

*Dr. Ken Warden*  
Commissioner

*Graycen Bigger*  
AHECB Chair

**ARKANSAS HIGHER EDUCATION  
COORDINATING BOARD**

**REGULAR QUARTERLY MEETING**

APRIL 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**

**North Arkansas College  
JPH Conference Center  
1515 Pioneer Drive  
Harrison, AR 72601**

# **SCHEDULE**

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**Friday, January 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, April 26, 2024

North Arkansas College

## AGENDA

### I. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- \*1. Distribution of Mineral Lease Funds (Mr. Nick Fuller)
- \*2. Economic Feasibility for University of Arkansas at Fayetteville (Mr. Fuller)
- \*3. Economic Feasibility for University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton (Mr. Fuller)
- \*4. Economic Feasibility for Arkansas Tech University (Mr. Fuller)
- ~~\*5. Economic Feasibility for Arkansas Tech University (Mr. Fuller)~~

### II. ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

- \*6. New Program: Associate of Applied Science in Radiologic Technology  
Arkansas State University Newport (Mr. Mason Campbell)
- \*7. New Program: Associate of Applied Science in Nursing  
University of Arkansas at Fort Smith (Mr. Campbell)
- 8. Arkansas Public Institutions Letters of Notification (Mrs. Tracy Harrell)
- 9. Arkansas Public Institutions Letters of Intent (Mrs. Harrell)
- \*10. Out-of-State and Arkansas Private Institutions (Mrs. Alana Colburn)
- 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 January 26, 2024, Regular Meeting (Chair Graycen Bigger)
- 14. Commissioner's Report (Dr. Ken Warden)
- 15. Annual Report on First-Year Student Remediation (Mr. Campbell)
- 16. Report on Student Retention and Graduation (Mrs. Sonia Hazelwood)
- 17. Annual Report on Retention and Graduation of Student-Athletes (Mrs. Hazelwood)
- \*18. Request for ARHEG Slot Fee Increase (Mrs. Alisha Lewis)
- \*19. Rules Governing the Arkansas Future Grant Program (Mrs. Lewis)
- \*20. Rules Governing the Arkansas Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program (Mrs. Lewis)
- \*21. Rules Governing the Arkansas Concurrent Challenge Scholarship (Mrs. Lewis)
- \*22. Rules Governing the Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program (Mrs. Lewis)
- \*23. Rules Governing the Arkansas Workforce Challenge Scholarship Program (Mrs. Lewis)
- \*24. Rules Governing the Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship Program (Mrs. Lewis)
- \*25. Rules Governing the Productivity Funding Distribution Policy (Mr. Fuller)

# FINANCE COMMITTEE

Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board

North Arkansas College  
JPH Conference Center  
1515 Pioneer Drive

Friday, April 26, 2024

Finance Committee  
Lucas Pointer, Chair  
Chad Hooten

Heather Maxey  
Dr. Kyle Miller  
Graycen Bigger, Ex Officio

## AGENDA

- \*1. Distribution of Mineral Lease Funds (Mr. Nick Fuller)
- \*2. Economic Feasibility for University of Arkansas at Fayetteville (Mr. Fuller)
- \*3. Economic Feasibility for University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton (Mr. Fuller)
- \*4. Economic Feasibility for Arkansas Tech University (Mr. Fuller)
- ~~\*5. Economic Feasibility for Arkansas Tech University (Mr. Fuller)~~

\*Numbers refer to main agenda.

# **ACADEMIC COMMITTEE**

**Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board**

**North Arkansas College  
JPH Conference Center  
1515 Pioneer Drive**

**Friday, April 26, 2024**

Academic Committee

Dr. Jerry Cash, Chair

Dr. Jim Carr

Dr. Katherine Dudley

Carolyn Rhinehart

Graycen Bigger, Ex Officio

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

- \*6. New Program: Associate of Applied Science in Radiologic Technology  
Arkansas State University Newport (Mr. Mason Campbell)
- \*7. New Program: Associate of Applied Science in Nursing  
University of Arkansas at Fort Smith (Mr. Campbell)
- 8. Arkansas Public Institutions Letters of Notification (Mrs. Tracy Harrell)
- 9. Arkansas Public Institutions Letters of Intent (Mrs. Harrell)
- \*10. Out-of-State and Arkansas Private Institutions (Mrs. Alana Colburn)
- 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.

## **DISTRIBUTION OF MINERAL LEASE FUNDS**

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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.

In accordance with A.C.A. §6-61-803 and A.C.A. §6-61-807, “There is created a program to be known as the Arkansas Research Development program which shall be administered by the Director of the Division of Higher Education. Funds may be made available for administration of the Arkansas Development Research Program, for purchasing state-of-the-art equipment, for minor renovations of laboratory space, for publication of findings, for employing scientists or research assistants, and for providing any other assistance to scientists in order to develop a continuing research capacity in this state which is recognized as exemplary.”

The floor for the Research Development Fund was reached in September 2006, and statute requires that the funds be disbursed by the Director of the Division of Higher Education in accordance with the recommendation of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board after review by Legislative Council.

### **Higher Education Research Development Fund:**

The current balance in the Higher Education Research Development Fund is \$255,859. The fiscal 2024 appropriation of \$500,000 is adequate for the authorization of distribution of up to \$475,000 requested by the Arkansas Research and Education Optical Network (ARE-ON) board of directors.

### **Recommendation:**

The ARE-ON represents an essential tool for research and development in the publicly supported universities of Arkansas. It is recommended that up to \$475,000 requested by the ARE-ON board of directors be distributed to the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville for continuing personal services and operating expenses related to ARE-ON.

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

**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.

**ECONOMIC FEASIBILITY OF BOND ISSUE  
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS, FAYETTEVILLE**

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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.

The E&G issue will be up to \$34.175 million with a maximum annual debt service of \$2,328,488 and a term of thirty (30) years. Proceeds from this bond issue will be used for (a) the renovation, acquisition, construction, furnishing, and equipping of the Health, Physical Education, and Recreation Building; (b) the acquisition of property for expansion purposes and other purposes of the Fayetteville Campus; and (c) the acquisition, construction, improvement, renovation, equipping and/or furnishing of other capital improvements and infrastructure and the acquisition of various equipment and/or real property for the Fayetteville Campus.

The debt service on the bond issue will be supported by tuition and fee revenue. Coordinating Board policy regarding debt service for E&G projects provides that a maximum of 25 percent of tuition and fee revenue may be pledged to E&G debt service.

Relevant data follows:

Projected 2023-24 Tuition and Fee Revenue	\$ 302,331,335
Maximum Allowable Debt Service (\$302,331,335 x 25%)	75,582,834
Existing Debt Service	31,061,685
Proposed Debt Service (maximum)	2,328,488
Amount Remaining for Additional Debt Service	\$ 42,192,661

The above data demonstrates that the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville has sufficient tuition and fee revenue to support an E&G bond issue of up to \$34.175 million with a term of thirty (30) years at an estimated annual interest rate of approximately 5.50 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. The University of Arkansas, Fayetteville will sustain a building maintenance fund to be supported by tuition and fee 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 renovation, acquisition, construction, furnishing and equipping of the Health, Physical Education, and Recreation Building portion of the project of the educational and general issue will not provide additional square footage to the campus. The acquisition of property portion of the of the E&G issue will provide additional square footage to the campus of 73,886. Therefore, based on an estimate of 73,886 new square footage for all projects, \$184,715 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 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.

**ECONOMIC FEASIBILITY OF BOND ISSUE  
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE AT MORRILTON**

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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.

The E&G issue will be up to \$12 million with a maximum annual debt service of \$827,575 and a term of thirty-two (32) years. Proceeds from this bond issue will be used for (1) the acquisition, construction, furnishing, and equipping of the Nursing and Science Center, and (2) the acquisition, construction, improvement, renovation, equipping and/or furnishing of other capital improvements and infrastructure and the acquisition of various equipment and/or real property for UACCM.

The debt service on the bond issue will be supported by tuition and fee revenue. Coordinating Board policy regarding debt service for E&G projects provides that a maximum of 25 percent of tuition and fee revenue may be pledged to E&G debt service.

Relevant data follows:

Projected 2023-24 Tuition and Fee Revenue	\$ 6,487,860
Maximum Allowable Debt Service (\$6,487,860 x 25%)	1,621,965
Existing Debt Service	611,750
Proposed Debt Service (maximum)	827,575
Amount Remaining for Additional Debt Service	\$ 182,640

The above data demonstrates that the University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton has sufficient tuition and fee revenue to support an E&G bond issue of up to \$12 million with a term of thirty-two (32) years at an estimated annual interest rate of approximately 5.50 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. The University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton will sustain a building maintenance fund to be supported by tuition and fee 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 E&G issue will provide a two-story 36,000 sq foot building for the Nursing and Science Center that will feature seven science labs and classrooms, ten nursing labs and classrooms, and two student lounges to be used for studying. The new construction will provide space for the addition of multiple new programs including Certified Medication Assistant, Paramedics, Respiratory Therapists, Medical Office Technology Assistant, and Medical Clinical Assistant. Therefore, based on an estimate of 36,000 new square footage for the building, \$90,000 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 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.

**ECONOMIC FEASIBILITY OF BOND ISSUE  
ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY**

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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.

The E&G issue will be up to \$10.4 million with a maximum annual debt service of \$1,151,958 and a term of fifteen (15) years. Proceeds from this bond issue will be used for the renovation of an educational building, elevator replacement, and HVAC infrastructure in ten (10) of our buildings on the Russellville campus. These projects will include an HVAC infrastructure project on an athletic building and two HVAC infrastructure projects on residence life buildings. While there are auxiliary buildings included, the bond will use the student tuition and fee as the revenue source.

The debt service on the bond issue will be supported by tuition and fee revenue. Coordinating Board policy regarding debt service for E&G projects provides that a maximum of 25 percent of tuition and fee revenue may be pledged to E&G debt service.

Relevant data follows:

Projected 2024-25 Tuition and Fee Revenue	\$ 56,315,402
Maximum Allowable Debt Service (\$56,315,402 x 25%)	14,078,851
Existing Debt Service	4,138,477
Proposed Debt Service (maximum)	1,151,958
Amount Remaining for Additional Debt Service	\$ 8,788,416

The above data demonstrates that Arkansas Tech University has sufficient tuition and fee revenue to support an E&G bond issue of up to \$10.4 million with a term of fifteen (15) years at an estimated annual interest rate of approximately 7.0 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 the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approve the following resolution:

**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.

Agenda Item No. 5  
Higher Education Coordinating Board  
April 26, 2024

**ECONOMIC FEASIBILITY OF BOND ISSUE  
ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY**

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This feasibility has been withdrawn at this time pending further review.

Agenda Item No. 6  
Higher Education Coordinating Board  
April 26, 2024

**ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE IN RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY  
ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY NEWPORT**

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**The following resolution is presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board for consideration:**

**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.

**ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE IN RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY  
ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY NEWPORT**

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The administration of Arkansas State University Newport (ASUN) and Board of Trustees of the Arkansas State University System request approval to offer the Associate of Applied Science in Radiologic Technology, effective Fall 2024.

ASUN is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and the proposed program is within the role and scope established for the institution. The Arkansas State University System Board of Trustees approved the program on December 8, 2023.

**Program Description**

The proposed Associate of Applied Science in Radiologic Technology program supports the mission of Arkansas State University Newport by providing affordable, accessible, and innovative learning opportunities that transform lives and strengthen the regional economy. Based on local industry requests, the proposed program is designed to prepare students for immediate and future workforce needs.

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.

Students will be admitted to the Radiologic Technology program once every two years. One full-time faculty member will be hired and will serve as the lead instructor of the proposed program. No additional equipment or resources will be purchased. Future grant opportunities will be explored to assist with the expansion of the program.

**Program Need**

Labor Market Information, provided by ADHE for the area of Arkansas defined by Jackson, Independence, White, Woodruff, Lawrence, Craighead, Poinsett, and Cross counties, shows that there are currently 65 online job postings for Radiologic Technologist/Technicians with 542 postings statewide. Additionally in the same area of AR, this field has shown a 2.4% annual growth rate over the past 5 years and is projected to grow 0.4% annually for the next 10 years, compared to a statewide annual growth rate of 1.5% over the past 5 years and 0.1% annually for the next 10 years.

A recent survey of current ASUN health profession students revealed a large interest in the proposed Associate of Applied Science in Radiologic Technology program.



Furthermore, a survey of local employers was conducted, and results show that they are struggling to find Radiologic Technologists to fill their vacancies. Local industry partners/employers contacted ASUN to seek the possibility of offering a radiology program to help fill the current and future vacancies. Presently, to rectify their shortages, one employer is utilizing an online, out-of-state institution.

### **Program Expenditures and Funding**

One full-time, 12-month faculty member will be hired and will serve as lead instructor of the Radiologic Technology program. As enrollment increases, adjunct faculty will be hired to support instruction. The proposed program will use existing facilities and resources currently being utilized by other health profession programs. Students will use the equipment at the local clinic/hospital for learning purposes. Future plans include seeking grant monies for lab equipment to maximize hands-on learning.

Funding for the proposed program will come primarily from tuition and fees and general revenue. A special student lab fee of \$300 per semester will be acquired from students to help offset lab equipment needs.

### **Program Duplication**

Associate-level degree programs in Radiologic Technology are offered at the Arkansas public institutions: East Arkansas Community College (66 miles away), North Arkansas College (146 miles away), National Park College (155 miles away), South Arkansas College (210 miles away), and Southeast Arkansas College (136 miles away). Bachelor-level programs are offered at Arkansas State University Jonesboro (41 miles away), University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (97 miles away), and the University of Central Arkansas (96 miles away).

ADHE received a formal objection to the proposed program from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences on September 28, 2023. ASUN provided a formal response to the objection on September 28, 2023. All communications are included at the end of this summary.

### **Program Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion, a student will be able to:

1. Apply appropriate positioning skills in the clinical facility.
2. Produce quality diagnostic images.
3. Account for certain technical factors that can degrade the quality of images.
4. Practice proper radiation protection.
5. Display effective written and oral communication.
6. Apply critical thinking ability in trauma situations.
7. Demonstrate the importance of ethical and professional behavior.

**Program Enrollment and Graduation Projections**

<b>Academic Year</b>	<b>Projected Enrollment</b>	<b>Projected Graduates</b>
2024 - 2025	12	
2025 - 2026		11
2026 - 2027	16	
2027 - 2028		15
2028 - 2029	20	
2029 - 2030		19

**Program Curriculum**

BIOL 2401 Human Anatomy and Physiology I Lab  
 BIOL 2403 Human Anatomy and Physiology I  
 BIOL 2411 Human Anatomy and Physiology II Lab  
 BIOL 2413 Human Anatomy and Physiology II  
 ENG 1003 Composition I  
 ENG 1013 Composition II  
 MATH 1023 College Algebra  
 MIS 1033 Introduction to Computers  
 Social Science Elective (3 credit hours)  
*RAD 1002 Introduction to Radiologic Technology*  
*RAD 1012 Radiologic Practicum I*  
*RAD 1013 Radiologic Procedures I*  
*RAD 1103 Radiological Imaging*  
*RAD 1203 Radiologic Practicum II*  
*RAD 1213 Radiologic Procedures II*  
*RAD 1302 Radiologic Practicum III*  
*RAD 1303 Radiologic Procedures III*  
*RAD 2003 Radiologic Protection*  
*RAD 2013 Radiologic Physics*  
*RAD 2102 Radiologic Seminar*  
*RAD 2103 Radiologic Practicum IV*  
*RAD 2112 Radiologic Pathology*  
*RAD 2113 Special Imaging*  
*RAD 2202 Radiologic Practicum V*  
*RAD 2213 Radiologic Evaluation*

*Italics = New Courses*

UAMS Objection

Email correspondence between

Dr. Typhanie Myers (typhanie\_myers@asun.edu)  
Dr. Kristen Sterba (sterbakristen@uams.edu)

Cc: DHE Academic Affairs (academic.affairs@adhe.edu)  
Susan Long (longsusanl@uams.edu)  
Dr. Stephanie Gardner (gardnerstephanief@uams.edu)  
Stacie Hay (Stacie\_hay@asun.edu)

**9/27/2023  
8:46 AM**

Dear Colleagues,  
Arkansas State University-Newport will be submitting a request to add a new degree program.

**Associate of Applied Science-Radiologic Technology:** The Radiologic Technology program prepares students to successfully function in the clinical setting performing diagnostic imaging examinations. After successful completion of the Associate of Applied Science in Radiologic Technology, the graduates will be eligible to sit for the American Registry of Radiologic Technology (ARRT) exam to be credentialed as a R.T (R). We expect to accept the first students into the program in August 2024.

If you have any questions or concerns, you can contact me directly at typhanie\_myers@asun.edu and copy ADHE academic.affairs@adhe.edu.

Thank you,  
Typhanie

**9/28/2023  
9:25 AM**

Good morning, Dr. Myers,  
UAMS is concerned with the availability of clinical sites and the potential size of this program. There are already issues finding clinical sites for students, and this may have a detrimental effect on other programs.

Kristen Sterba, Ph.D.  
Associate Provost for Students and Administration  
Director, Department of Institutional Research, Policy, and Accreditation  
Associate Professor, Division of Academic Affairs

**9/28/23**  
**10:37 AM**

Dr. Sterba,  
I can understand your concerns; however, we would be the only institution within an hour or more that offers an Associates Degree in Radiologic Technology. Our industry partners have requested that we offer this degree to our local community, to fill a current need within our area. Our intention is to offer clinical options during various shifts/days in our local area to avoid disruption of other programs. We will not be accepting more than 20 students per cohort. I hope this helps to alleviate any concerns.

Dr. Typhanie Myers  
Provost/Vice Chancellor for Academic & Student Affairs  
Arkansas State University-Newport

**10/2/23**  
**1:22 PM**

Good afternoon, Dr. Myers,  
Thank you for your reply. We certainly understand the current need for radiologic technologists by healthcare institutions throughout the state and the response you are taking to address the needs of your industry partners. However, the availability of sites for the clinical education component of the curriculum of a radiography program, regardless of the degree or certificate awarded, remains the limiting factor to opening a new program. There are currently barely enough clinical sites for the ten existing programs in the state to ensure the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT) Standard 4, Objective 4.4 is met, which states, "The program provides timely, equitable, and educationally valid clinical experiences for all students." East Arkansas Community College (EACC), which is an AS degree program, and UAMS are just over an hour away from Newport, while ASU-Jonesboro is less than an hour away. We all utilize clinical sites in the area. If ASU-Newport accepts an annual cohort of 20 students, this would make it the largest Certificate/AS degree program in the state, and the third largest overall. Have you identified clinical sites in your area that will agree to take your students and not encroach on established programs should your request be approved?

Kristen Sterba, Ph.D.  
Associate Provost for Students and Administration  
Director, Department of Institutional Research, Policy, and Accreditation  
Associate Professor, Division of Academic Affairs

**10/19/23**  
**1:24 PM**

Hello again,  
I apologize for the delay in responding to your question. Although, this would have been a part of our proposal process (and not the LOI), we went forward with meeting with several of our local

healthcare providers to ensure that your concern regarding clinical space was addressed. We have been enthusiastically assured that there would be space available for this new program and it would not take away from the current agreements in place with UAMS. As one further point of clarification—it is not an annual cohort of 20 students as you mentioned below; this is a two-year program.

Dr. Typhanie Myers  
Provost/Vice Chancellor for Academic & Student Affairs  
Arkansas State University-Newport

Agenda Item No. 7  
Higher Education Coordinating Board  
April 26, 2024

**ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE IN NURSING  
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS FORT SMITH**

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**The following resolution is presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board for consideration:**

**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.

**ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE IN NURSING  
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS FORT SMITH**

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The administration of the University of Arkansas Fort Smith (UAFS) and Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System request approval to offer the Associate of Applied Science in Nursing, effective Fall 2024.

UAFS is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and the proposed program is within the role and scope established for the institution. The University of Arkansas System Board of Trustees will consider the program for approval on March 12-13, 2023.

**Program Description**

The proposed Associate of Applied Science in Nursing will prepare students for the NCLEX-RN examination necessary to become a Registered Nurse and will also allow current Licensed Practice Nurses to transition to the role of Registered Nurse. This program will support the mission of UAFS by contributing to economic growth and by directly addressing a local need.

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.

Four full-time faculty and 3-4 adjunct instructors will be hired to teach in the proposed program. Current facilities will house the program while additional resources, equipment, and supplies will be purchased through funding received from a Windgate Foundation grant.

**Program Need**

Nursing is, and continues to be, a high-demand, high-wage, high-skill occupation for the area around Fort Smith and for the state of Arkansas. More than 200 current job openings exist for the Fort Smith region. This large number of vacancies is indicative of the struggle employers are facing when trying to fill the current need with an anticipated additional 150-280 openings over the next 2-5 years.

Representatives from two local hospitals, Baptist Health and Mercy Health, approached the administration of UAFS with their continued concerns of the nursing shortages in the area. Both hospitals have shown their commitment to overcoming this shortage by offering tuition assistance, extern positions, and clinical rotation space to the students enrolled in this program. Additionally, several letters of support were received by UAFS from other community members and local employers.

**Program Expenditures and Funding**

Four full-time, master-level faculty members, with a median salary of \$55,000, will be hired to teach in the proposed program as well as 3-4 adjunct instructors for clinical rotations. Program-specific library resources, supplies, and equipment will be purchased for a total of \$42,000 per year. This expenditure includes NCLEX test preparation and pinning/graduation ceremonies for students. Current facilities are adequate for housing the proposed program and therefore, no renovations are required at this time. Other expenses include accreditation fees that consist of both one-time and annual fees. These include an initial application fee of \$2,500, initial accreditation fees totaling \$12,000, and an annual fee of \$2,875.

Funding for the proposed Associate of Applied Science in Nursing program will come from both tuition and fees and from a 3 year, \$936,000 Windgate Foundation grant. Students enrolled in the program incur special fees totaling \$1,352.50 over the course of the program.

**Program Duplication**

Twenty-four Arkansas public institutions offer an Associate of Applied Science in Nursing. Four of the 24 programs are offered at 4-year universities and 20 are offered at 2-year colleges. These programs may use certain program specific courses as prerequisites or as corequisites. Total credit hours for these programs vary depending on the design but range from 60 to 77 credit hours.

**Program Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of the program, students will be able to:

1. Incorporate knowledge of the nursing process in the application of providing culturally sensitive, holistic, and compassionate care for clients across the lifespan.
2. Implement moral, ethical, and legal concepts in caring for the clients.
3. Integrate health promotion, prevention, and restoration in the nursing care of clients across the lifespan.
4. Demonstrate accountability and responsibility in a professional manner.
5. Use effective communication as an essential nursing skill.

**Program Enrollment and Graduation Projections**

<b>Academic Year</b>	<b>Projected Enrollment</b>	<b>Projected Graduates</b>
2024 - 2025	49	
2025 - 2026	104	22
2026 - 2027	114	52
2027 - 2028	114	54
2028 - 2029	114	54



**Program Curriculum****Traditional Option****General Education Courses**

English Composition – 6 credit hours

Mathematics – 3 credit hours

ITA 1003 Computer Applications for The Knowledge Worker

PSYC 1163 General Psychology

**Major Requirements**

HLTH 1473 Medical Terminology

*NURS 1215 Nursing Concepts I**NURS 1226 Nursing Concepts II OR**NURS 2237 Nursing Concepts III**NURS 2242 Client Management Concepts**NURS 2247 Nursing Concepts IV***Additional Degree Requirements**

CHEM 1303 Chemical Principles

CHEM 1301 Chemical Principles Laboratory

BIOL 2203 Human Anatomy

BIOL 2201 Human Anatomy Laboratory

BIOL 2213 Human Physiology

BIOL 2211 Human Physiology Laboratory

BIOL 2503 General Microbiology

BIOL 2501 General Microbiology Laboratory

PSYC 2963 Developmental Psychology: A Life Span

FIN 1521 Personal Finance Applications

*Italics = New Courses***Transitional Option****General Education Courses**

English Composition – 6 credit hours

Mathematics – 3 credit hours

ITA 1003 Computer Applications for The Knowledge Worker

PSYC 1163 General Psychology

**Major Requirements**

HLTH 1473 Medical Terminology

*NURS 2226 LPN-RN Transition Concepts**NURS 2237 Nursing Concepts III**NURS 2242 Client Management Concepts**NURS 2247 Nursing Concepts IV***Additional Degree Requirements**

CHEM 1303 Chemical Principles

CHEM 1301 Chemical Principles Laboratory

BIOL 2203 Human Anatomy

BIOL 2201 Human Anatomy Laboratory

BIOL 2213 Human Physiology

BIOL 2211 Human Physiology Laboratory

BIOL 2503	General Microbiology
BIOL 2501	General Microbiology Laboratory
PSYC 2963	Developmental Psychology: A Life Span
FIN 1521	Personal Finance Applications

*Italics = New Courses*

**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 January 2024 AHECB meeting. According to AHECB policy 5.11, 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 State University Beebe – Page 3**

Curriculum Revision  
Program Reconfiguration

**Arkansas State University Jonesboro – Page 3**

Program Deletion

**Arkansas State University Three Rivers – Pages 3 – 4**

New Certificate  
Program Deletion

**Arkansas Tech University – Page 4**

New Certificate

**Arkansas Tech University Ozark – Page 4**

New Certificate

**East Arkansas Community College – Pages 4 – 5**

Curriculum Revision

**Henderson State University – Page 5**

Program Reconfiguration

**National Park College – Page 6**

New Certificate

**North Arkansas College – Pages 6 – 10**

Curriculum Revision  
Inactive Status  
Program Reconfiguration

**Northwest Arkansas Community College – Page 11**

Curriculum Revision  
New Administrative Unit  
New Certificate

**South Arkansas College – Pages 11 – 12**

Curriculum Revision  
New Certificate

**Southern Arkansas University – Pages 12 – 16**

Curriculum Revision  
New Certificate  
New Option, Concentration, Emphasis, or Minor

**University of Arkansas Fayetteville – Pages 16 – 21**

CIP Change  
Curriculum Revision  
Deletion of Off-Campus Site  
Deletion of Option, Concentration, Emphasis, or Minor  
Existing Program Offered Via Distance Education  
New Administrative Unit  
Program Deletion  
Title Change

**University of Arkansas Fort Smith – Pages 21 – 22**

Curriculum Revision  
Program Deletion

**University of Arkansas Little Rock – Pages 22 – 24**

Curriculum Revision  
New Certificate

**University of Arkansas Monticello – Pages 24 – 26**

Curriculum Revision  
Existing Program Offered at Off-Campus Location  
Existing Program Offered via Distance Education  
New Certificate  
Program Deletion  
Program Reconfiguration

**University of Central Arkansas – Pages 26 – 28**

New Option, Concentration, Emphasis, or Minor

## LETTER OF NOTIFICATION DESCRIPTIONS

### **Arkansas State University Beebe**

#### **Curriculum Revision**

Associate of Applied Science in Medical Laboratory Technology (DC 0660; CIP 51.1004; 72 credit hours) changed to Associate of Applied Science in Medical Laboratory Technology (CIP 51.1004; DC 0660; 72 credit hours; Fall 2024 (8/1/2024))

#### **Deleted Course**

MATH 1013            Technical Math

#### **Added Course**

MATH 1043            Quantitative Literacy

Certificate of Proficiency in Patient Care Technician (CIP 51.3902; DC 1614; 14 credit hours) changed to Certificate of Proficiency in Patient Care Technician (CIP 51.3902; DC 1614; 14 credit hours; Fall 2024 (8/1/2024))

#### **Deleted Courses**

LPN 1107            Certified Nursing Assistant (optional)

PCT 1204            Patient Care Technician II

BIOL 1103            Medical Terminology I

HIA 1103            Medical Terminology I (optional)

#### **Added Course**

PCT 1207            Patient Care Technician II

#### **Program Reconfiguration**

Technical Certificate in Practical Nursing (CIP 51.3901; DC 4661; 46 credit hours) reconfigured to create the Technical Certificate in Practical Nursing High School Program (CIP 51.3901; DC 2235; 46 credit hours; Fall 2024 (8/1/2024))

LPN 2109            Nursing I

LPN 2209            Nursing II

LPN 2309            Nursing III

LPN 1110            Fundamentals of Nursing I

LPN 1209            Fundamentals of Nursing II

### **Arkansas State University Jonesboro**

#### **Program Deletion**

Bachelor of Arts in Art (CIP 50.0701; DC 1250; 120 credit hours; Spring 2024 (4/26/2024))

### **Arkansas State University Three Rivers**

#### **New Certificate**

Certificate of Proficiency in Patient Care Technician (CIP 51.3902; DC 1614; 9 credit hours; Spring 2024 (1/26/2024))

MEDT 2323            Special Topics

CPCT 1116            Patient Care Technician

**Program Deletion**

Certificate of Proficiency in Business Systems Networking: Cisco (CIP 11.0901; DC 4425; Summer 2024 (5/31/2024))

**Arkansas Tech University**

**New Certificate**

Advanced Certificate in Secondary Education (CIP 13.1205; DC 3215; 26 credit hours; Summer 2024 (6/1/2024))

SEED 2003	Education as a Profession
EDMD 2013	Educational Technology
SPED 4052	Educating Developing, Diverse, and Exceptional Learners
SEED 4503	Seminar in Secondary Education
SEED 4553	Classroom Application of Educational Psychology
SEED 2113	Human Development and Learning Theories
SEED 4909	Teaching in the Secondary School OR
SEED 4809	Teaching in the K12 School

**Arkansas Tech University Ozark**

**New Certificate**

Certificate of Proficiency in Controls Fundamentals (CIP 15.0612; DC 1025; 15 credit hours; Summer 2024 (6/1/2024))

AT 1163	Fundamentals Electricity
AT 1173	Fundamentals Electricity
AT 2153	Intro to Industrial Automation
AT 2013	Intro to Industrial Robots
AT 2143	Programmable Controllers

**East Arkansas Community College**

**Curriculum Revision**

Certificate of Proficiency in Automotive Service (CIP 47.0604; DC 0034; 13 credit hours) changed to Certificate of Proficiency in Automotive Service (CIP 47.0604; DC 0034; 10 credit hours; Summer 2024 (5/1/2024))

**Deleted Course**

ENG 1033	Communication Skills I
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Certificate of Proficiency in Industrial Equipment Technology (CIP 47.0303; DC 4633; 14 credit hours) changed to Certificate of Proficiency in Industrial Equipment Technology (CIP 47.0303; DC 4633; 11 credit hours; Summer 2024 (5/1/2024))

**Deleted Course**

ENG 1033	Communication Skills I
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Certificate of Proficiency in Refrigeration and Heat Exchange (CIP 47.0201; DC 0115; 12 credit hours) changed to Certificate of Proficiency in Refrigeration and Heat Exchange (CIP 47.0201; DC 0115; 9 credit hours; Summer 2024 (5/1/2024))

