding formula model for the 2013-2014 school year;~~

7 ~~(B) Ninety percent (90%) under the funding formula model~~  
8 ~~under subsections (b) (m) of this section and ten percent (10%) on the~~  
9 ~~outcome centered funding formula model for the 2014-2015 school year;~~

10 ~~(C) Eighty five percent (85%) under the funding formula~~  
11 ~~model under subsections (b) (m) of this section and fifteen percent (15%) on~~  
12 ~~the outcome centered funding formula model for the 2015-2016 school year; and~~

13 ~~(D) Eighty percent (80%) under the funding formula model~~  
14 ~~under subsections (b) (m) of this section and twenty percent (20%) on the~~  
15 ~~outcome centered funding formula model for the 2016-2017 school year.~~

16 ~~(2) Beginning in the 2017-2018 school year, two year college~~  
17 ~~funding shall be based seventy five percent (75%) under the funding formula~~  
18 ~~model under subsections (b) (m) of this section and twenty five percent (25%)~~  
19 ~~on the outcome centered funding formula model.~~

20

21 SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 6-61-230 is repealed.

22 ~~6-61-230. Review of funding formulas.~~

23 ~~The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall review the~~  
24 ~~funding formulas set forth in this subchapter biennially and make written~~  
25 ~~recommendations for appropriate modifications or changes to the President Pro~~  
26 ~~Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the~~  
27 ~~Governor by October 15 of the year prior to each regular session of the~~  
28 ~~General Assembly.~~

29

30 SECTION 7. Arkansas Code § 6-61-233 is repealed.

31 ~~6-61-233. Funding formula implementation—Department of Higher~~  
32 ~~Education.~~

33 ~~The implementation of the funding component of the outcome centered~~  
34 ~~formula defined in §§ 6-61-224, 6-61-228, and 6-61-229 shall not progress~~  
35 ~~beyond the 2014-2015 school year until such time as the Department of Higher~~  
36 ~~Education determines that all institutions are funded at the minimum standard~~

1 ~~of equity defined as seventy five percent (75%) of needed state funding, as~~  
2 ~~determined by the needs based component of the funding formula models. In any~~  
3 ~~fiscal year that the aggregate general revenue funding forecast to be~~  
4 ~~available for higher education institutions is less than the amount in the~~  
5 ~~2012-2013 fiscal year, the department will not further implement the funding~~  
6 ~~component until such time as the aggregate general revenue for higher~~  
7 ~~institutions is restored to the 2012-2013 fiscal year level. The department~~  
8 ~~shall continue to execute and publish the results of the outcome-centered~~  
9 ~~component to measure the progress of institutions in reaching the broad goals~~  
10 ~~of satisfactory progression and graduation of all students enrolled in state-~~  
11 ~~supported institutions of higher education.~~

12  
13 */s/Lowery*  
14

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16 **APPROVED: 02/08/2017**  
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**RULES GOVERNING THE SUSTAINABLE BUILDING MAINTENANCE  
PROGRAM FOR STATE-SUPPORTED  
INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

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In compliance with Act 751 of 2023, the rules for the Sustainable Building Maintenance Program for State-Supported Institutions of Higher Education are presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) for initial approval.

The following resolution is offered for the Board's consideration:

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board reviews the rules presented in this agenda item for the Sustainable Building Maintenance Program for State-Supported Institutions of Higher Education to be administered by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education or his designee is authorized to make technical changes and corrections, when necessary, in the program rules for the Sustainable Building Maintenance Program for State-Supported Institutions of Higher Education.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Sustainable Building Maintenance Program for State-Supported Institutions of Higher Education rules be approved for public comment release.

**DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION RULES GOVERNING  
THE SUSTAINABLE BUILDING MAINTENANCE PROGRAM FOR  
STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**Effective Date:**

**1.00 DEFINITIONS.**

- 1.00 “Deferred maintenance” means necessary maintenance, repairs and upgrades or replacements that are put on hold until sometime in the future, most notably due to a lack of funds needed to complete a project.
- 1.01 “Critical maintenance” means deferred maintenance projects that, if not addressed, could result in substantial damage to the structural integrity of a building or are related to the imminent failure of building systems such as HVAC, electrical and plumbing.
- 1.02 “Renovation of state-owned property” means updates to existing institutional facilities to address changing program needs on a campus.

**2.00 LOANS.**

- 2.01 Under the Sustainable Building Maintenance Program for State-Supported Institutions of Higher Education, the Division of Higher Education may:
- 2.01.1 Authorize money to be loaned from the Sustainable Building Maintenance Program for State-Supported Institutions of Higher Education Revolving Loan Fund, pursuant to Arkansas Code § 19-5-1277, to a state-supported institution of higher education.
- 2.02 A loan from the fund made under 2.01 shall be:
- 2.02.1 For:
- 2.02.1.1 Deferred maintenance;
- 2.02.1.2 Critical maintenance; or
- 2.02.1.3 A renovation of state-owned property; and
- 2.02.2 In an amount that exceeds one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000).
- 2.03 The term for repayment of a loan from the fund made under 1.01 of this section shall not exceed ten (10) years.
- 2.04 An applicant applying for a loan under this rule shall meet the following eligibility requirements:

2.04.1 Applications for loans for construction and/or renovation projects should be accompanied by a copy of the engineer's or architect's project budget guidelines.

2.04.2 Criteria for loan approval will include, but are not limited to, the following:

2.04.2.1 The institution's current debt service requirements:

2.04.2.1.1 The total annual debt service (including that for the loan, if approved) may not exceed 25% of annual student tuition and fee revenue or,

2.04.2.1.2 If local millage is pledged against the loan, the millage income must equal no less than 120% of total annual debt service;

2.04.2.2 Feasibility of and need for the proposed project in the context of the educational and general mission of the institution; and

2.04.2.3 Availability of loan funds.

### **3.00 LOAN APPROVAL PROCESS.**

3.01 An applicant for a loan from the Sustainable Building Maintenance Program for State-Supported Institutions of Higher Education Revolving Loan Fund under § 6-62-1202 shall:

3.01.1 Apply for the loan on a form approved by the Division of Higher Education.

3.01.1.1 The form under section 3.01.1 shall be posted on the division's website.

3.01.2 The division shall review an application submitted under 3.01.1 of this subsection to determine if the applicant satisfies the eligibility criteria for a loan from the fund.

3.01.3 Upon approval by the division, each application shall then be reviewed by the legislature for final approval.

3.02 The division shall provide an applicant for a loan from the fund with written notice of its determination regarding whether:



3.02.1 To offer the applicant a loan from the fund, and

3.02.2 Any conditions for making the loan from the fund.

3.03 After an applicant for a loan from the fund has satisfied the preconditions, if any, for the division's approval of the applicant's loan application, and has executed a contract for the loan from the fund, the division will present the contract for the loan from the fund to Higher Education Coordinating Board for its approval.

3.03.1 In determining whether to approve an application, the board will:

3.03.1.1 First, based on project type give priority to critical maintenance needs.

3.03.1.2 Second give priority to deferred maintenance with renovation projects being the lowest priority for funding.

3.03.1.3 As funds become available, division staff will notify the eligible institution of the intent to present the loan award for approval at the next available board meeting.

3.03.2 Requirements for the issuance of a loan from the fund:

3.03.2.1 Upon approval of the loan by the Higher Education Coordinating Board, the institution must sign a Certificate of Indebtedness specifying a payout schedule and asserting the commitment of the institutional board to budget and allocate the sums necessary to make the payments agreed upon in the Certificate of Indebtedness.

3.03.2.2 The payout schedule will include a closing fee plus an annual service fee assessed by the Development Finance Authority as agreed upon by the division and the Authority and specified in the closing document(s).

3.03.2.3 The Certificate of Indebtedness will provide for penalties for late payments.

3.03.2.4 No penalties will be assessed for early retirement of the debt.

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2023  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1743

5 By: Representative Painter  
6

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO CREATE THE SUSTAINABLE BUILDING MAINTENANCE  
9 PROGRAM FOR STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER  
10 EDUCATION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
11

## Subtitle

12 TO CREATE THE SUSTAINABLE BUILDING  
13 MAINTENANCE PROGRAM FOR STATE-SUPPORTED  
14 INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.  
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18

19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
20

21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 62 is amended to add an  
22 additional subchapter to read as follows:

23 Subchapter 12 – Sustainable Building Maintenance Program for State-Supported  
24 Institutions of Higher Education

25  
26 6-62-1201. Sustainable Building Maintenance Program for State-  
27 Supported Institutions of Higher Education.

28 (a) There is created the Sustainable Building Maintenance Program for  
29 State-Supported Institutions of Higher Education.

30 (b) The program shall be administered by the Division of Higher  
31 Education.

32  
33 6-62-1202. Loans.

34 (a) Under the Sustainable Building Maintenance Program for State-  
35 Supported Institutions of Higher Education, the Division of Higher Education  
36 may authorize money to be loaned from the Sustainable Building Maintenance



1 Program for State-Supported Institutions of Higher Education Revolving Loan  
2 Fund, § 19-5-1277, to a state-supported institution of higher education.

3 (b) A loan from the fund made under subdivision (a) of this section  
4 shall be:

5 (1) For:

6 (A) Deferred maintenance;

7 (B) Critical maintenance; or

8 (C) A renovation of state-owned property; and

9 (2) In an amount that exceeds one hundred thousand dollars  
10 (\$100,000).

11 (c) The term for repayment of a loan from the fund made under  
12 subsection (a) of this section shall not exceed ten (10) years.

13  
14 6-62-1203. Loan approval process.

15 (a)(1) An applicant for a loan from the Sustainable Building  
16 Maintenance Program for State-Supported Institutions of Higher Education  
17 Revolving Loan Fund under § 6-62-1202 shall apply for the loan on a form  
18 approved by the Division of Higher Education.

19 (2) The division shall review an application submitted under  
20 subdivision (a)(1) of this section to determine if the applicant satisfies  
21 the eligibility criteria for a loan from the fund.

22 (b) The division shall provide an applicant for a loan from the fund  
23 with written notice of its determination regarding whether to offer the  
24 applicant a loan from the fund and any conditions for making the loan from  
25 the fund.

26 (c) After an applicant for a loan from the fund has satisfied the  
27 preconditions, if any, for the division's approval of the applicant's loan  
28 application and has executed a contract for the loan from the fund, the  
29 division shall present the contract for the loan from the fund to the  
30 Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board for its approval.

31  
32 6-62-1204. Rules.

33 (a) The Division of Higher Education shall promulgate rules for the  
34 implementation of this subchapter.

35 (b) The rules promulgated under subsection (a) of this section shall  
36 include without limitation:

1           (1) Application forms for applicants applying for a loan from  
 2 the Sustainable Building Maintenance Program for State-Supported Institutions  
 3 of Higher Education Revolving Loan Fund under § 6-62-1202;

4           (2) Eligibility requirements for applicants applying for a loan  
 5 from the fund under § 6-62-1202;

6           (3) Review standards; and

7           (4) Requirements for the issuance of a loan from the fund under  
 8 this subchapter.

9  
 10           SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 19, Chapter 5, Subchapter 12, is  
 11 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

12           19-5-1277. Sustainable Building Maintenance Program for State-  
 13 Supported Institutions of Higher Education Revolving Loan Fund.

14           (a) There is created on the books of the Treasurer of State, the  
 15 Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State a miscellaneous  
 16 fund to be known as the “Sustainable Building Maintenance Program for State-  
 17 Supported Institutions of Higher Education Revolving Loan Fund”.

18           (b) The fund shall consist of:

19                   (1) General revenues authorized by law;

20                   (2) Funds transferred to it from the Development and Enhancement  
 21 Fund;

22                   (3) Other funds, gifts, bequests, foundation grants and gifts,  
 23 Governor’s Emergency Fund or other emergency funds, federal grants and  
 24 matching funds, proceeds from bond issues, services charges or fees,  
 25 interagency transfers of funds; and

26                   (4) Funds received from state-supported institutions of higher  
 27 education to repay loans for the Sustainable Building Maintenance Program for  
 28 State-Supported Institutions of Higher Education, § 6-62-1201 et seq.

29           (c) The fund shall be used to provide loans to state-supported  
 30 institutions of higher education for the program as authorized under § 6-62-  
 31 1201 et seq., and approved by the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating  
 32 Board.

33  
 34  
 35                                   **APPROVED: 4/12/23**

**RULES GOVERNING THE MILITARY DEPENDENTS' SCHOLARSHIP  
PROGRAM**

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In compliance with Act 413 of 2023, the rules for the Military Dependents' Scholarship Program are presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) for initial approval.

The following resolution is offered for the Board's consideration:

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board reviews the rules presented in this agenda item for the Military Dependents' Scholarship Program to be administered by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education or his designee is authorized to make technical changes and corrections, when necessary, in the program rules for the Military Dependents' Scholarship Program.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Military Dependents' Scholarship Program rules be approved for public comment release.

**DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION RULES GOVERNING MILITARY  
DEPENDENTS' SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

**Effective Date:**

**1.00 Organization and Structure**

- I. 1.01 The ~~Arkansas~~ Division of Higher Education shall administer the Military Dependents' Scholarship Program within the policies set by the ~~Arkansas~~ Higher Education Coordinating Board. All formal communications shall be addressed to or signed by the Director of the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division or ~~his/her~~ his or her designee.
  
- II. 1.02 The final responsibility for determining eligibility of scholarship recipients shall rest with the ~~Director~~ Commissioner of the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ pursuant to the provisions of Act 188 of 1973, Act 2127 of 2005, Act 717 of 2007, Act 1216 of 2009 and subsequent legislation.
  
- III. 1.03 When functioning under Act 188 of 1973, Act 2127 of 2005, Act 717 of 2007, Act 1216 of 2009 and subsequent legislation, the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division shall follow the provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act.

**2.00 Program Definitions**

- 2.01 The following definitions are used in the Military Dependents' Scholarship Program:
  - 2.01.1 "Approved institution" means a private, nonprofit institution of higher education in Arkansas or state-supported institution of higher education or technical school located in Arkansas that is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, or has achieved candidacy status, and does not discriminate against applicants, or employees on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, handicap, or national origin, consistent with the provisions of applicable state and federal laws.
  
  - 2.01.2 "Dependent child" means any child born or conceived, been legally adopted, or under court appointed legal guardianship, or the stepchild of a person who has been declared to be a prisoner of war or missing or killed in action, or killed on ordnance delivery, or a disabled veteran, and who meets the definition of dependent with regards to children established by the U.S. Department of Education. ~~Stepchildren are not eligible unless legally adopted as stated above.~~
  
  - 2.01.3 "Dependent spouse" means the legal spouse of a person who has been declared to be a prisoner of war or missing or killed in action, or killed on ordnance delivery, or a disabled veteran.

2.01.4 “Disabled veteran” means a person who:

2.01.4.1 Has been declared by the Federal Department of Veterans Affairs to be one hundred percent (100%) totally and permanently disabled as a result of service-connected injuries or medical conditions; and

2.01.4.2 Is currently receiving special monthly compensation for such, and who was a resident of the State of Arkansas at the time that person entered the service of the U.S. Armed Forces or who is a current resident of Arkansas.

2.01.5 “Full-time student” means an undergraduate student enrolled in at least twelve (12) semester credit hours, or its equivalent, per semester.

2.01.6 “Satisfactory progress” means undergraduate students must maintain a cumulative college grade point average of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale, and make satisfactory progress toward a degree or certificate of completion, as defined by the institution.

2.01.7 “Fees waived” means the inclusion of ~~includes~~ tuition at the in-state rate, room and board when provided in campus facilities, fees or other charges incurred from the approved institution. Non-reimbursable charges would include any penalty charges, including but not limited to, parking tickets, or other penalty payments.

### **3.00 Scholarship Eligibility Criteria**

I. 3.01 To be eligible for the Military Dependents’ Scholarship, an applicant must meet the following conditions:

A. 3.01.1 The student's parent or spouse must have been declared to be a disabled veteran, prisoner of war, missing in action, killed in action, or killed on ordnance delivery during the course of active military duty after January 1, 1960.

B. 3.01.2 The student's parent or spouse must have been a resident of the State of Arkansas at the time ~~he/she~~ he or she entered service in the United States Armed Services, or whose official residence is currently within the State of Arkansas.

C. 3.01.3 The dependent child or spouse of a person declared to be a prisoner of war or missing or killed in action, or a person killed on ordnance delivery, or a disabled veteran must be a current resident of Arkansas.

- ~~D.~~ 3.01.4 The student must qualify as the dependent of a disabled veteran, prisoner of war or a person declared to be missing or killed in action, or killed on ordnance delivery by meeting one of the following criteria:
- ~~1.~~ 3.01.4.1 The student is the legal spouse of a person declared to be a prisoner of war, missing or killed in action, or killed on ordnance delivery or a person declared to be a disabled veteran or,
  - ~~2.~~ 3.01.4.2 The dependent child must be the biological child of the parent who was declared to be a prisoner of war or missing or killed in action, or killed on ordnance delivery, or a disabled veteran; or,
  - ~~3.~~ 3.01.4.3 The dependent child is legally adopted or in legal custody of the guardian that was declared to be a prisoner of war or missing or killed in action or killed on ordnance delivery, or a disabled veteran.
  - ~~4.~~ 3.01.4.4 The dependent child is the stepchild of the parent that was declared to be a prisoner of war or missing or killed in action or killed on ordnance delivery, or a disabled veteran.,
- ~~E.~~ 3.01.5 The dependent child must meet the U.S. Department of Education's definition of "dependent" with regards to children.
- ~~F.~~ ~~A stepchild is not eligible for this scholarship unless he/she has been legally adopted by the parent who was declared to be a prisoner of war or missing or killed in action, or killed on ordnance delivery, or a disabled veteran.~~
- ~~F.~~ 3.01.6 A stepchild must have been listed as a dependent on the federal and state income tax returns in each of the five (5) income tax years immediately prior to the death or total and permanent disability and must have received more than one-half (1/2) his or her financial support.
- ~~G.~~ 3.01.7 The applicant must apply for the Dependents' Educational Assistance Program (DEA) Chapter 35 of Title 38 of the U.S. Code with the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- ~~H.~~ 3.01.8 The applicant must be enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a full-time student in any private, nonprofit institution of higher education in Arkansas or state-supported institution of higher education in Arkansas.
- ~~I.~~ 3.01.9 The applicant must be an undergraduate student seeking an associate's degree, a baccalaureate degree or certificate of completion.



- J. 3.01.10 The applicant must apply for the scholarship prior to the published deadline in order to receive the scholarship. Reimbursement can only be made for the year in which the student is currently enrolled and has made application.
- II. 3.02 Once a person qualifies as an eligible student under the terms of the program, there shall be no situation, such as the return of a parent or spouse, or the reported death of a parent or spouse that will remove the dependent from the benefits of this program.
- III. ~~Continued Eligibility~~
  - 3.03 An eligible recipient shall receive a scholarship for one (1) academic year, renewable for up to three (3) additional academic years (for a total of 8 semesters) if the recipient meets the following continuing eligibility criteria established by ~~ADHE~~ the Division of Higher Education:
    - 3.03.1 The student must maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale.
    - ~~1.~~ 3.03.2 The student is making satisfactory progress toward a degree or certificate of completion;
    - ~~2.~~ 3.03.3 The student is enrolled in at least twelve semester hours or the equivalent per ~~semester term~~ and completes 24 semester hours, or the equivalent, per academic year.
  - 3.04 For purposes of scholarship payments, “academic semester” includes summer terms, semesters, quarters, or their equivalent, at the postsecondary institution in which the student is enrolled.

#### **4.00 Application Process**

- I. Applications
  - A. 4.01 Brochures are mailed by the Division of Higher Education to counselors and principals at public and private Arkansas high schools.
  - B. 4.02 Brochures are mailed by the division to financial aid officers at private, nonprofit institutions of higher education ~~in Arkansas~~ and state-supported institutions of higher education in the state ~~of Arkansas~~.
  - C. 4.02.1 The institutional financial aid officer is responsible for ensuring that eligible students are made aware of the Military Dependents’ Scholarship Program and its benefits.

~~D.~~ 4.03 Applications will be made available ~~online from the Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ on the division's website.

## II. Submission of Applications

~~A.~~ 4.04 ~~The Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division shall establish the deadline for receipt of applications. The deadline date shall be clearly printed on the application.

~~B.~~ 4.05 Scholarship applicants shall submit to the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division the following documentation as it applies to the applicant:

~~1.~~ 4.05.1 Military Dependents' Scholarship Application;

~~2.~~ 4.05.2 A death certificate or other documentation certifying the death of the parent or spouse.

~~3.~~ 4.05.2.1 A death as a result of injuries received while serving in the armed forces is only covered if the death occurred while on active duty.

~~4.~~ 4.05.3 A Report of Casualty from the appropriate branch of the United States Armed Services or a copy of the veteran's DD214 form;

~~5.~~ 4.05.4 Documentation from the ~~federal~~ United States Department of Veterans Affairs citing service-connected, one hundred percent (100%) total and permanent disability;

~~6.~~ 4.05.5 A copy of the application and statement of acceptance or denial of the federal program for dependents of veterans, Dependents' Educational Assistance Program (DEA).

~~7.~~ 4.05.6 A copy of DEA benefits statement showing the amount of educational assistance allowed for each term.

~~8.~~ 4.05.7 A copy of legal adoption or court appointed legal guardianship for a dependent child;

~~9.~~ 4.05.8 A copy of birth certificate, if a dependent child;

~~10.~~ 4.05.9 A copy of marriage license, if a spouse.

## **5.00 Award Process**

- I. 5.01 Applications and supporting documentation will be reviewed for completeness and to determine whether the applicant meets all the eligibility requirements. Applicants will be notified within 30 days of the status of their application.
  - II. 5.02 Eligible students will receive an award notice, which contains the conditions of the award, the requirements for continued eligibility, an explanation of the benefits, and the student's responsibilities.
  - III. 5.03 The institution will also receive an award notice, which contains the student's name, social security number, award limits, the conditions of the award, verification process, and payment process. The institution will be required to complete a Reimbursement Form listing all charges covered by this program.
  - IV. 5.04 The institution will be responsible for verifying the student's continued eligibility each semester.
  - V. 5.05 The award will be renewed annually provided the student satisfies the continued eligibility requirements as defined by the ~~Arkansas~~ Division of Higher Education in "Scholarship and Eligibility Criteria," Section III.
  - VI. 5.06 Reimbursement can only be made for the year in which the student is currently enrolled and has made application.
- VII. **6.00 Scholarship Payment Policies**
- I. 6.01 The scholarship will pay that portion of charges that exceeds the amount of the DEA educational assistance allowance OR the full amount if the recipient is ineligible for DEA, but is eligible for the MDS. Reimbursement is limited to the cost of tuition at the in-state rate, mandatory fees, and a room and meal plan when provided in campus facilities from such institution or school. The amount reimbursed for the room shall not exceed the usual and custom amounts charged by the institution as for similar scholarship programs.
  - II. 6.02 Payment on behalf of the scholarship recipient will be made directly to the recipient's institution. The ~~Arkansas~~ Division of Higher Education will reimburse the institution at the beginning of each semester for approved charges covered by this program upon receipt of the Reimbursement Form, and verification of the charges. Reimbursement can only be made for the year in which the student is currently enrolled and has made application.
  - III. 6.03 The ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division will pay the institution for the award covered by this program upon receipt of the Reimbursement Form, and verification of the charges.

A. ~~Transfer Policy~~

6.04 A recipient who has received a Military Dependents' Scholarship may transfer to another eligible institution ~~provided the Arkansas Division of Higher Education receives after providing~~ written notification of the change of status ~~to the division~~ by October 1 for ~~the Fall Term~~ a fall term, February 1 for ~~the Winter/Spring Terms~~ a winter or spring term, and June 1 for ~~the Summer Terms~~ a summer term.

6.04.1 Failure to notify the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division of the transfer by the deadline will disqualify the student for waiver of tuition and fees at the institution to which ~~he/she~~ he or she has transferred.

B. ~~Withdrawal Policy~~

6.05 Recipients may withdraw from the Military Dependents' Scholarship Program upon written notification to, and approval by, the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division. The petition shall give the reason for withdrawal and will be supported with documentation. Recipients who withdraw from school and fail to notify the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division by October 1 for the Fall term, February 1 for the Winter and/or Spring terms, and June 1 for the Summer terms will not be eligible for a tuition waiver for that semester. The recipient may receive the tuition waiver if ~~he/she~~ he or she can demonstrate that extraordinary circumstances prevented ~~him/her~~ him or her from notifying the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division.

C. ~~Revocation Policy~~

6.06 The award will be permanently revoked if the recipient fails to enroll full-time and the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division receives neither written notification of transfer to another eligible institution, nor a petition for withdrawal by the recipient by October 1 for the Fall Term, February 1 for the Winter/Spring Terms and June 1 for the Summer Terms. At the discretion of the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division, the award will not be revoked if the division determines that extraordinary circumstances prevented the student from notifying the division by the required dates.

D. ~~Military Service~~

6.07 Recipients who are members of the Arkansas National Guard or Armed Forces Reserve units who are called to active duty for reasons other than regular unit training and are unable to complete the current term will not be penalized. They will be placed in deferred status until six (6) months after release from active duty.

- E. 6.08 Act 1180 of 1999 states that students who receive scholarships from public funds may not use those funds in a financial aid package to exceed the federally recognized cost of attendance at the institution where the student enrolls. The institution must follow ~~ADHE~~ division policy in repaying public funds in the amount exceeding the total cost of attendance for any student who receives public funds in a financial aid package above the cost of attendance.
- IV. 6.09 The state assistance awarded to a dependent attending a private, nonprofit institution of higher education in this state shall not exceed the amount of state assistance awarded to dependents attending state-supported institutions of higher education.

## **7.00 Institutional Responsibilities**

### ~~I. Administrative Agreement~~

7.01 The chief executive officer of the state-supported institution of higher education is responsible for appointing one representative from the Financial Aid Office to act as administrator of the Military Dependents' Scholarship Program and to receive all communications and forms issued by the ~~Arkansas~~ Division of Higher Education. This representative is responsible for completing all forms, verification of data, and complying with all program rules and regulations. The institution must comply with these responsibilities in order to maintain continued eligibility status.

### ~~II. Verification~~

7.02 The institution shall provide verification to the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education (ADHE)~~ division at the close of each term concerning the student's name and continuing eligibility. This is accomplished using the Verification Form issued by the division. Reimbursement to the institution will be made after the institution has completed the Verification Form and the Reimbursement Form and returned them to the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division.

### ~~III. Identification of Eligible Students~~

7.03 Institutions will be responsible for exercising all reasonable efforts to identify students eligible for the program. Reimbursement can only be made for the year in which the student is currently enrolled and has made application.

### ~~IV. Deadline for Disbursement of Funds~~

7.04 The deadline for disbursement of funds is no later than 10 days after written receipt of funds. Any outstanding funds not disbursed must be returned to the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division.

V. ~~Refund Policy~~

~~7.05~~ It is the institution's responsibility to notify ~~ADHE~~ the division of the names of persons owing a refund, the date of the withdrawal and the refund amount. This information should be placed on the institution's verification roster before returning it to ~~ADHE~~ the division.

VI. ~~Due Diligence~~

~~7.06~~ The institution will exercise due diligence in providing complete, accurate, and timely information as requested by the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ Division on any scholarship recipient. In addition, the institution will exercise due diligence in complying with all the rules and regulations of the Military Dependents' Scholarship Program.

**8.0 Recipient Responsibilities**

I. ~~8.01~~ It is the recipient's responsibility to notify the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~, in writing, of any change in status within 21 days. This includes:

- A. ~~8.01.1~~ Changes in name, or
- B. ~~8.01.2~~ Change in address, or
- C. ~~8.01.3~~ Change in Institution, or
- D. ~~8.01.4~~ Change in full-time status, or
- E. ~~8.01.5~~ Withdrawal from an institution.