Deleted Course

ENG 1033            Communication Skills I

**Henderson State University****Program Reconfiguration**

Bachelor of Business Administration in Business Administration (CIP 52.0101; DC 1920; 120 credit hours) reconfigured to create the Bachelor of Business Administration in Innovation and Entrepreneurship (CIP 52.0101; DC 1970; 120 credit hours; 50% online; Fall 2024)

ENG 1463            English A: Writing and Rhetoric I

ENG 1473            English B: Writing and Rhetoric I

ENG 3613            Technical Writing

COM 2013            Oral Communications

MTH 1243            College Algebra

HPR 1011/1XX1    Life Fit Concepts/PE Activity

General Electives – 12 credit hours

Liberal Arts Core – 23 credit hoursRequired Courses – 68 credit hours

ACC 2303            Survey of Accounting

DSC 2073            Business Applications

*DSC 2263            Foundations of Data Literacy*

ECO 2233            Principles of Economics

FIN 3043            Business Finance

GBU 1311            Business Professional Skills

GBU 2013            Quantitative Analysis for Business Decisions

GBU 2143            Legal Environment of Business

GBU 2342            Business Career Readiness

GBU 3133            Descriptive Analytics

GBU 3213            Foundations of Entrepreneurship

GBU 3253            Innovation Management

GBU 4003            Internship in Business OR

GBU 4173            Business Mentorship Experience

*GBU 4363            Professional Industry Credential*

MGM 3113            Principles of Management

MGM 4073            Operations Management

MGM 4133            Strategic Management

MGM 4153            Leadership &amp; Ethics

MGM 4193            International Business

MKT 3013            Fundamentals of Marketing

Advanced Business Elective – 12 credit hours

*Italics = New Courses*

**National Park College****New Certificate**

Certificate of Proficiency in Athletic Training (CIP 51.0913; DC 1805; 16 credit hours; Fall 2024 (7/1/2024))

ALH 2003	Nutrition
BIOL 1114	Biology for Majors OR
BIOL 2224	Anatomy and Physiology I
BUS 2043	Sports Marketing
PE 1523	Introduction to Sports Management
PE 1533	Introduction to Athletic Training

Certificate of Proficiency in Sports Management (CIP 31.0504; DC 1601; 15 credit hours; Fall 2024 (7/1/2024))

BUS 1113	Introduction to Business
BUS 2043	Sports Marketing
PE 1523	Introduction to Sports Management
PE 1533	Introduction to Athletic Training
PE 1543	Coaching Methods

**North Arkansas College****Curriculum Revision**

Certificate of Proficiency in Truck Driving (CIP 49.0205; DC 4895; 16 credit hours) changed to Certificate of Proficiency in Truck Driving (CIP 49.0205; DC 0156; 6 credit hours; Spring 2024 (2/1/2024))

**Deleted Course**

TTD 2010	Internship
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Associate of Applied Science in Accounting (CIP 52.0302; DC 0140; 60-63\* credit hours; 100% online) changed to Associate of Applied Science in Accounting (CIP 52.0302; DC 0140; 60 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024 (8/19/2024))

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

**Deleted Courses**

BA 1113	Introduction to Accounting
BA 1213	Financial Mathematics
BA 2043	Computerized Accounting
BA 2033	Introduction to Finance

**Added Courses**

BA 1113	Accounting Information Systems
BA 1213	Personal Finance
BFIN 2033	Introduction to Finance

Technical Certificate in Accounting (CIP 52.0301; DC 4260; 31\* credit hours; 100% online) changed to Technical Certificate in Accounting (CIP 52.0301; DC 4260; 30 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024 (8/19/2024))

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



Deleted Courses

BA 1113 Introduction to Accounting  
 BA 1213 Financial Mathematics  
 BA 2013 Accounting Principles II  
 BA 2043 Computerized Accounting

Added Courses

BA 1113 Accounting Information Systems  
 BA 1213 Personal Finance  
 3 credit hours of Electives

Associate of Science in Cybersecurity (CIP 11.1003; DC 0151; 60 credit hours) changed to Associate of Science in Cybersecurity (CIP 11.1003; DC 0151; 60 credit hours; Fall 2024 (8/19/2024))

Deleted Course

CIT 1213 Wireless ad Cellular Networking

Added Courses

CIT 1253 Cybersecurity Fundamentals  
 CIT 1103 Introduction to Networks (optional)

Associate of Applied Science in Data Analytics (CIP 30.7101; DC 3355; 60 credit hours; 100% online) changed to Associate of Applied Science in Data Analytics (CIP 30.7101; DC 3355; 60 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024 (8/19/2024))

Deleted Courses

BA 1113 Introduction to Accounting  
 CIS 1253 Cybersecurity Fundamentals

Added Courses

BA 1113 Accounting Information Systems  
 CIS 1153 Introduction to Cybersecurity

Associate of Applied Science in Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning/Refrigeration Technology (CIP 47.0201; DC 0525; 63 credit hours) changed to Associate of Applied Science in Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning/Refrigeration Technology (CIP 47.0201; DC 0525; 60 credit hours; Fall 2024 (8/15/2024))

Deleted Courses

HVAC 1011 HVAC/R Internship I  
 HVAC 1021 HVAC/R Internship II  
 HVAC 1031 HVAC/R Internship III

Technical Certificate in Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning/Refrigeration Technology (CIP 47.0201; DC 4310; 42 credit hours) changed to Technical Certificate in Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning/Refrigeration Technology (CIP 47.0201; DC 4310; 39 credit hours; Fall 2024 (8/15/2024))

Deleted Courses

HVAC 1011 HVAC/R Internship I  
 HVAC 1021 HVAC/R Internship II  
 HVAC 1031 HVAC/R Internship III

Certificate of Proficiency in Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning/Refrigeration Technology (CIP 47.0201; DC 0115; 16\* credit hours) changed to Certificate of Proficiency in Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning/Refrigeration Technology (CIP 47.0201; DC 0115; 16 credit hours; Fall 2024 (8/15/2024))

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

Deleted Courses

HVAC 1011 HVAC/R Internship I

Associate of Applied Science in Information Technologies (CIP 11.0103; DC 0320; 60 credit hours; 58% online) changed to Associate of Applied Science in Information Technologies (CIP 11.0103; DC 0320; 60 credit hours; 58% online; Fall 2024 (8/19/2024))

Deleted Courses

MM 1303 Human Relations  
 BA 2103 Business Communications (optional)

Added Courses

BA 2123 Professional Communication

Technical Certificate in Manufacturing Technology (CIP 48.0501; DC 4720; 34\* credit hours) changed to Technical Certificate in Manufacturing Technology (CIP 48.0501; DC 4720; 29-32 credit hours; Fall 2024 (8/15/2024))

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

Deleted Course

ET 1003 Introduction to Electronics

Associate of Applied Science in Radiologic Technology (CIP 51.0907; DC 0790; *blank* credit hours) changed to Associate of Applied Science in Radiologic Technology (CIP 51.0907; DC 0790; 73-74 credit hours; Fall 2024 (8/19/2024))

Deleted Course

RADT 2173 Radiographic Pathology

Added Course

RADT 2183 Radiographic Imaging II

Associate of Science in Science, Engineering, or Math (CIP 14.0101; DC 3140; 60 credit hours) changed to Associate of Science in Science, Engineering, or Math (CIP 14.0101; DC 3140; 60 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

Added Course

BIOL 2010 Biology Internship (optional)

Associate of Applied Science in Turf Management (CIP 01.0607; DC 3015; 60 credit hours; 100% online) changed to Associate of Applied Science in Turf Management (CIP 01.0607; DC 3015; 60 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024 (8/19/2024))

Deleted Courses

BA 1113 Introduction to Accounting  
 PE Elective  
 AGRI 2010 Sports Turf Irrigation & Drainage and Sports Turf Operations and

Management (6 credit hours)

Added Courses

BA 1113	Accounting Information Systems
PE 1341	Golf Etiquette
AGRI 2020	Internship: Irrigation and Drainage (3 credit hours)
AGRI 2030	Internship: Sports Turf Operations & Management (3 credit hours)

Technical Certificate in Sports Turf Management (CIP 01.0607; DC 2451; 31 credit hours) changed to Technical Certificate in Sports Turf Management (CIP 01.0607; DC 2451; 31 credit hours; Fall 2024 (8/19/2024))

Deleted Course

BA 1103	Financial Math
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Added Course

BA 1153	Financial Math for Non-Majors
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**Inactive Status**

Technical Certificate in Biomedical Electronics Technology (CIP 15.0401; DC 0261; 21 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024 (8/19/2024))

**Program Reconfiguration**

Associate of Applied Science in Digital Media (CIP 09.0702; DC 3395; 60 credit hours; 85% online) and Associate of Arts in General Education (CIP 24.0101; DC 0050; 60 credit hours; 95% online) reconfigured to create Associate of Science in Creative Media (CIP 09.0702; DC 3235; 62 credit hours; 90% online; Fall 2024 (8/1/2024))

BIOL 1004	General Biology Non-Major
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ENGL 1013	English Composition I
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ENGL 1023	English Composition II
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Choose one of the following:

ART 1003	Art Appreciation OR
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MUS 1003	Music Appreciation OR
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DRAM 1003	Theatre Appreciation
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Choose one of the following:

MAT 1223	College Algebra OR
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MAT 1213	Quantitative Literacy
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Choose one of the following:

ENGL 2213	World Literature I OR
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ENGL 2223	World Literature II OR
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PHIL 1003	Introduction to Philosophy
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Choose one of the following:

HIST 2003	US History I OR
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HIST 2013	US History II OR
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PLSC 2003	American National Government
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Choose one of the following:

CHEM 1004	Introductory Chemistry OR
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PHSC 1004	Fundamentals of Physical Science
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Choose one of the following:

ECON 2313 Principles of Macroeconomics OR  
 ECON 2323 Principles of Microeconomics OR  
 PSYC 2003 General Psychology OR  
 SOC 2013 Introduction to Sociology

Required Courses

MDIA 1113 Intro to Creative Media  
 MDIA 2863 Image Editing (Adobe Photoshop)  
 MDIA 2313 Media Aesthetics  
 MDIA 1123 Experiential Media I  
 MDIA 2303 Computer Illustration (Adobe Illustrator)  
 MDIA 2243 Desktop Publishing (Adobe InDesign)  
 MDIA 2253 Video Editing  
 CIS 2713 Web Design I (HTML)  
 MM 1003 Principles of Marketing  
 General Elective – 3 credit hours

Associate of Applied Science in Accounting (CIP 52.0302; DC 0140; 60-63 credit hours; 100% online) reconfigured to create the Associate of Applied Science in Banking and Finance (CIP 52.0803; DC 0255; 60 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024 (8/19/2024))

BA 1103 Business Math  
 BA 1113 Introduction to Accounting  
 BA 1213 Personal Finance  
 BA 2003 Accounting Principles I  
 BA 2013 Accounting Principles II  
 BA 2123 Professional Communications  
 BA 2713 Legal Environment of Business  
 BA 2733 Business & Professional Ethics  
 BA 2803 Business Administration Capstone Project OR  
 BA 2313 Business Administration Internship  
 BFIN 2033 Introduction to Finance  
 BFIN 2103 Fundamentals of Investment  
 BFIN 1003 Principles of Banking  
 CIS 1103 Introduction to Information Technology  
 CIS 1333 Spreadsheet I  
 CIT 1253 Introduction to Cybersecurity  
 ECON 2313 Principles of Macroeconomics  
 ECON 2323 Principles of Microeconomics  
 ENGL 1013 English Composition I  
 ENGL 1023 English Composition II OR  
 ENGL 1033 Technical Report Writing  
 MM 1303 Human Relations

**Northwest Arkansas Community College****Curriculum Revision**

Certificate of Proficiency in Fire Protection (CIP 43.0202; DC 0493; 17 credit hours) changed to Certificate of Proficiency in Fire Protection (CIP 43.0202; DC 0493; 14 credit hours; Fall 2024 (8/1/2024))

**Deleted Course**

FIRE 1073 Firefighter Health & Safety

**New Administrative Unit**

Brightwater Center of Food Studies (Department Code 2065; Summer 2024 (5/1/2024))

**New Certificate**

Certificate of Proficiency in Artisanal Butchery (CIP 12.0506; DC 1256; 18 credit hours; Fall 2024 (8/1/2024))

FDST 1013	Food Safety
FDST 1403	Butchery
FDST 1423	Charcuterie
FDST 1433	Butchery and Charcuterie Production
FDST 1443	Food Safety for Manufacturing
FDST 1453	Retail Butchery Operations

**South Arkansas College****Curriculum Revision**

Associate of Applied Science in Surgical Technology (CIP 51.0909; DC 0835; *blank* credit hours) changed to Associate of Applied Science in Surgical Technology (CIP 51.0909; DC 0835; 72 credit hours; Fall 2024 (7/1/2024))

**Deleted Courses**

SURG 1002	Introduction to Health Sciences
SURG 1102	Principles of Pharmacology and Anesthesia
SURG 1106	Fundamentals of Surgical Technology
SURG 1123	Fundamentals of Surgical Technology Skills Lab
SURG 1132	Surgical Technology Practicum I
SURG 1202	Surgical Procedures I
SURG 1206	Perioperative Techniques and Procedures
SURG 1216	Surgical Technology Practicum II
SURG 1222	Perioperative Techniques and Procedures Skills Lab
SURG 1302	Surgical Procedures II
SURG 1305	Surgical Technology Practicum III
SURG 1322	Surgical Procedures III

**Added Courses**

SURG 2014	Surgical Technology I
SURG 2123	Surgical Technology I Skills Lab
SURG 2208	Surgical Technology II
SURG 2216	Surgical Technology Practicum I
SURG 2202	Surgical Technology II Skills Lab

SURG 2303 Surgical Technology CST Prep Course  
 SURG 2306 Surgical Technology Practicum II

Technical Certificate in Pre-Health Science (CIP 51.0000; DC 0107; 27-30 credit hours)  
 changed to Technical Certificate in Pre-Health Science (CIP 51.0000; DC 0107; 27-35  
 credit hours

Added Optional Courses

BIOL 1024 Zoology /Lab  
 BIOL 1034 General Botany/Lab  
 CHEM 1004 Fundamentals of Chemistry/Lab  
 CHEM 1024 Chemistry I for Science Majors/Lab  
 CHEM 1124 Chemistry II for Science Majors/Lab  
 PHYS 1004 Physical Sciences/Lab  
 ENGL 2043 Technical Writing II  
 MATH 1073 Technical Mathematics  
 MATH 1113 Mathematical Reasoning  
 HSCI 1003 Medical Terminology  
 Health Science or Science Elective

**New Certificate**

Certificate of Proficiency in Pre-Health Science (CIP 51.0000; DC 1103; 14-15 credit  
 hours; 100% online; Spring 2024 (5/1/2024))

Choose two of the following:

BIOL 1114 Biology for Majors/Lab  
 BIOL 1024 Zoology /Lab  
 BIOL 1034 General Botany/Lab  
 BIOL 2064 Human Anatomy and Physiology I/Lab  
 BIOL 2074 Human Anatomy and Physiology II/Lab  
 BIOL 2174 Microbiology  
 CHEM 1004 Fundamentals of Chemistry/Lab  
 CHEM 1014 College Chemistry Principles I/Lab  
 CHEM 1024 Chemistry I for Science Majors/Lab  
 CHEM 1124 Chemistry II for Science Majors/Lab  
 PHYS 1004 Physical Sciences/Lab  
 KINS 2303/2301 Kinesiology/Lab

Choose one of the following:

HSCI 1003 Medical Terminology  
 PSYC 2003 General Psychology  
 Health Science or Science Elective

Choose one of the following:

MATH 1023 College Algebra  
 MATH 1083 Math for Health Professionals  
 MATH 1073 Technical Mathematics  
 MATH 1113 Mathematical Reasoning

**Southern Arkansas University Magnolia****Curriculum Revision**

Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice (CIP 43.0104; DC 2405; 120 credit hours; 100% online) changed to Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice (CIP 43.0104; DC 2405; 120 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

**Deleted Courses/Requirement**

CRJU 3053 Juvenile Justice  
 CRJU 3133 Fraud Examination and Prevention (optional)  
 ECON2103 Principles of Microeconomics (optional)  
 ECON2203 Principles of Macroeconomics (optional)  
 IS 2103 Object Oriented Programming (optional)  
 IS 2203 Introduction to Networking I (optional)  
 IS 3003 Website Development Business and Commerce (optional)  
 PSYC 3303 Cognitive Science (optional)

Required completion of a minor area

**Added Courses/Requirement**

CRJU 3213 Deviant Behavior  
 Criminal Justice Electives – 5 additional credit hours  
 CRJU 3033 Criminal Investigations  
 EDUC 2023 K-12 Educational Technology (optional)  
 No required minor area

Bachelor of Science in Psychology (CIP 42.0101; DC 3070; 120 credit hours) changed to Bachelor of Science in Psychology (CIP 42.0101; DC 3070; 120 credit hours; Fall 2024)

**Deleted Course/Requirement**

Required completion of a minor area

**Added Course/Requirement**

Upper-level psychology elective – 3 additional credit hours  
 No required minor area

Bachelor of Science in Chemistry: Chemistry Education option (CIP 40.0501; DC 2350; 120 credit hours; 20% online) changed to Bachelor of Science in Chemistry: Chemistry Education option (CIP 40.0501; DC 2350; 120 credit hours; 20% online; Fall 2024)

**Deleted Courses**

MATH 1045 Pre-Calculus Mathematics  
 S ED 3113 Methods and Materials in Secondary and Middle School  
 Mathematics and Sciences  
 EDUC 2000 Educational Field Experience, Level I Lab  
 EDUC 2003 Introduction to Education  
 EDUC 4043 Assessment, Evaluation and Measurement  
 EDUC 4273 Classroom and Group Management  
 S ED 4023 Supervised Field Experience Level II  
 EDUC 4003 Student Teaching Seminar  
 S ED 4006 Student Teaching in the Secondary School I  
 S ED 4103 Student Teaching in the Secondary School II

Added Courses

Six credit hours of CSE

TEDU 4XX3	Assessment Driven Math and Science Instruction
TEDU 2003	Introduction to Education
SPED 4063	Designing Assessments for General and Special Populations
TEDU 3013	Creating Environments for Learning
TEDU 4006	Residency I
TEDU 4001	Professional Learning I
TEDU 4016	Residency II
TEDU 4011	Professional Learning II

**New Certificate**

Certificate of Proficiency in Cybersecurity (CIP 11.1003; DC 1335; 12 credit hours; Fall 2024)

CSCI 3143	Network Security
CSCI 4213	Privacy, Security, & Ethics
CSCI 4223	Cyber Forensics
CSCI 4333	Cyber Defense

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

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Performing Arts: Acting concentration (CIP 50.9999; DC 5840; 121-129 credit hours; Fall 2024)

University Requirement – 2 credit hours

GSTD 1002	Freshman Seminar
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General Education – 29 credit hoursBFA Core Requirements – 9 credit hours

ART 2013	Art Appreciation
HUM 2003	Film Appreciation

Choose one of the following:

MUS 2013	Music Appreciation OR
MULI 1013	Introduction to Music

Theatre Requirements – 26 hours

THEA 1000	Production Run Crew
THEA 1013	Acting I
THEA 2023	Acting II
THEA 2613	Stagecraft
THEA 2643	Fundamentals of Design
THEA 3433	Musical Theatre History
THEA 3643	Theatre History I: Origins to 1600
THEA 3653	Theatre History II: 1600 to the Present
THEA 3763	Script Analysis
THEA 4922	Project in Theatre

Acting Requirements – 36 credit hours

THEA 2103	Acting III
THEA 2203	Acting IV
THEA 2603	Improvisation



- THEA 3403 Playwriting
- THEA 3413 Acting for the Camera
- THEA 3423 Dialects and Accents
- THEA 3663 Performance in Shakespeare
- THEA 3673 Creative Dramatics
- THEA 3533 Business of Acting
- THEA 4013 African American Theatre History
- THEA 4633 Directing
- THEA 4853 Devised Theatre
- THEA 1100 Acting Studio
- Electives – 18 credit hours

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Performing Arts: Technical Theatre concentration (CIP 50.9999; DC 5840; 121-129 credit hours; Fall 2024)

University Requirement – 2 credit hours

GSTD 1002 Freshman Seminar

General Education – 29 credit hours

BFA Core Requirements – 9 credit hours

ART 2013 Art Appreciation

HUM 2003 Film Appreciation

Choose one of the following:

MUS 2013 Music Appreciation OR

MULI 1013 Introduction to Music

Theatre Requirements – 26 hours

THEA 1000 Production Run Crew

THEA 1013 Acting I

THEA 2023 Acting II

THEA 2613 Stagecraft

THEA 2643 Fundamentals of Design

THEA 3433 Musical Theatre History

THEA 3643 Theatre History I: Origins to 1600

THEA 3653 Theatre History II: 1600 to the Present

THEA 3763 Script Analysis

THEA 4922 Project in Theatre

Technical Theatre Requirements – 36 credit hours

ART 1013 Drawing I

ART 2123 Graphic Software Applications

THEA 2513 Costume Design & Construction

THEA 3403 Playwriting I

THEA 3563 Business of Design & Production

THEA 3613 Hair & Makeup Design

THEA 3673 Creative Dramatics

THEA 3833 Stage Management

THEA 4013 African American Theatre History

THEA 4613 Scenic Design & Construction

THEA 4623 Lighting and Sound Design

THEA 4633 Directing I  
 THEA 1300 Theatre Production Practicum  
 Electives – 18 credit hours

**University of Arkansas Fayetteville**

**CIP Change**

Certificate of Proficiency in Geospatial Technologies (CIP 45.0702; DC 1467; 18 credit hours; 100% online) changed to Certificate of Proficiency in Geospatial Technologies (CIP 30.4401; DC 1467; 18 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024 (8/15/2024))

Graduate Certificate in Geospatial Technologies (CIP 45.0702; DC 1469; 12-18 credit hours; 100% online) changed to Graduate Certificate in Geospatial Technologies (CIP 30.4401; DC 1469; 12-18 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024 (8/15/2024))

Master of Science in Geography (CIP 45.0701; DC 5350; 30 credit hours) changed to Master of Science in Geography (CIP 30.4401; DC 5350; 30 credit hours; Fall 2024 (8/15/2024))

Post Master Certificate in District-Level Administration (CIP 13.0404; DC 5551; 18 credit hours; 100% online) changed to Post Master Certificate in District-Level Administration (CIP 13.0401; DC 5551; 18 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024 (8/15/2024))

Post Master Certificate in Building-Level Administration K-12 (CIP 13.0404; DC 5552; 24 credit hours; 100% online) changed to Post Master Certificate in Building-Level Administration K-12 (CIP 13.0401; DC 5552; 24 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024 (8/15/2024))

**Curriculum Revision**

Bachelor of Science in Nursing in Nursing: Pre-licensure option (CIP 51.3801; DC 2940; 120 credit hours; 100% online) changed to Bachelor of Science in Nursing in Nursing: Pre-licensure option (CIP 51.3801; DC 2940; 120 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024 (8/15/2024))

**Deleted Courses**

Statistics – 3 credit hours

Elective – 3 credit hours

NURS 2012	Nursing Informatics
NURS 2032	Therapeutic and Interprofessional Communication
NURS 3313	Pharmacology in Nursing
NURS 3314	Pathophysiology
NURS 3321L	Health Assessment Practicum
NURS 3342	Health Assessment
NURS 3402	Nursing Concepts: Older Adult
NURS 3422	Nursing Concepts: Foundations of Professional Practice
NURS 3424	Professional Role Implementation I: Caregiver
NURS 3634	Nursing Concepts: Adult Health and Illness I
NURS 3644	Professional Role Implementation II: Caregiver

NURS 3742	Nursing Concepts: Mental Health and Illness
NURS 3752	Professional Role Implementation III: Caregiver
NURS 3842	Foundations of Scientific Evidence in Nursing Practice
NURS 4112	Nursing Concepts: Teaching and Health Promotion
NURS 4154	Nursing Concepts: Children and Family
NURS 4164	Professional Role Implementation IV: Teacher
NURS 4242	Leadership in Nursing
NURS 4252	Professional Role Implementation V: Manager
NURS 4262	Nursing Concepts: Adult Health and Illness II
NURS 4442	Nursing Concepts: Critical Care
NURS 4452	Professional Role Implementation VI: Role Synthesis
NURS 4603	Nursing Concepts: Community
NURS 4613	Professional Role Implementation VII: Role Synthesis
NURS 4712	Seminar in Nursing
NURS 4722	Professional Role Implementation VIII: Role Synthesis

Added Courses

NURS 2053	Math and Medical Terminology for Nurses
NURS 2143	Professional Formation: Introduction to Nursing
NURS 2423	Pathophysiology and Pharmacology I
NURS 3193	Professional Formation: Theories and Frameworks
NURS 3253	Health and Illness: Wellness and Disease Prevention
NURS 3266	Health and Illness: Chronic and Palliative Nursing Care
NURS 3276	Professional Formation: Holistic Nursing Care (H)
NURS 3283	Wellness and Disease Prevention PRACTICUM
NURS 3413	Pathophysiology and Pharmacology II
NURS 3432/3441L	Health Assessment Across the Lifespan and Lab
NURS 3543	Chronic and Palliative Nursing Care PRACTICUM
NURS 3733	Professional Formation: Nurse Think and Inquiry (H)
NURS 4046	Professional Formation: Navigating and Managing Health Systems
NURS 4226	Health and Illness: Acute Nursing Care
NURS 4273	Acute Nursing Care PRACTICUM
NURS 4403	Professional Formation: Leadership and Role Preparation
NURS 4463	Advanced Clinical Judgement
NURS 4579	Pre-licensure Capstone PRACTICUM

Bachelor of Science in Nursing in Nursing: Registered Nurse option (CIP 51.3801; DC 2940; 120 credit hours; 100% online) changed to Bachelor of Science in Nursing in Nursing: Registered Nurse option (CIP 51.3801; DC 2940; 120 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024 (8/15/2024))

Deleted Courses

Statistics – 3 credit hours

NURS 2032	Therapeutic and Interprofessional Communication
NURS 3111	Clinical Skills for Professional Nurses
NURS 3302	Older Adult Nursing
NURS 3313	Pharmacology in Nursing
NURS 3332	Adult Health I for Nurses

NURS 3422	Nursing Concepts: Foundations
NURS 3424	Professional Role Implementation I: Caregiver
NURS 3644	Professional Role Implementation II: Caregiver
NURS 3772	Mental Health Nursing
NURS 3782	Mental Health Practicum
NURS 4003	Transition to Professional Nursing Practice
NURS 4013	Informatics for the Professional Nurse
NURS 4023	Health Promotion Across the Lifespan
NURS 4063	Population and Community Health
NURS 4073	Population and Community Health Practicum
NURS 4092	Professional Role Practicum
NURS 4102	Adult Health II for Nurses
NURS 4124	Child and Family Nursing
NURS 4143	Child and Family Practicum
NURS 4203	Leadership for Professional Nurses
NURS 4212	Leadership Practicum
NURS 4313	Pathophysiology in Nursing
NURS 4323	Health Assessment and Clinical Reasoning
NURS 4503	Introduction to Health Care Policy
NURS 4542	Critical Care Nursing
NURS 4552	Critical Care Practicum
NURS 4701	Professional Nursing Synthesis
NURS 4843	Scientific Foundation for Professional Nursing Practice

Added Courses

## Electives – 6 credit hours

NURS 2143	Introduction to Nursing
NURS 2333	Pathophysiology
NURS 2423	Pathophysiology and Pharmacology 1
NURS 3023	Math and Meds for Nurses
NURS 3033	Professional Formation: Transforming Prof Nursing Practice
NURS 3193	Professional Formation: Theories and Frameworks
NURS 3243	Health and Illness: Nursing Care for Chronic Conditions
NURS 3253	Health and Illness: Wellness and Disease Prevention
NURS 3276	Holistic Nursing Care
NURS 3283	Wellness and Disease Prevention PRACTICUM
NURS 3543	Chronic and Palliative Nursing Care PRACTICUM
NURS 3733	Professional Formation: Nurse Think and Inquiry
NURS 4046	Professional Formation: Navigating and Managing Health Systems
NURS 4226	Health and Illness: Acute Nursing Care
NURS 4273	Acute Nursing Care PRACTICUM
NURS 4333	Health Assessment Throughout the Lifespan
NURS 4403	Professional Formation: Leadership and Role Preparation
NURS 4463	Advanced Clinical Judgement
NURS 4526	LPN-BSN Capstone PRACTICUM

Bachelor of Science in Nursing in Nursing: Licensed Nurse option (CIP 51.3801; DC 2940; 120 credit hours; 100% online) changed to Bachelor of Science in Nursing in Nursing: Licensed Nurse option (CIP 51.3801; DC 2940; 120 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024 (8/15/2024))

Deleted Courses

NURS 2032	Therapeutic and Interprofessional Communication
NURS 3313	Pharmacology in Nursing
NURS 3422	Nursing Concepts: Foundations
NURS 3424	Professional Role Implementation I: Caregiver
NURS 3634	Nursing Concepts: Adult Health I
NURS 3644	Professional Role Implementation II: Caregiver
NURS 3742	Nursing Concept: Mental Health and Illness
NURS 3752	Professional Role Implementation III: Caregiver
NURS 4003	Transition to Professional Nursing Practice
NURS 4013	Informatics for the Professional Nurse
NURS 4023	Health Promotion Across the Lifespan
NURS 4063	Population and Community Health
NURS 4092	Professional Role Practicum
NURS 4154	Nursing Concepts: Child and Family
NURS 4164	Professional Role Implementation IV: Teacher
NURS 4203	Leadership for Professional Nurses
NURS 4262	Nursing Concepts: Adult Health II
NURS 4313	Pathophysiology in Nursing
NURS 4323	Health Assessment and Clinical Reasoning
NURS 4442	Nursing Concepts: Critical Care
NURS 4452	Professional Role Implementation VI: Role Synthesis
NURS 4503	Introduction to Health Care Policy
NURS 4701	Professional Nursing Synthesis
NURS 4843	Scientific Foundation for Professional Nursing Practice

Added Courses

Electives – 1 credit hour

NURS 2053	Math and Medical Terminology for Nurses
NURS 2143	Introduction to Nursing
NURS 2333	Pathophysiology
NURS 2423	Pathophysiology and Pharmacology 1
NURS 3193	Professional Formation: Theories and Frameworks
NURS 3243	Nursing Care for Chronic Conditions
NURS 3253	Health and Illness: Wellness and Disease Prevention
NURS 3276	Holistic Nursing Care
NURS 3553	Leading in Wellness, Chronic, and Palliative Care Practicum
NURS 3733	Professional Formation: Nurse Think and Inquiry
NURS 4046	Professional Formation: Navigating and Managing Health Systems
NURS 4226	Acute Nursing Care
NURS 4333	Health Assessment Throughout the Lifespan
NURS 4403	Professional Formation: Leadership and Role Preparation
NURS 4463	Advanced Clinical Judgement