~~8.02~~ Failure to notify the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division of any change in status may affect future eligibility.

**Program Definitions**

The following definitions are used in the Military Dependents' Scholarship Program:

~~Approved Institution~~ — A private, nonprofit institution of higher education in Arkansas or state-supported institution of higher education or technical school located in Arkansas that is accredited by the North Central Association Commission on Higher Education, or has achieved candidacy status, and does not discriminate against applicants, or employees on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, handicap, or national origin, consistent with the provisions of applicable state and federal laws.

~~Dependent Child~~ — Any child born or conceived, been legally adopted, or under court

~~appointed legal guardianship, or the stepchild of a person who has been declared to be a prisoner of war or missing or killed in action, or killed on ordnance delivery, or a disabled veteran, AND who meets the definition of dependent with regards to children established by the U.S. Department of Education. Stepchildren are not eligible unless legally adopted as stated above.~~

~~Dependent Spouse — The legal spouse of a person who has been declared to be a prisoner of war or missing or killed in action, or killed on ordnance delivery, or a disabled veteran.~~

~~Disabled Veteran — A person who has been declared by the Federal Department of Veterans Affairs to be one hundred percent (100%) totally and permanently disabled as a result of service connected injuries or medical conditions AND who is currently receiving special monthly compensation for such, AND who was a resident of the State of Arkansas at the time that person entered the service of the U.S. armed forces OR who is a current resident of Arkansas.~~

~~Full-time Student — An undergraduate student enrolled in at least twelve (12) semester credit hours, or its equivalent, per semester.~~

~~Satisfactory Progress — Undergraduate students must maintain a cumulative college grade point average of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale, and make satisfactory progress toward a degree or certificate of completion, as defined by the institution.~~

~~Fees Waived — Includes tuition at the in-state rate, room and board when provided in campus facilities, fees or other charges incurred from the approved institution. Non-reimbursable charges would include any penalty charges, including but not limited to, parking tickets, or other penalty payments.~~

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2023  
4

As Engrossed: H2/14/23

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1412

5 By: Representative J. Mayberry  
6 By: Senator J. English  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT CONCERNING RULES PROMULGATED BY THE DIVISION  
10 OF HIGHER EDUCATION; TO REQUIRE THE DIVISION OF  
11 HIGHER EDUCATION TO PROMULGATE CERTAIN RULES  
12 CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS FUNDED  
13 WITH STATE FUNDS AND LOTTERY PROCEEDS; TO DECLARE AN  
14 EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
15  
16

## Subtitle

18 TO REQUIRE THE DIVISION OF HIGHER  
19 EDUCATION TO PROMULGATE CERTAIN RULES  
20 CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF  
21 SCHOLARSHIPS FUNDED WITH STATE FUNDS AND  
22 LOTTERY PROCEEDS; AND TO DECLARE AN  
23 EMERGENCY.  
24  
25

26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
27

28 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 80, Subchapter 1, is amended  
29 to add an additional section to read as follows:

30 6-80-109. Division of Higher Education – Rules.

31 (a) The Division of Higher Education shall promulgate or update  
32 existing division rules to allow a student who is a recipient of a  
33 scholarship to utilize scholarship funds to enroll in and attend courses  
34 offered during a summer term at the postsecondary institution in which the  
35 student is enrolled.

36 (b) Rules promulgated under this section shall include without





1 limitation requirements concerning:

2 (1) Student eligibility; and

3 (2) The disbursement and administration of scholarship funds  
4 utilized by a student to enroll in and attend courses offered during a summer  
5 term.

6 (c) As used in this section, "scholarship" shall include a scholarship  
7 program that is:

8 (1) Funded with state funds or lottery proceeds; and

9 (2) Administered by the division.

10  
11 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-85-204(14), concerning the definition of  
12 "semester" under the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 (14)(A) "Semester" means one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of a traditional academic  
15 year at an institution of higher education, or an equivalent approved by the  
16 division, in which a student enrolls for not less than:

17 ~~(A)(i)~~ Fifteen (15) credit hours as a full-time student,  
18 except that in the first semester as a first-time full-time freshman, a  
19 traditional student shall enroll in not less than twelve (12) credit hours;  
20 or

21 ~~(B)(ii)~~ Six (6) credit hours as a part-time student.

22 (B) For purposes of summer courses at an institution of  
23 higher education, a "semester" shall mean the same as is defined by the  
24 division, as required by § 6-80-109;

25  
26 SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
27 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the Division of Higher  
28 Education must make certain arrangements to facilitate the use of Arkansas  
29 Academic Challenge Scholarship funds for upcoming summer courses; and that  
30 many of these arrangements must occur in time for the 2023-2024 school year.  
31 Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being necessary  
32 for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become  
33 effective on July 1, 2023.

34  
35 /s/J. Mayberry

36 **APPROVED: 3/30/23**

## **RULES GOVERNING THE FINANCIAL AID APPEALS PROCESS**

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In compliance with Act 244 of 2023, the rules for the Financial Aid Appeals Process are presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) for initial approval.

The following resolution is offered for the Board's consideration:

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board reviews the rules presented in this agenda item for the Financial Aid Appeals Process to be administered by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education or his designee is authorized to make technical changes and corrections, when necessary, in the program rules for the Financial Aid Appeals Process.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Financial Aid Appeals Process rules be approved for public comment release.

**DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION RULES GOVERNING THE  
FINANCIAL AID APPEALS PROCESS  
Effective Date:**

**1.00 Definitions**

1.01 “Appeals Process” means, without limitation:

1.01.1 The completion and submission of an appeals application as drafted by the Financial Aid Appeals Committee;

1.01.2 The confirmation of eligibility to appeal and the intention to retain appeals eligibility under this subchapter; and

1.01.3 The completion of a review by the committee that shall include a determination of eligibility and a final appeals decision;

1.02 “Eligibility” means, without limitation, the applicant:

1.02.1 Is a bona fide resident of the State of Arkansas;

1.02.2 Is enrolled or will be enrolled in a program of study at an eligible postsecondary institution;

1.02.3 Is currently in good standing; and

1.02.4 Is not currently under probationary restrictions for financial aid

1.03 “Financial Aid” means scholarships or grants awarded to a student from public funds, including without limitation:

1.03.1 The Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship under §6-85-201 et seq.;  
and

1.03.2 Other division scholarship and grant programs, state general revenues, tuition, and local tax revenue.

**2.00 Financial Aid Appeals Committee**

2.01 The Financial Aid Appeals Committee is composed of five (5) representatives of the Division of Higher Education, which shall be responsible for administering the division’s appeal process, appointed by the Commissioner of Higher Education.

2.02 The committee is authorized to:

2.02.1 Resolve disputes arising out of or relating to a student who is no longer considered eligible to receive a scholarship or grant;

2.02.1.1 An appeal application may be filed by a parent or guardian, or student if the student is over eighteen (18) years of age, who has been notified that he or she is no longer considered eligible to receive a scholarship under this rule.

2.02.1.2 An appeal application must be received by the division or postmarked no later than ten (10) calendar days after the student or the student's parent, guardian, or person standing in loco parentis to the student (hereafter "appealing party") receives a notice of scholarship ineligibility and shall be delivered or mailed to:

Division of Higher Education  
Attn: Legal Services  
Four Capitol Mall  
Little Rock, AR 72201

2.02.1.3 The committee may wave the deadline to file an appeal if the notice of ineligibility does not inform the petitioner of the right to appeal and the deadline to file an appeal or the petitioner makes a good faith attempt to file a timely appeal.

2.02.1.4 The committee shall either grant or deny an appeal filed not less than forty-five (45) days after the day the appeal is received.

2.02.1.5 If the committee overturns the determination of scholarship eligibility on appeal, the committee shall notify the appealing party of the basis for the board's decision.

2.02.2 Prescribe forms for and regulate the submission of appeals applications;

2.02.3 Determine eligibility of applicants;

2.02.4 Approve or reject appeals applications;

2.02.5 Manage, operate, and control all funds appropriated or otherwise contributed for this purpose;

2.02.6 Administer final determinations of financial aid appeals made by the committee; and

2.02.7 Report annually to the General Assembly the number of applications for appeals:

2.02.7.1 Received; and

2.02.7.2 Approved.

### **3.00 Eligibility for Appeals**

3.01 The Financial Aid Appeals Committee may make appeals decisions for an applicant, with each appeal being expressly made subject to the provisions of this subsection and §6-81-1905, if the committee finds that reinstating the appealed scholarship or grant will benefit the student and finds that:

3.01.1 The applicant is a bona fide resident of Arkansas;

3.01.2 The applicant is enrolled or will be enrolled in a program of study at an eligible postsecondary institution;

3.01.3 The applicant is currently in good standing;

3.01.4 The applicant is not currently under probationary restrictions for financial aid; and

3.01.5 The application for appeal is submitted within two (2) academic semesters following the initial decision.

### **4.00 Exclusions and Conditions**

4.01 In the event an applicant submits an appeal on the basis of failure to maintain full-time enrollment or the necessary grade point average during a previous term, the Financial Aid Appeals Committee may approve proportionate financial aid to be awarded within one (1) semester following the term during which the applicant failed to maintain full-time enrollment or the necessary grade point average.

4.01.1 Proportionate financial aid awarded following failure to maintain full-time enrollment under 5.01 of this section is limited to six (6) hours.

4.02 The committee shall not provide reimbursement for previous terms.

### **5.00 Financial Aid Appeals Committee Hearing Procedures**

5.01 All persons wishing to testify before the Financial Aid Appeals Committee shall first be placed under oath by the Chairperson of the committee.

5.02 Each party that wishes to participate in the hearing may take up to fifteen (15) minutes to present its case, beginning with a member of the Committee and then the appealing party.

5.02.1 The chair of the committee may allow the parties additional time to present their cases.

5.03 The committee, at its discretion, shall have the authority to require any person associated with the scholarship application to appear in person before the committee as a witness during the hearing.

5.03.1 The committee may accept testimony by affidavit, declaration, deposition transcript, or hearing transcript.

5.04 The committee will resolve the appeal based upon the totality of evidence presented.

5.05 On appeal, the committee denying scholarship eligibility bears the burden of justifying its decision and must overcome that burden with a clear and convincing reason for that decision.

5.06 When hearing an appeal, the committee may take one of the following actions:

5.06.1 Affirm denial of a scholarship eligibility by the institution;

5.06.2 Overturn the institution's determination and grant the scholarship; or

5.06.3 Table the petition for consideration at a future meeting.

5.07 The consideration of a petition under this Rule shall be conducted in an open meeting.

5.08 The committee shall provide a written decision to the institution and the appealing party within fourteen (14) days of announcing its decision under this section.

5.09 An order from the committee is immediately appealable to the circuit court, pursuant to APA.

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2023  
4

As Engrossed: S2/28/23

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1347

5 By: Representatives Beck, Andrews, Beaty Jr., Bentley, M. Berry, K. Brown, Joey Carr, A. Collins,  
6 Cozart, Crawford, Ennett, Evans, V. Flowers, Furman, Gazaway, Haak, G. Hodges, Hudson, Jean,  
7 Ladyman, Long, Maddox, McCollum, McCullough, B. McKenzie, S. Meeks, Milligan, Perry, Pilkington,  
8 R. Scott Richardson, Rose, Rye, Scott, Springer, Tosh, Underwood, Vaught, Wing  
9 By: Senators J. Dotson, D. Wallace

## For An Act To Be Entitled

12 AN ACT TO CREATE A FINANCIAL AID APPEALS PROCESS AND  
13 COMMITTEE FOR THE DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION; AND  
14 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

18 TO CREATE A FINANCIAL AID APPEALS PROCESS  
19 AND COMMITTEE FOR THE DIVISION OF HIGHER  
20 EDUCATION.

23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

25 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 81, is amended to add an  
26 additional subchapter to read as follows:

### Subchapter 19 – Financial Aid Appeals Process

#### 6-81-1901. Definitions.

##### As used in this subchapter:

31 (1) “Appeals process” means without limitation:

32 (A) The completion and submission of an appeals  
33 application as drafted by the Financial Aid Appeals Committee;

34 (B) The confirmation of eligibility to appeal and the  
35 intention to retain appeals eligibility under this subchapter; and

36 (C) The completion of a review by the committee that shall



1 include a determination of eligibility and a final appeals decision;

2 (2) "Eligibility" means without limitation the applicant:

3 (A) Is a bona fide resident of the State of Arkansas;

4 (B) Is enrolled or will be enrolled in a program of study  
5 at an eligible postsecondary institution;

6 (C) Is currently in good standing; and

7 (D) Is not currently under probationary restrictions for  
8 financial aid; and

9 (3) "Financial aid" means scholarships or grants awarded to a  
10 student from public funds, including without limitation:

11 (A) The Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship under § 6-  
12 85-201 et seq.; and

13 (B) Other division scholarship and grant programs, state  
14 general revenues, tuition, and local tax revenue.

15  
16 6-81-1902. Creation.

17 There is created the Financial Aid Appeals Committee within the  
18 Division of Higher Education with the authority to administer the Division of  
19 division's appeal process.

20  
21 6-81-1903. Financial Aid Appeals Committee.

22 (a) There is established the Financial Aid Appeals Committee, in  
23 conjunction with the Governor's administration, to be composed of five (5)  
24 representatives of the Division of Higher Education, which shall be  
25 responsible for administering the division's appeal process.

26 (b) Members of the committee shall:

27 (1) Promulgate reasonable rules necessary to execute the  
28 provisions of this subchapter, including without limitation rules addressing  
29 the requirements and in conformance with the requirements of the Arkansas  
30 Administrative Procedures Act, § 25-15-201 et seq., and other appropriate  
31 state laws in promulgating and placing rules into effect for a procedure to  
32 resolve disputes arising out of or relating to a student who is no longer  
33 considered eligible to receive a scholarship or grant;

34 (2) Prescribe forms for and regulate the submission of appeals  
35 applications;

36 (3) Determine eligibility of applicants;



1 (4) Approve or reject appeals applications;

2 (5) Manage, operate, and control all funds appropriated or  
3 otherwise contributed for this purpose;

4 (6) Administer final determinations of financial aid appeals  
5 made by the committee; and

6 (7) Report annually to the General Assembly the number of  
7 applications for appeals:

8 (A) Received; and

9 (B) Approved.

10  
11 6-81-1904. Eligibility for appeals.

12 The Financial Aid Appeals Committee may make appeals decisions for an  
13 applicant, with each appeal being expressly made subject to the provisions of  
14 this subchapter and § 6-81-1905, if the committee finds that reinstating the  
15 appealed scholarship or grant will benefit the student and finds that:

16 (1) The applicant is a bona fide resident of Arkansas;

17 (2) The applicant is enrolled or will be enrolled in a program  
18 of study at an eligible postsecondary institution;

19 (3) The applicant is currently in good standing;

20 (4) The applicant is not currently under probationary  
21 restrictions for financial aid; and

22 (5) The application for appeal is submitted within two (2)  
23 academic semesters following the initial decision.

24  
25 6-81-1905. Exclusions and conditions.

26 (a)(1) In the event an applicant submits an appeal on the basis of  
27 failure to maintain full-time enrollment or the necessary grade point average  
28 during a previous term, the Financial Aid Appeals Committee may approve  
29 proportionate financial aid to be awarded within one (1) semester following  
30 the term during which the applicant failed to maintain full-time enrollment  
31 or the necessary grade point average.

32 (2) Proportionate financial aid awarded following failure to  
33 maintain full-time enrollment under subdivision (a)(1) of this section is  
34 limited to six (6) hours.

35 (b) The committee shall not provide reimbursement for previous terms.

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*/s/Beck*

**APPROVED: 3/9/23**

## **RULES GOVERNING THE STATE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM**

---

In compliance with Act 237 (Section 56) of 2023, the rules for the State Teacher Education Program are presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) for initial approval.

The following resolution is offered for the Board's consideration:

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board reviews the rules presented in this agenda item for the State Teacher Education Program to be administered by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education or his designee is authorized to make technical changes and corrections, when necessary, in the program rules for the State Teacher Education Program.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the State Teacher Education Program rules be approved for public comment release.

**DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION RULES GOVERNING THE  
STATE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM  
Effective Date:**

**1.00 Program Definitions**

- 1.01 “Alternative Educator Preparation Program” means ~~N~~non-traditional licensure program resulting in a valid Arkansas teaching license.
- 1.02 “Approved institution” means a state-supported institution of higher education, a nursing school, or a private nonprofit institution of higher education that:
- 1.02.1 Maintains its primary headquarters in the state;
- 1.02.2 Is eligible to receive Title IV federal student aid program funds; and
- 1.02.3 Is approved by the Division of Higher Education as eligible to participate in the State Teacher Education Program;
- 1.03 “Arkansas Resident” means ~~to be considered an Arkansas resident ADHE,~~ an applicant ~~must be~~ that has been an Arkansas resident for twelve (12) months prior to the application deadline for the financial aid program.
- 1.03.1 Further, the recipient may be asked to provide evidence of a permanent connection with the State of Arkansas, ~~ADHE~~ in which the division will look to one or more of the following to determine residency ~~in those cases:~~
- 1.03.1.1 ~~(A)~~ Valid Arkansas Driver’s License;
- 1.03.1.2 ~~(B)~~ Proof of payment for Arkansas personal ~~and~~ or real taxes for previous year;
- 1.03.1.3 ~~(C)~~ Proof of Arkansas vehicle registration;
- 1.03.1.4 ~~(D)~~ Proof of Arkansas voter registration; and
- 1.03.1.5 ~~(E)~~ Other forms of proof of Arkansas residency.
- 1.04 “Award Year” means ~~T~~the award-year that begins on July 1 of one calendar year, and extends to June 30 of the next calendar year.
- 1.05 “Eligible student” means a student who:
- 1.05.1 Meets the criteria set out in this subchapter; and

1.05.2 Is found to be eligible by rules promulgated by the Division of Higher Education.

1.06 “Geographical Areas of the State Designated as Having Critical Shortages of Teachers” means Any Arkansas school district designated by the Arkansas Department of Higher Education division as having critical teacher shortages.

1.07 “Lawful Permanent Resident” means An individual who can provide documentation from the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) that he or she is in the U.S. United States for other than a temporary purpose with the intention of becoming a citizen or permanent resident.

1.07.1 Valid documentation is an I-551, I-151, I-181, I-94, or passport stamped with the notation "Processed for I-551, Temporary Evidence of Lawful Admission for Permanent Residence".

1.07.2 A completed Form G-641 can also be used to document permanent resident status.

1.08 “Subject Matter Designated as Critical Needs in the State of Arkansas” means subject matter shortage areas Annually the Arkansas Department of Education certifies annually by the division subject matter shortage areas based upon the results of surveys obtained from school districts in the state of Arkansas.

1.09 “Teach on a Full-time Basis” means to Teach the same number of hours required of teachers who have full-time contracts, as determined by the institution or agency in which an individual is teaching, for a minimum of one academic term, as defined by the institution or agency in which an individual is teaching.

1.10 “Teacher Education Program” means a program administered by the Division of Higher Education that provides loan repayments to a licensed teacher who teaches in a subject area or a geographic area with teacher shortage as determined by the Division of Higher Education in consultation with the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education. A program of study that has been completed at a college or university and results in the receipt of an initial Arkansas teaching license or an additional licensure area to an existing Arkansas teaching license.

1.11 “U.S. United States Citizen” means The term "U.S. citizen" includes persons born or who have become naturalized citizens of:

1.11.1 †The 50 States;

1.11.2 the District of Columbia;

1.11.3 Puerto Rico;

1.11.4 ~~the~~ Virgin Islands;

1.11.5 Guam;

1.11.6 ~~the~~ Northern Mariana Islands; and

1.11.7 Trust Territory- Palau.

1.12 ~~The term "a~~ National" means ~~includes~~ citizens of:

1.12.1 American Samoa; or

1.12.2 Swain's Island.

## **2.00 ~~Rule 1~~– Organization and Structure**

2.01 ~~F. The Arkansas Department~~ Division of Higher Education (~~ADHE~~) shall administer the State Teacher Education Program (~~STEP~~), hereafter known as ~~STEP~~, within the policies set by the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

2.01.1 All formal communications shall be addressed to or signed by the ~~Director~~ commissioner of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education division or his/ or her designee.

2.02 ~~H. When functioning under Act 1215 of 2009, and any subsequent legislation,~~ ~~ADHE~~ the division shall follow the provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act.

## **3.00 ~~Rule 2~~– Eligibility Criteria**

3.01 ~~F.~~ Eligibility Criteria

3.01.1 ~~A.~~ Applicants must be bona fide Arkansas residents, as defined by the Arkansas Department Division of Higher Education, for at least twelve (12) months prior to the application deadline.

3.01.2 ~~B.~~ Applicants must be a citizen of the United States or a lawful permanent resident.

3.01.3 ~~C.~~ Applicant must have graduated from a teacher education program after April 2004; or

3.01.3.1 ~~a.~~ Earned a teaching license upon completion of an alternative educator preparation program.

3.01.4 ~~D~~. Applicant must have outstanding federal student loans.

3.01.5 ~~E~~. Applicant must hold a valid Arkansas teacher's license.

3.01.6 ~~F~~. Applicants must teach full-time at a public school district in Arkansas during the award year and meet one of the additional criteria:

3.01.6.1 ~~a~~. Teach in a subject area with a teacher shortage, as identified by the ~~Arkansas Department of Higher Education~~ division in consultation with the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary ~~of Education~~; or

3.01.6.2 ~~b~~. Teach in a geographic area with a teacher shortage, as identified by the ~~Arkansas Department of Higher Education~~ division in consultation with the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education ~~Arkansas Department of Education~~;

3.02 II. Continued Eligibility

3.02.1 Recipients shall re-apply for the State Teacher Education Program ~~STEP program~~ annually and continue to meet the eligibility criteria set forth above.

3.02.1.1 A recipient may receive an annual award for a maximum of three (3) years.

**4.00 Rule 3– Selection Process**

4.01 I. Applications.

4.01.1 ~~A~~. Solicitation of Applicants

4.01.1.1 ~~I~~. Program information will be mailed to the following:

4.01.1.1.1 ~~a~~. K-12 school administrators and other interested personnel;<sub>;</sub>

4.01.1.1.2 ~~b~~. Colleges<sub>;</sub> Schools<sub>;</sub> and Departments of Education<sub>;</sub>

4.01.1.1.3 ~~c~~. Financial Aid Directors<sub>;</sub> and Officers<sub>;</sub>

4.01.1.1.4 ~~d~~. Other college campus personnel, such as advisors, ~~etc.~~ who express an interest in disseminating information to prospective applicants;<sub>;</sub>

4.01.1.1.5 ~~e~~- Information is also available upon request from the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

4.01.1.2 ~~2~~. The ~~Arkansas Department of Higher Education~~ division staff will disseminate program information through workshops, meetings, press releases, the ~~Departmental~~ division newsletter, and other means deemed appropriate.

4.01.2 ~~B~~- An online application will be available at the ~~ADHE~~ division's website.

4.01.2.1 The application deadline shall be stated on the application form each year.

4.01.2.2 The ~~ADHE~~ division shall have the authority to extend the deadline as needed to ensure a quality applicant pool so long as sufficient public notice is provided.

4.01.3 ~~C~~- Upon receipt by the division ~~ADHE~~, applications are reviewed to ensure that all pertinent data is included.

4.01.3.1 Each applicant will receive confirmation of the receipt and completeness of the application.

4.01.3.2 For those whose application is either incomplete or ineligible, a notification will be made identifying the reason for incompleteness or ineligibility.

4.01.3.3 The applicant will then have the opportunity to provide the missing information or correct any inaccurate information.

4.01.3.4 Before an applicant can be considered for an award, the corrected/ or missing information must be received by the division ~~ADHE~~ by the deadline indicated in the ~~Incomplete/ or Ineligible~~ Notice.

4.02 ~~H~~- Selection and Notification of Recipients

4.02.1 ~~A~~- The ~~ADHE~~ division shall review applicants and select recipients based on the eligibility criteria for the State Teacher Education Program (~~STEP~~).

4.02.2 ~~B~~- Selected recipients will receive award notices stating their eligibility for the program and the conditions of their award.

4.03 ~~III~~- Ranking of Applicants



4.03.1 Priority for the State Teacher Education Program ~~STEP~~ Repayment grants is as follows:

4.03.1.1 ~~1.~~ First priority is Arkansas teachers teaching in both subject and geographic shortage areas.

4.03.1.2 ~~2.~~ Second priority is Arkansas teachers teaching in subject shortage areas.

4.03.1.3 ~~3.~~ Third priority is Arkansas teachers teaching in geographic shortage areas.

4.03.1.4 ~~4.~~ Fourth priority is Arkansas public school teachers who have completed an alternative educator preparation program.

4.04 ~~III.~~ Disbursement of Award

4.04.1 The award will be disbursed in one (1) disbursement to the federal student loan holder indicated by the applicant.

4.04.1.1 If the award amount is larger than the outstanding loan balance, the award amount will be reduced to the amount of the loan balance.

## **5.00 ~~Rule 4-~~ Limitations of Loan Repayment**

5.01 ~~I.~~ The State Teacher Education Program (~~STEP~~) shall be used to provide:

5.01.1 ~~A.~~ A loan repayment for federal student loans in the amount of ~~three~~ six thousand dollars (~~\$3,000~~ 6,000) per year, for a maximum of three (3) years for each year a licensed teacher who graduated from a teacher education program after April 2004 and teaches in a public school in this state or successfully completed an alternative educator preparation program after April 2004 and teaches in a public school in the program:

5.01.1.1 In a subject matter area designated by the Division of Higher Education, in consultation with the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, as having a critical shortage of teachers; and

5.01.1.2 Located in a geographical area of the state designated by the Division of Higher Education, in consultation with the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, as having a critical shortage of teachers ~~OR in a subject matter area designated as having a critical shortage of teachers.~~

5.01.2 A licensed teacher who is given intensive support status under the Teacher Excellence and Support System, § 6-17-2801 et seq., shall be ineligible for receipt of funds under the program for the school year.

~~Total term of federal student loan repayment shall not exceed three years.~~

~~B. An additional loan repayment for federal student loans in the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) per year for each year a licensed minority teacher, who graduated from a teacher education program after April 2004, teaches in a public school located in a geographical area of the state designated as having a critical shortage of teachers and/or in a subject matter area designated as having a critical shortage of teachers in Arkansas.~~

~~The total term of federal student loan repayment shall not exceed three years.~~

~~For guidance purposes, the terms African American, Hispanic, Asian American, and Native American are based on the Race/Ethnic classifications utilized by the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) as follows:~~

~~i. African American = Black/Non-Hispanic: a person having origins in any other black racial groups of Africa.~~

~~ii. Hispanic: a person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Central or South American or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.~~

~~iii. Asian American = Asian or Pacific Islander: a person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast.~~

## **6.00 Rule 5-- Recipient Responsibility**

### 6.01 ~~I~~ Recipient's Responsibility

6.01.1 It is the recipient's responsibility to notify the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Higher Education of any change in status within twenty-one (21) days.

6.01.2 This will include:

6.01.2.1 Change in name;

6.01.2.2 Change in residence;

6.01.3 Failure to notify the Arkansas Department of Higher Education division of a change in status will affect future eligibility or collection status.