NURS 4513	Professional Formation: Elevating Professional Nursing Practice
NURS 4526	LPN-BSN Capstone
NURS 4533	Leading in Acute Care and Quality Improvement Practicum

Bachelor of Science in Recreation and Sports Management (CIP 31.0101; DC 3980; 120 credit hours) changed to Bachelor of Science in Recreation and Sports Management (CIP 31.0101; DC 3980; 120 credit hours; Fall 2024 (8/15/2024))

#### Deleted Courses

RESM 1003	Professional Foundations of Recreation and Sport Management
RESM 1013	Sports Management Fundamentals
RESM 2813	Recreation and Sport Leadership
RESM 2853	Leisure and Society
RESM 3063	Commercial Recreation and Sport (optional)
RESM 3073	Managing College Athletics (optional)
RESM 3083	Research in Recreation and Sport
RESM 3093	Diversity and Inclusion in Recreation and Sport Management
RESM 3833	Program Planning in Recreation and Sport
RESM 4003	Management in Recreation and Sport (optional)
RESM 440V	Internship (12 credit hours)
RESM 4411	Pre-Internship Preparation
RESM Electives – 12 credit hours	
Related Electives – 16 credit hours	

#### Added Courses

RESM 2003	Professional Foundations of Recreation and Sport Management
RESM 2023	Sports Management Fundamentals
RESM 3863	Recreation & Sport Revenue Generation
RESM 3893	Recreation & Sport Finance and Business Analytics
RESM 394V	Internship (12 hours)
RESM 4413	Pre-Internship Preparation
General Electives – 35 credit hours	

#### **Deletion of Off-Campus Site**

The Navy Facilities at Millington, TN (Spring 2024 (4/26/2024))

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

Bachelor of Science in Recreation and Sports Management: Recreation Administration concentration (CIP 31.0101; DC 3980; 120 credit hours; Fall 2024 (8/15/2024))

Bachelor of Science in Recreation and Sports Management: Sports Administration concentration (CIP 31.0101; DC 3980; 120 credit hours; Fall 2024 (8/15/2024))

#### **Existing Program Offered Via Distance Education**

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in Finance (CIP 52.0801; DC 2580; 120 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024 (8/15/2024))

**New Administrative Unit**

Smart Ferroic Materials Center (SFMC) (Department Code 3420; Summer 2024 (5/15/2024))

**Program Deletion**

Master of Science in Environmental Engineering in Environmental Engineering (CIP 14.1401; DC 7030; 30 credit hours; Fall 2024 (8/15/2024))

**Title Change**

Graduate Certificate in Music Education for Special Needs Students (CIP 13.1312; DC 5555; 15 credit hours; 100% online) changed to Graduate Certificate in Music Education for Students with Differences and Disabilities (CIP 13.1312; DC 5555; 15 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024 (8/15/2024))

Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering in Industrial Engineering (CIP 14.3501; DC 4210; 126\* credit hours) changed to Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering and Operations Analytics in Industrial Engineering and Operations Analytics (CIP 14.3501; DC 4210; 123 credit hours; Fall 2024 (8/15/2024))

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

**University of Arkansas Fort Smith****Curriculum Revision**

Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice (CIP 43.0103; DC 3390; 120 credit hours; 90% online) changed to Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice (CIP 43.0103; DC 3390; 120 credit hours; 90% online; Summer 2024 (6/1/2024))

**Deleted Course/Requirement**

CJ 290V Criminal Justice: Special Topics (was optional)

POLS 2853 State and Local Government

One 3 credit-hour mathematics course for the general education core

4 credit hours of a World Language

Upper-Level History/Gov elective – 3 credit hours

Upper-level Humanities elective – 3 credit hours

**Added Course/Requirement**

STAT 2503 Probability and Statistics I

Upper-level free electives – 6 additional credit hours

Upper-level free upper or lower-level electives – 10 additional credit hours

Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering Technology (CIP 15.0303; DC 5510; 120 credit hours) changed to Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering Technology (CIP 15.0303; DC 5510; 120 credit hours; Fall 2024 (8/1/2024))

**Deleted Courses**

CGT 1302 Graphics for Engineers

RHET 3603 Writing for the Workplace

Upper-level or lower-level EET/ELEC elective – 3 credit hours

**Added Courses**

PHYS 2903/2911 University Physics I/Lab (optional)

PHYS 2913/2911 University Physics II/Lab (optional)  
 MEEG 2001 CAD for Engineering  
 LEAD 3623 Professional Communication  
 Career block – 3 additional credit hours  
 Upper-level elective – 1 additional credit hour

Bachelor of Science in Organizational Leadership (CIP 52.0213; DC 5335; 120 credit hours; 100% online) changed to Bachelor of Science in Organizational Leadership (CIP 52.0213; DC 5335; 120 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024 (8/1/2024))

Deleted Course/Requirement

MATH 1403 College Algebra  
 LEAD 3683 Leadership Systems  
 LEAD 4403 Nonprofit Organizations  
 RHET 3603 Writing for the Workplace  
 PSYC 3133 Social Psychology

Added Course/Requirement

One 3 credit-hour mathematics course for the general education core

RHET 3603 Writing for the Workplace (now optional)  
*LEAD 4683 Leadership Systems*  
 LEAD 4663 Personal Development  
 LEAD 3653 Creative Leadership  
 FIN 1521 Personal Finance Applications

Lower-level electives – 2 additional credit hours

*Italics = New Course*

**Program Deletion**

Associate of Applied Science in Criminal Justice (CIP 43.0103; DC 0390; 60 credit hours; Fall 2024)

**University of Arkansas Little Rock**

**Curriculum Revision**

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art (CIP 50.0702; DC 1250; 120 credit hours) changed to Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art (CIP 50.0702; DC 1250; 120 credit hours; Fall 2024)

Deleted Courses/Requirements

3 credit hours of Studio Art/Foundation courses  
 3 credit hours of Capstone or Internship

Added Courses/Requirements

1 additional credit hour of upper-level Studio Art elective (ARAD or ARST)  
 Unrestricted electives to reach 120 total credit hours

**New Certificate**

Certificate of Proficiency in Earth Sciences (CIP 40.0601; DC 1266; 18 credit hours; Fall 2024)

ERSC 1102 Physical Geology Lab  
 ERSC 1302 Physical Geology Lecture  
 ERSC 2103 Historical Geology Lab



ERSC 2303 Historical Geology Lecture  
 ERSC 3320 Field Geology I  
 3000-4000 level ERSC Elective courses – 7 credit hours

Certificate of Proficiency in Professional and Technical Writing (CIP 23.1303; DC 1699; 16 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

RHET 3301 Editing  
 RHET 4190 Colloquium in Professional and Technical Writing  
 Two 3000-level RHET courses  
 Two 4000-level RHET courses

Certificate of Proficiency in Applied Archaeology (CIP 45.0201; DC 1271; 18-20 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

*ANTH 4342 Applied Archaeology*  
 ANTH 4600 Archaeological field research or transfer course equivalent OR  
 6 credit hours of field school

Group A – 6-8 credit hours

Complete two methods courses – one must be a geospatial technology course or GIS

ANTH 4487 Archaeological Investigation  
 GEOG/ERSC 3333 Geospatial Technology  
 GEOG/ERSC 4421 GIS I  
 GEOG/ERSC 4422 GIS II

3000-4000 level archaeology, biological anthropology, or geology methods-based elective course

Group B - 3 credit hours

ANTH 4341 North American Archaeology  
 ANTH/SOCI 3312 North American Indians  
 3000-4000 level regional archaeology or cultural anthropology elective course

Certificate of Proficiency in Ethics (CIP 38.0101; DC 1276; 15 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

PHIL 1330 Intro to Critical Thinking OR  
 PHIL 3330 Logic  
 PHIL 2320 Ethics and Society OR  
 PHIL 2321 Ethics and Society: Professional Applications

Choose one of the following:

PHIL 3341 Contemporary Ethical Theory  
 PHIL 3346 Social and Political Philosophy  
 PHIL 4333 Feminist Theory  
 PHIL 4386 Seminar in Social/Political Philosophy  
 PHIL 4387 Seminary in Moral Philosophy

Choose one of the following:

PHIL 3335 Medical Ethics  
 PHIL 3347 Philosophy of Law  
 PHIL 3375 Environmental Philosophy  
 PHIL 3377 Applied Ethics Practicum

PHIL 3382 Ethics of Technology

PHIL 3386 Ethics Bowl

PHIL 4373 Philosophy of Race

Choose one of the following:

Moral Theory or Applied Ethics elective

Ethics-related Independent Study

Advisor-approved course in Ethics from outside the Philosophy program

Certificate of Proficiency in Banking (CIP 52.0803; DC 0055; 18 credit hours; 100% online; Fall 2024)

FINC 3310 Business Finance

FINC 3340 Financial Markets and Institutions

FINC 3350 Investment Analysis

FINC 4320 Bank Financial Management

FINC 4350 Financial Behavior and Modeling

Choose one of the following:

FINC 4399 Independent Study

MKTG 3353 Professional Selling

FINC 4363 Financing Entrepreneurial Ventures

### **University of Arkansas Monticello**

#### **Curriculum Revision**

Master of Music in Jazz Studies (CIP 50.0910; DC 7500; 30 credit hours; 60% online) changed to Master of Music in Jazz Studies (CIP 50.0910; DC 7500; 30 credit hours; 60% online; Summer 2024 (7/1/2024))

#### **Deleted Courses**

MUS 5016 Jazz Gateway Residency (6 credit hours)

MUS 5023 Private Lesson (6 total credit hours)

MUS 5906 Jazz Capstone Residency (6 credit hours)

Six hours of graduate-level MUS electives

#### **Added Courses**

MUSC 50183 Jazz Gateway Residency (3 credit hours)

*MUSC 5XXX3 Topics in Rehearsing Music Ensembles*

MUAP 50261 Private Lesson (2 total credit hours)

MUED 50693 Jazz Techniques for the Music Educator

*MUTH 5XXX2 Graduate Review of Music Theory*

MUTH 50603 Jazz Improvisation

*MUSC 5XXX2 Topics in World Music*

MUSC 59083 Jazz Capstone Residency (3 credit hours)

*MUTH 5XXX3 Analysis and Music Literature of the 20th and 21st Centuries*

*Italics = New Courses*

#### **Existing Program Offered at Off-Campus Location**

Bachelor of Science in Nursing in Nursing (CIP 51.3801; DC 4240; 120 credit hours) offered at the following approved. off-campus location effective Summer 2024 (7/1/2024):

National Park College      101 College Drive, Hot Springs, AR 71913

**Existing Program Offered via Distance Education**

Certificate of Proficiency in Basic Business Principles (CIP 52.0401; DC 1524; 15 credit hours; 100% online; Summer 2024 (5/1/2024))

Technical Certificate in Business Technology (CIP 52.0401; DC 2520; 36 credit hours; 100% online; Summer 2024 (5/1/2024))

Certificate of Proficiency in Healthcare Office Skills (CIP 51.0712; DC 1517; 18 credit hours; 100% online; Summer 2024 (5/1/2024))

Technical Certificate in Health Information Technology (CIP 51.0707; DC 2510; 39 credit hours; 100% online; Summer 2024 (5/1/2024))

**New Certificate**

Graduate Certificate in Pre-K Special Education (CIP 13.1015; DC 6971; 12 credit hours; 100% online; Summer 2024 (7/1/2024))

- ECED 5023            Early Childhood Instruction
- ECED 5033            Assessment and Professionalism
- ECED 5043            Early Childhood Development
- ECED 5053            Collaboration and Teaming

**Program Deletion**

Certificate of Proficiency in Emergency Medical Technician (CIP 51.0904; DC 0196; 8 credit hours; Summer 2024 (7/1/2024))

**Program Reconfiguration**

Master of Education in Education (CIP 13.1206; DC 5550; 30 credit hours; 100% online) reconfigured to create the Graduate Certificate in K-6/7-12 Special Education Resource (CIP 13.1001; DC 4981; 12 credit hours; 100% online; Summer 2024 (7/1/2024))

- SPED 5013            Introduction to Special Education
- SPED 5083            Characteristics of Exceptionality
- SPED 5093            Collaboration/Consultation for Inclusion
- SPED 5113            Teaching Methods for Persons with Exceptionalities

Master of Education in Education (CIP 13.1206; DC 5550; 30 credit hours; 100% online) reconfigured to create the Graduate Certificate in K-12 Special Education (CIP 13.1001; DC 4980; 24 credit hours; 100% online; Summer 2024 (7/1/2024))

- SPED 5113            Teaching Methods for Persons with Exceptionalities
- SPED 5103            Teaching Methods for Persons with High-Need Exceptionalities
- READ 5023            Teaching Disciplinary Literacy
- SPED 5043            Application of Assessment Data for Exceptional Learners
- SPED 5093            Collaboration/Consultation for Inclusion
- SPED 5123            Providing Positive Behavioral Supports in the Classroom Environment

SPED 5083                      Characteristics of Exceptionality  
 READ 5013                      Foundations of Teaching Reading

**University of Central Arkansas**

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

Minor in Data Science (CIP 11.0401; 15-23 credit hours; Fall 2024 (8/22/2024))

Option 1 – 23 credit hours

CSCI 1470                      Computer Science I  
 CSCI 1480                      Computer Science II  
 CSCI 2310                      Introduction to Data Science  
 CSCI 2320                      Data Structures  
 CSCI 3385                      Artificial Intelligence

Choose two of the following:

MATH 3381                      Data Cleaning and Visualization  
 CSCI 4370                      Data Mining  
 CSCI 4371                      Machine Learning  
 CSCI 4372                      Data Clustering

Option 2 – 15 credit hours

CSCI 2310                      Introduction to Data Science  
 CSCI 3385                      Artificial Intelligence

Choose three of the following:

MATH 3381                      Data Cleaning and Visualization  
 CSCI 4370                      Data Mining  
 CSCI 4371                      Machine Learning  
 CSCI 4372                      Data Clustering

Minor in Cybersecurity (CIP 11.1003; 15-20 credit hours; Fall 2024 (8/22/2024))

Option 1 – 20 credit hours

CSCI 1470                      Computer Science I  
 CSCI 1480                      Computer Science II  
 CSEC 2300                      Introduction to Cybersecurity  
 CSCI 2335                      Networking

Choose two of the following:

CSEC 3320                      Computer Forensics  
 CSCI 4315                      Information Security  
 CSEC 4320                      Ethical Hacking  
 CSEC 4330                      Software Security  
 CSEC 4335                      Network Security

Option 2 – 15 credit hours

CSEC 2300                      Introduction to Cybersecurity  
 CSEC 3320                      Computer Forensics  
 CSEC 4320                      Ethical Hacking  
 CSEC 4330                      Software Security  
 CSEC 4335                      Network Security

**ARKANSAS PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS  
LETTERS OF INTENT**

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The following notifications were received through April 1, 2024.

**Arkansas State University Newport**

New Program – Associate of Science in Data Science

**Arkansas State University Three Rivers**

New Program – Associate of Applied Science in Paramedic

New Program – Technical Certificate in Paramedic

New Program – Certificate of Proficiency in Emergency Medical Technician

**Southern Arkansas University Tech**

New Program – Associate of Science in Data Science

New Program – Associate of Applied Science in Environmental Management

**Southeast Arkansas College**

New Program – Technical Certificate in Industrial Maintenance and Repair

New Program – Certificate of Proficiency in Maintenance of Mechanical Equipment

**University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences**

New Program – Doctor of Philosophy in Environmental Health Sciences

**University of Arkansas Monticello**

New Program – Doctor of Philosophy in Forestry

## **OUT-OF-STATE AND ARKANSAS PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS**

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### **ADHE Executive Staff Recommendation**

**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

State Authorization: State of Arizona Board for Private Postsecondary Education  
Institutional Accreditation – National: Distance Education Accrediting Commission  
Programmatic Accreditation: Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Addiction Studies  
Bachelor of Science in Health Care Administration  
RN to Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Degree Completion)

#### The Chicago School, Los Angeles, California

State Authorization: California Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education  
Institutional Accreditation – Regional: Western Association of Schools and Colleges

Programmatic Accreditation: Council of Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs

Bachelor of Arts in Criminology  
Bachelor of Science in Business Psychology  
Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Management  
Post Bachelor's Certificate in Applied Behavior Analysis  
Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling  
Post Master's Certificate in Applied Behavior Analysis  
Post Master's Certificate in Clinical Rotations for Clinical Psychopharmacology  
Certificate in Forensic Psychology – Non-licensure to Licensure  
Doctor of Philosophy in Counselor Education and Supervision  
Doctor of Psychology in Clinical Psychology

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California

State Authorization: California Secretary of State  
Institutional Accreditation – Regional: Western Association of Schools and Colleges

Doctor of Regulatory Science

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

State Authorization: California Bureau of Private Postsecondary Education  
Institutional Accreditation – Regional: Western Association of Schools and Colleges  
Programmatic Accreditation: Commission on Collegiate Nurse Education

RN to Master of Science in Nursing

Walden University, Minneapolis, Minnesota

State Authorization: Minnesota Office of Higher Education  
Institutional Accreditation – Regional: Higher Learning Commission  
Programmatic Accreditation: Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Education Programs

Graduate Certificate in Applied Behavior Analysis  
Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis  
Master of Science in School Counseling

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

University of California, Irvine, Irvine, California

State Authorization: Established by the California Constitution  
Institutional Accreditation – Regional: Western Association of Schools and Colleges  
Programmatic Accreditation: Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education

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  
Doctor of Nursing Practice

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

Alice L. Walton School of Medicine, Bentonville, Arkansas

State Authorization: Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (Pending)

Institutional Accreditation-Regional: Higher Learning Commission (Pending)

Programmatic Accreditation: Liaison Committee on Medical Education (Pending)

Doctor of Medicine



**LETTERS OF NOTIFICATION  
OUT-OF-STATE AND ARKANSAS PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS  
(INSTITUTIONAL CERTIFICATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE)**

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**Recertifications – Distance Technology**

The Chicago School, Los Angeles, California

Master of Arts in Psychopharmacology  
Doctor of Philosophy in Business Psychology  
Doctor of Philosophy in International Psychology  
Doctor of Philosophy in Organizational Leadership

National University, San Diego, California

Master of Education (Non-Licensure)  
Master of Science in Child and Adolescent Development Psychology  
Master of Science in Forensic Psychology  
Master of Science in Health Psychology  
Master of Science in Industrial Organizational Psychology  
Master of Science in Information Technology  
Master of Science in Organizational Leadership  
Master of Science in Technology Management  
Doctor of Education (Non-Licensure)  
Doctor of Marriage and Family Therapy  
Doctor of Philosophy in Education (Non-Licensure)  
Doctor of Philosophy in Organizational Leadership  
Doctor of Philosophy in Technology Management

Pepperdine University, Malibu, California

Master of Business Administration

University of Massachusetts Global, Irvine, California

Associate of Arts in General Education  
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Studies  
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology  
Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Leadership  
Bachelor of Business Administration  
Master of Arts in Organizational Leadership  
Master of Business Administration

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California

Master of Arts in Teaching

Master of Communication Management  
Executive Master of Health Administration  
Master of Education in Learning Design and Technology  
Master of Education in School Counseling  
Master of Management in Library and Information Science  
Master of Public Administration  
Master of Science in Geriatric Dentistry  
Master of Science in Orofacial Pain and Oral Medicine  
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

Master of Health Administration  
Master of Health Science  
Master of Occupational Therapy  
Master of Science in Nursing  
Doctor of Education  
Doctor of Occupational Therapy  
Doctor of Physical Therapy

**Recertifications – Arkansas Campuses**

New York Institute of Technology, Old Westbury, New York

Arkansas State University Jonesboro Campus  
Master of Science in Biomedical Science

Webster University, Webster Groves, Missouri

Little Rock Air Force Base Campus  
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

**Decertifications**

National University, San Diego, California

Master of Arts in Teaching  
Master of Science in Accounting  
Master of Science in Computer Science  
Master of Science in Cybersecurity  
Master of Science in Data Science

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

Cross Theological Seminary, Rogers, Arkansas

Master of Theological Studies

Summit Christian College, Gering, Nebraska

Offering programs by distance technology

Certificate in Christian Foundations

Associate of Arts in Christian Studies

Bachelor of Science in Biblical Studies

Associate of Arts in Biblical Studies

Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies

Bachelor of Science in Christian Studies

**Letter of Exemption from Certification – Church-Related Training (Renewal)**

Batesville Baptist Institute Seminary, Batesville, Arkansas

Certificate of Ecclesiological Education

Bachelor of Bible Languages

Bachelor of Theology

Doctor of Theology

Doctor of Bible Languages

Associate in Bible

Bachelor of Bible

Master of Bible Languages

Master of Theology

**Program Changes/Additions**

DeVry University, Lisle, Illinois

Associate of Applied Science in Business

Deleted Courses

HIT 120 Introduction to Health Services & Information Systems

MKTG 230 Consumer Behavior Fundamentals

Added Courses

HSM 320 Health Rights and Responsibilities

MGMT 300 Customer Care and Relationship Management

Added Tracks

Human Resources

MGMT 210 Human Resource Functions

HRM 420 Training and Development

LEAD 200 Communication for a Diverse Workplace

Students choose another Human Resources Course

Project Management

BIAM 110 Introduction to Business Analytics

PROJ 330 Human Resources & Communications in Projects

PROJ 404 Project Management for the Profession

Students choose another Project Management Course

Sales and Customer Development

BSUN 258 Customer Relations

MGMT 300 Customer Care and Relationship Management

BUSN 160 Introduction to Sales and Business Development

PSYCH 305 Motivation & Leadership

Bachelor of Science in Management changed to Bachelor of Science in Business Management

Business Intelligence and Analytic Management Track changed to Business Analytics

Sales and Marketing Track

Deleted Courses

CEIS 110 Introduction to Programming  
CEIS 150 Programming with Objects  
CEIS 209 Intermediate Programming  
GSCM 206 Managing Operations Across the Supply Chain  
GSCM 209 Supply Chain Management Decision Support Tools and Applications  
ACCT 436 Advanced Cost Management  
GSCM 326 Total Quality Management  
MGMT 340 Business Systems Analysis  
BUSN 412 Business Policy

Added Courses

LEAD 510G Digital Leadership  
MIS 540G Innovation Through Technology  
HRM 578G Managing Organizational Change  
BIAM 430 Introduction to Visualization and Predictive Analytics  
BUSN 340 Introduction to Risk Analysis  
BIAM 320 Analytics in the Business Environment  
LEAD 430 Consulting and Problem Solving  
PROJ 415 Project Quality Management  
PROJ 425 Project Management Methodologies  
PROJ 435 Project Management Technologies  
PROJ 440 Construction Project Management  
PROJ 445 IT Project Management  
MKTG 445 Brand Management  
MKTG 455 Current Topics in Marketing  
LAWS 310 The Legal Environment

Bachelor of Science in Network and Communication Management changed to Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity and Networking

Information Technology and Networking Track changed to Cybersecurity and Networking

Deleted Courses

ACCT 212 Financial Accounting  
MGMT 408 Management of Technology Resources  
SEC 310 Principles and Theory of Security Management  
NETW 310 Wired, Optical and Wireless Communications with Lab  
NETW 411 Information Security for Mobile Devices  
PROJ 420 Project Risk Management  
WEB 375 Web Architecture with Lab  
CEIS 236 Fundamentals of Database Programming  
CEIS 312 Introduction to Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning

Added Courses

SEC 305 Cybersecurity and Data Privacy  
SEC 311 Ethical Hacking  
SEC 340 Business Continuity

SEC 380 Cloud Computing Security  
SEC 440 Information Systems Planning and Audit  
LEAD 510G Digital Leadership  
MIS 540G Innovation through Technology  
NETW 583G Strategic Management of Technology  
CEIS 298 Introduction to Technical Project Management  
SEC 399 Cybersecurity Career Preparation

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California

Graduate Certificate in Trauma Informed Practices in Educational Settings  
SOWK 604 Contemporary Grand Challenges in Education  
SOWK 606 Trauma-Informed Interventions in Education  
SOWK 609 Introduction to Social Work Practice with Children, Youth and Families  
SOWK 614 Social Work Practice in School Settings  
SOWK 627 Policy and Macro Practice in Child, Youth and Family Services

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

Doctor of Physical Therapy  
Credit hours decreased from 131 to 110 semester credit hours

Walden University, Minneapolis, Minnesota

The following degree programs will be converted from a semester credit format to a quarter credit format:

Graduate Certificate in Information Systems  
Graduate Certificate in Leadership  
Doctor of Business Administration  
Post-Doctoral Bridge to Business Administration Certificate  
Master of Science in Instructional Design and Technology  
Master of Science in Education – Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment (Grades K-12)  
Master of Science in Education – Educational Leadership and Administration (Principal Preparation – Licensure)  
Master of Science in Education – Elementary Reading and Literacy (P-6)  
Master of Science in Education – Elementary Reading and Mathematics (Grades K-6)  
Master of Science in Education – Integrating Technology in the Classroom (Grades K-12)  
Master of Science in Education – Mathematics (Grades 5-8)  
Master of Science in Education – Mathematics (Grades K-6)  
Master of Science in Education – Mathematics and Science (Grades K-8)  
Master of Science in Education – Science (Grades K-8)  
Master of Science in Education – Self-Designed  
Master of Science in Education – Special Education (Grades K-12)  
Master of Science in Education – STEM Education (Grades K-8)  
Master of Science in Education – Teacher Leadership (Grades K-12)  
Graduate Certificate in Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

Graduate Certificate in Elementary Reading and Literacy  
Graduate Certificate in Engaging Culturally Diverse Learners  
Graduate Certificate in Integrating Technology in the Classroom (Grades K-12)  
Graduate Certificate in Mathematics 5–8  
Graduate Certificate in Mathematics K–6  
Graduate Certificate in Science K–8  
Graduate Certificate in Special Education  
Graduate Certificate in Teacher Leadership  
Education Specialist in Educational Leadership and Administration (Principal  
Preparation)

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

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The following notifications were received through April 1, 2024

Evangel University, Springfield, Missouri

Initial Certification – Distance Technology  
Master of Counseling

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

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, Whittier, California

Initial Certification – Distance Technology  
Doctor of Occupational Therapy

Southwestern Law School, Los Angeles, California

Initial Certification – Distance Technology  
Online Juris Doctor

Walden University, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Initial Certification – Distance Technology  
Master of Science in Clinical Mental Health Counseling and Master of Science in School Counseling – Dual Degree

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

**Minutes of Meeting**

The January 26, 2024, regular meeting of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) was held at National Park College in Hot Springs. Chair Graycen Bigger called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., with a quorum present.

Coordinating Board present:

Graycen Bigger, Chair  
Dr. Jim Carr  
Dr. Jerry Cash  
Dr. Katherine Dudley  
Kelley Erstine  
Heather Maxey  
Dr. Kyle Miller (via Zoom)  
Lucas Pointer  
Carolyn Rhinehart

Coordinating Board absent:

Chad Hooten

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

Chair Bigger began by welcoming new AHECB members Dr. Katherine Dudley and Heather Maxey to their first Coordinating Board meeting. She then welcomed Representative Richard McGrew and Gary Troutman, president and CEO of the Greater Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce and Hot Springs Metro Partnership.

Chair Bigger introduced former AHECB member, Al Brodell and presented him with a plaque for his years of dedicated service to the Coordinating Board.

Next, Chair Bigger called on President John Hogan for a welcome. Dr. Hogan began by welcoming Coordinating Board members to National Park College (NPC) and then shared information about NPC. He noted that NPC earned a perfect score on their Higher Learning Commission (HLC) regional accreditation visit, in November of 2021.

Agenda Item No. 1  
Annual Higher Education Financial Condition Report

Nick Fuller presented the Annual Higher Education Financial Condition Report. The purpose of this report is to describe the financial condition as well as the difficulties and challenges experienced by Arkansas's Public Institutions of Higher Education. It is recommended that ADHE continue to work with institutions to monitor and refine the Productivity Funding Model policies to ensure adequate funding is available to meet



student needs, innovation is encouraged, and that the policies continue to respond to attainment goals and priorities of the state. AHECB, ADHE and institutions of higher education work with the legislature toward alignment of institutional funding policies, state financial aid policies, and tuition policies in a way that prioritizes higher education affordability.

Dr. Jim Carr asked what the starting salary for K-12 teachers is for this year. Fuller said he did not know. The SREB data is still lagging.

### Agenda Item No. 2 Maintenance Report

The AHECB policy for maintenance of new facilities passed October 29, 2010, states that a report on the amount transferred to plant funds would be presented annually at the October Board meeting. This policy was proposed to ensure that in the future, all newly constructed or purchased facilities would have a source of funding for maintenance of the new facility. Institutions seeking approval of a loan or a bond issue for the construction or purchase of a new facility must provide for the maintenance of that facility by transferring annually to plant funds an amount as recommended by the Association of Physical Plant Administrators of Universities and Colleges (APPA). This is currently \$2.50 per gross square foot for an educational and general facility or \$1.25 per gross square foot for an auxiliary facility. A lower rate per gross square foot for a specific building/facility can be approved with appropriate justification.

There were no questions.

### Agenda Item No. 3 Institutional Personnel Recommendations

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, and line-item maximum salaries for all non-classified administrative, academic, and auxiliary positions at each Arkansas public institution of higher education have been reviewed, and changes are recommended.

Institutions of higher education, apart from UAMS, have 27,022 positions currently authorized. For the 2024-25 Fiscal Year, institutions requested an increase of 129 positions and the deletion of 112 positions, for a net new request of 17 positions. ADHE staff recommends this net increase of 17 positions, for a total recommendation of 27,039 positions (a 0.1 percent increase). UAMS currently has 11,974 authorized positions and their submission for changes reflects a net zero (0) change. ADHE staff recommends the current level of 11,974 positions.

**RESOLVED,** That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board adopts the recommended number of positions, titles, and maximum

salaries for non-classified positions in academic, administrative, and auxiliary positions for the 2024-25 fiscal year 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 Commissioner to transmit the Personal Services recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly for consideration for the 2024-25 fiscal year.

There were no questions.

Lucas Pointer moved to recommend the approval of Agenda Item No. 3 to the full Board for consideration. Heather Maxey seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 4  
Master of Music in Music Education  
Arkansas Tech University

The proposed self-paced, 100% online Master of Music in Music Education program is designed to allow currently employed music educators to further their education, while maintaining employment in their current K-12 teaching position. The proposed program reflects a practice-oriented curriculum emphasizing the extension of specialized performance and pedagogy competencies for music teachers.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the offering of the Master of Music in Music Education (CIP 13.1312) at Arkansas Tech University, effective Summer 2024.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education to inform the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of Arkansas Tech University of the approval.

Dr. Jeff Bright, head of the Department of Music and Professor of Music, presented additional background information.

Chair Bigger said that after digging into this proposal, she did not find any formal letters of support and asked who the survey respondents were. She also noted that 36% of survey respondents said they are not interested in a graduate program.

Dr. Bright said most of the respondents were ATU alumni that are interested in the program.