### **Rule 6 – Program Definitions**

The following definitions are used in the State Teacher Education Program:

~~Alternate Educator Preparation Program~~

~~Non-traditional licensure program resulting in a valid Arkansas teaching license.~~

~~Arkansas Resident~~

~~To be considered an Arkansas resident by ADHE, an applicant must be an Arkansas resident for twelve (12) months prior to the application deadline for the financial aid program. Further, the recipient may be asked to provide evidence of a permanent connection with the State of Arkansas. ADHE will look to one or more of the following to determine residency in those cases:~~

- ~~(A) Valid Arkansas Driver's License;~~
- ~~(B) Proof of payment for Arkansas personal and/or real taxes for previous year;~~
- ~~(C) Proof of Arkansas vehicle registration;~~
- ~~(D) Proof of Arkansas voter registration; and~~
- ~~(E) Other forms of proof of Arkansas residency.~~

~~Award Year~~

~~The award year begins on July 1 of one calendar year, and extends to June 30 of the next calendar year.~~

~~Geographical Areas of the State Designated as Having Critical Shortages of Teachers~~

~~Any Arkansas school district designated by the Arkansas Department of Higher Education as having critical teacher shortages.~~

~~Lawful Permanent Resident~~

~~An individual who can provide documentation from the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) that he or she is in the U.S. for other than a temporary purpose with the intention of becoming a citizen or permanent resident. Valid documentation is an I-551, I-151, I-181, I-94, or passport stamped with the notation "Processed for I-551, Temporary Evidence of Lawful Admission for Permanent Residence". A completed Form G-641 can also be used to document permanent resident status.~~

~~Subject Matter Designated as Critical Needs in the State of Arkansas~~

~~Annually the Department of Education certifies subject matter shortage Arkansas areas based upon the results of surveys obtained from school districts in the state of Arkansas.~~

~~Teach on a Full-time Basis~~

~~Teach the same number of hours required of teachers who have full-time contracts, as determined by the institution or agency in which an individual is teaching, for a minimum of one academic term, as defined by the institution or agency in which an individual is teaching.~~

~~Teacher Education Program~~

~~A program of study that has been completed at a college or university and results in the receipt of an initial Arkansas teaching license or an additional licensure area to an existing Arkansas teaching license.~~

~~U.S. Citizen~~

~~The term "U.S. citizen" includes persons born or who have become naturalized citizens of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and Trust Territory Palau. The term "national" includes citizens of American Samoa or Swain's Island.~~

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2023  
4

As Engrossed: H2/27/23

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 294

5 By: Senators B. Davis, Hester, Irvin, J. Dismang, J. English, G. Stubblefield, Flippo, B. Johnson, D.  
6 Wallace, Hill, M. Johnson, K. Hammer, D. Sullivan, Gilmore, M. McKee, C. Penzo, J. Boyd, J. Petty, J.  
7 Bryant, Crowell, Stone, Dees, J. Payton, J. Dotson, A. Clark  
8 By: Representatives Brooks, M. Shepherd, McCollum, B. McKenzie, Pilkington, S. Meeks, Wardlaw,  
9 Eubanks, Cozart, Womack, C. Fite, Lundstrum, Bentley, Gonzales, Beck, K. Brown, Richmond, Fortner,  
10 Cavanaugh, Maddox, Barker, Rye, Hollowell, Watson, Lynch, Wing, Crawford, L. Johnson, C. Cooper,  
11 Breaux, Evans, McGrew, Ray, Beaty Jr., McClure, Milligan, Haak, John Carr, Underwood, Furman, G.  
12 Hodges, J. Moore, Achor, Burkes, Hawk, McAlindon, M. Brown, Rose, Puryear, Gramlich, Painter,  
13 Duffield, Unger, R. Scott Richardson, Andrews  
14

## For An Act To Be Entitled

15 AN ACT TO CREATE THE LEARNS ACT; TO AMEND VARIOUS  
16 PROVISIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CODE AS THEY RELATE TO  
17 EARLY CHILDHOOD THROUGH GRADE TWELVE (12) EDUCATION  
18 IN THE STATE OF ARKANSAS; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY;  
19 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
20  
21  
22

## Subtitle

23 TO CREATE THE LEARNS ACT; TO AMEND  
24 VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CODE  
25 AS THEY RELATE TO EARLY CHILDHOOD THROUGH  
26 GRADE TWELVE EDUCATION IN THE STATE OF  
27 ARKANSAS; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.  
28  
29  
30

31 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

32  
33 SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. Title.

34 This act shall be known and may be cited as the "LEARNS Act".  
35

36 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-10-128(d)(1), concerning school resource



1 awarded by the International Baccalaureate.

2 (b) The Division of Higher Education:

3 (1) Shall establish uniform postsecondary criteria for awarding  
4 credit to students who have successfully completed the International  
5 Baccalaureate Diploma Programme or achieved required scores on one (1) or  
6 more CLEP examinations; and

7 (2) May establish uniform postsecondary criteria for awarding  
8 credit to students who attain other nationally recognized college-level  
9 credentials, including without limitation those attained through:

10 (A) The Cambridge Advanced International Certificate of  
11 Education; and

12 (B) Industry-based credentials.

13  
14 SECTION 55. Arkansas Code § 6-61-217 is amended to read as follows:

15 6-61-217. Minimum core courses for college and career prep.

16 (a) In order to promote a coordinated system of higher education in  
17 Arkansas and to ~~assure~~ ensure an orderly and effective development of each  
18 state-supported institution of higher education, the Arkansas Higher  
19 Education Coordinating Board, after consultation with the State Board of  
20 Education, shall identify a minimum core of high school courses recommended  
21 for preparation for college.

22 (b) The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board, in consultation  
23 with the State Board of Education, shall deem a career-ready pathway to a  
24 diploma to be equivalent to a standard high school diploma.

25 ~~(b)(c)~~ The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall  
26 communicate this information at least annually to public school  
27 superintendents, who shall make copies available each year to public school  
28 students enrolled in grades seven through twelve (7-12).

29 ~~(e)(d)~~ The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board may revise the  
30 list of high school courses from time to time, as needed.

31  
32 SECTION 56. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1606 is amended to read as follows:

33 6-81-1606. Duration – Amount.

34 (a)(1) The State Teacher Education Program shall be used to provide a  
35 loan repayment for federal student loans in the amount of+

36 ~~(1) Three thousand dollars (\$3,000)~~ six thousand dollars

1 (\$6,000) per year for a maximum of three (3) years for a licensed teacher who  
 2 graduated from a teacher education program after April 2004 and teaches in a  
 3 public school in this state or successfully completed an alternative educator  
 4 preparation program after April 2004 and teaches in a public school in the  
 5 ~~State Teacher Education Program~~ program:

6 (A) In a subject area designated by the Division of Higher  
 7 Education in consultation with the Division of Elementary and Secondary  
 8 Education as having a critical shortage of teachers; ~~or~~ and

9 (B) Located in a geographical area of the state designated  
 10 by the Division of Higher Education in consultation with the Division of  
 11 Elementary and Secondary Education as having a critical shortage of teachers;  
 12 ~~and.~~

13 (2) ~~An additional one thousand dollars (\$1,000) per year for a~~  
 14 ~~maximum of three (3) years for a licensed teacher who:~~

15 ~~(A) Is a minority;~~

16 ~~(B) Either:~~

17 ~~(i) Graduated from a teacher education program after~~  
 18 ~~April 2004; or~~

19 ~~(ii) Successfully completed an alternative educator~~  
 20 ~~preparation program; and~~

21 ~~(C) Teaches in a public school in this state~~ A licensed  
 22 teacher who is given intensive support status under the Teacher Excellence  
 23 and Support System, § 6-17-2801 et seq., shall be ineligible for receipt of  
 24 funds under the program for the school year.

25 (b) The Division of Higher Education may spend no more than fifty  
 26 thousand dollars (\$50,000) annually for costs associated with the  
 27 administration of the State Teacher Education Program.

28 (c) The Division of Higher Education shall promulgate rules necessary  
 29 for the implementation of this subchapter.

30  
 31 SECTION 57. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 82, is amended to add an  
 32 additional subchapter to read as follows:

33 Subchapter 22 – Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship Program Act

34  
 35 6-82-2201. Title.

36 This subchapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Arkansas

## **RULES GOVERNING THE TEACHER OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM**

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In compliance with Act 413 of 2023, the rules for the Teacher Opportunity Program are presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) for initial approval.

The following resolution is offered for the Board's consideration:

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board reviews the rules presented in this agenda item for the Teacher Opportunity Program to be administered by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education or his designee is authorized to make technical changes and corrections, when necessary, in the program rules for the Teacher Opportunity Program.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Teacher Opportunity Program rules be approved for public comment release.



**DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION RULES GOVERNING TEACHER  
OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM**

**Effective Date:**

**1.00 Program Definitions**

1.01 The following definitions are used in the Teacher Opportunity Program (TOP):

1.01.1 “Academic Year” means ~~A~~ a measure of the academic work to be accomplished by the recipient.

1.01.1.1 The academic year is defined as fall, spring, and summer semesters, in that order.

1.01.2 “Arkansas Resident” means ~~an applicant that has been to be considered an Arkansas resident by ADHE, an applicant must be an Arkansas resident for twelve (12) months prior to the application deadline for the financial aid program.~~

1.01.2.1 Further, the recipient may be asked to provide evidence of a permanent connection with the State of Arkansas.

1.01.2.2 ~~ADHE~~ The Division of Higher Education will ~~look to one or more of the following to~~ determine residency through ~~in~~ those cases:

1.01.2.2.1 ~~(A) A valid~~ Valid Arkansas Driver’s License;

1.01.2.2.2 ~~(B)~~ Proof of payment for Arkansas personal and/or real taxes for previous year;

1.01.2.2.3 ~~(C)~~ Proof of Arkansas vehicle registration;

1.01.2.2.4 ~~(D)~~ Proof of Arkansas voter registration; and

1.01.2.2.5 ~~(E)~~ Other forms of proof of Arkansas residency.

1.01.3 “Approved Institution” means ~~an~~ An Arkansas postsecondary public or private college, university, or school that is currently accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association that has a teacher licensure program where those courses are directly creditable toward teacher licensure in a baccalaureate institution.

1.01.3.1 The institution must not discriminate against applicants, or employees on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age,

handicap, or national origin, consistent with the provisions of applicable state and federal laws.

1.01.4 “Award Year” means the year beginning ~~The award year begins~~ on July 1 of one calendar year, and ~~extends~~ extending to June 30 of the next calendar year.

1.01.5 “Classroom Teacher” means an ~~An~~ individual who is required to hold a teaching license from the division ~~Arkansas Department of Education~~ and who is:

1.01.5.1 ~~a.~~ Engaged directly in instruction with students in a classroom setting for more than seventy percent (70%) of the individual’s contracted time;

1.01.5.2 ~~b.~~ A media specialist or librarian;

1.01.5.3 ~~c.~~ A guidance counselor;

1.01.5.4 ~~d.~~ An administrator.

1.01.6 “Dual License” means licensure ~~Licensure~~ to teach in more than one (1) subject area.

1.01.7 “Semester” means one-half (½) of a traditional academic year at an institution of higher education, or an equivalent approved by the division, in which a student enrolls for not less than:

1.01.7.1 Fifteen (15) credit hours as a full-time student, except that in the first semester as a first-time full-time freshman, a traditional student shall enroll in not less than twelve (12) credit hours; or

1.01.7.2 Six (6) credit hours as a part-time student.

1.01.7.2.1 For purposes of summer courses at an institution of higher education, a "semester" shall mean the same as is defined in this section.

1.01.8 “Scholarship” means a program that is:

1.01.8.1 Funded with state funds or lottery proceeds; and

1.01.8.2 Administered by the division.

1.01.9 “Teach on a Full-time Basis” means ~~teaching~~ ~~Teach~~ the same number of hours required of teachers who have full-time contracts, as determined by the institution or agency in which an individual is teaching, for a minimum of one (1) academic term, as defined by the institution or agency in which an individual is teaching.

## 2.00 Organization and Structure

2.01 The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Higher Education (~~ADHE~~) shall administer the Teacher Opportunity Program with the policies set by the ~~Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB)~~.

2.01.1 All formal communications shall be addressed to or signed by the ~~Director~~ Commissioner of the ~~Arkansas Department of Higher Education~~ division or the ~~Director's~~ commissioner's designee.

2.01.2 The Teacher Opportunity Program Advisory Council shall provide advice to the ~~Department of Higher Education~~ division regarding administration of the program.

2.02 Teacher Opportunity Program Advisory Council

2.02.1 The Teacher Opportunity Program Advisory Council shall consist of eight members.

2.02.1.1 The members will be appointed annually to serve a two-year staggered term by the ~~Director~~ commissioner of the division ~~Department of Higher Education~~.

2.02.1.2 The members of this council will consist of representatives from public and private postsecondary institutions with Teacher Education programs, public and private elementary and secondary schools, and the teacher certification ~~division~~ section of the Division ~~Department of Education~~.

2.02.2 The ~~Director~~ commissioner of the ~~Department of Higher Education~~ division or the ~~Director's~~ commissioner's designee shall serve as the presiding officer of the Teacher Opportunity Program Advisory Council and shall ensure that staff services for the Council are provided.

2.03 The final responsibility for selecting loan recipients shall rest with the ~~Department of Higher Education~~ division.

2.04 When functioning under Act 109 of 1983, Act 331 of 1987, and any subsequent legislation, the ~~Arkansas Department of Higher Education~~ division shall follow the Provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act.

### 3.00 Eligibility and Criteria

- 3.01 Applicant must be bona fide residents of the State of Arkansas, as defined by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Higher Education, as having lived in Arkansas continually for at least twelve (12) months prior to the application deadline.
- 3.02 Applicant shall maintain a current teacher license with the ~~Arkansas Department of Education~~ division.
- 3.02.1 Only individuals with a provisional license or who are in the alternative licensure program are not considered certified for the purposes of the Dual Certification Incentive Program.
- 3.03 Recipient awarded under the Dual Licensure Incentive Program must:
- 3.03.1 Be currently employed as a classroom teacher, which includes librarian/and media specialist, guidance counselor and administrator, in a public school in Arkansas; and
- 3.03.2 Have been employed as a classroom teacher for at least three (3) years immediately preceding application; and
- 3.03.3 Be accepted for enrollment in a teacher education program that will lead to licensure in a subject area that is different than the teacher's current licensure area and the subject area has either:
- 3.03.3.1 Been declared by the ~~Arkansas Department of Education~~ division as a subject area with a shortage of teachers; or
- 3.03.3.2 Is in the grade level and subject area for which the school district has requested a waiver under 6-17-309.
- 3.03.4 Earn a 2.5 cumulative grade point average in courses required toward dual licensure.
- 3.03.4.1 Recipients enrolled in dissertation coursework must receive a "Pass" for the course to receive reimbursement.
- 3.04 Non-Dual Licensure Program requires that:
- 3.04.1 Applicant must be currently employed as a classroom teacher which includes librarian/and media specialist, guidance counselor and administrator, in Arkansas and declare an intention to continue such employment in Arkansas.
- 3.04.2 Applicant must be enrolled in an approved institution in Arkansas.

3.04.3 Applicant must be enrolled in college level courses, excluding correspondence courses, directly related to their employment as certified by the ~~Director~~ Commissioner of the ~~Department of Education~~ division, General Education ~~Division~~ section.

3.04.4 Recipient must maintain at least a 2.50 grade point average in the courses funded by the Teacher Opportunity Program.

3.04.4.1 Recipients funded for one course must obtain at least a "B" for that course.

3.04.4.2 Recipients funded for two courses must obtain at least a "B" for one course and a "C" for the other.

3.04.4.3 Recipients enrolled in dissertation coursework must receive a "Pass" for the course to receive reimbursement.

#### **4.00 Application Process**

##### 4.01 Solicitation of Applicants

4.01.1 Applications will be available at the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Higher Education's website.

4.01.1.1 Applications will also be mailed to individuals upon request.

##### 4.02 Submission of Application

4.02.1 Applications include personal information, as well as education and employment information.

4.02.2 The ~~Department of Higher Education~~ division will review all applications to ensure that all pertinent data are included and will notify the applicant of the status of the application.

4.02.2.1 If the application is incomplete, the division will notify the applicant of this status, the information that is missing, and the deadline to submit the information.

4.02.2.1.1 This deadline will be no less than two weeks from the date of the notification letter.

##### 4.03 Application Deadline

4.03.1 The application deadline will be set each year by the division ~~Department~~ of Higher Education.

4.03.1.1 All applications must be submitted by the established deadline date.

4.03.1.2 Applications received after the deadline date will not be considered for participation in the Teacher Opportunity Program.

4.03.1.3 The division ~~Department~~ may establish alternate deadlines for applicants based on the start date of each term.

## **5.00 Award Process**

### 5.01 Selection of Recipients

5.01.1 The final responsibility for selecting recipients shall rest with the ~~Director~~ Commissioner of the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

5.01.2 Applications for additional education in the following areas will receive first priority for awards:

5.01.2.1 Science, technology, engineering, or mathematics fields;

5.01.2.2 Computer Science;

5.01.2.3 Literacy or reading;

5.01.2.4 Prekindergarten education; or

5.01.2.5 Special Education.

5.01.3 If funds remain after awarding all eligible applicants in the areas listed above, applicants will be ranked according to criteria developed in conjunction with the ~~Department of Education~~ Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, focusing on state-wide needs.

### 5.02 Notification of Recipients

5.02.1 Selected recipients will receive an award notice stating their eligibility for the program.

5.02.1.1 The award notice will include, where applicable, the student's name, social security number, and award amount.

## **6.00 Reimbursement Amount**

6.01 Reimbursement for students in the Dual Licensure Incentive Program includes funding for the cost of student fees, books, and instructional supplies at a public institution of higher education in this State assessing the highest rate of student fees.

6.01.1 The reimbursement made to one individual within one fiscal year may not exceed the aforementioned costs associated with six semester hours or the equivalent of six semester credit hours, though not to exceed \$3,000 during the fiscal year.

6.02 Non-Dual Licensure Program recipients may receive funds up to, but not in excess of, the cost of student fees, books, and instructional supplies at a public institution of higher education in this State assessing the highest rate of student fees.

6.02.1 The reimbursement made to one individual within one fiscal year may not exceed the aforementioned costs associated with six semester hours or the equivalent of six semester credit hours.

6.03 Based on the availability of program funds, awards will be disbursed to the recipient pursuant to the reimbursement limitations above and ranking status.

6.04 Recipients must maintain an eligible status to receive funds.

## **7.00 Reimbursement Disbursement**

8.01 Teacher Opportunity Program is a reimbursement program.

8.01.1 A check made payable to the individual recipient is mailed to the student once he/or she has successfully completed the funded course with a satisfactory grade and has provided the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Higher Education with an original copy of the itemized paid receipt and grade report or transcript for the funded course.

## **8.00 Recipient Responsibilities**

8.01 It is the recipient's responsibility to notify the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Higher Education, in writing, of any change in status within 21 days.

8.01.1 This will include, but is not limited to:

8.01.1.1 Change of name;

8.01.1.2 Change in address;

- 8.01.1.3 Change in institution;
- 8.01.1.4 Change in coursework to be funded;
- 8.01.1.5 Change in enrollment status;
- 8.01.1.6 Change in employment; or
- 8.01.1.7 Change in licensure status.

8.02 Failure to notify the ~~Arkansas Department~~ division of Higher Education of a change in status may affect future eligibility or collection status.

DRAFT



1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2023  
4

As Engrossed: H2/14/23

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1412

5 By: Representative J. Mayberry  
6 By: Senator J. English  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT CONCERNING RULES PROMULGATED BY THE DIVISION  
10 OF HIGHER EDUCATION; TO REQUIRE THE DIVISION OF  
11 HIGHER EDUCATION TO PROMULGATE CERTAIN RULES  
12 CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS FUNDED  
13 WITH STATE FUNDS AND LOTTERY PROCEEDS; TO DECLARE AN  
14 EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

15  
16  
17  
18 TO REQUIRE THE DIVISION OF HIGHER  
19 EDUCATION TO PROMULGATE CERTAIN RULES  
20 CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF  
21 SCHOLARSHIPS FUNDED WITH STATE FUNDS AND  
22 LOTTERY PROCEEDS; AND TO DECLARE AN  
23 EMERGENCY.  
24  
25

26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
27

28 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 80, Subchapter 1, is amended  
29 to add an additional section to read as follows:

30 6-80-109. Division of Higher Education – Rules.

31 (a) The Division of Higher Education shall promulgate or update  
32 existing division rules to allow a student who is a recipient of a  
33 scholarship to utilize scholarship funds to enroll in and attend courses  
34 offered during a summer term at the postsecondary institution in which the  
35 student is enrolled.

36 (b) Rules promulgated under this section shall include without



1 limitation requirements concerning:

2 (1) Student eligibility; and

3 (2) The disbursement and administration of scholarship funds  
4 utilized by a student to enroll in and attend courses offered during a summer  
5 term.

6 (c) As used in this section, "scholarship" shall include a scholarship  
7 program that is:

8 (1) Funded with state funds or lottery proceeds; and

9 (2) Administered by the division.

10  
11 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-85-204(14), concerning the definition of  
12 "semester" under the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 (14)(A) "Semester" means one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of a traditional academic  
15 year at an institution of higher education, or an equivalent approved by the  
16 division, in which a student enrolls for not less than:

17 ~~(A)(i)~~ Fifteen (15) credit hours as a full-time student,  
18 except that in the first semester as a first-time full-time freshman, a  
19 traditional student shall enroll in not less than twelve (12) credit hours;  
20 or

21 ~~(B)(ii)~~ Six (6) credit hours as a part-time student.

22 (B) For purposes of summer courses at an institution of  
23 higher education, a "semester" shall mean the same as is defined by the  
24 division, as required by § 6-80-109;

25  
26 SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
27 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the Division of Higher  
28 Education must make certain arrangements to facilitate the use of Arkansas  
29 Academic Challenge Scholarship funds for upcoming summer courses; and that  
30 many of these arrangements must occur in time for the 2023-2024 school year.  
31 Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being necessary  
32 for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become  
33 effective on July 1, 2023.

34  
35 */s/J. Mayberry*

36 **APPROVED: 3/30/23**

## **RULES GOVERNING THE WASHINGTON CENTER SCHOLARSHIP**

---

In compliance with Act 413 of 2023, the rules for the Washington Center Scholarship are presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) for initial approval.

The following resolution is offered for the Board's consideration:

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board reviews the rules presented in this agenda item for the Washington Center Scholarship to be administered by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education or his designee is authorized to make technical changes and corrections, when necessary, in the program rules for the Washington Center Scholarship.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Washington Center Scholarship rules be approved for public comment release.

**DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION RULES GOVERNING THE  
WASHINGTON CENTER SCHOLARSHIP**

**Effective Date:**

**1.00 Program Definitions**

1.01 “Approved Institution” means ~~a~~A public-supported or private non-profit postsecondary institution with its primary headquarters located in Arkansas that is eligible to receive Title IV Federal student aid funds and will grant academic credit for participation in The Washington Center Internship Program located in Washington, D.C.

1.02 ~~Professional Judgment. Authority of ADHE professional staff that allows for the special consideration of applications when extraordinary circumstances occur beyond the applicant’s control that may prohibit the student from meeting the exact guidelines as stated.~~

1.02.1 ~~The student must provide documentation, as required by ADHE, to demonstrate that circumstances were beyond the student’s control.~~

1.03 “The Washington Center” means ~~The Washington Center~~ the center for Internships and Academic Seminars ~~which is~~ an educational nonprofit organization that provides selected students’ opportunities to work and learn for academic credit.

**2.00 RULE 1- Organization and Structure**

2.01 ~~I. The Arkansas Department~~ Division of Higher Education (ADHE) shall administer The Washington Center Scholarship Program within the policies set by the ~~Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board.~~

2.01.1 All formal communications shall be addressed to or signed by the ~~Director~~ Commissioner of the ~~Arkansas Department of Higher Education board~~ or ~~his/her~~ his or her designee.

2.02 ~~H. The Director~~ Commissioner of the division ~~Arkansas Department of Higher Education~~ has the final responsibility for selecting scholarship recipients pursuant to the provisions of Act 1046 of 2007 and subsequent legislation, and program rules and regulations.

2.03 ~~III. The Arkansas Department of Higher Education~~ division shall follow the provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act when functioning under Act 1046 of 2007 and subsequent legislation.

### 3.00 ~~RULE 2~~– Scholarship Eligibility Criteria

3.01 An applicant must meet the following requirements to be eligible to receive The Washington Center Scholarship:

3.01.1 ~~A~~– The applicant must be a citizen of the United States or a permanent resident alien.

3.01.1.1 If the recipient is not a U.S. citizen, but a permanent resident alien, the recipient must attach a copy of the permanent resident alien card to the application.

3.01.2 ~~B~~– The applicant must be an ~~bona-fide~~ Arkansas resident, as defined by the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Higher Education, for at least six (6) months prior to the application deadline.

3.01.3 ~~C~~–The applicant must be enrolled in an approved Arkansas institution that will grant academic credit for participation in The Washington Center Internship Program located in Washington D.C.

3.01.4 ~~D~~– The applicant must meet The Washington Center (~~TWC~~) admission requirements and be selected by ~~TWC~~ the center to participate in their internship program.

3.01.5 ~~E~~– The applicant must be enrolled in a program of study, which leads to or is creditable towards a baccalaureate degree.

3.01.5.1 These programs include baccalaureate degree programs and associate degree programs.

### 4.00 ~~RULE 3~~– Application Process

4.01 ~~I~~– Application

4.01.1 Students must submit an application to The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars and be accepted for participation in The Washington Center’s internship program.

4.01.1.1 The application and program information can be obtained from ~~The Washington Center~~ the center at:

4.01.1.1.1 [www.twc.edu](http://www.twc.edu) ~~or~~;

4.01.1.1.2 By calling (800) 486-8921 ~~;~~ or

4.01.1.1.3 Students can ~~also~~ contact the campus coordinator at the institution ~~he/she~~ he or she attends.

4.02 ~~II.~~ Submission of Application and Application Deadline

4.02.1 Students must submit an application to ~~The Washington Center (TWC)~~ the center by the established deadline dates.

4.02.1.1 The student is responsible for submitting the application and all supporting documentation to ~~TWC~~ the center in a timely manner.

4.02.1.2 ~~TWC~~ The center will provide a list of all eligible applicants to the ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Higher Education.

4.03 ~~III.~~ Amount of Scholarship

4.03.1 The amount of the scholarship for each recipient will be up to \$6,000 for one-time participation in ~~The Washington Center~~ the center's internship program.

4.03.1.1 This includes participating during summer terms, semesters, quarters, or their equivalent, at the postsecondary institution in which the student is enrolled.

4.04 ~~IV.~~ Award Notification and Prioritization of Awards

4.04.1 ~~The Washington Center~~ center will select the students that are eligible to participate in the internship program for each applicable academic period.

4.04.1.1 Of those selected students, ~~ADHE~~ the division will determine the number of students to be awarded the scholarship based on the amount of funds available.

4.04.1.2 In the event there are more eligible applicants than funds available, awards will be determined on a first-come, first-serve basis.

4.04.1.3 Those not awarded will be given priority for participation in a subsequent term.

4.04.2 ~~The Arkansas Department of Higher Education~~ division shall notify each eligible applicant of ~~his/her~~ his or her award.

4.04.2.1 The award notice includes;

4.04.2.1.1 The student's name;

4.04.2.1.2 Address;

4.04.2.1.3 Last four (4) digits of the ~~s~~ Social security number; and

4.04.2.1.4 The scholarship amount the student is eligible to receive.

4.04.2.2 The award notice also explains the ~~Arkansas Department of Higher Education's~~ division's disbursement procedures and conditions.

4.04.3 The division shall have the authority to exercise professional judgment in the determination of awards when special circumstances exist.

4.04.3.1 The division may give special consideration of applications when extraordinary circumstances occur beyond the applicant's control that may prohibit the student from meeting the exact guidelines as stated.

4.04.3.2 For such special consideration, the student must provide documentation, as required by the division, to demonstrate that circumstances were beyond the student's control.

## **5.00 ~~RULE 4-~~ Scholarship Payment Policies**

### 5.01 ~~A.~~ Limits of Payment

5.01.1 The ~~Arkansas Department~~ Division of Higher Education shall disburse scholarship funds to The Washington Center (~~TWC~~) located in Washington, D.C.

5.01.2 Scholarship funds will be disbursed upon receipt of an invoice from ~~TWC~~ the center.

5.01.2.1 Invoices from ~~TWC~~ the center will be accepted by ~~ADHE~~ the division no later than ten (10) days after the beginning of each term.