Chair Bigger asked if schools are asking for more teachers with a master's degree and are they having problems finding them. Dr. Bright said he believes the rural schools are having problems finding highly qualified teachers.

Dr. Jim Carr said he had reservations until he read that the entire program is only going to cost \$6500. Dr. Bright said that is correct.

Commissioner warden commended Dr. Bright and ATU for finding a low-cost way to support a graduate degree program by using existing faculty and resources.

Carolyn Rhinehart moved to recommend the approval of Agenda Item No. 4 to the full Board for consideration. Dr. Jim Carr seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved.

Dr. Patricia Poulter, UCA Provost and Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs, congratulated Dr. Bright on the program's approval and stated that the program approval process worked exactly like it should. UCA was able to raise concerns about this program and Dr. Bright was able to successfully address them.

Agenda Item No. 5  
Master of Science in Counseling  
Arkansas Tech University

The proposed, 60 credit-hour Master of Science in Counseling provides graduate-level instruction in counseling theory, individual and group facilitation skills, psychopharmacologic and psychiatric rehabilitation, research and assessment competencies, ethics, evidence-based decision making, diversity, equity, inclusion and social justice practices. Additionally, students are required to complete a 100 clock-hour preprofessional practicum with 40 direct client contact hours and a 600 clock-hour pre-professional internship with 240 direct client contact hours.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the offering of the Master of Science in Counseling (CIP 42.2899) at Arkansas Tech University, effective Summer 2024.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education to inform the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of Arkansas Tech University of the approval.

Dr. Tim Carter, Dean; Dr. Erica Wondolowski, Program Director, and Associate Professor of Rehabilitation Science; and Dr. Robert Stevens, Graduate Coordinator and Associate Professor of Rehabilitation Science, presented additional background information.

Dr. Jim Carr voiced concerns over the number of institutions in Arkansas that already provide a similar program, including the University of Arkansas. Carr asked if there is a need for a sixth program in Arkansas.

Dr. Carter said he believes there is a need. He said he is concerned about the shortage areas.

Dr. Carr asked if there was anyone from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville that would like to address the board.

Dr. Terry Martin, UAF Provost, said he did not believe ATU's response addressed their concerns. Dr. Carter said he does believe the need for these positions will increase within the next eight years.

Commissioner Warden said that it is extremely difficult to recruit individuals with these credentials. He said having lived in the river valley area most of his life, he knows there is a shortage there.

Chair Bigger said the full program did receive several letters of support.

Carolyn Rhinehart moved to recommend Agenda Item No. 5 to the full Board for consideration. Dr. Katherine Dudley seconded, and the committee approved with Dr. Jim Carr opposed.

Agenda Item No. 6  
Technical Certificate in Skilled Trades  
Certificate of Proficiency in Basic Construction & HVAC  
Certificate of Proficiency in Basic Electrical & Plumbing  
Ozarka College

The administration and Board of Trustees of Ozarka College (OZC) request approval to offer the Technical Certificate in Skilled Trades, Certificate of Proficiency in Basic Construction & HVAC, and the Certificate of Proficiency in Basic Electrical & Plumbing, effective Fall 2024. Ozarka College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and the proposed program is within the role and scope established for the institution. The Ozarka College Board of Trustees approved the program on September 25, 2023.

The proposed, 30 credit-hour Technical Certificate in Skilled Trades incorporates basic skills in HVAC, Electrical, Plumbing, and General Construction. It is designed to help students become more qualified for entry-level positions in the above-mentioned areas, thus giving them a competitive advantage. The program will help expand the strategic initiatives of the Ozarka College by providing a robust variety of job-ready training opportunities that meet the needs of the College's educational and industry partners in its communities.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the offering of the Technical Certificate in Skilled Trades (CIP 46.0000), Certificate of Proficiency in Basic Construction & HVAC (CIP

46.0000), and the Certificate of Proficiency in Basic Electrical & Plumbing (CIP 46.0000) at Ozarka College, effective Fall 2024.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education to inform the President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of Ozarka College of the approval.

Dr. Chris Lorch, Provost, provided additional information.

Chair Bigger noted that in her role as an Economic Development partner to Ozarka College's Ashflat campus, she provided a letter of recommendation for this program.

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

Agenda Item No. 7  
Certificate of Proficiency and Technical Certificate  
in Automotive/Diesel Mechanics  
University of Arkansas Community College Rich Mountain

The administration and Board of Trustees of University of Arkansas Community College Rich Mountain (UACCRM) request approval to offer the Technical Certificate in Automotive/Diesel Mechanics, Certificate of Proficiency in Brakes, Suspension, and Steering, Certificate of Proficiency in Electrical Systems and Engine Performance, and the Certificate of Proficiency in Engine Repair and Climate Control, effective Fall 2024. The University of Arkansas Community College Rich Mountain is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and the proposed program is within the role and scope established for the institution. The University of Arkansas System Board of Trustees approved the program on November 15, 2023.

The proposed program intends to provide the necessary education and skills training for a student to gain employment in the area of automotive/diesel mechanics. This program will offer students four credentials, two 8 credit-hour Certificates of Proficiency, a 12 credit-hour Certificate of Proficiency, and a 31 credit-hour Technical Certificate. The embedded structure of this curriculum is designed to encourage employment at the earliest opportunity possible. The proposed program will also be incorporated in the career center offerings for concurrent students.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the offering of the Technical Certificate in Automotive/Diesel Mechanics (CIP 47.0600), Certificate of Proficiency in Brakes, Suspension, and Steering (CIP 47.0600), Certificate of Proficiency in Electrical Systems and Engine Performance (CIP 47.0600), and the Certificate of Proficiency in Engine Repair and Climate Control (CIP 47.0600) at the University of Arkansas Community College Rich Mountain, 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 Community College Rich Mountain and Chair of the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System of the approval.

Dr. Krystal Thrailkill, Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs, provided additional information.

Chair Bigger asked if the proposal included any salary information for potential graduates. Dr. Thrailkill said the salary would range from \$28,000 to \$59,000.

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

Agenda Item No. 8  
Technical Certificate in Paramedic  
University of Arkansas Community College Rich Mountain

The administration and Board of Trustees of University of Arkansas Community College Rich Mountain (UACCRM) request approval to offer the Technical Certificate in Paramedic, effective Fall 2024. The University of Arkansas Community College Rich Mountain is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and the proposed program is within the role and scope established for the institution. The University of Arkansas System Board of Trustees approved the program on November 15, 2023.

The proposed Technical Certificate in Paramedic will train professionals to provide advanced emergency medical care for patients in need of emergent treatment. The certificate program will prepare students with the complex knowledge and skills needed to provide all stages of patient care to link the patient at the scene of an incident with the nearest medical center.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the offering of the Technical Certificate in Paramedic (CIP 51.0904) at the University of Arkansas Community College Rich Mountain, 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 Community College Rich Mountain and Chair of the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas System of the approval.

Dr. Kyle Carpenter, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, provided additional information.

Dr. Jerry Cash asked if UACCRM partners with any hospitals. Dr. Carpenter said they work with the Mena Regional Health Systems and Healthy Connections.

Chair Bigger commented that one of the largest employers in the county is an ambulance service. Dr. Carpenter said the ambulance service has widespread reach and services five counties.

Carolyn Rhinehart moved to recommend Agenda Item No. 8 to the full Board for consideration. Dr. Katherine Dudley seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 9  
Institutional Certification Advisory Committee

**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 - 2 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**

Los Angeles Film School, Hollywood, California  
University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California

**New Institution – Distance Technology**

Aspen University, Phoenix, Arizona

Dr. Jerry Cash asked if these programs were distance programs. Ms. Alana Colburn said, yes.

Dr. Jim Carr questioned why the Alice Walton School of Medicine is listed under private institutions. Ms. Alana Colburn explained that institutions are classified as either two- and four-year public institutions or as private institutions.

Carolyn Rhinehart moved to recommend Agenda Item No. 9 to the full Board for consideration. Dr. Jim Carr seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved.

Agenda Items No. 10 & 11  
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 institutions to offer degree programs to Arkansas residents. The program notice lists appear in the Letters of Notification on pages 10-1 through 10-43 and in the Letters of Intent on pages 11-1 through 11-4 of the agenda book.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 12  
Approval of Minutes

Dr. Jim Carr moved to approve Agenda Item No. 12. Dr. Jerry Cash seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 13  
Report of Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee (Chair Dr. Jim Carr and Dr. Jerry Cash) recommended the following slate of Board officers for 2024-2025.

Chair – Graycen Bigger  
Vice Chair – Dr. Jerry Cash  
Secretary/Treasurer – Dr. Kyle Miller  
Finance Committee Chair – Kelley Erstine  
Academic Committee Chair – Dr. Jim Carr

Carolyn Rhinehart moved to accept the 2024-2025 nominations. Lucas Pointer seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.



Agenda Item No. 14  
Reimbursement of Expenses for  
Members of the AHECB and ICAC

Although members of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board and its Institutional Certification Advisory Committee (ICAC) by law serve without compensation, they may receive expense reimbursement for performing official board duties after following certain procedures set out by Act 1211 of 1995 (A.C.A. §25-16-901 et seq.).

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board, by a majority vote of its total membership, authorizes expense reimbursement for each board member and member of the ICAC for performing official board duties.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the expense reimbursement shall not exceed the rate established for state employees by state travel regulations.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Coordinating Board instructs the Director of the Division of Higher Education to send a copy of this resolution to the Department of Finance and Administration to notify that agency of compliance with Act 1211 of 1995.

Dr. Jerry Cash moved to approve Agenda Item No. 14. Kelley Erstine seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 15  
State Board of Higher Education Foundation  
Election of Supervisory Committee

The State Board of Higher Education Foundation was established on May 2, 1992. The Board for the Foundation includes three annually elected members: a president, a vice president and a secretary/treasurer. The Foundation was established to accept private funds for specific projects for the benefit of higher education in Arkansas. The terms of the current members have lapsed, requiring a re-election or new appointments.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves and elects members to serve as the State Board of Higher Education Foundation Supervisory Committee as follows:

Dr. Jim Carr – President  
Chad Hooten – Vice President  
Dr. Kyle Miller – Secretary/Treasurer

Dr. Katherine Dudley moved to approve Agenda Item No. 15. Dr. Jerry Cash seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item No. 16  
Commissioner's Report

*ADHE Staffing Changes*

David John – Financial Aid Program Specialist, began on December 4, 2023  
Lozanne Calhoun – Financial Aid Program Specialist, began on December 18, 2023  
Katie Matthews – EngageAR Program Officer, began on January 2, 2024  
Zoe Tollette – EngageAR Program Officer, began on January 2, 2024  
Brinda Berry – Perkins Federal Program Coordinator, retired on December 29, 2023

*Institutional Changes*

Arkadelphia native and longtime higher education administrator Dr. Trey Berry was appointed Henderson State University's next chancellor, effective Jan. 1, 2024.

The American Association of State Colleges and Universities announced that Dr. Chuck Welch will become its new president and chief executive officer effective Jan. 15, 2024.

The Arkansas State University System Board of Trustees voted to name Dr. Robin Myers, chancellor emeritus at ASU-Mountain Home, to serve as interim system president effective Jan. 15. Myers, who retired in July after 11 years as chancellor of ASU-Mountain Home, will not be a candidate for the permanent position.

Dr. Jerry Thomas has been selected as the new Southern Arkansas University Tech chancellor, effective January 10, 2024. Thomas is currently the vice president for academic affairs at National Park College.

Steven Bloomberg has been hired as chancellor of the Kern Community College District in California and will leave SEARK after six years as the president.

Southeast Arkansas College Provost Stacy Pfluger will take over as interim president after Steven Bloomberg steps down from the full-time role Feb. 16.

*Concurrent Report Update*

Mason Campbell explained that in Spring of 2023, ADHE partnered with Complete College America to pull together a state-wide concurrent enrollment stakeholder group to evaluate policies and practices and to develop a menu of potential state policy recommendations that might broaden access to high quality concurrent enrollment. The full report is available on the ADHE website.

*FAFSA Update*

Alisha Lewis explained that the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form is an application for federal student aid. You need to complete the FAFSA form to apply for federal student aid such as federal grants, work-study funds, and loans. Completing and submitting the FAFSA form is free and easier than ever, and it gives

you access to federal student aid—the largest source of aid— to help you pay for college or career/trade school. Several states and colleges use your FAFSA information to determine your eligibility for state and school aid. Some private aid providers may use your FAFSA information to determine whether you qualify for their aid.

Lewis said the new FAFSA form that was released in December 2023, had several technical issues that are delaying the application process and preventing colleges and universities from sending aid packages to students. ADHE is currently working with institutions to conditionally award students that are having issues completing the FAFSA.

Agenda Item No. 17  
Annual Report on Institutional Certification

Alana Colburn presented an update on the number of Arkansas residents pursuing academic degrees offered by out-of-state and for-profit institutions certified to operate in Arkansas under Arkansas Code Annotated §6-61-301.

Boles reported that in 2022-23, 9 Arkansas campuses, 33 institutions with programs delivered only through distance technology, 5 institutions offering programs both on Arkansas campuses and through distance technology and 4 institutions offering programs only on an Arkansas campus, were certified under ICAC rules.

There were no questions.

Agenda Item No. 18  
Report on Academic Program Viability

Mason Campbell presented a summary report on academic programs reviewed by the institutions for program viability purposes. ADHE staff annually identify existing certificate and degree programs that do not meet AHECB program viability standards. New certificates and associate degrees will be identified for program viability standards after three years, and bachelor's degrees and above will be identified after five years.

Dr. Jerry Cash asked if a non-viable program is resubmitted by an institution, do they have to re-submit a program proposal as well. Mason Campbell said they do. If an institution deletes a program for any reason, they will have to go through the new program process.

Chair Bigger said she is glad that staff are reviewing these programs on an annual basis.

Agenda Item No. 19  
Minimum Core Curriculum of High School Courses  
Recommended for Preparation for Higher Education

Mason Campbell reported that in 1989, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board adopted the Minimum Core of High School Courses Recommended for Higher

Education as mandated by A.C.A. § 6-61-217. The Board has since revised the list of high school courses, as allowed by A.C.A. § 6-61-217.

The intent of this agenda item is to align the minimum core of high school courses recommended for preparation for college with current college mathematics pathways. Changes in both higher education and high school mathematics course options merit this revision.

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board approves the revision of the Minimum Core Curriculum of High School Courses Recommended for Higher Education adopted on January 2024.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board directs the Commissioner of the Arkansas Division of Higher Education to consult with the Secretary of Education and State Board of Education to distribute to students in the public schools of Arkansas as provided by A.C.A. 6-61-217.

Dr. Jim Carr questioned whether the board could strongly encourage all high school seniors to take the most rigorous course work they can instead of the minimum. He noted that statistics show the more rigorous courses students take in high school, the better their ACT and SAT scores are.

Commissioner Warden commented that the LEARNS pathway group is developing a career ready pathway where a high school diploma and a career diploma are both challenging. Warden recognized Ross White, the director of Career and Technical Education, for the work they are doing as well.

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

#### Agenda Item No. 20 Fall Annual Enrollment Report

Sonia Hazelwood presented summary and detailed information about annual student enrollment. She noted the total unduplicated headcount for the fall 2023 term in all sectors of Arkansas higher education, including public universities, public colleges, private/independent colleges and universities, and nursing schools was 150,786 students, representing an increase of 2.0% from the fall 2022 term. Fall headcount is slowly recovering from the considerable drop in headcount caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, but still has not reached the pre-pandemic headcount of 156,069 reported in fall 2019. Of the 150,786 students enrolled in fall 2023, 1,531 students enrolled at more than one Arkansas institution, which represents 1% of the total fall 2023 headcount.

Dr. Jerry Cash asked if 12 hours defined a full-time student. Sonia Hazelwood said to calculate a fall term FTE, 15 hours are used for undergraduates and 12 hours for graduate students.

Dr. Katherine Dudley asked if there were any theories or data that show why Arkansas has continued to trend downward. Commissioner Warden said Arkansas' numbers are consistent with national statistics.

### Report of the Committees

Kelley Erstine presented the report of the Finance Committee and moved approval of Agenda Item 3. Dr. Jerry Cash seconded, and the board unanimously approved.

Dr. Jerry Cash presented the report of the Academic Committee items 4 – 9 individually.

- Dr. Cash moved approval of Agenda Item 4. Carolyn Rhinehart seconded, and the board approved with Chair Graycen Bigger opposed.
- Dr. Cash moved approval of Agenda Item 5. Carolyn Rhinehart seconded, and the board approved with Dr. Jim Carr and Kelly Erstine opposed.
- Dr. Cash moved approval of Agenda Item 6. Lucas Pointer seconded, and the board unanimously approved.
- Dr. Cash moved approval of Agenda Item 7. Dr. Jim Carr seconded, and the board unanimously approved.
- Dr. Cash moved approval of Agenda Item 8. Dr. Jim Carr seconded, and the board unanimously approved.
- Dr. Cash moved approval of Agenda Item 9. Dr. Jim Carr seconded, and the board unanimously approved.

### Remarks by Presidents/Chancellors and Guest

The next quarterly meeting will be held on April 26, 2024, at North Arkansas College in Harrison, at 9:00 a.m.

With no further comments, the meeting was adjourned at 12:49 a.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

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Nichole Abernathy

APPROVED:

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Dr. Jim Carr, Secretary

## REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER

### Annual Trustees Conference



The 2024 Trustees Conference convened on March 26, at the University of Arkansas - Pulaski Technical College in North Little Rock with remarks by Commissioner Ken Warden and Secretary of Education Jacob Oliva. Warden thanked the Governing Board members from all over the state for participating in the conference. In addition to board members, conference attendees included presidents and chancellors, as well as administrators from state and independent institutions.

The conference also featured presentations from Robert McGough with the Department of Information Services, Thomas Pennington with Arkansas Tech University, Tony Williams with the Arkansas Student Loan Authority, Mike Rogers, Arkansas' Chief Workforce Officer, and ADHE presenters Dr. Tina Moore, Nick Fuller and Blake Cannon.

Robert McGough discussed data-driven approaches to education and workforce alignment. McGough identified the need for data resources to assess skills gaps and support alignment of academic programs with workforce needs.

Thomas Pennington presented information on legal issues and higher education governing boards. He highlighted new anticipated regulations implementing Title IX on college campuses, recent changes to the Freedom of Information Act, and the political uses of social media.

Hosted by ADHE, the Trustees Conference assists institutions in providing legislative mandated training for the trustees of public institutions of higher education.

The conference presentations can be found at <https://www.adhe.edu/about-adhe/coordinating-board/board-presentations> .



### **2024 Arkansas Robotics Tournament**

Commissioner Warden welcomed 30-teams to the robotics tournament in Searcy on March 8-9. Warden spoke to the importance of STEM education and Workforce development through competitive robotics opportunities.

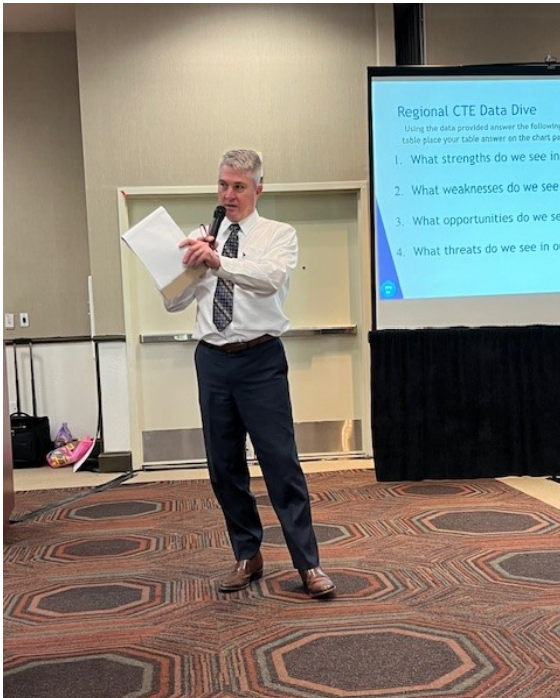


### **Career Pathways Initiative**

Effective July 1, CPI will implement a more focused effort on providing services to students enrolled in Adult Education programs. In this partnership, Adult Ed will continue to provide training and CPI will provide supportive services such as tuition costs, childcare and transportation in the same manner that college enrolled students receive.



### **Spring CTE Coordinator Retreat**



Coordinators and state staff responsible for oversight of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education program met jointly on March 13-14. Primary points of discussion included plans for updating and submitting the Perkins State Plan, identification of potential projects using joint funding between high schools and colleges, and a review of data and proposed performance targets. Professional development was provided to increase the number of students enrolling in nontraditional fields, special populations, and underperforming student groups.

### **Carl D. Perkins Program**

The Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (Perkins IV) provides a renewed vision of career and technical education programs for the 21st century. The Act envisions that all students will achieve challenging academic and technical standards and be prepared for high skill, high wage, or high demand occupations in current or emerging professions. Perkins IV provides an increased focus on academic achievement of career and technical education students, increases state and local accountability, and strengthens the connections between secondary and postsecondary education.

Perkins hosted the Facilitating Career Development course for Career Coaches in the fall semester of 2022. There were over 40 individuals that completed the course. Perkins plans to host another course in the fall of 2023. The Perkins Spring meeting was held at Four Points in March in conjunction with Career and Technical Education, which included secondary and postsecondary coordinators. Dr. Warden shared his vision of Perkins in the state.

**Academic Affairs Officers Meet to Discuss Academic Policies**

On April 4, ADHE staff members welcomed Chief Academic Officers (CAO) and Chief Student Affairs Officers (CSAO) via zoom to discuss numerous issues including academic program changes, minors and concentrations, productivity funding, placement plans as well as the concurrent programs. The CAO/CSAO quarterly meetings assemble a comprehensive list of the most effective policies, programs and practices that can be employed on our campuses to foster greater student success.

## **ANNUAL REPORT ON FIRST-YEAR STUDENT REMEDIATION**

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In accordance with A.C.A. §6-61-110 and Act 970 of 2009, the Arkansas Division of Higher Education (ADHE) addresses the placement standards necessary for enrollment of students into mathematics, English composition, and reading based on appropriate indicators of potential student success rates.

In January 2016, the AHECB revised its policy to require all institutions to adopt appropriate placement measures supported by student success data. These placement measures are to be contained within an institutional placement plan that provides appropriate justification for student course placement and allows for follow-up evaluation of placement effectiveness. Institutional placement plans are required to be submitted to ADHE on an annual basis. These plans can be provided to the Board upon request.

### **Course Placement Method**

Course placement of a student is determined by the institution based on its ADHE approved placement policy. Each institution establishes a matrix of assessment measures to evaluate the preparedness or readiness of students for gateway courses in English, math, and reading.

Measures for establishing readiness of students may include one or more of the following for each subject area:

- Standardized and normed exams (ACT, SAT, Accuplacer, etc.)
- High school academic performance (GPA, coursework, etc.)
- Assessment of student motivation to succeed
- Writing samples (English)
- Other measures supported by sufficient analysis of predicted student success

A student's placement should indicate potential for success at a "C" or better in the course in which a student is placed. The evaluation of the institution's placement measures should reflect a better than 75% student success rate.

ACT benchmarks establish a subject test score of 22 for reading or math and a subject test score of 18 for English as cutoff scores for student success. Institutions are encouraged to use more than one measure if the ACT or ACT-equivalent is below 22 to ensure that students are placed at the appropriate course level.

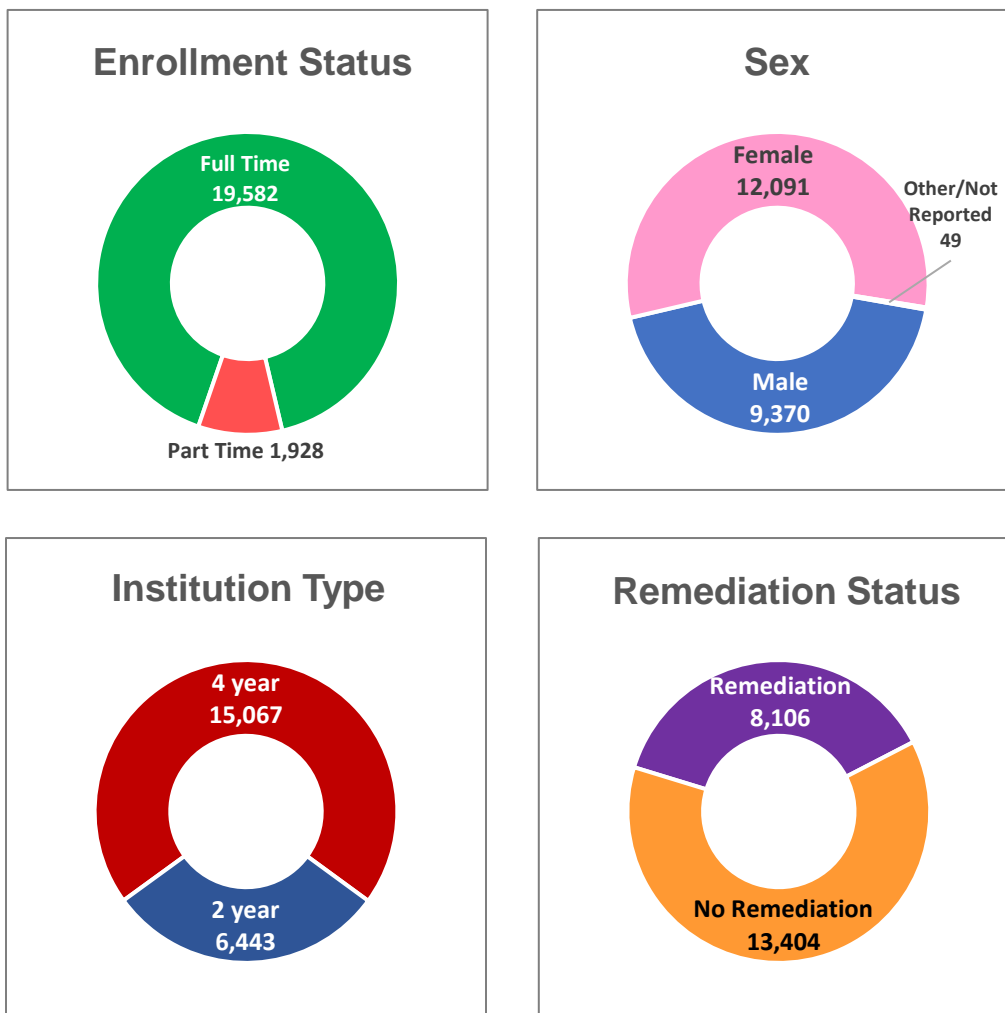
Based on years of national research and on findings from the research conducted by the Center for the Analysis of Postsecondary Readiness (CAPR) and ADHE, overall high school GPA is the best predictor of student performance in college. These studies

also show that increasing student access to college-level courses improves student outcomes. Though colleges may implement these practices at their own discretion, ADHE encourages institutions to adhere to recommendations issued regarding the implementation of Multiple Measure Assessment (MMA).

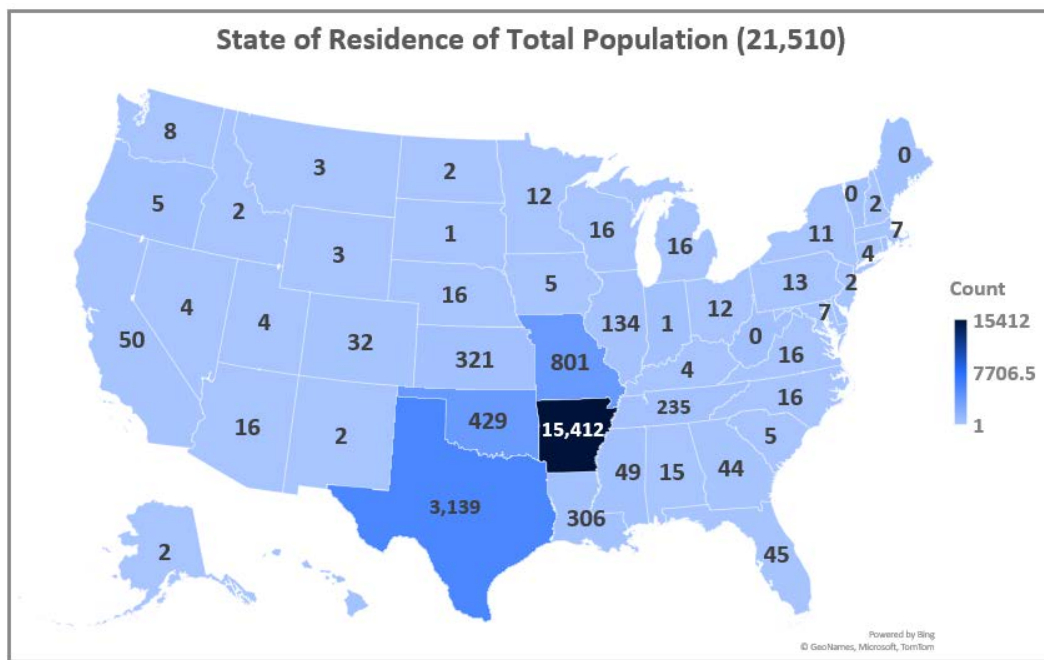
**Overview of First-time Entering, Degree Seeking Students**

This section seeks to provide 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.

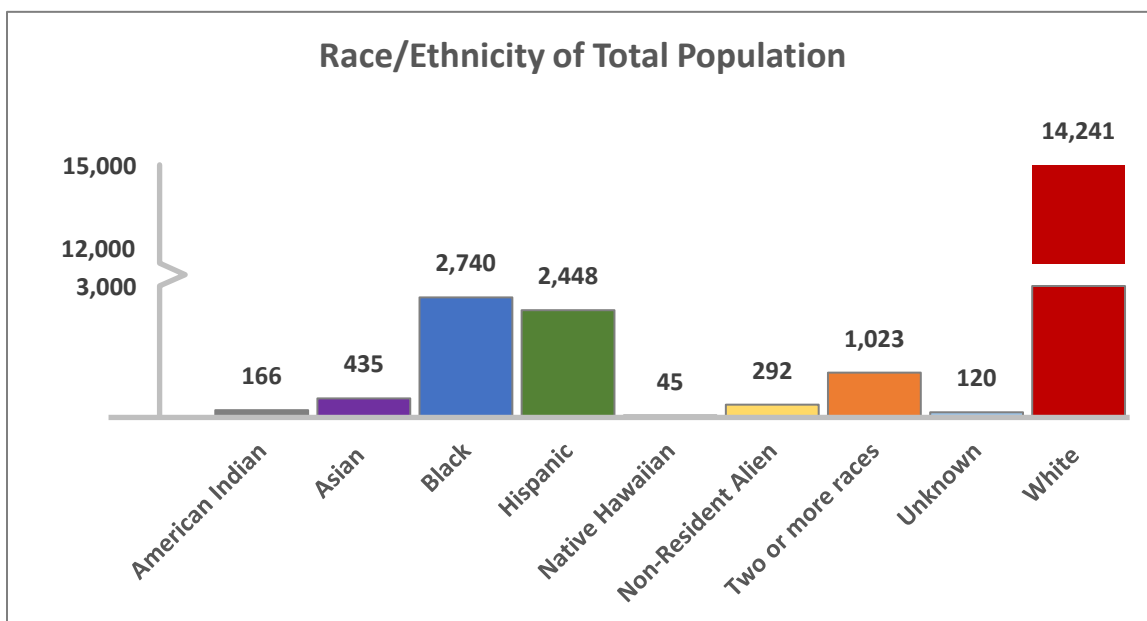
Of this population, 91% were classified as full-time students and 9% were classified as part-time students. With regards to sex, 56% were female, 44% were male, and less than 1% percent did not report. When examining the institution type, 70% of this population enrolled at a four-year institution compared 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.