5.01.2.2 The ~~Arkansas Department of Higher Education~~ division shall send funds to ~~TWC~~ the center via electronic funds transfer or state warrant.

5.02 ~~B.~~ Refunds

5.02.1 The Washington Scholarship Program may be entitled to a refund of the scholarship amount if the recipient of the scholarship:

5.02.1.1 Withdraws;

5.02.1.2 Drops out;

5.02.1.3 Is expelled; or

5.02.1.4 Does not meet the terms of the internship program outlined by ~~The Washington Center (TWC)~~ the center during the payment period.

5.02.1.4.1 If this situation occurs, the student will owe funds to ~~TWC~~ the center, who in turn shall return the refund to the ~~Arkansas Department of Higher Education~~ division.

5.03 ~~C.~~ Overpayment

5.03.1 The ~~Arkansas Department of Higher Education~~ division will report the amount of the scholarship each student receives to the Arkansas institution where the student is enrolled.

5.03.2 If the award of a Washington Scholarship results in an overpayment to the student according to the state law governing the stacking of scholarships, the institution shall follow ~~the ADHE~~ division policy in reducing the student's financial package to prevent the student from receiving funds above the federally recognized cost of attendance.

**6.00** ~~RULE 5~~ **Scholarship Recipient's Responsibilities**

6.01 It is the recipient's responsibility to notify the ~~Division~~ Arkansas Department of Higher Education of any change in status within 21 days.

6.02 Changes in status will include, but not limited to, the following:

6.02.1 Change in name;

6.02.2 Change in permanent address; or

6.02.3 Change in institution.

6.03 Failure to notify the ~~Arkansas Department of Higher Education~~ division of a change of status may affect future eligibility.



## **RULE 6 – Program Definitions**

### **Approved Institution**

A public-supported or private non-profit postsecondary institution with its primary headquarters located in Arkansas that is eligible to receive Title IV Federal student aid funds and will grant academic credit for participation in The Washington Center Internship Program located in Washington, D.C.

Professional Judgment Authority of ADHE professional staff that allows for the special consideration of applications when extraordinary circumstances occur beyond the applicant's control that may prohibit the student from meeting the exact guidelines as stated. The student must provide documentation, as required by ADHE, to demonstrate that circumstances were beyond the student's control.

### **The Washington Center**

The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars is an educational nonprofit organization that provides selected students' opportunities to work and learn for academic credit. The Washington Center is located at 1333 16th Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036.

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2023  
4

As Engrossed: H2/14/23

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1412

5 By: Representative J. Mayberry  
6 By: Senator J. English  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT CONCERNING RULES PROMULGATED BY THE DIVISION  
10 OF HIGHER EDUCATION; TO REQUIRE THE DIVISION OF  
11 HIGHER EDUCATION TO PROMULGATE CERTAIN RULES  
12 CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS FUNDED  
13 WITH STATE FUNDS AND LOTTERY PROCEEDS; TO DECLARE AN  
14 EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

15  
16  
17  
18 TO REQUIRE THE DIVISION OF HIGHER  
19 EDUCATION TO PROMULGATE CERTAIN RULES  
20 CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF  
21 SCHOLARSHIPS FUNDED WITH STATE FUNDS AND  
22 LOTTERY PROCEEDS; AND TO DECLARE AN  
23 EMERGENCY.  
24  
25

26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
27

28 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 80, Subchapter 1, is amended  
29 to add an additional section to read as follows:

30 6-80-109. Division of Higher Education – Rules.

31 (a) The Division of Higher Education shall promulgate or update  
32 existing division rules to allow a student who is a recipient of a  
33 scholarship to utilize scholarship funds to enroll in and attend courses  
34 offered during a summer term at the postsecondary institution in which the  
35 student is enrolled.

36 (b) Rules promulgated under this section shall include without



1 limitation requirements concerning:

2 (1) Student eligibility; and

3 (2) The disbursement and administration of scholarship funds  
4 utilized by a student to enroll in and attend courses offered during a summer  
5 term.

6 (c) As used in this section, "scholarship" shall include a scholarship  
7 program that is:

8 (1) Funded with state funds or lottery proceeds; and

9 (2) Administered by the division.

10  
11 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-85-204(14), concerning the definition of  
12 "semester" under the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 (14)(A) "Semester" means one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of a traditional academic  
15 year at an institution of higher education, or an equivalent approved by the  
16 division, in which a student enrolls for not less than:

17 ~~(A)(i)~~ Fifteen (15) credit hours as a full-time student,  
18 except that in the first semester as a first-time full-time freshman, a  
19 traditional student shall enroll in not less than twelve (12) credit hours;  
20 or

21 ~~(B)(ii)~~ Six (6) credit hours as a part-time student.

22 (B) For purposes of summer courses at an institution of  
23 higher education, a "semester" shall mean the same as is defined by the  
24 division, as required by § 6-80-109;

25  
26 SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
27 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the Division of Higher  
28 Education must make certain arrangements to facilitate the use of Arkansas  
29 Academic Challenge Scholarship funds for upcoming summer courses; and that  
30 many of these arrangements must occur in time for the 2023-2024 school year.  
31 Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being necessary  
32 for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become  
33 effective on July 1, 2023.

34  
35 */s/J. Mayberry*

36 **APPROVED: 3/30/23**

1 State of Arkansas As Engrossed: S1/30/23 S2/13/23 S4/3/23

2 94th General Assembly

# A Bill

3 Regular Session, 2023

SENATE BILL 75

4

5 By: Joint Budget Committee

6

7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8

AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR PERSONAL SERVICES

9

AND OPERATING EXPENSES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF

10

EDUCATION - DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR THE

11

FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2024; AND FOR OTHER

12

PURPOSES.

13

14

15

## Subtitle

16

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION -

17

DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION

18

APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2023-2024 FISCAL

19

YEAR.

20

21

22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

23

24

SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES - GENERAL OPERATIONS. There is hereby  
25 established for the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education  
26 for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular  
27 employees.

28

29

Maximum Annual

30

Maximum

Salary Rate

31

Item Class

No. of

Fiscal Year

32

No. Code Title

Employees

2023-2024

33

(1) U024U DHE DIRECTOR

1

GRADE SE05

34

(2) D022N IT SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER

1

GRADE IT09

35

(3) D012C DATABASE SPECIALIST

2

GRADE IT08

36

(4) D007C INFORMATION SYSTEMS MANAGER

1

GRADE IT08



1 fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

2

3 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
4 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
5 (01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$161,777
6 (02) EXTRA HELP	20,000
7 (03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	51,726
8 (04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
9 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	63,000
10 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	4,000
11 (C) PROF. FEES	6,000
12 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
13 (E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
14 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$306,503</u></u>

15

16 SECTION 6. APPROPRIATION - STUDENT ASSISTANCE GRANTS AND VARIOUS  
 17 SCHOLARSHIPS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education,  
 18 to be payable from the Higher Education Grants Fund Account, for providing  
 19 student assistance grants and various scholarships as provided by law of the  
 20 Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - Student Assistance  
 21 Grants and Various Scholarships for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the  
 22 following:

23

24 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
25 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
26 (01) ARKANSAS FUTURE GRANTS	\$5,000,000
27 (02) NATIONAL GUARD TUITION ASSISTANCE	
28 PROGRAM	1,400,000
29 (03) SINGLE PARENT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM	175,000
30 (04) STATE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM	4,000,000
31 (05) TEACHER OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM	2,500,000
32 (06) AR GEOGRAPHICAL CRITICAL NEEDS	
33 MINORITY TEACHER SCHOLARSHIPS	150,000
34 (07) DEPENDENTS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT	
35 OFFICERS, ETC SCHOLARSHIPS	400,000
36 (08) DEPENDENTS OF POWS, MIAS,	

1	KIAS-TUITION WAIVER SCHOLARSHIPS	1,500,000
2	(09) GOVERNOR'S HIGHER EDUCATION	
3	TRANSITION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM	2,000,000
4	(10) SREB MINORITY DOCTORAL SCHOLARS	175,000
5	(11) WASHINGTON CENTER SCHOLARSHIPS	150,000
6	(12) TUITION ADJUSTMENT	350,000
7	(13) AR ACADEMIC CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIPS	25,000,000
8	(14) AR GOVERNOR'S SCHOLAR	22,000,000
9	(15) STUDENT UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH	
10	FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM (SURF)	<u>150,000</u>
11	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$64,950,000</u>

12

13 SECTION 7. APPROPRIATION - TECHNICAL EDUCATION - FEDERAL PROGRAMS.

14 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable  
 15 from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the  
 16 State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of  
 17 Education - Division of Higher Education - Technical Education - Federal  
 18 Programs for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

19

20	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
21	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
22	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$152,979
23	(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	49,014
24	(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
25	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	108,271
26	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	80,000
27	(C) PROF. FEES	157,000
28	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
29	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
30	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$547,264</u>

31

32 SECTION 8. APPROPRIATION - RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM. There is

33 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the  
 34 Research Development Fund, for providing Arkansas Research Development  
 35 Program Grants to Institutions of Higher Education by the Department of  
 36 Education - Division of Higher Education for the fiscal year ending June 30,

**RULES GOVERNING THE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' DEPENDENTS  
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

---

In compliance with Act 413 of 2023, the rules for the Law Enforcement Officers' Dependents Scholarship Program are presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) for initial approval.

The following resolution is offered for the Board's consideration:

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board reviews the rules presented in this agenda item for the Law Enforcement Officers' Dependents Scholarship Program to be administered by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education or his designee is authorized to make technical changes and corrections, when necessary, in the program rules for the Law Enforcement Officers' Dependents Scholarship Program.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Law Enforcement Officers' Dependents Scholarship Program rules be approved for public comment release.

**DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION RULES GOVERNING  
LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' DEPENDENTS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM  
Effective Date:**

**1.00 Organization and Structure**

- I. 1.01 The ~~Arkansas~~ Division of Higher Education shall administer the Law Enforcement Officers' Dependents Scholarship Program within the policies set by the ~~Arkansas~~ Higher Education Coordinating Board. All formal communications shall be addressed to or signed by the Director of the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division or ~~his/her~~ his or her designee.
- II. 1.02 The final responsibility for determining eligibility of scholarship recipients shall rest with the Director of the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division pursuant to the provisions of Act 521 of 1973, Act 47 of 1983, Act 190 of 1989, Act 153 of 1993, Act 1034 of 1999, Act 113 of 2001, Act 158 of 2001, and Act 172 of 2007, Act 1217 of 2009 and any subsequent legislation.
- III. 1.03 When functioning under Act 521 of 1973, Act 47 of 1983, Act 190 of 1989, Act 153 of 1993, Act 1034 of 1999, Act 113 of 2001, Act 158 of 2001, Act 172 of 2007, Act 1217 of 2009, and any subsequent legislation, the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division shall follow the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act.

**2.00 Program Definitions**

2.01 The following definitions are used in the Law Enforcement Officers' Dependents Scholarship Program:

2.01.1 “Approved Institution” means a state-supported two-year or four-year college or university or technical institute located in the State of Arkansas that is accredited by the ~~North Central Association, Commission on Higher Education~~ Higher Learning Commission, or has achieved candidacy status, and does not discriminate against applicants, or employees on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, handicap, or national origin, consistent with the provisions of applicable state and federal laws.

2.01.2 “Dependent” means a spouse, natural child, adopted child, or step child of an Arkansas law enforcement officer, fireman, state correction employees, state forestry employees, certain Arkansas Department of Transportation employees, state parks employees, teacher, or Department of Community Correction employees killed or totally and permanently disabled in the line of duty.

2.01.3 “Satisfactory Progress” means satisfactory academic progress toward a degree as defined by the institution.



### **3.00 Scholarship Eligibility Criteria**

~~F.~~ 3.01 In order to be eligible for the Law Enforcement Officers' Dependents Scholarship, the student must be a natural child, adopted child, stepchild, or spouse of an Arkansas law enforcement officer, fireman, state highway employee, state forestry employee, state correction employee, state park employee, teacher, or Department of Community Correction employee who was killed or permanently and totally disabled as a result of injuries or wounds which occurred in the performance of duty or in the course of going to or returning from a location where a hazardous situation existed. Scholarship benefits shall not accrue to the dependents if the wounds or injuries suffered by the law enforcement officer, fireman, state highway employee, state forestry employee, state correction employee, state park employee, teacher, or Department of Community Punishment employee are self-inflicted or if death is self-induced.

3.01.1 A law enforcement officer means:

- ~~A.~~ 3.01.1.1 Arkansas state highway patrolman, which includes any law enforcement officer, regardless of department or bureau, of the Division of Arkansas State Police;
- ~~B.~~ 3.01.1.2 Arkansas municipal and college or university police officers, which includes all law enforcement officers of any municipality, college, or university who are regular duty personnel on full-time status and does not include auxiliary officers or those serving on a temporary or part-time status;
- ~~C.~~ 3.01.1.3 Arkansas sheriff or deputy sheriff, which includes all law enforcement officers of full-time status on a regular basis serving the sheriff's department of any county located in Arkansas, but does not include deputy sheriffs who are engaged in administrative or civil duty or deputy sheriffs serving in a temporary capacity or part-time basis;
- ~~D.~~ 3.01.1.4 Arkansas constable, which includes all duly elected constables of any beat of any county within the State of Arkansas while actually engaged in the performance of their duties concerning the criminal laws of the county and state; and,
- ~~E.~~ 3.01.1.5 Arkansas game warden, which includes all appointed game wardens employed by the State of Arkansas on a full-time duty status while actually engaged in their duties concerning the game laws of this state.