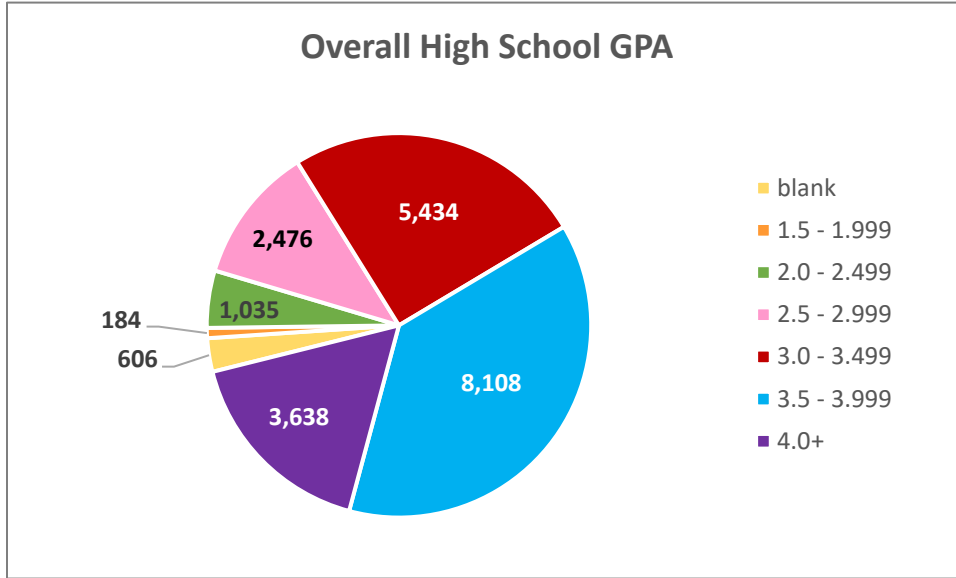
Of the 21,510 first-time entering, degree seeking students who graduated high school in 2022 or 2021, 72% of these students reside in Arkansas. The other 28% reside out-of-state as depicted in the chart below.



The following chart illustrates a summary of the total population of first-time entering, degree-seeking students who graduated high school in 2021 or 2022 by race/ethnicity. White students represent 66%, Black students represent 13%, and Hispanic students represent 11% of the total population.



The overall high school grade point average (GPA), as reported by the public institutions in Arkansas, for the 21,510 first-time entering, degree-seeking students who graduated high school in 2021 or 2022 is shown in the following pie graph. As shown, 17,180 students, or 80%, have a GPA of 3.0 or higher.



29 records from GPA ranges 0.0 – 1.499 are not depicted in this chart.

An institution’s placement plan includes the use of standardized entrance exams. ACT, Redesigned SAT, and Accuplacer Next Generation are the most common entrance exams reported to institutions. The following counts are not necessarily indicative of the placement measure used by institutions.

Reported Entrance Exams	Count
Accuplacer Classic	74
Accuplacer Next Generation	1,848
ACT	17,131
Aspire	21
COMPASS	5
GED College Ready	2
Redesigned SAT	2,001
SAT	227
blank	201
total	21,510

**Remediated Student Attributes**

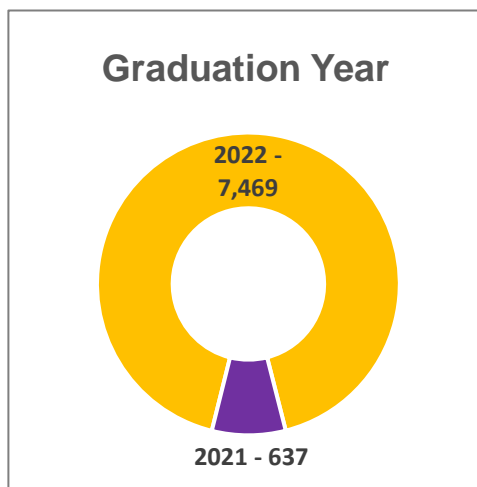
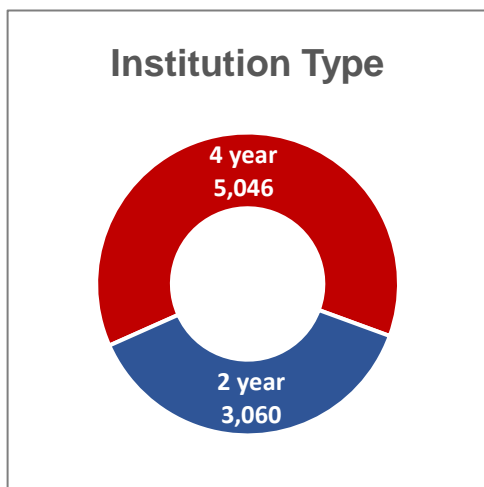
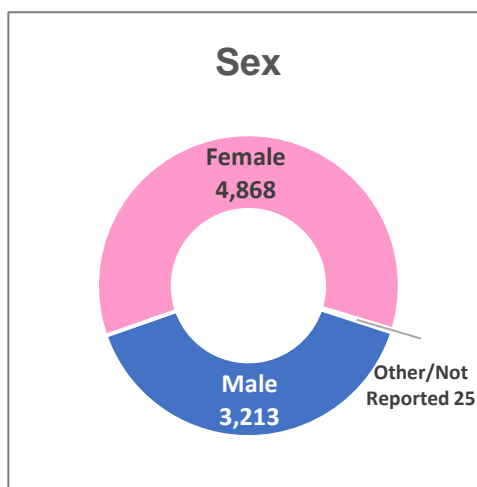
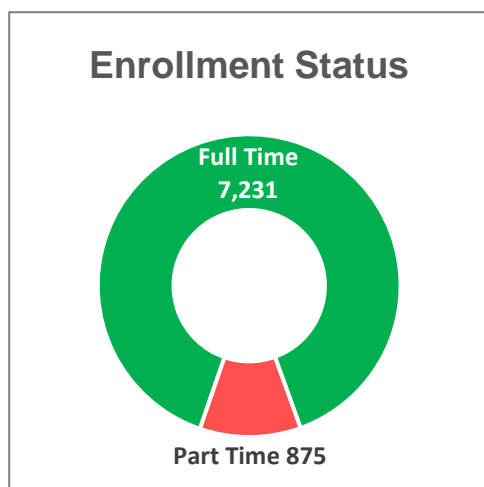
The following tables and charts address the attributes of the remedial population. Eight thousand one hundred six students of the 21,510 first-time entering, degree-seeking students who graduated high school in 2021 or 2022 required remediation in Mathematics,

English, Reading, or a combination of the three subjects. This section seeks to answer the following questions:

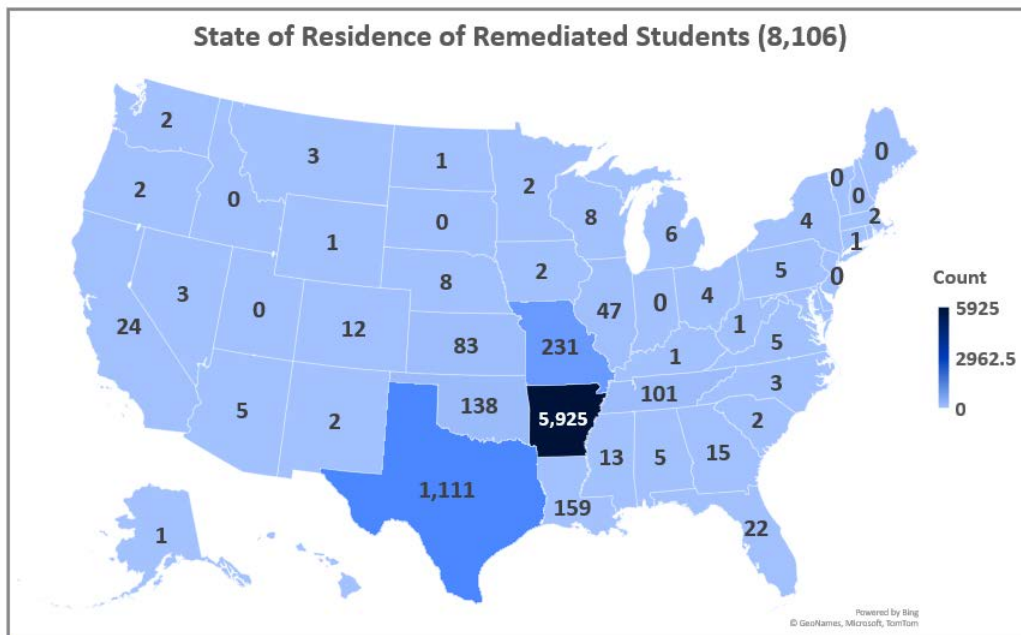
Who are these remediated students?

- a. Are students enrolled part time or full time?
- b. What is the breakdown of males and females?
- c. What type of institution did they attend?
- d. What year did they graduate high school?
- e. Where do these students reside?
- f. What is their race/ethnicity?
- g. What is the remediation rate per race/ethnicity?

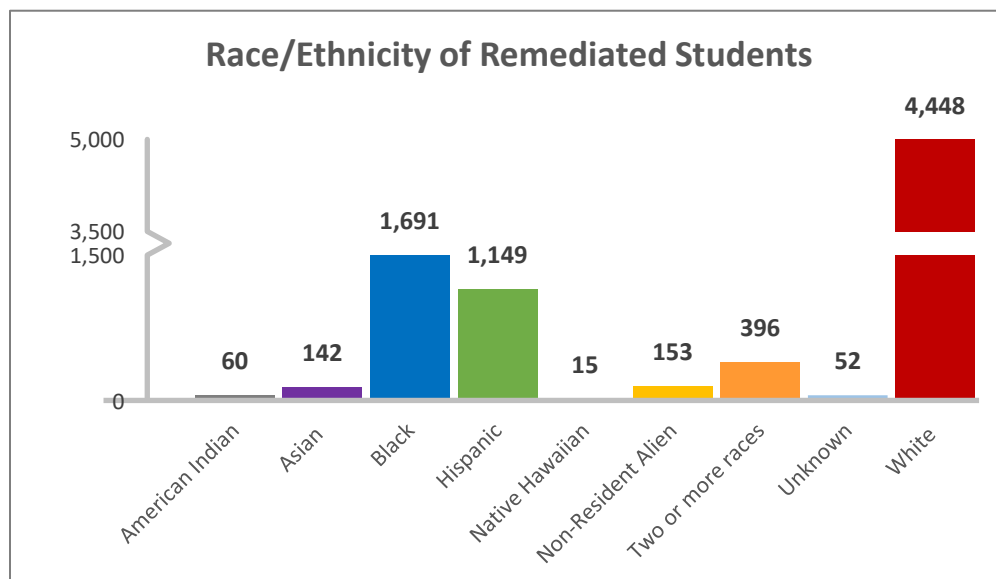
Of the 8,106 remediated students, 89% were classified as full-time students and 11% were classified as part-time students. With regards to sex, 60% were female and 40% were male. When examining the institution type, 62% of this population enrolled at a four-year institution compared to 38% enrolled at a two-year institution. Lastly, 92% graduated high school in 2022 while 8% graduated in 2021.



Of the 8,106 students requiring remediation, 73% of these students reside in Arkansas. The other 27% reside out-of-state as depicted in the chart below.



The chart below illustrates a summary of the remediated population of first-time entering, degree-seeking students who graduated high school in 2021 or 2022 by race/ethnicity. White students represent 55%, Black students represent 21%, and Hispanic students represent 14% of the total population.





Rates comparing the remediation population to the total population by race/ethnicity can be found in the following table. As shown, White students represent a lower remediation rate at 31% when compared to the percentage of White students in the total population of 21,510 students. Likewise, Black, Hispanic, and Non-Resident Alien represent a higher remediation rate at 62%, 47%, and 52%, respectively.

	Total Population* (21,510)		Remediation Population (8,106)		Remediation Rate by Race/Ethnicity
	<i>n</i>	Percentage	<i>n</i>	Percentage	
American Indian	166	1%	60	1%	36%
Asian	435	2%	142	2%	33%
Black	2,740	13%	1,691	21%	62%
Hispanic	2,448	11%	1,149	14%	47%
Native Hawaiian	45	0%	15	0%	33%
Non-Resident Alien	292	1%	153	2%	52%
Two or more races	1,023	5%	396	5%	39%
Unknown	120	1%	52	1%	43%
White	14,241	66%	4,448	55%	31%
Total	21,510	100%	8,106	100%	38%

\* Number of first-time, degree seeking students who graduated high school in 2022 or 2021.

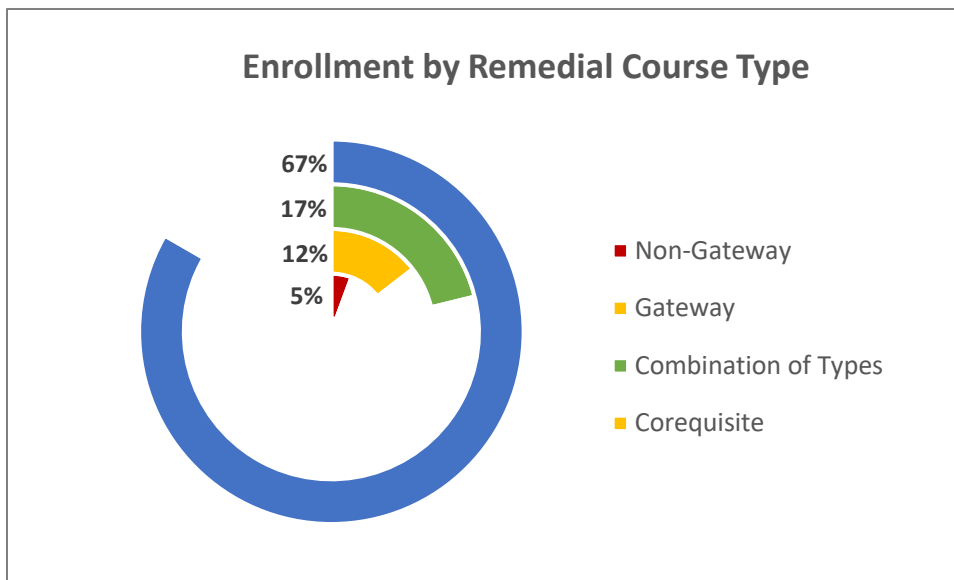
**Remedial Coursework**

The following tables and charts address the characteristics of remedial coursework in Mathematics, English, Reading, or a combination of the three subjects. This section seeks to answer the following questions:

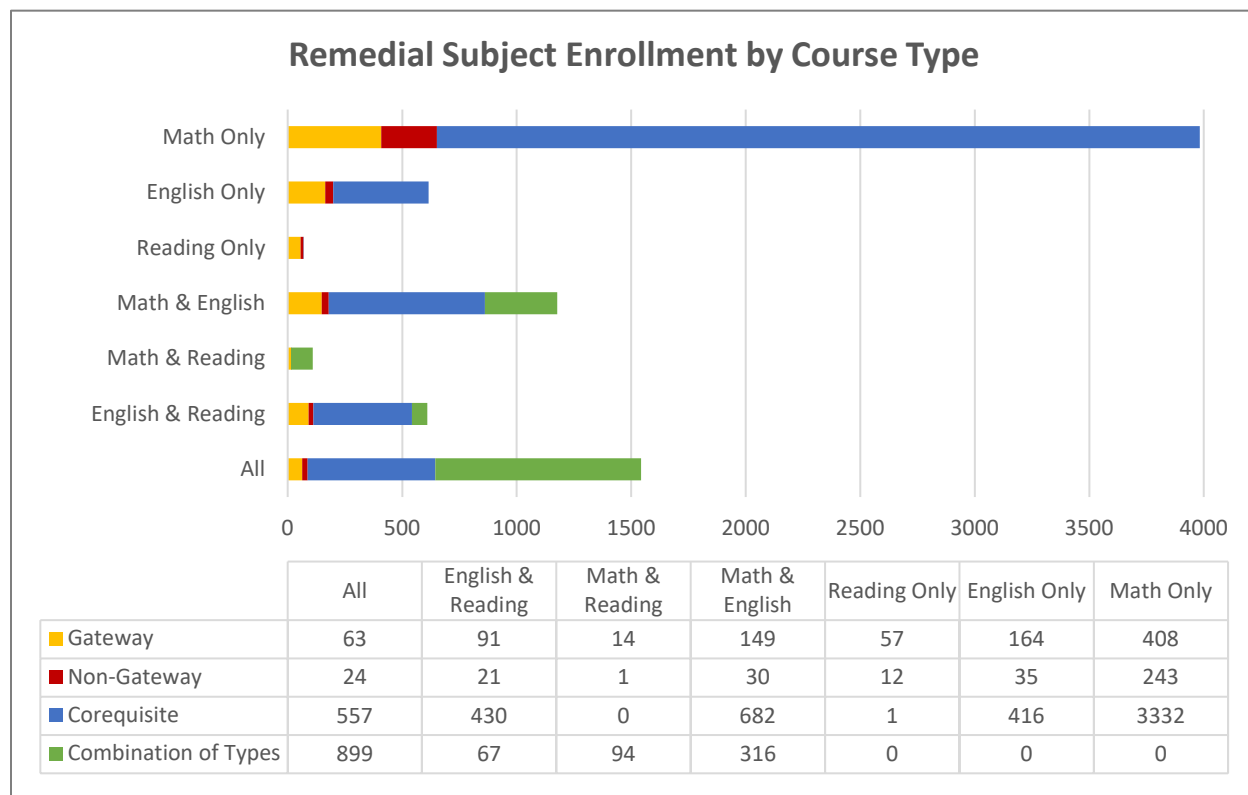
- In what courses are remediated students enrolled?
  - a. What types of remedial courses are offered?
  - b. Which subject(s) have the highest enrollment?
  - c. What is the breakdown of subject by race/ethnicity?

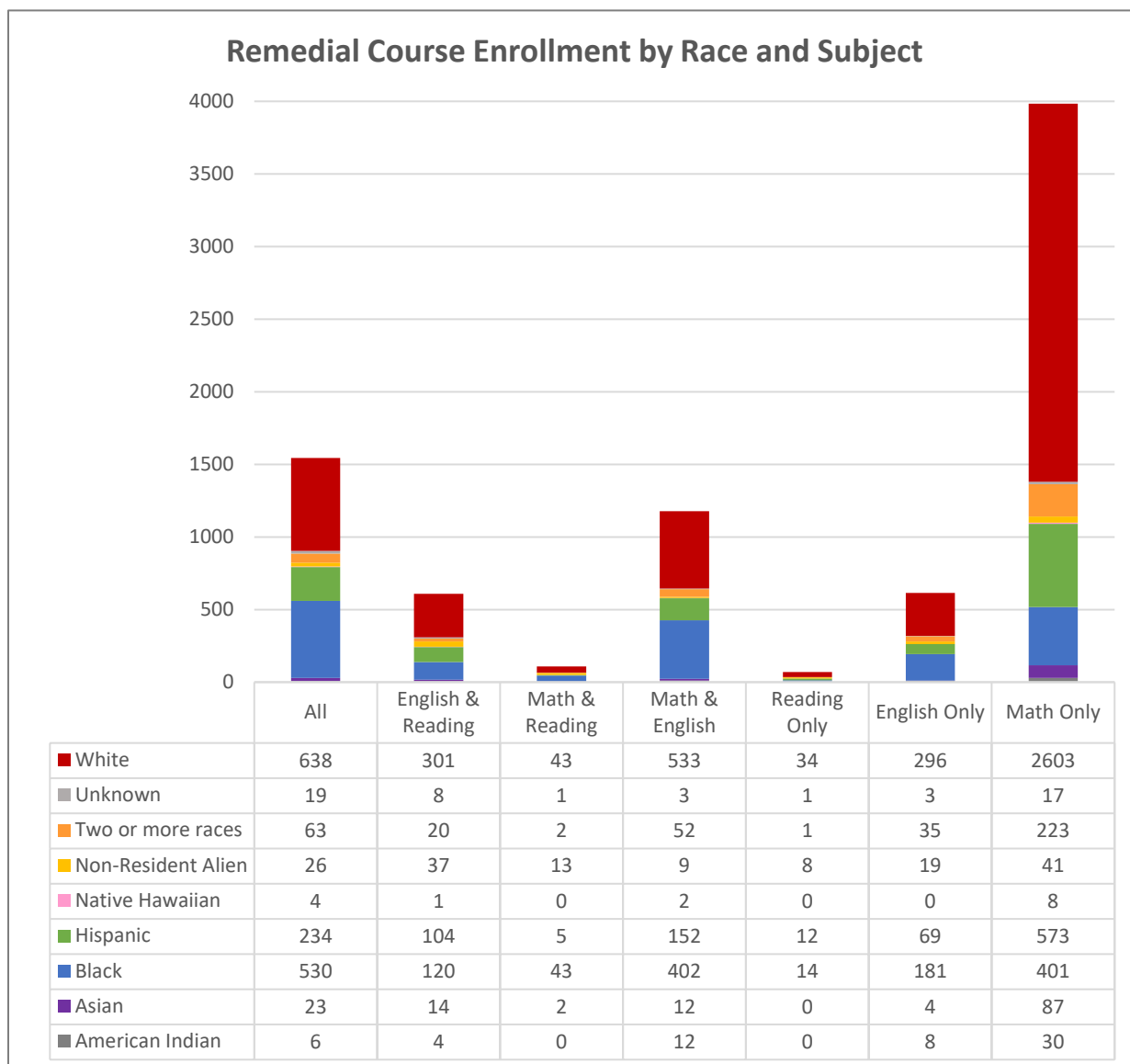
Many models are used to deliver remedial coursework to students such as corequisite, gateway remedial, non-gateway remedial, or a combination of these models. Corequisite courses combine both the remedial coursework and the gateway coursework into one course or as a supplemental course to a gateway course taken in the same term. Gateway courses are considered the first college-level course a student completes in a particular subject area. However, gateway remedial courses are standalone remedial courses that allow a student to go into a college-level course in the subject upon successful completion. Non-gateway courses are any remedial courses taken as a prerequisite to another remedial course.

The following chart depicts the breakdown of these different models of remediation. As shown, at 67%, corequisite courses are the dominant model of remediation offered in the state.



The chart and table below show the enrollment for each remedial subject, or combination of subjects, by remediation model type. Although math is the most common subject of remediation, the majority of students are enrolled in a corequisite model which allows students to earn college credit while being remediated.



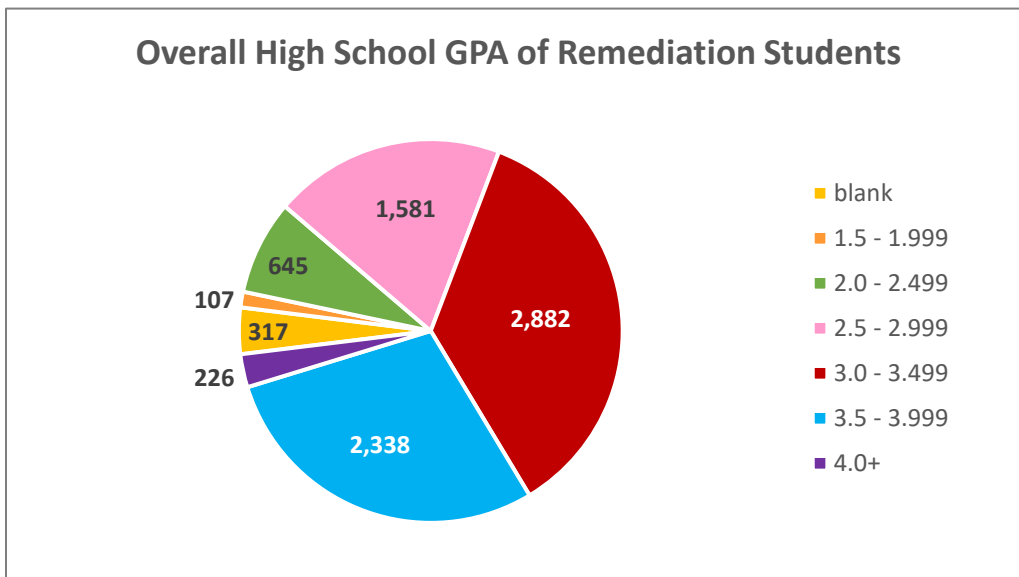


### Remedial Placement

The following tables and charts address the placement of students in remedial coursework. This section seeks to answer the following questions:

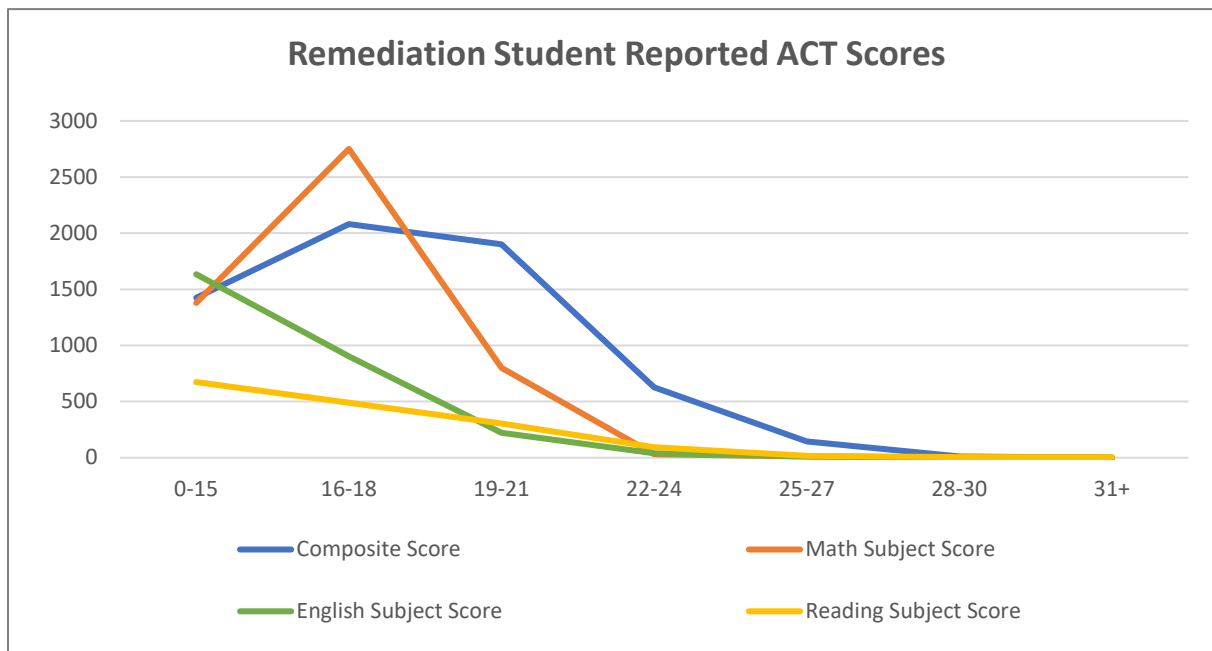
- What measures were used to determine placement?
  - a. What is the HS GPA of students in remedial coursework and how many have a HS GPA greater than 3.0?
  - b. How do ACT scores differ from HS GPA in terms of where students are placed?
  - c. How many attempts does it take for a student to successfully complete remediation?

Act 970 of 2009 requires the Arkansas Division of Higher Education to report the number of first-time entering students who require remediation and have a high school GPA of 3.0 or higher. The following pie chart describes the analysis of GPA in ½ point ranges where 5,446 students, or 67%, required remediation and had a GPA of 3.0 or higher.