3.01.2 A fireman means:

- ~~A.~~ 3.01.2 1 Any Arkansas fireman employed on a full-time or volunteer duty status while actually engaged in the performance of his

or her duties;

3.01.3 A state highway employee means:

- A. 3.01.3.1 An Arkansas Department of Transportation employee, which is defined as any employee who actively engages in highway maintenance, construction, or traffic operations on the roadways and bridges of the state highway system while the roadways and bridges are open for use by the traveling public;

3.01.4 A state forestry employee means:

- A. 3.01.4.1 An employee of the Arkansas Forestry Commission who is actively engaged in his or her duties of fighting forest fires;

3.01.5 A state correction employee means:

- A. 3.01.5.1 Any employee of the Arkansas Division of Correction or the Arkansas Correctional School District who becomes subject to injury through contact with inmates or parolees of the Division of Correction;

3.01.6 A state park employee means:

- A. 3.01.6.1 Any employee of the Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism who is a commissioned law enforcement officer or emergency response employee while actively engaged in the performance of his or her duties;

3.01.7 A teacher means:

- A. 3.01.7.1 Any person employed by an Arkansas public school for the purpose of giving instructions and whose employment requires state certification; and

3.01.8 A Department of Community Correction employee means:

- A. 3.01.8.1 Any employee of the Arkansas Department of Community Correction who suffers fatal injuries or wounds or becomes permanently and totally disabled as a result of injuries or wounds which occurred through contact with parolees, probationers, or center residents.

H. 3.02 To be eligible to receive the Law Enforcement Officer's Dependents Scholarship, the applicant must be:

- A. 3.02.1 A child must have been born prior to the date of the death or total and

permanent disability (See “Scholarship Eligibility Criteria,” Section I);

- B. 3.02.2 An adopted child must have been adopted prior to or the adoption process must have begun prior to the date of the death or total and permanent disability (See “Scholarship Eligibility Criteria,” Section I);
- C. 3.02.3 A stepchild must have been listed as a dependent on the federal and state income tax returns in each of the five (5) income tax years immediately prior to the death or total and permanent disability and must have received more than one-half (1/2) his or her financial support (See “Scholarship Eligibility Criteria,” Section I)
- D. 3.02.4 Enrolled or accepted for enrollment as an undergraduate student in any Arkansas state-supported college, university or technical institute;
- E. 3.02.5 Less than twenty-three (23) years old on or before the first day of the semester or quarter, unless the applicant is a spouse; and,
- F. 3.02.6 A bona fide resident of Arkansas, as defined by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education, for at least six (6) months prior to enrollment in an Arkansas institution.

### III. 3.03 Continued Eligibility

3.03.1 The scholarship will be awarded for one academic year and renewed annually up to three years (for a total of 8 semesters) so long as the student maintains a minimum of a 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale and satisfactory progress toward a degree as defined by the institution.

3.03.2 For purposes of scholarship payments, “academic semester” includes summer terms, semesters, quarters, or their equivalent, at the postsecondary institution in which the student is enrolled.

- IV. 3.04 The spouse will not be eligible for the educational benefits if he or she re-marries. The benefits will cease at the end of the semester in which the spouse is currently enrolled at the time of the marriage.

## **4.00 Application Process**

### I. 4.01 Applications

- A. 4.01.1 Applications and brochures regarding the Law Enforcement Officers' Dependents Scholarship are mailed to the following:

- I. 4.01.1.1 Counselors and principals at all public and private high schools in the State; and,

- 2. 4.01.1.2 Financial aid officers at all public colleges, universities, and public technical institutes in the state. The institutional financial aid officer is responsible for ensuring that eligible students at their institution are made aware of the Law Enforcement Officers' Dependents Scholarship Program and its benefits.
- B. 4.01.2 Applications will be made available online from the ~~Arkansas~~ Division of Higher Education.
- H. 4.02 Submission of Applications
  - A. 4.02.1 The ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division shall establish the deadline for receipt of applications. The deadline date shall be clearly printed on the application.
  - B. 4.02.2 Scholarship applicants shall submit to the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division the following:
    - 1. 4.02.2.1 The Law Enforcement Officer's Dependents Scholarship Application;
    - 2. 4.02.2.2 Documentation in the form of a Death Certificate;
    - 3. 4.02.2.3 Order & Finding of Facts from the Arkansas State Claims Commission;
    - 4. 4.02.2.4 A copy of birth certificate, if a dependent child; and,
    - 5. 4.02.2.5 A copy of their marriage license, if a spouse.
  - C. 4.02.3 The applicant must apply for the scholarship prior to the published deadline in order to receive the scholarship. Reimbursement can only be made for the year in which the student is currently enrolled and has made application.

## **5.00 Award Process**

- I. 5.01 Applications and supporting documentation will be reviewed for completeness and to determine whether the applicant meets all the required eligibility requirements. Applicants will be notified within thirty (30) days of receipt of all required documentation of the status of their application.
- II. 5.02 Eligible students will receive an award notice that contains the conditions of the award, the requirements for continued eligibility, an explanation of the benefits, and the student's responsibilities.
- III. 5.03 The institution will also receive an award notice that contains the student's name and social security number, the award limits, the conditions of the award, the

verification process, and the payment process. The institution will be asked to complete a Reimbursement Form listing all charges covered by this program.

- IV. 5.04 The institution will be responsible for verifying the student's continuing eligibility each semester.
- V. 5.05 The award will be renewed annually as long as the student satisfies the continued eligibility requirements as "Scholarship Eligibility Criteria," Section V.

## **6.00 Scholarship Payment Policies**

- I. 6.01 A recipient may receive up to eight (8) semesters of tuition and fee waivers from the scholarship program. Payment to the scholarship recipient will be in the form of a tuition and fee waiver at the recipient's institution. The ~~Arkansas~~ Division of Higher Education will reimburse the institution upon verification of enrollment after the 11th day of classes each semester for approved charges.
- II. 6.02 The scholarship will pay the cost of tuition at the in-state rate and room in school-owned housing at any state-supported college, university or technical institute within the State of Arkansas. It does not include the cost of the following:
  - A. 6.02.1 Books
  - B. 6.02.2 Food
  - C. 6.02.3 School supplies and materials
  - D. 6.02.4 Dues and fees for extracurricular activities
- III. 6.03 ~~The Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division will pay the institution for tuition and fees covered by this program at the beginning of each term upon receipt of the Reimbursement Form and verification of the charges.

### ~~A. Transfer Policy~~

6.03.1 A recipient who has received a Law Enforcement Officers' Dependents Scholarship may transfer to another eligible institution provided the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division receives written notification of the change of status by October 1 for the Fall Term, February 1 for the Winter/Spring Terms, and May 1 for the Summer Terms.

### ~~B. Withdrawal Policy~~

6.03.2 Recipients may withdraw from the Law Enforcement Officers' Dependents Scholarship Program upon written notification to, and approval by, the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division. The

petition shall give the reason for withdrawal and shall be supported with documentation.

~~C.~~ ~~Revocation Policy~~

6.03.3 The award will be revoked if the recipient fails to:

- ~~1.~~ 6.03.3.1 Enroll in an eligible Arkansas institution;
- ~~2.~~ 6.03.3.2 Notify the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division, in writing, of transfer to another eligible institution by October 1 for the Fall term, February 1 for the Winter and/or Spring Terms, and May 1 for the Summer Terms; or,
- ~~3.~~ 6.03.3.3 Petition the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division, in writing, for withdrawal from an institution by October 1 for the Fall Term, February 1 for the Winter/Spring Terms, and May 1 for the Summer Terms.
- ~~4.~~ 6.03.3.4 Maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 per academic year.

6.03.4 At the discretion of the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ Division, the award will not be revoked if the ~~ADHE~~ division determines that extraordinary circumstances prevented the student from notifying ~~ADHE~~ division by the required dates.

~~D.~~ ~~Military Service~~

6.03.5 Recipients who are members of the Arkansas National Guard or Armed Forces Reserves units who are called to active duty for reasons other than regular unit training and are unable to complete the current term will not be penalized. They will be placed on deferred status until six (6) months after release from active duty.

**7.00 Institutional Responsibilities**

~~F.~~ 7.01 Administrative Agreement

7.02 The chief executive officer of the state-supported institution of higher education or technical institute is responsible for appointing one representative from the Financial Aid Office to act as administrator of the Law Enforcement Officers' Dependents Scholarship Program and to receive all communications and forms issued by the ~~Arkansas~~ Division of Higher Education. This representative is responsible for completing all forms, verification of data, and complying with all program rules and regulations.

7.03 The institution must comply with the following responsibilities in order to maintain continued eligibility status:

A. ~~Verification~~

7.04 The institution shall provide verification to the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division at the close of each term concerning the student's continuing eligibility. This is accomplished using the Verification Form issued by the division. Reimbursement to the institution will be made after the institution has completed the Verification Form and the Reimbursement Form and returned them to the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division.

B. ~~Identification of Eligible Students~~

7.05 Institutions will be responsible for publicizing the program and identifying students eligible for the program. Reimbursement can only be made for the year in which the student is currently enrolled and has made application. Applications made after May 1 of the academic year in which the student is enrolled will not be considered and the student will not be eligible for the scholarship.

C. ~~Disbursement Records~~

7.06 The institution shall maintain information on the student indicating disbursement of these funds.

D. ~~Deadline for Disbursement of Funds~~

7.07 The deadline for disbursement of funds is no later than 10 days after written receipt of funds. Any outstanding funds not disbursed must be returned to ~~ADHE~~ division.

E. ~~Refund Policy~~

7.08 It is the institution's responsibility to notify ~~ADHE~~ division of the names of any persons owing a refund, the date of the withdrawal, and the refund amount. This information should be placed on the institution's verification roster before returning it to ~~ADHE~~ division.

F. 7.09 Act 1180 of 1999 states that students who receive scholarships from public funds may not use those funds in a financial aid package to exceed the federally recognized cost of attendance at the institution where the student enrolls. The institution must follow ~~ADHE~~ division policy in repaying public funds in the amount exceeding the total cost of attendance for any student who receives public funds in a financial aid package above the cost of attendance.

G. ~~Due Diligence~~

7.10 The institution will exercise due diligence in providing complete, accurate, and timely information as requested by the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division on any scholarship recipient. In addition, the institution will exercise due diligence in complying with all the rules and regulations of the Law Enforcement Officers' Dependents Scholarship Program.

## **8.00 Recipient Responsibilities**

~~F.~~ 8.01 The recipient must notify the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~, in writing, of any change in status within 30 days. This includes changes in:

~~A.~~ 8.01.1 Name;

~~B.~~ 8.01.2 Address;

~~C.~~ 8.01.3 Institution; and/or,

~~D.~~ 8.01.4 Withdrawal from an institution.

8.02 Failure to notify the ~~Arkansas Division of Higher Education~~ division of a change in status may affect future eligibility.

~~H.~~ 8.03 It is also the recipient's responsibility to be knowledgeable of the rules and regulations of the Law Enforcement Officers' Dependents Scholarship Program.

## **Program Definitions**

The following definitions are used in the Law Enforcement Officers' Dependents Scholarship Program:

~~Approved Institution~~ — ~~A state-supported two-year or four-year college or university or technical institute located in the State of Arkansas that is accredited by the North Central Association, Commission on Higher Education, or has achieved candidacy status, and does not discriminate against applicants, or employees on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, handicap, or national origin, consistent with the provisions of applicable state and federal laws.~~

~~Dependent~~ — ~~A spouse, natural child, adopted child, or step child of an Arkansas law enforcement officer, fireman, state correction employees, state forestry employees, certain Arkansas Department of Transportation employees, state parks employees, teacher, or Department of Community Correction employees killed or totally and permanently disabled in the line of duty.~~



~~Satisfactory Progress~~ — ~~Satisfactory academic progress toward a degree as defined by the institution.~~

DRAFT

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2023  
4

As Engrossed: H2/14/23

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1412

5 By: Representative J. Mayberry  
6 By: Senator J. English  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT CONCERNING RULES PROMULGATED BY THE DIVISION  
10 OF HIGHER EDUCATION; TO REQUIRE THE DIVISION OF  
11 HIGHER EDUCATION TO PROMULGATE CERTAIN RULES  
12 CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS FUNDED  
13 WITH STATE FUNDS AND LOTTERY PROCEEDS; TO DECLARE AN  
14 EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
15  
16

## Subtitle

17 TO REQUIRE THE DIVISION OF HIGHER  
18 EDUCATION TO PROMULGATE CERTAIN RULES  
19 CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF  
20 SCHOLARSHIPS FUNDED WITH STATE FUNDS AND  
21 LOTTERY PROCEEDS; AND TO DECLARE AN  
22 EMERGENCY.  
23  
24  
25

26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
27

28 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 80, Subchapter 1, is amended  
29 to add an additional section to read as follows:

30 6-80-109. Division of Higher Education – Rules.

31 (a) The Division of Higher Education shall promulgate or update  
32 existing division rules to allow a student who is a recipient of a  
33 scholarship to utilize scholarship funds to enroll in and attend courses  
34 offered during a summer term at the postsecondary institution in which the  
35 student is enrolled.

36 (b) Rules promulgated under this section shall include without



1 limitation requirements concerning:

2 (1) Student eligibility; and

3 (2) The disbursement and administration of scholarship funds  
4 utilized by a student to enroll in and attend courses offered during a summer  
5 term.

6 (c) As used in this section, "scholarship" shall include a scholarship  
7 program that is:

8 (1) Funded with state funds or lottery proceeds; and

9 (2) Administered by the division.

10  
11 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-85-204(14), concerning the definition of  
12 "semester" under the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 (14)(A) "Semester" means one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of a traditional academic  
15 year at an institution of higher education, or an equivalent approved by the  
16 division, in which a student enrolls for not less than:

17 ~~(A)(i)~~ Fifteen (15) credit hours as a full-time student,  
18 except that in the first semester as a first-time full-time freshman, a  
19 traditional student shall enroll in not less than twelve (12) credit hours;  
20 or

21 ~~(B)(ii)~~ Six (6) credit hours as a part-time student.

22 (B) For purposes of summer courses at an institution of  
23 higher education, a "semester" shall mean the same as is defined by the  
24 division, as required by § 6-80-109;

25  
26 SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
27 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the Division of Higher  
28 Education must make certain arrangements to facilitate the use of Arkansas  
29 Academic Challenge Scholarship funds for upcoming summer courses; and that  
30 many of these arrangements must occur in time for the 2023-2024 school year.  
31 Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being necessary  
32 for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become  
33 effective on July 1, 2023.

34  
35 /s/J. Mayberry

36 **APPROVED: 3/30/23**