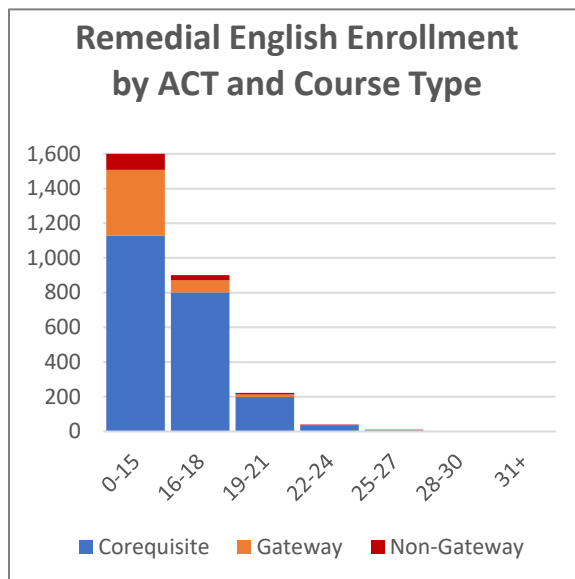
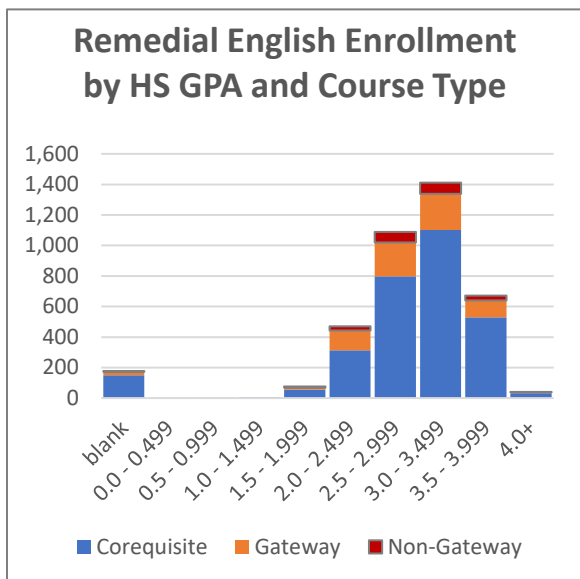
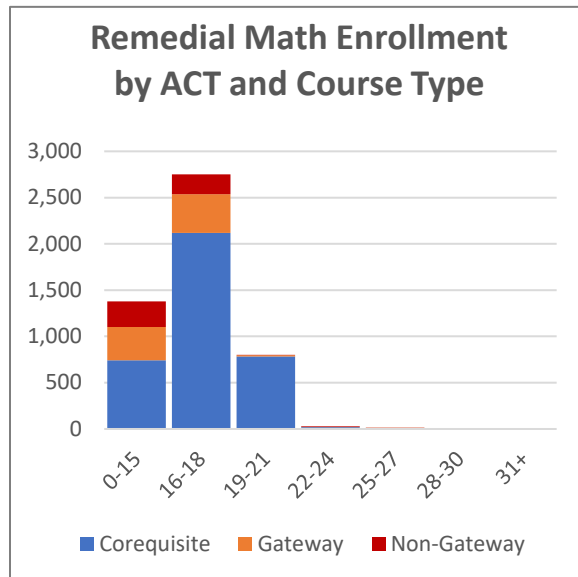
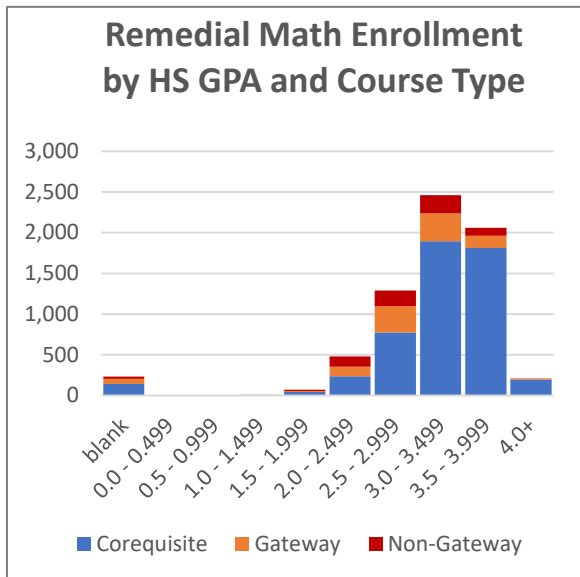


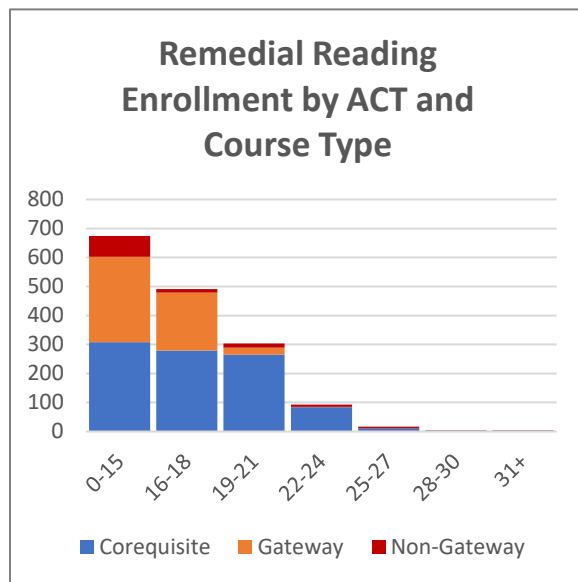
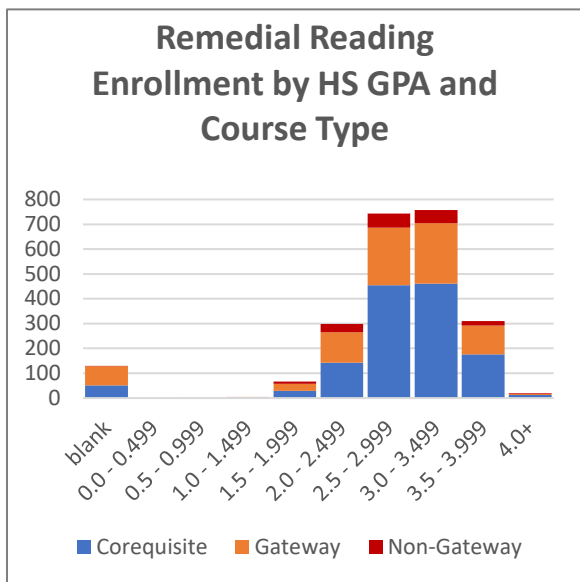
10 records from GPA ranges 0.0 – 1.499 are not depicted in this chart.

Current policy allows institutions to place students based on multiple measures. This includes the use of standardized, normed exams such as ACT, which is also the most commonly reported and used placement measure. The following line chart shows the ACT score ranges for students placed in remedial coursework. As shown, the 16-18 range is the most common score range for both the composite score and math subject score of remediated students.



The following six charts show a side-by-side comparison of HS GPA and ACT score for each subject area. These also indicate remediation course type for each subject area.





Act 970 of 2009 requires the Arkansas Division of Higher Education to report the number of attempts it takes for a student to pass a postsecondary remedial course. The following table shows an overwhelming majority of students successfully complete remediation coursework on the first attempt.

Number of Attempts	Percentage
Once	92.1%
Twice	6.5%
Three or more	1.5%

**Appendix A**

This table shows the remediation rate for each institution. **Total Count** = total number of first-time entering, degree seeking students who graduated high school in 2022 or 2021. **Remediated Count** = number of first-time entering, degree seeking students who graduated high school in 2022 or 2021 and required remediation.

4-Year Universities	Total Count	Remediated Count	% Requiring Remediation
ASUJ	1304	434	33%
ATU	1390	433	31%
HSU	415	258	62%
SAUM	712	384	54%
UAF	7165	2070	29%
UAFS	801	375	47%
UALR	515	256	50%
UAM	377	176	47%
UAPB	562	300	53%
UCA	1826	360	20%
2-Year Colleges	Total Count	Remediated Count	% Requiring Remediation
ANC	151	70	46%
ASUB	567	265	47%
ASUMH	195	109	56%
ASUMS	109	57	52%
ASUN	255	102	40%
ASUTR	92	36	39%
BRTC	242	139	57%
CCCUA	244	112	46%
EACC	92	38	41%
NAC	334	116	35%
NPC	491	324	66%
NWACC	1300	574	44%
OZC	115	32	28%
PCCUA	136	61	45%
SACC	184	117	64%
SAUT	188	95	51%
SEARK	114	62	54%
UACCB	229	83	36%
UACCHT	141	75	53%
UACCM	444	130	29%
UACCRM	154	26	17%
UAPTC	666	437	66%

**Appendix B**

**Gateway Course Success Rates for Remediated Students**

This table shows the gateway course success rates for each institution by subject area for remediated students. These students took both remedial and gateway courses during AY2023, or as a concurrent student, and passed with an A, B, C, CR, or S.

Institution	Subject	Failed	Passed	Total	Success Rate
ANC	Math	25	27	52	51.9%
	English	9	18	27	66.7%
	Reading	9	18	27	66.7%
ASUB	Math	55	83	138	60.1%
	English	54	138	192	71.9%
	Reading	54	138	192	71.9%
ASUJ	Math	157	96	253	37.9%
	English	36	122	158	77.2%
	Reading	33	112	145	77.2%
ASUMH	Math	38	25	63	39.7%
	English	17	34	51	66.7%
	Reading	7	16	23	69.6%
ASUMS	Math	30	21	51	41.2%
	English	12	29	41	70.7%
	Reading	*	*	*	28.6%
ASUN	Math	18	23	41	56.1%
	English	20	40	60	66.7%
	Reading	*	*	*	100.0%
ASUTR	Math	*	*	*	25.0%
	English	10	8	18	44.4%
	Reading	*	*	*	50.0%
ATU	Math	133	215	348	61.8%
	English	103	166	269	61.7%
	Reading	*	*	*	50.0%
BRTC	Math	22	30	52	57.7%
	English	35	42	77	54.5%
	Reading	23	22	45	48.9%
CCCUA	Math	29	20	49	40.8%
	English	20	43	63	68.3%
	Reading	17	24	41	58.5%
EACC	Math	5	13	18	72.2%
	English	8	24	32	75.0%
	Reading	8	24	32	75.0%
HSU	Math	91	81	172	47.1%
	English	38	89	127	70.1%
	Reading	23	74	97	76.3%
NAC	Math	27	26	53	49.1%
	English	22	44	66	66.7%
	Reading	22	44	66	66.7%
NPC	Math	98	154	252	61.1%
	English	79	91	170	53.5%
	Reading	68	79	147	53.7%
NWACC	Math	66	51	117	43.6%
	English	117	201	318	63.2%
	Reading	110	191	301	63.5%
OZC	Math	8	6	14	42.9%
	English	*	*	*	90.0%
	Reading	*	*	*	100.0%
PCCUA	Math	*	*	*	82.6%
	English	7	5	12	41.7%
	Reading	7	12	19	63.2%
SACC	Math	35	61	96	63.5%
	English	18	48	66	72.7%
	Reading	8	23	31	74.2%
SAUM	Math	80	170	250	68.0%
	English	60	180	240	75.0%
	Reading	37	52	89	58.4%
SAUT	Math	10	26	36	72.2%
	English	30	56	86	65.1%
	Reading	*	*	*	0.0%
SEARK	Math	19	16	35	45.7%
	English	34	11	45	24.4%
	Reading	29	7	36	19.4%
UACCB	Math	13	38	51	74.5%
	English	*	*	*	87.1%
	Reading				
UACCHT	Math	19	35	54	64.8%
	English	7	27	34	79.4%
	Reading	*	*	*	63.6%
UACCM	Math	24	32	56	57.1%
	English	27	36	63	57.1%
	Reading	*	*	*	66.7%
UACCRM	Math	*	*	*	28.6%
	English	9	6	15	40.0%
	Reading	9	6	15	40.0%
UAF	Math	402	1,604	2,006	80.0%
	English	43	218	261	83.5%
	Reading	*	*	*	0.0%
UAFS	Math	89	251	340	73.8%
	English	16	41	57	71.9%
	Reading	13	33	46	71.7%
UALR	Math	55	134	189	70.9%
	English	10	86	96	89.6%
	Reading	10	85	95	89.5%
UAM	Math	48	50	98	51.0%
	English	51	63	114	55.3%
	Reading				
UAPB	Math	30	50	80	62.5%
	English	31	72	103	69.9%
	Reading	*	*	*	33.3%
UAPTC	Math	89	223	312	71.5%
	English	113	163	276	59.1%
	Reading	73	117	190	61.6%
UCA	Math	136	185	321	57.6%
	English	57	122	179	68.2%
	Reading	54	121	175	69.1%

\*Counts less than five are suppressed according to ADHE FERPA requirements.

Based on the 21,510 AY2023 first-time entering, degree seeking students who graduated high school in 2022 or 2021.

Course subjects identified by AHEIS Credit Course File CIP Code fields.



### Gateway Course Success Rates for Non-Remediated Students

This table shows the gateway course success rates for each institution by subject area for non-remediated students. These students took gateway courses during AY2023, or as a concurrent student, and passed with an A, B, C, CR, or S.

Institution	Subject	Failed	Passed	Total	Success Rate
ANC	Math	20	39	59	66.1%
	English	22	57	79	72.2%
	Reading	22	57	79	72.2%
ASUB	Math	43	217	260	83.5%
	English	40	268	308	87.0%
	Reading	40	268	308	87.0%
ASUJ	Math	143	637	780	81.7%
	English	108	808	916	88.2%
	Reading	108	821	929	88.4%
ASUMH	Math	20	54	74	73.0%
	English	22	85	107	79.4%
	Reading	31	104	135	77.0%
ASUMS	Math	6	27	33	81.8%
	English	9	38	47	80.9%
	Reading	16	65	81	80.2%
ASUN	Math	22	82	104	78.8%
	English	14	72	86	83.7%
	Reading	34	109	143	76.2%
ASUTR	Math	12	22	34	64.7%
	English	20	25	45	55.6%
	Reading	28	31	59	52.5%
ATU	Math	210	697	907	76.8%
	English	131	800	931	85.9%
	Reading	234	964	1,198	80.5%
BRTC	Math	16	48	64	75.0%
	English	33	92	125	73.6%
	Reading	45	112	157	71.3%
CCCUA	Math	26	61	87	70.1%
	English	29	80	109	73.4%
	Reading	32	99	131	75.6%
EACC	Math	15	29	44	65.9%
	English	10	40	50	80.0%
	Reading	10	40	50	80.0%
HSU	Math	44	107	151	70.9%
	English	50	185	235	78.7%
	Reading	65	200	265	75.5%
NAC	Math	44	122	166	73.5%
	English	27	130	157	82.8%
	Reading	27	130	157	82.8%
NPC	Math	44	89	133	66.9%
	English	79	153	232	65.9%
	Reading	92	163	255	63.9%
NWACC	Math	253	342	595	57.5%
	English	189	582	771	75.5%
	Reading	197	591	788	75.0%
OZC	Math	16	52	68	76.5%
	English	15	57	72	79.2%
	Reading	17	74	91	81.3%

Institution	Subject	Failed	Passed	Total	Success Rate
PCCUA	Math	8	43	51	84.3%
	English	15	57	72	79.2%
	Reading	16	49	65	75.4%
SACC	Math	13	41	54	75.9%
	English	13	48	61	78.7%
	Reading	23	73	96	76.0%
SAUM	Math	21	271	292	92.8%
	English	39	286	325	88.0%
	Reading	62	414	476	87.0%
SAUT	Math	17	59	76	77.6%
	English	11	41	52	78.8%
	Reading	39	97	136	71.3%
SEARK	Math	9	16	25	64.0%
	English	12	24	36	66.7%
	Reading	17	28	45	62.2%
UACCB	Math	19	78	97	80.4%
	English	13	121	134	90.3%
	Reading	17	148	165	89.7%
UACCHT	Math	11	30	41	73.2%
	English	13	59	72	81.9%
	Reading	15	80	95	84.2%
UACCM	Math	73	203	276	73.6%
	English	68	257	325	79.1%
	Reading	93	289	382	75.7%
UACCRM	Math	16	71	87	81.6%
	English	18	81	99	81.8%
	Reading	18	81	99	81.8%
UAF	Math	544	3,880	4,424	87.7%
	English	309	3,902	4,211	92.7%
	Reading	351	4,120	4,471	92.1%
UAFS	Math	53	339	392	86.5%
	English	155	541	696	77.7%
	Reading	159	548	707	77.5%
UALR	Math	51	209	260	80.4%
	English	55	245	300	81.7%
	Reading	55	246	301	81.7%
UAM	Math	33	147	180	81.7%
	English	30	151	181	83.4%
	Reading	81	214	295	72.5%
UAPB	Math	79	134	213	62.9%
	English	92	123	215	57.2%
	Reading	122	193	315	61.3%
UAPTC	Math	49	112	161	69.6%
	English	85	178	263	67.7%
	Reading	125	224	349	64.2%
UCA	Math	236	1,093	1,329	82.2%
	English	153	1,282	1,435	89.3%
	Reading	159	1,280	1,439	89.0%

*Based on the 21,510 AY2023 first-time entering, degree seeking students who graduated high school in 2022 or 2021.*

*Course subjects identified by AHEIS Credit Course File CIP Code fields.*

**Appendix C**

**Placement Plan Success Rates for Math Courses**

This table shows the college, remedial, and overall success rates of the first math course completed at each institution and offers insight into the effectiveness of an institution’s placement plan. Placement measures should reflect a better than 75% student success rate.

Institution	Placement Course Level	Failed	Passed	Total	Placement Success Rate
ANC	College	25	83	108	76.9%
	Remedial	9	42	51	82.4%
	Overall	34	125	159	78.6%
ASUB	College	55	394	449	87.8%
	Remedial	64	113	177	63.8%
	Overall	119	507	626	81.0%
ASUJ	College	128	447	575	77.7%
	Remedial	168	188	356	52.8%
	Overall	296	635	931	68.2%
ASUMH	College	28	82	110	74.5%
	Remedial	34	46	80	57.5%
	Overall	62	128	190	67.4%
ASUMS	College	10	61	71	85.9%
	Remedial	26	27	53	50.9%
	Overall	36	88	124	71.0%
ASUN	College	21	162	183	88.5%
	Remedial	16	61	77	79.2%
	Overall	37	223	260	85.8%
ASUTR	College	25	202	227	89.0%
	Remedial	13	9	22	40.9%
	Overall	38	211	249	84.7%
ATU	College	242	996	1238	80.5%
	Remedial	95	245	340	72.1%
	Overall	337	1241	1578	78.6%
BRTC	College	13	54	67	80.6%
	Remedial	52	48	100	48.0%
	Overall	65	102	167	61.1%
CCCUA	College	33	124	157	79.0%
	Remedial	27	35	62	56.5%
	Overall	60	159	219	72.6%
EACC	College	24	76	100	76.0%
	Remedial	8	18	26	69.2%
	Overall	32	94	126	74.6%
HSU	College	49	56	105	53.3%
	Remedial	98	139	237	58.6%
	Overall	147	195	342	57.0%
NAC	College	54	163	217	75.1%
	Remedial	29	30	59	50.8%
	Overall	83	193	276	69.9%
NPC	College	48	152	200	76.0%
	Remedial	119	172	291	59.1%
	Overall	167	324	491	66.0%
NWACC	College	330	717	1047	68.5%
	Remedial	236	223	459	48.6%
	Overall	566	940	1506	62.4%
OZC	College	26	98	124	79.0%
	Remedial	7	7	14	50.0%
	Overall	33	105	138	76.1%
PCCUA	College	9	92	101	91.1%
	Remedial	21	31	52	59.6%
	Overall	30	123	153	80.4%
SACC	College	15	52	67	77.6%
	Remedial	32	67	99	67.7%
	Overall	47	119	166	71.7%
SAUM	College	29	241	270	89.3%
	Remedial	88	248	336	73.8%
	Overall	117	489	606	80.7%
SAUT	College	13	96	109	88.1%
	Remedial	9	30	39	76.9%
	Overall	22	126	148	85.1%
SEARK	College	16	37	53	69.8%
	Remedial	21	17	38	44.7%
	Overall	37	54	91	59.3%
UACCB	College	23	100	123	81.3%
	Remedial	19	48	67	71.6%
	Overall	42	148	190	77.9%
UACCHT	College	13	95	108	88.0%
	Remedial	19	44	63	69.8%
	Overall	32	139	171	81.3%
UACCM	College	69	192	261	73.6%
	Remedial	41	45	86	52.3%
	Overall	110	237	347	68.3%
UACCRM	College	21	103	124	83.1%
	Remedial	11	12	23	52.2%
	Overall	32	115	147	78.2%
UAF	College	487	2912	3399	85.7%
	Remedial	371	1592	1963	81.1%
	Overall	858	4504	5362	84.0%
UAFS	College	46	322	368	87.5%
	Remedial	76	278	354	78.5%
	Overall	122	600	722	83.1%
UALR	College	54	343	397	86.4%
	Remedial	44	162	206	78.6%
	Overall	98	505	603	83.7%
UAM	College	35	144	179	80.4%
	Remedial	77	64	141	45.4%
	Overall	112	208	320	65.0%
UAPB	College	70	129	199	64.8%
	Remedial	60	167	227	73.6%
	Overall	130	296	426	69.5%
UAPTC	College	47	112	159	70.4%
	Remedial	118	283	401	70.6%
	Overall	165	395	560	70.5%
UCA	College	198	643	841	76.5%
	Remedial	127	181	308	58.8%
	Overall	325	824	1149	71.7%

*Based on the 21,510 AY2023 first-time entering, degree seeking students who graduated high school in 2022 or 2021.*

### Placement Plan Success Rates for English Courses

This table shows the college, remedial, and overall success rates of the first English course completed at each institution and offers insight into the effectiveness of an institution’s placement plan. Placement measures should reflect a better than 75% student success rate.

Institution	Placement Course Level	Failed	Passed	Total	Placement Success Rate
ANC	College	30	114	144	79.2%
	Remedial	23	24	47	51.1%
	Overall	53	138	191	72.3%
ASUB	College	43	470	513	91.6%
	Remedial	49	146	195	74.9%
	Overall	92	616	708	87.0%
ASUJ	College	87	559	646	86.5%
	Remedial	30	203	233	87.1%
	Overall	117	762	879	86.7%
ASUMH	College	20	147	167	88.0%
	Remedial	18	47	65	72.3%
	Overall	38	194	232	83.6%
ASUMS	College	13	80	93	86.0%
	Remedial	8	34	42	81.0%
	Overall	21	114	135	84.4%
ASUN	College	16	159	175	90.9%
	Remedial	24	59	83	71.1%
	Overall	40	218	258	84.5%
ASUTR	College	38	218	256	85.2%
	Remedial	16	11	27	40.7%
	Overall	54	229	283	80.9%
ATU	College	135	1056	1191	88.7%
	Remedial	94	172	266	64.7%
	Overall	229	1228	1457	84.3%
BRTC	College	30	90	120	75.0%
	Remedial	36	50	86	58.1%
	Overall	66	140	206	68.0%
CCCUA	College	31	181	212	85.4%
	Remedial	29	50	79	63.3%
	Overall	60	231	291	79.4%
EACC	College	11	95	106	89.6%
	Remedial	11	22	33	66.7%
	Overall	22	117	139	84.2%
HSU	College	42	118	160	73.8%
	Remedial	43	109	152	71.7%
	Overall	85	227	312	72.8%
NAC	College	32	188	220	85.5%
	Remedial	37	55	92	59.8%
	Overall	69	243	312	77.9%
NPC	College	84	194	278	69.8%
	Remedial	78	120	198	60.6%
	Overall	162	314	476	66.0%
NWACC	College	230	1036	1266	81.8%
	Remedial	119	197	316	62.3%
	Overall	349	1233	1582	77.9%
OZC	College	17	92	109	84.4%
	Remedial	6	18	24	75.0%
	Overall	23	110	133	82.7%

Institution	Placement Course Level	Failed	Passed	Total	Placement Success Rate
PCCUA	College	17	99	116	85.3%
	Remedial	6	24	30	80.0%
	Overall	23	123	146	84.2%
SACC	College	13	58	71	81.7%
	Remedial	20	52	72	72.2%
	Overall	33	110	143	76.9%
SAUM	College	45	264	309	85.4%
	Remedial	78	194	272	71.3%
	Overall	123	458	581	78.8%
SAUT	College	10	69	79	87.3%
	Remedial	27	61	88	69.3%
	Overall	37	130	167	77.8%
SEARK	College	14	41	55	74.5%
	Remedial	33	20	53	37.7%
	Overall	47	61	108	56.5%
UACCB	College	16	171	187	91.4%
	Remedial	9	34	43	79.1%
	Overall	25	205	230	89.1%
UACCHT	College	16	133	149	89.3%
	Remedial	12	34	46	73.9%
	Overall	28	167	195	85.6%
UACCM	College	68	233	301	77.4%
	Remedial	34	45	79	57.0%
	Overall	102	278	380	73.2%
UACCRM	College	19	111	130	85.4%
	Remedial	9	6	15	40.0%
	Overall	28	117	145	80.7%
UAF	College	266	2861	3127	91.5%
	Remedial	45	212	257	82.5%
	Overall	311	3073	3384	90.8%
UAFS	College	147	592	739	80.1%
	Remedial	15	53	68	77.9%
	Overall	162	645	807	79.9%
UALR	College	51	332	383	86.7%
	Remedial	29	116	145	80.0%
	Overall	80	448	528	84.8%
UAM	College	30	164	194	84.5%
	Remedial	38	74	112	66.1%
	Overall	68	238	306	77.8%
UAPB	College	58	98	156	62.8%
	Remedial	126	145	271	53.5%
	Overall	184	243	427	56.9%
UAPTC	College	91	176	267	65.9%
	Remedial	112	177	289	61.2%
	Overall	203	353	556	63.5%
UCA	College	131	755	886	85.2%
	Remedial	94	158	252	62.7%
	Overall	225	913	1138	80.2%

*Based on the 21,510 AY2023 first-time entering, degree seeking students who graduated high school in 2022 or 2021.*

### Placement Plan Success Rates for Reading Courses

This table shows the college, remedial, and overall success rates of the first reading course completed at each institution and offers insight into the effectiveness of an institution’s placement plan. Placement measures should reflect a better than 75% student success rate.

Institution	Placement Course Level	Failed	Passed	Total	Placement Success Rate
ANC	College	13	104	117	88.9%
	Remedial	23	25	48	52.1%
	Overall	36	129	165	78.2%
ASUB	College	49	336	385	87.3%
	Remedial	49	142	191	74.3%
	Overall	98	478	576	83.0%
ASUJ	College	130	658	788	83.5%
	Remedial	22	187	209	89.5%
	Overall	152	845	997	84.8%
ASUMH	College	17	90	107	84.1%
	Remedial	11	31	42	73.8%
	Overall	28	121	149	81.2%
ASUMS	College	13	92	105	87.6%
	Remedial	*	*	*	42.9%
	Overall	17	95	112	84.8%
ASUN	College	38	178	216	82.4%
	Remedial	*	*	*	90.0%
	Overall	39	187	226	82.7%
ASUTR	College	24	155	179	86.6%
	Remedial	*	*	*	66.7%
	Overall	28	163	191	85.3%
ATU	College	197	795	992	80.1%
	Overall	197	795	992	80.1%
BRTC	College	33	77	110	70.0%
	Remedial	24	51	75	68.0%
	Overall	57	128	185	69.2%
CCCUA	College	34	137	171	80.1%
	Remedial	20	49	69	71.0%
	Overall	54	186	240	77.5%
EACC	College	11	64	75	85.3%
	Remedial	11	22	33	66.7%
	Overall	22	86	108	79.6%
HSU	College	61	181	242	74.8%
	Remedial	16	104	120	86.7%
	Overall	77	285	362	78.7%
NAC	College	41	145	186	78.0%
	Remedial	36	52	88	59.1%
	Overall	77	197	274	71.9%
NPC	College	63	159	222	71.6%
	Remedial	68	105	173	60.7%
	Overall	131	264	395	66.8%
NWACC	College	215	707	922	76.7%
	Remedial	107	179	286	62.6%
	Overall	322	886	1208	73.3%
OZC	College	14	91	105	86.7%
	Remedial	*	*	*	20.0%
	Overall	18	92	110	83.6%

Institution	Placement Course Level	Failed	Passed	Total	Placement Success Rate
PCCUA	College	14	80	94	85.1%
	Remedial	11	31	42	73.8%
	Overall	25	111	136	81.6%
SACC	College	26	84	110	76.4%
	Remedial	27	38	65	58.5%
	Overall	53	122	175	69.7%
SAUM	College	107	354	461	76.8%
	Remedial	26	79	105	75.2%
	Overall	133	433	566	76.5%
SAUT	College	22	108	130	83.1%
	Overall	22	108	130	83.1%
SEARK	College	7	43	50	86.0%
	Remedial	28	14	42	33.3%
UACCB	College	43	160	203	78.8%
	Overall	43	160	203	78.8%
UACCHT	College	21	121	142	85.2%
	Remedial	9	13	22	59.1%
	Overall	30	134	164	81.7%
UACCM	College	71	214	285	75.1%
	Remedial	8	11	19	57.9%
	Overall	79	225	304	74.0%
UACCRM	College	16	109	125	87.2%
	Remedial	9	5	14	35.7%
	Overall	25	114	139	82.0%
UAF	College	549	4626	5175	89.4%
	Overall	549	4626	5175	89.4%
UAFS	College	134	451	585	77.1%
	Remedial	13	44	57	77.2%
	Overall	147	495	642	77.1%
UALR	College	84	396	480	82.5%
	Remedial	25	104	129	80.6%
	Overall	109	500	609	82.1%
UAM	College	54	139	193	72.0%
	Overall	54	139	193	72.0%
UAPB	College	116	186	302	61.6%
	Overall	116	186	302	61.6%
UAPTC	College	79	211	290	72.8%
	Remedial	60	155	215	72.1%
	Overall	139	366	505	72.5%
UCA	College	231	730	961	76.0%
	Remedial	94	159	253	62.8%
	Overall	325	889	1214	73.2%

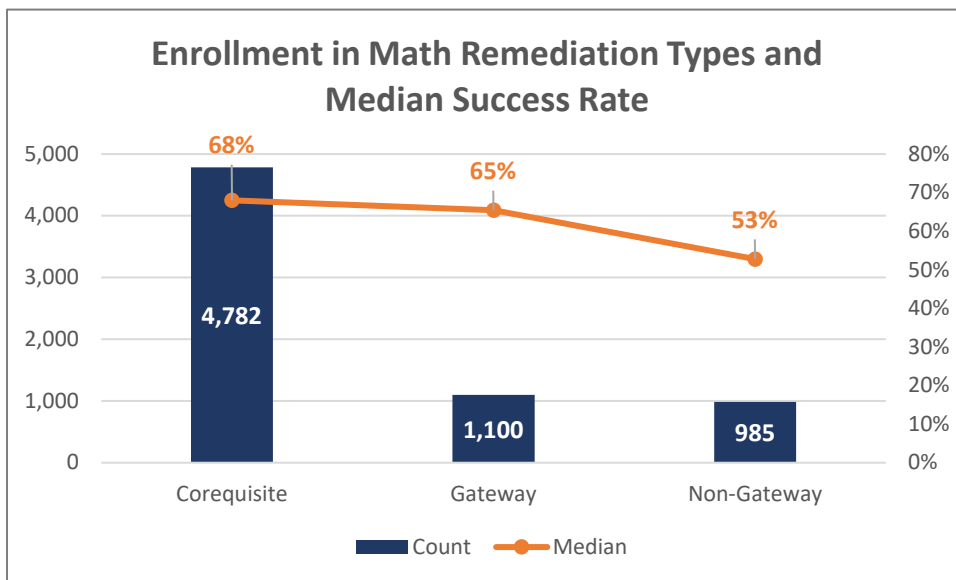
\*Counts less than five are suppressed according to ADHE FERPA requirements.

Based on the 21,510 AY2023 first-time entering, degree seeking students who graduated high school in 2022 or 2021.

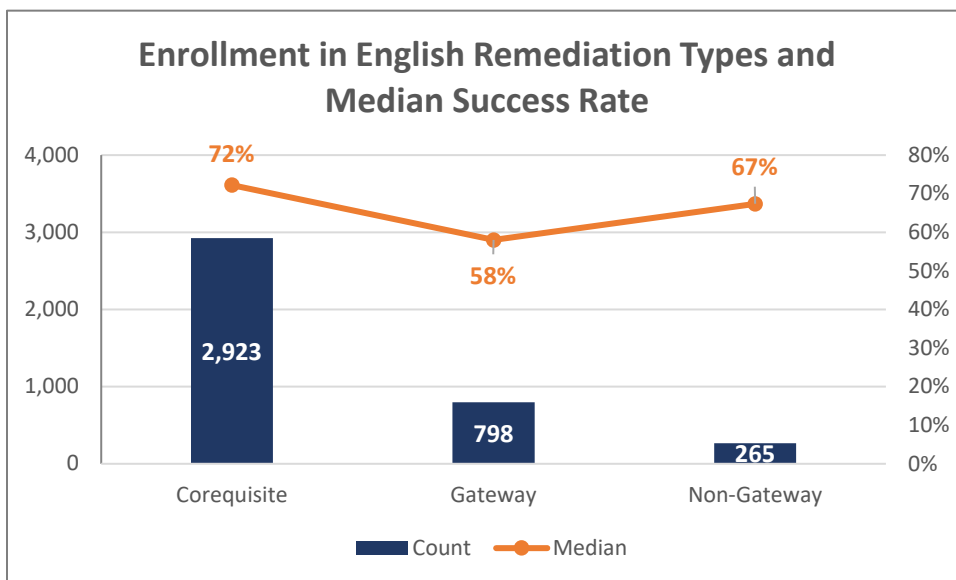
**Appendix D**

**Remediation Course Types and Success Rates**

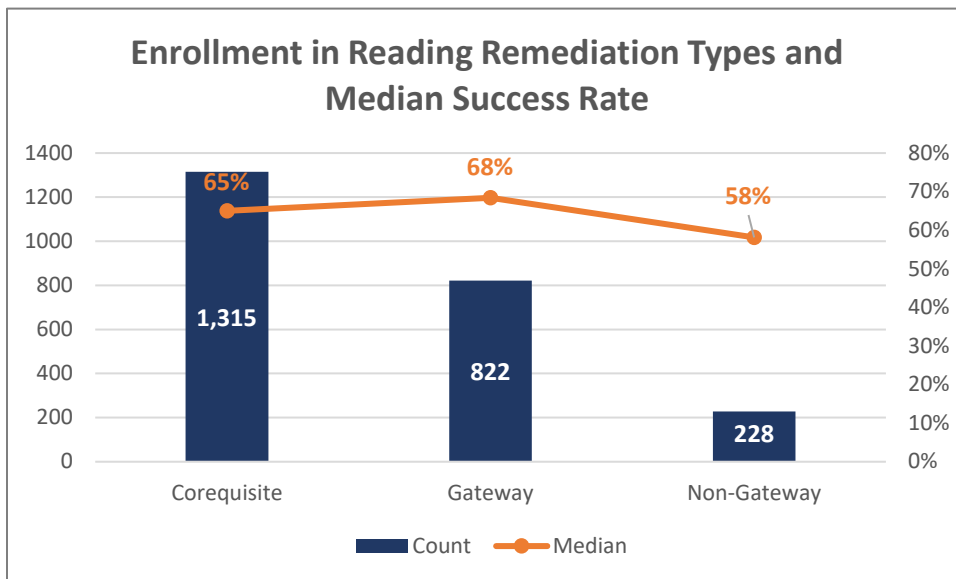
The following charts show the number of students enrolled in specific remediation course types by subject area and the median success rate of each type.



*31 institutions offered corequisite remediation, 20 offered gateway remediation, and 18 offered non-gateway remediation in mathematics.*



*29 institutions offered corequisite remediation, 16 offered gateway remediation, and 6 offered non-gateway remediation in English.*



*14 institutions offered corequisite remediation, 16 offered gateway remediation, and 5 offered non-gateway remediation in reading.*

## ANNUAL REPORT ON STUDENT RETENTION AND GRADUATION FOR ARKANSAS HIGHER EDUCATION

Statewide student retention and graduation rates for students entering Arkansas higher education institutions are presented in this report for both public 4-Year and 2-Year institutions, and private/independent institutions. The Arkansas Higher Education Information System (AHEIS) enables multi-year student retention and graduation tracking in compliance with Student-Right-to-Know legislation and Act 267 of 1989.

### Statewide Retention

The retention calculations for the 4-year institutions are based on students in a fall term cohort of first-time entering, full-time, bachelor-seeking students who returned the fall term of the next academic year. For 2-year colleges, students who returned the next fall, as well as those who completed a credential by the next fall are included as part of the retention rate. The methodology used for this report closely aligns with IPEDS reporting.

The following represents the overall retention rate for the five most recent cohorts for both public sectors. 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.

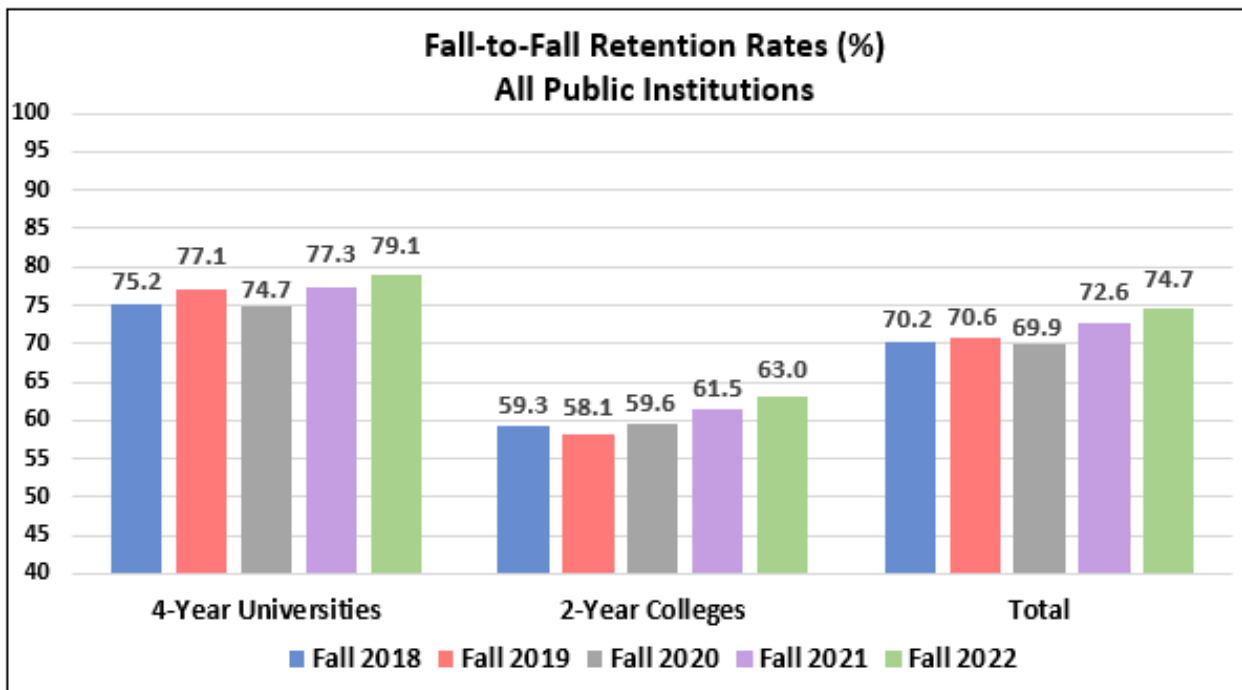


Chart 16.1: Student Retention Rates by Sector

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.

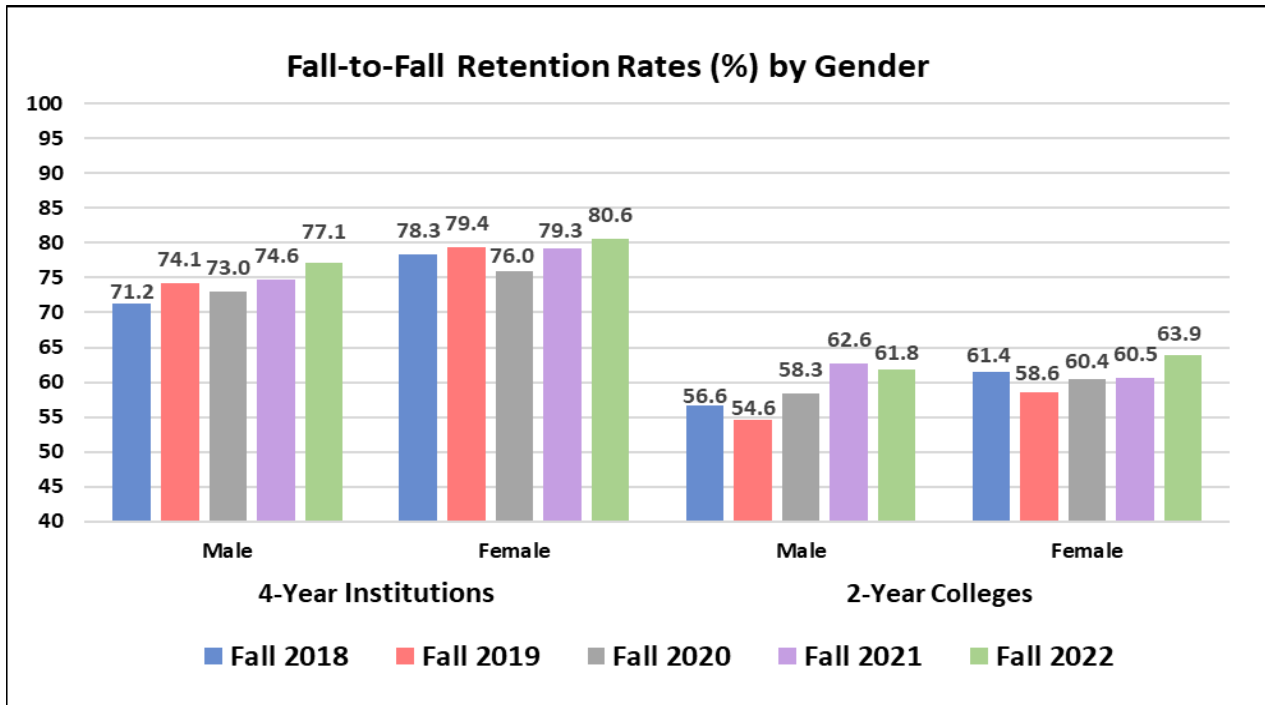


Chart 16.2: Student Retention Rates by Gender

Chart 16.3 provides fall-to-fall retention rates for students enrolled in remediation.

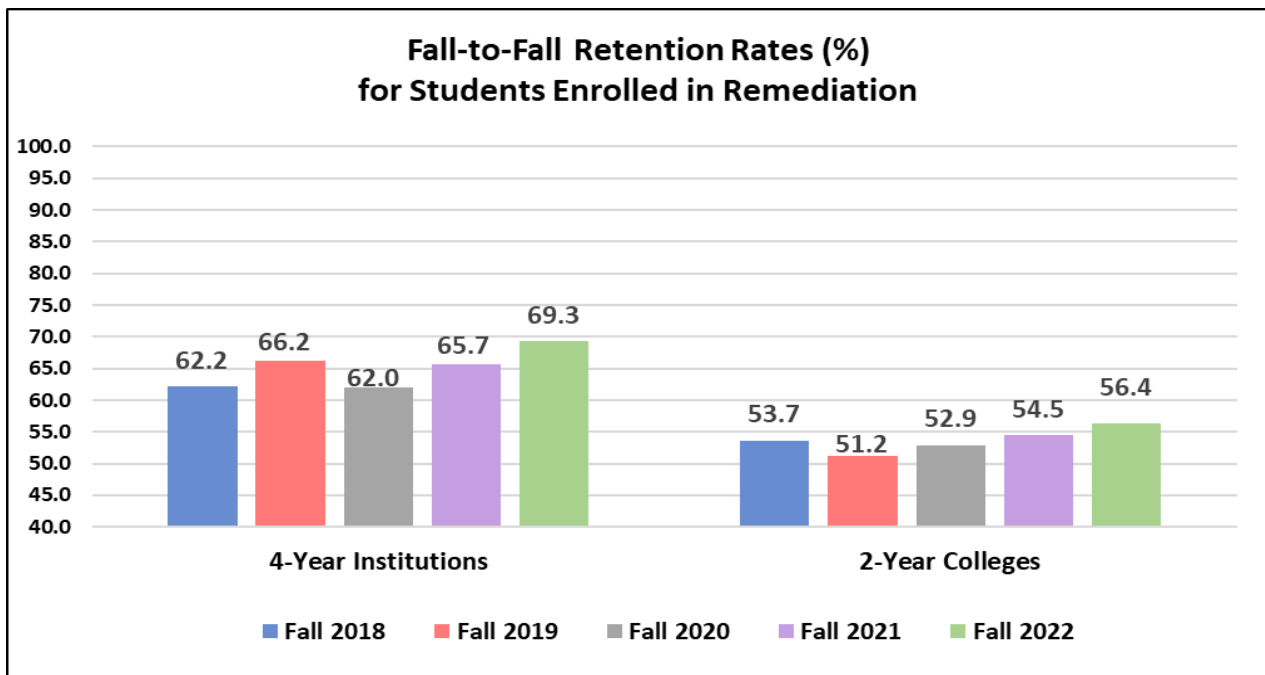


Chart 16.3: Student Retention Rates by Remediated Students



### Retention Rates by Institution

To create charts that are readable and easier to understand, the fall-to-fall retention rates by institution are presented in several separate charts. The next several pages provide fall-to-fall retention rate information for each public and private college and university in the state. Seven 4-year universities reported an increase in the fall-to-fall retention rate when comparing the Fall 2021 cohort to the Fall 2022 cohort.

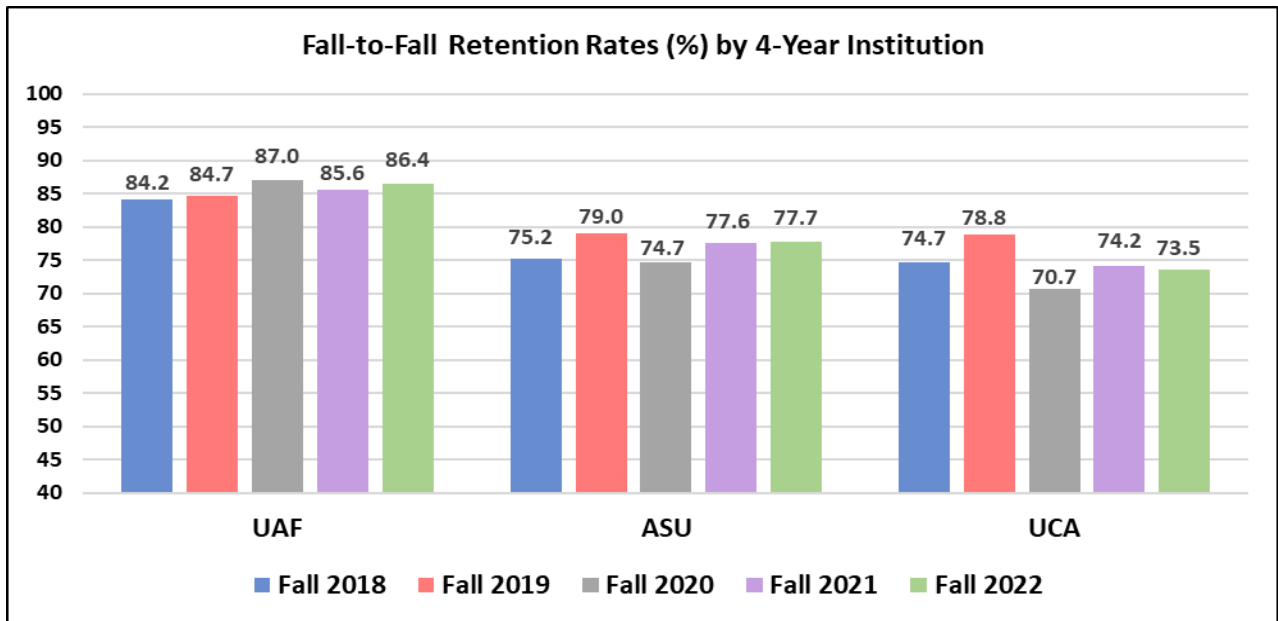


Chart 16.4: Student Retention Rates by 4-Year Institution

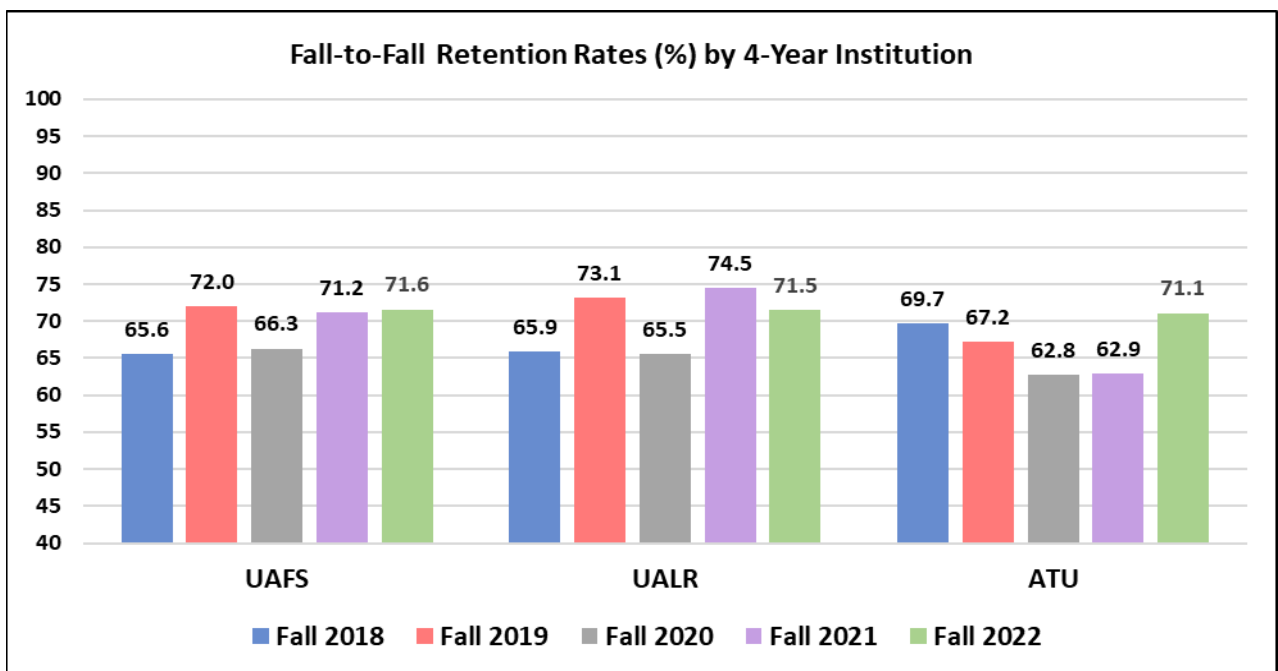


Chart 16.5: Student Retention Rates by 4-Year Institution

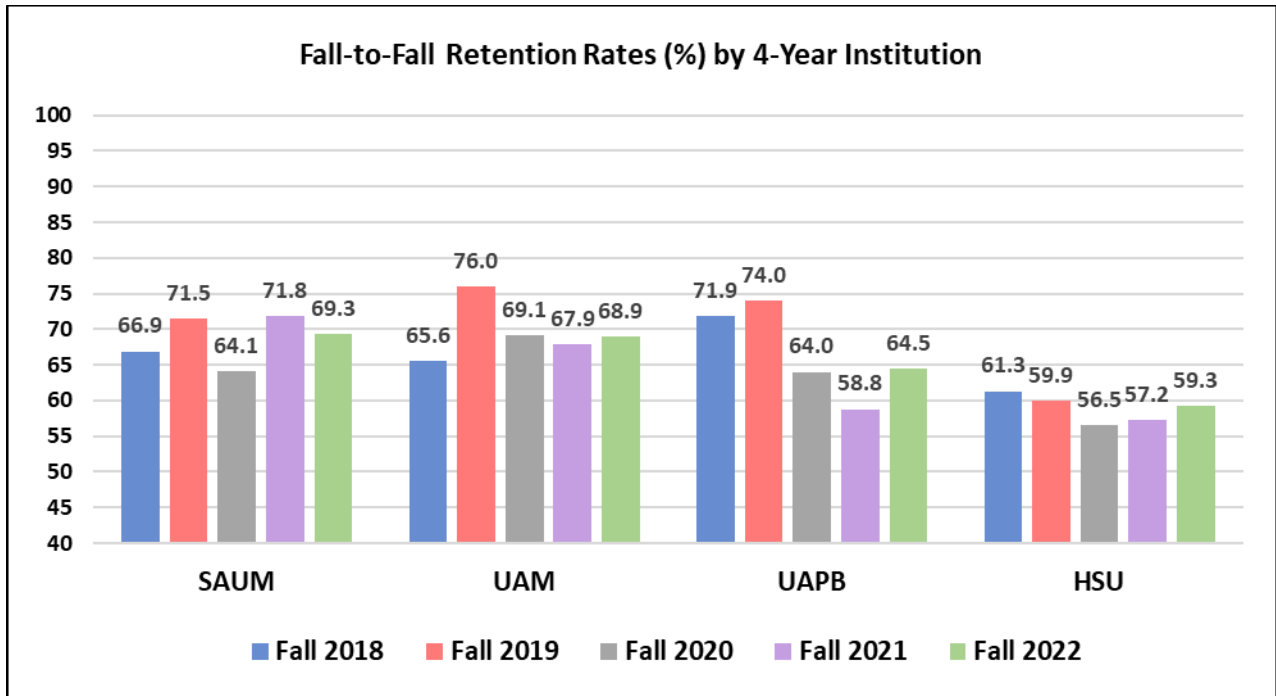


Chart 16.6: Student Retention Rates by 4-Year Institution

The following charts report retention rates for the 2-Year Colleges for Fall 2018 to Fall 2022. Thirteen 2-year colleges reported increases in fall-to-fall retention rates when comparing the Fall 2022 cohort to the Fall 2021 cohort.

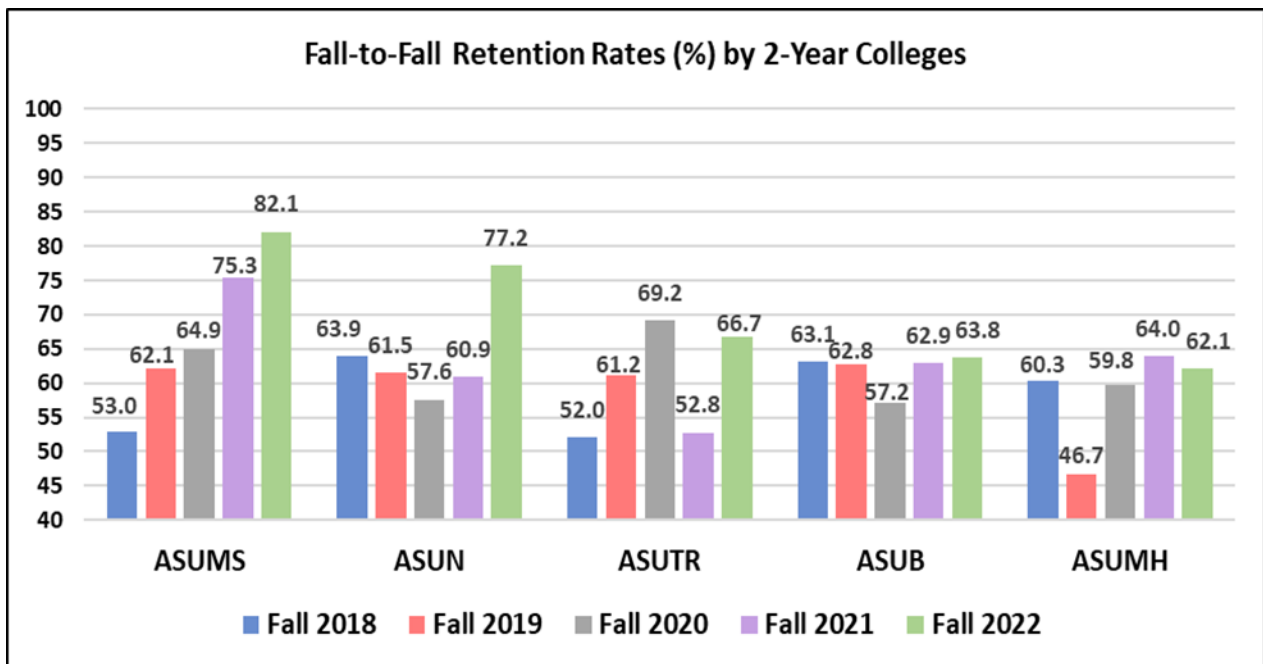


Chart 16.7: Student Retention Rates by Institution – 2-Year Colleges

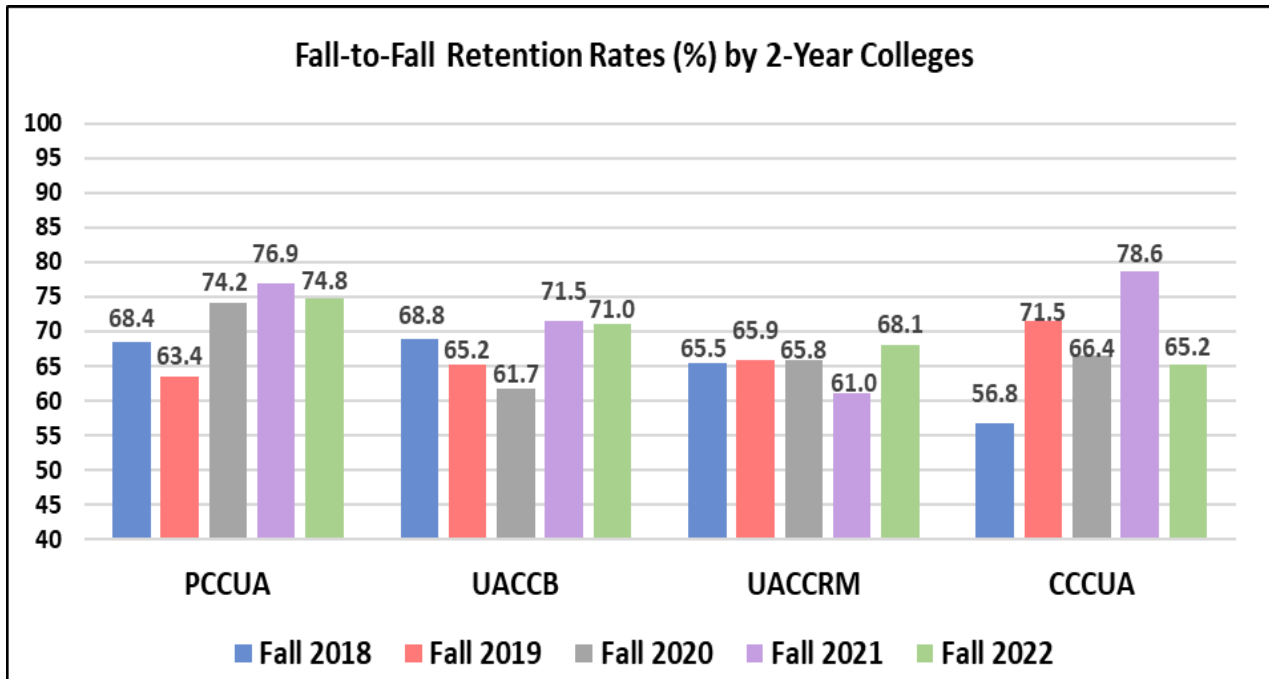


Chart 16.8: Student Retention Rates by Institution – 2-Year Colleges

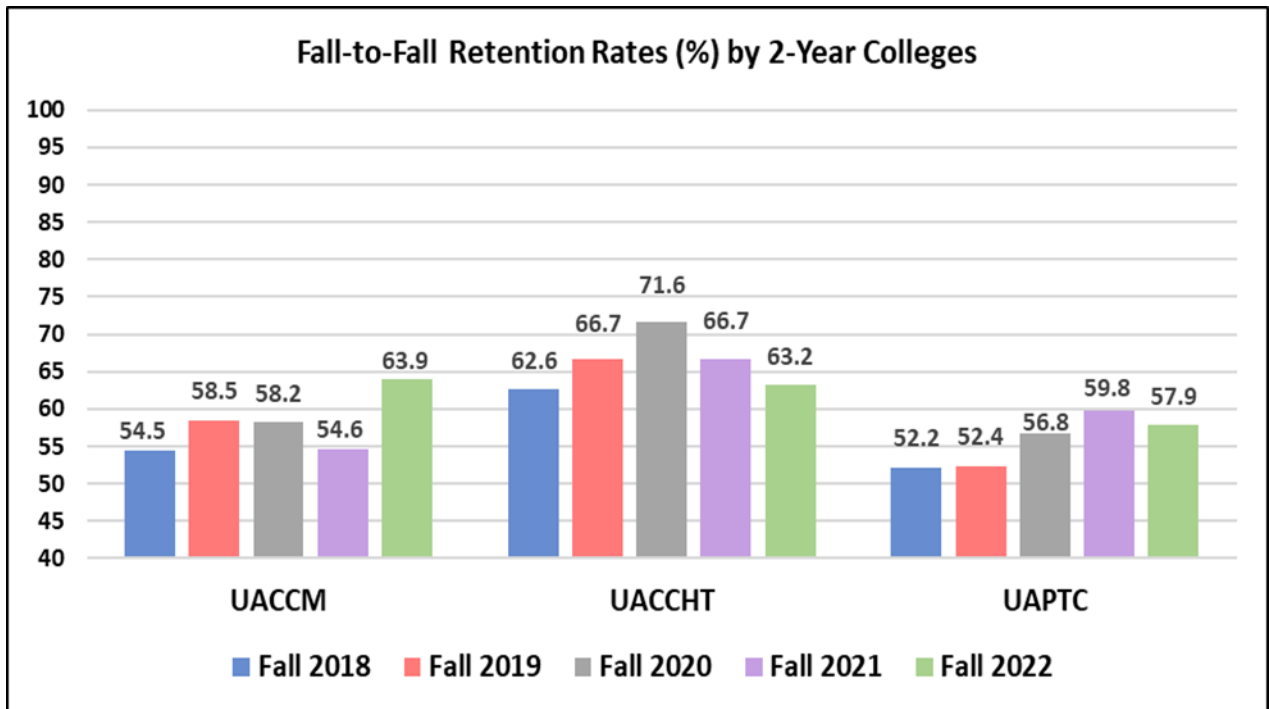


Chart 16.9: Student Retention Rates by Institution – 2-Year Colleges

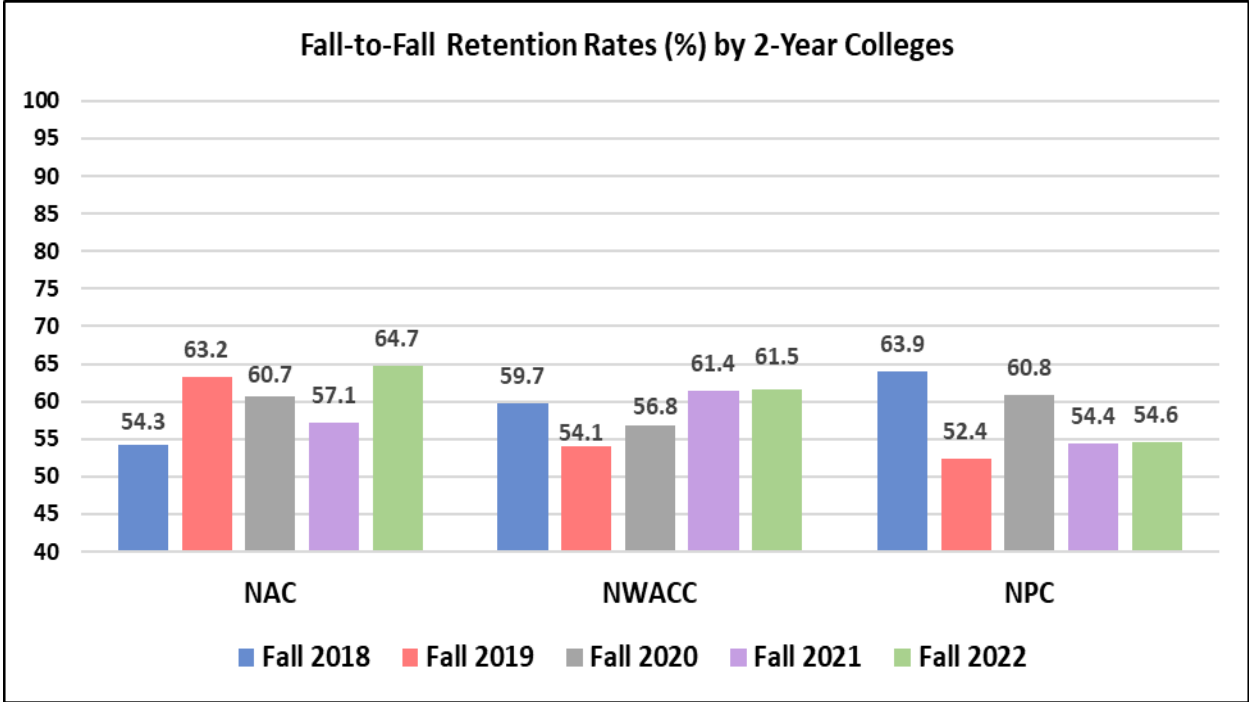


Chart 16.10: Student Retention Rates by Institution –2-Year Colleges

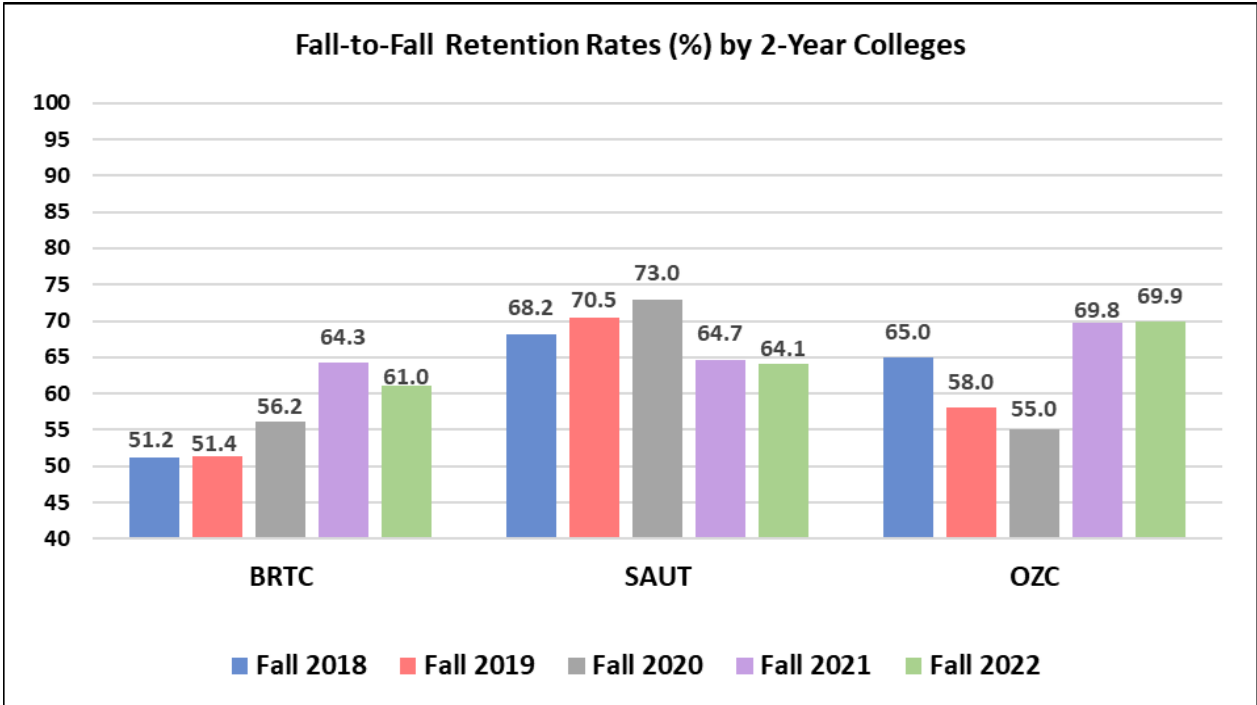


Chart 16.11: Student Retention Rates by Institution –2-Year Colleges

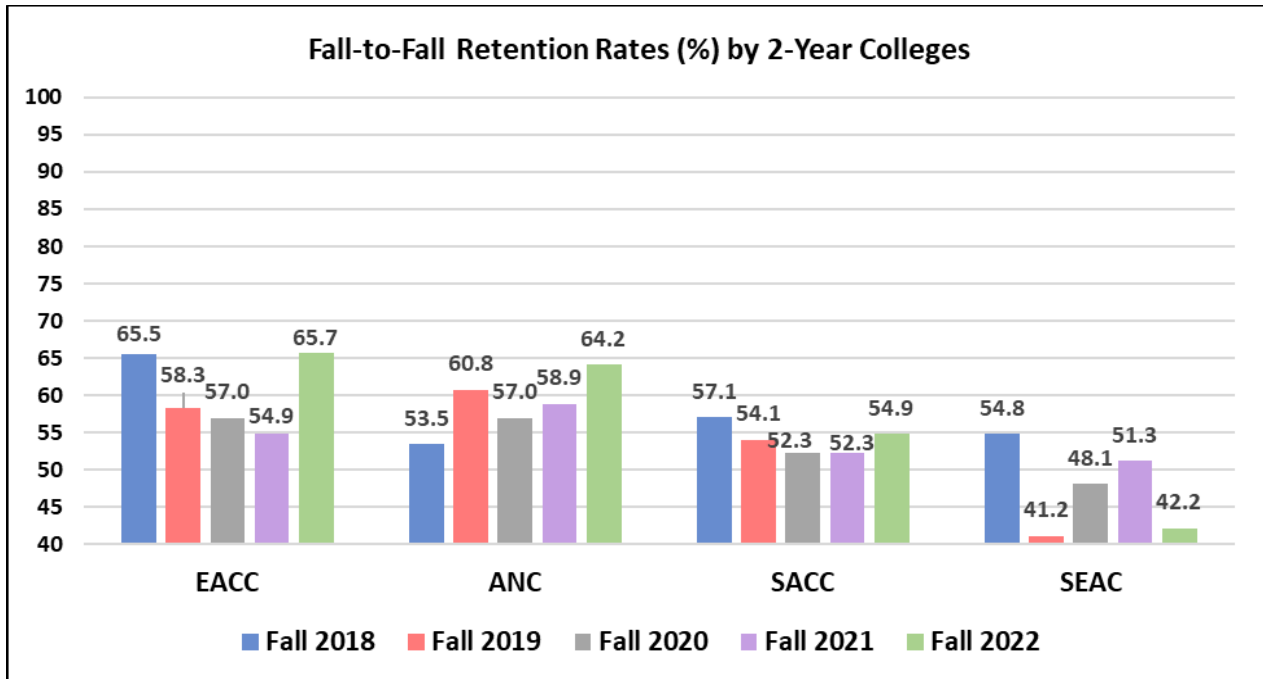


Chart 16.12: Student Retention Rates by Institution –2-Year Colleges

For our private/independent institutions offering bachelor’s degrees, seven reported an increased retention rate for Fall 2022.

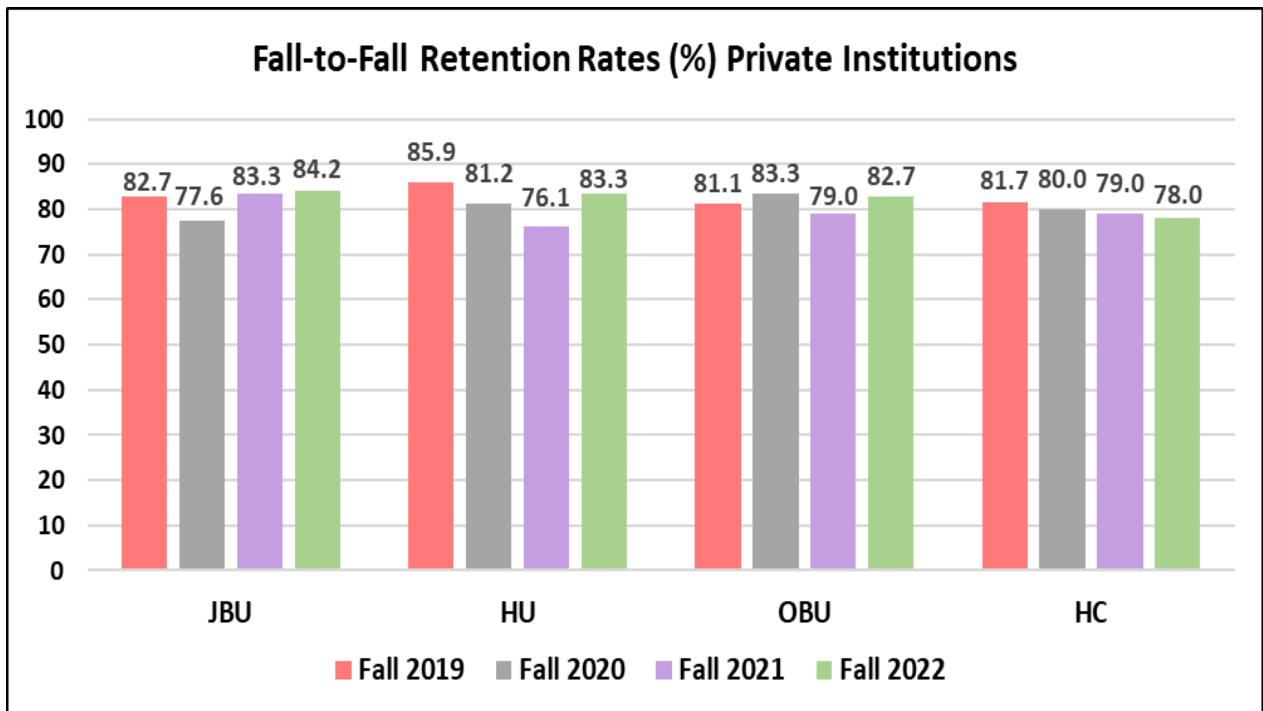


Chart 16.13: Student Retention Rates by Institution – Private Institutions

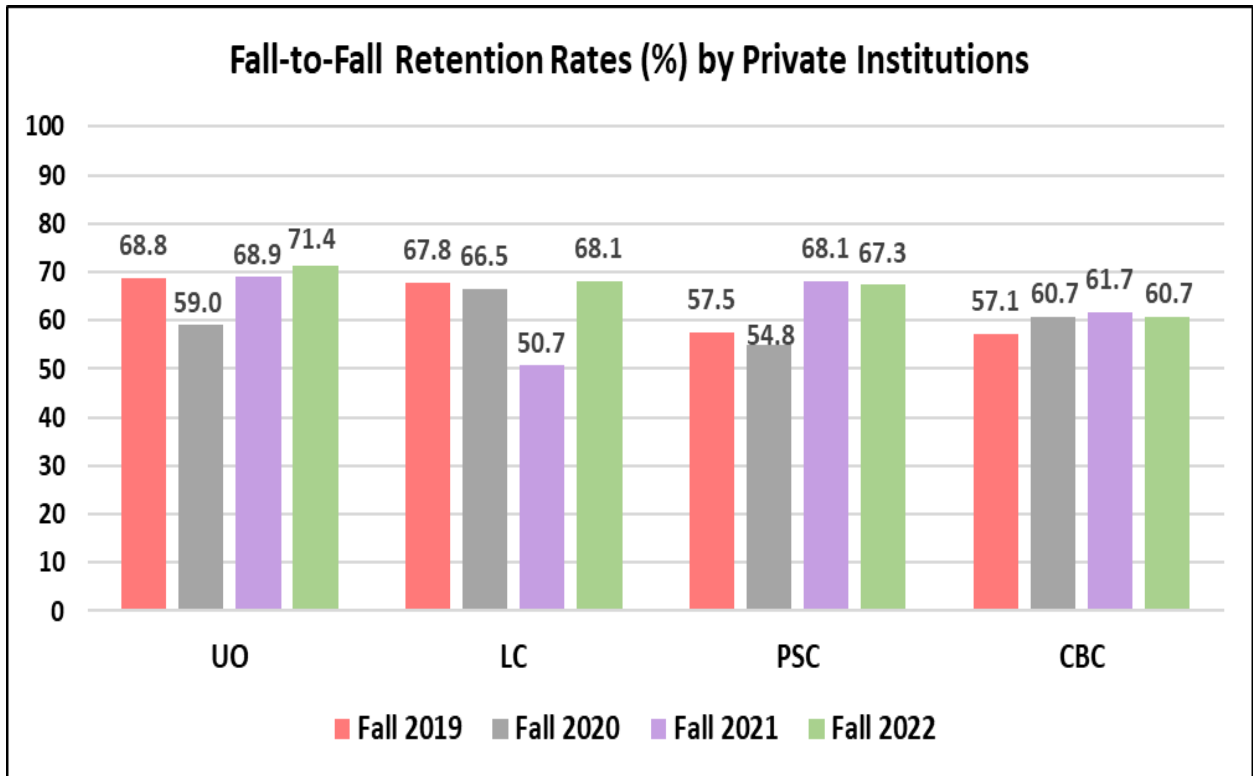


Chart 16.14: Student Retention Rates by Institution – Private Institutions

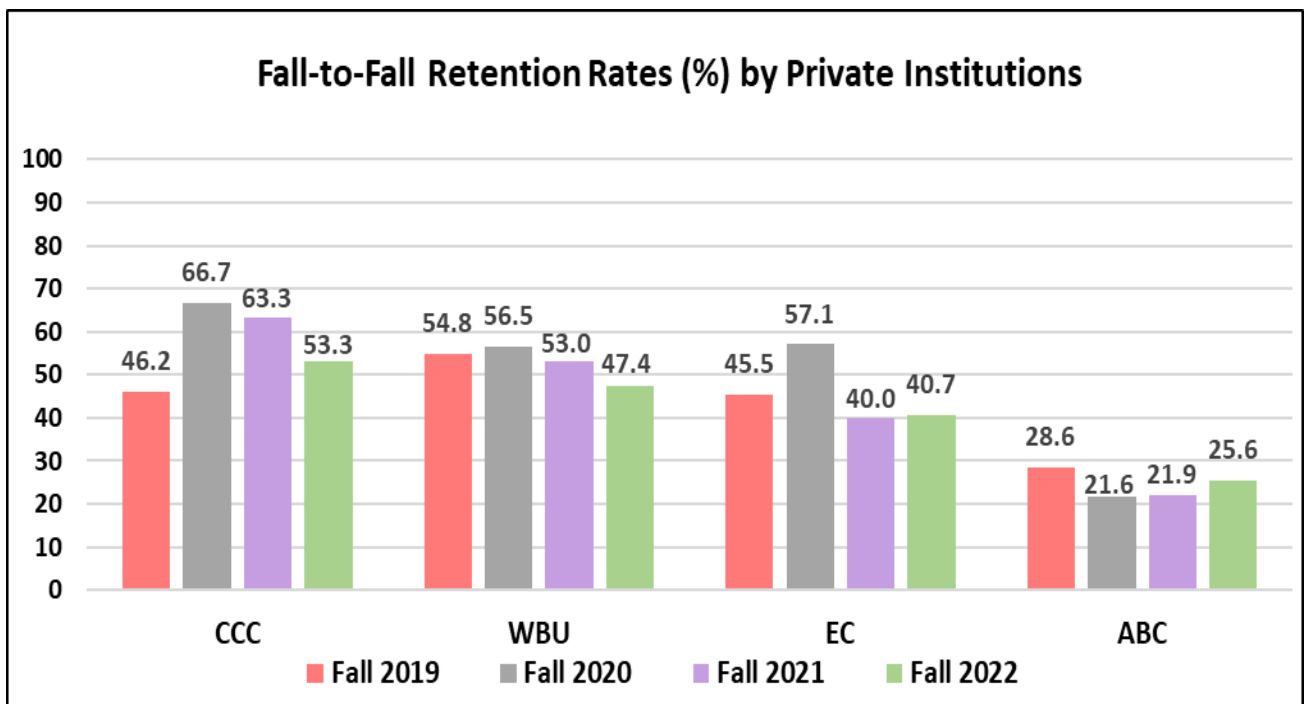


Chart 16.15: Student Retention Rates by Institution – Private Institutions

### Statewide Graduation

Graduation rates for our 4-year public and private/independent universities presented here are based on first-time in college, full-time, bachelor-seeking students. The following charts provide graduation rates for both students graduating in four years which is considered on-time (100% rate) and those graduating in six years (150% rate).

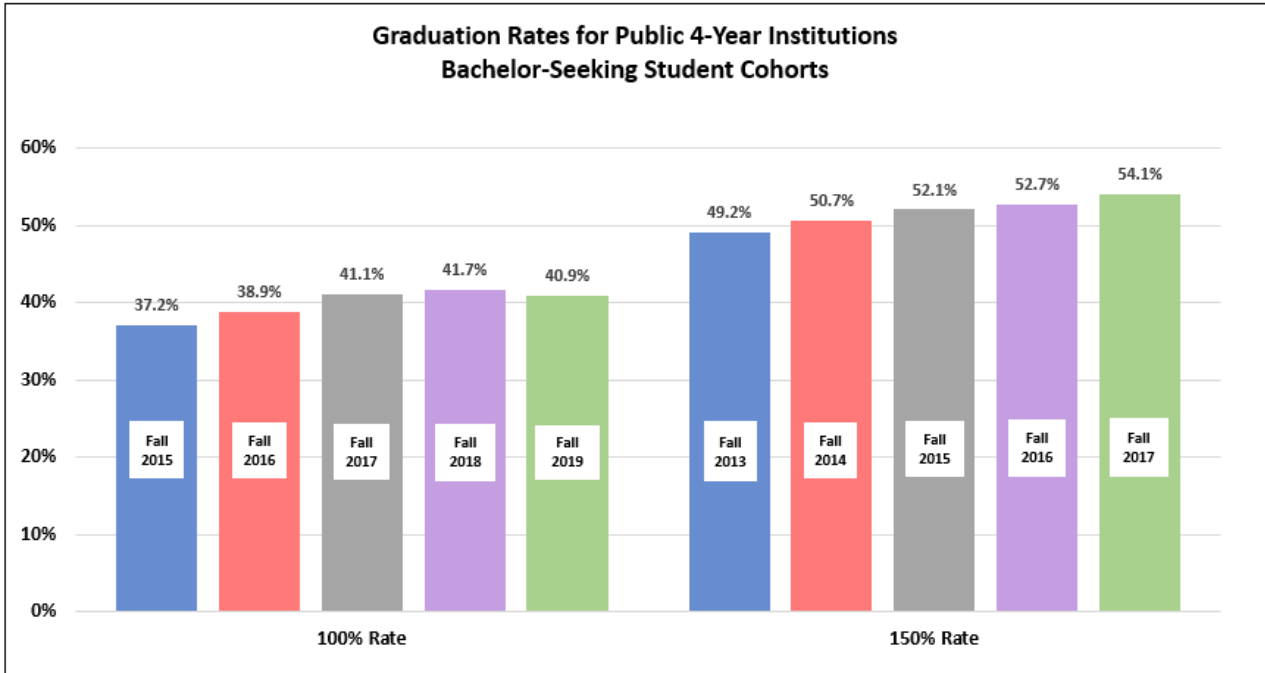


Chart 16.16: Graduation Rates - 4-Year Public Institution Trend

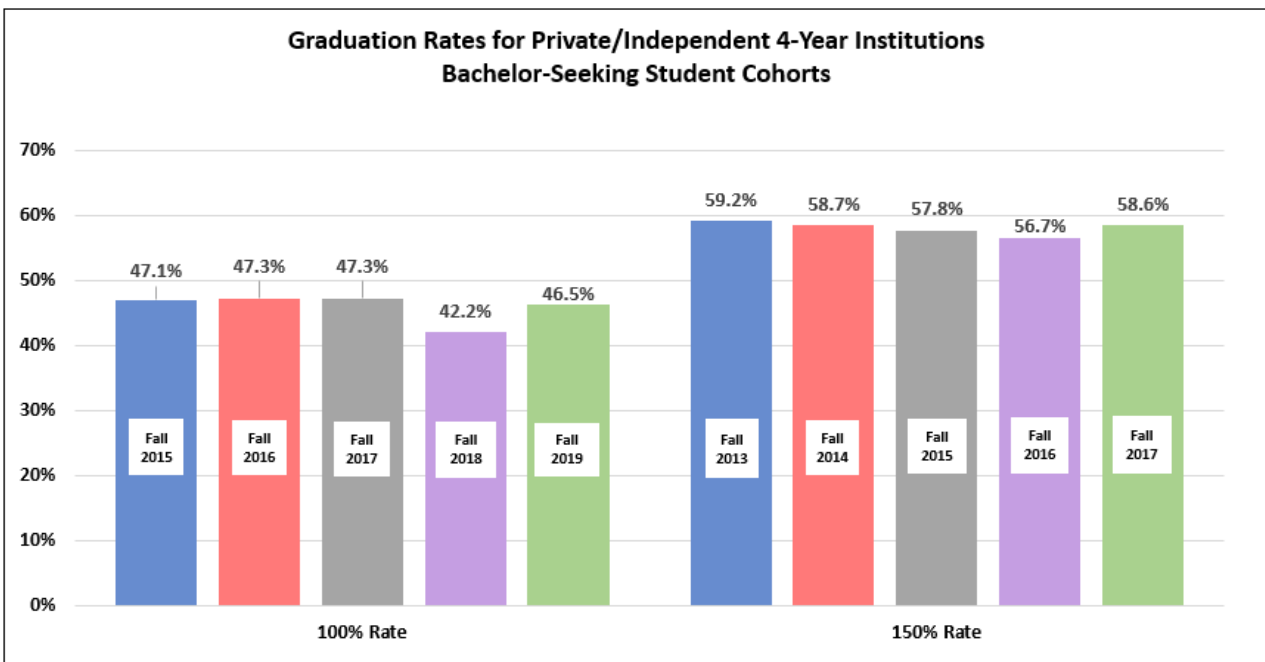


Chart 16.17: Graduation Rates - 4-Year Private/Independent Institution Trend

Both the male and female cohorts showed slight improvement in their six-year (150%) graduation rate.

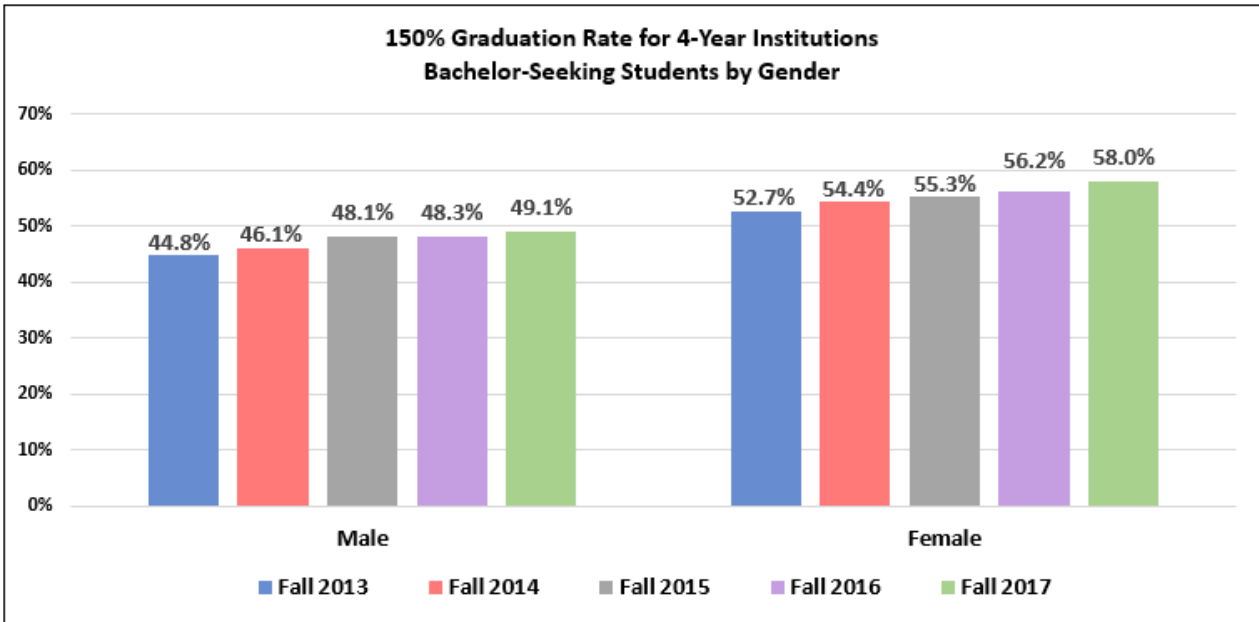


Chart 16.18: Graduation Rates - 4-Year Institutions by Gender

Charts 16.19 and 16.20 provide trend data for the 150% graduation rate for the public 4-year universities. Six of the 4-year universities reported an increase for the Fall 2017 cohort when compared to the Fall 2016 cohort.

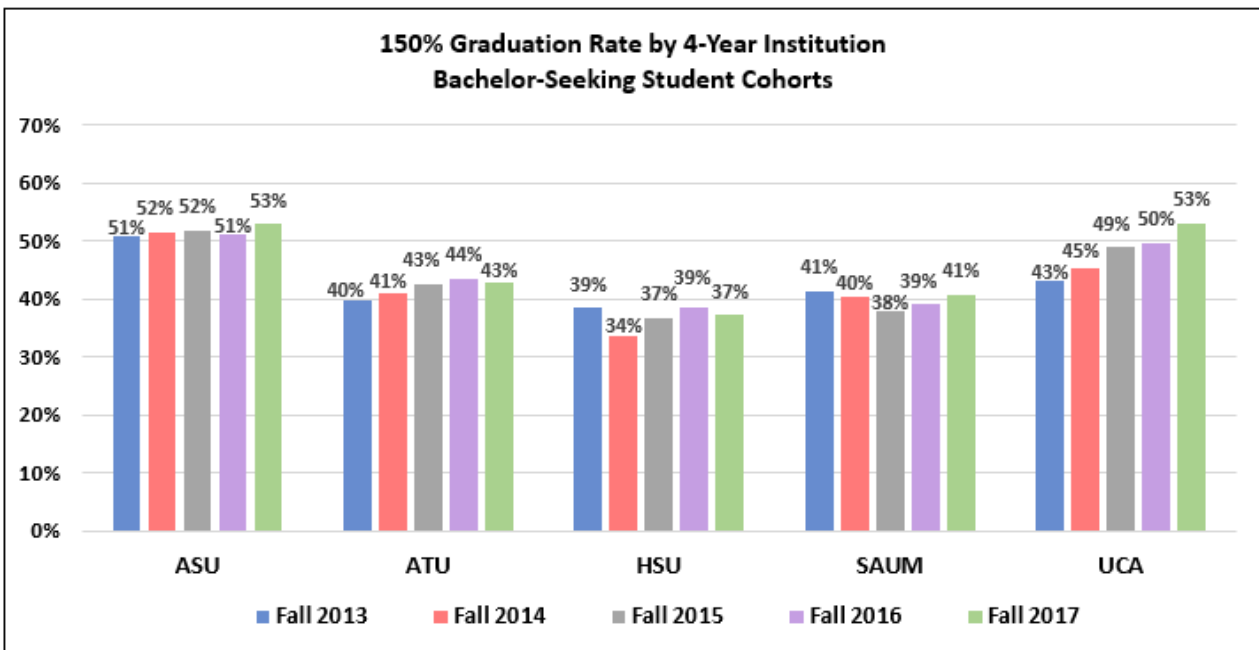


Chart 16.19: 150% Graduation Rates 4-Year institutions



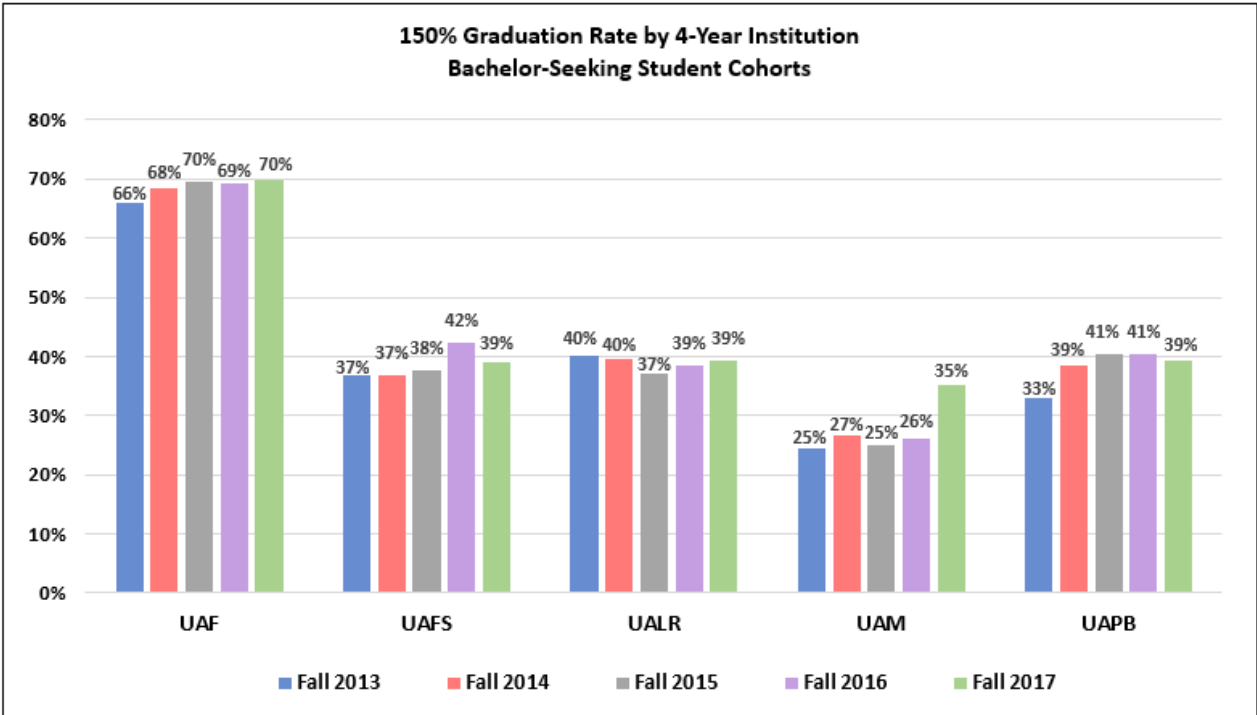


Chart 16.20: 150% Graduation Rates 4-Year institutions

### 2-Year College Graduation Rates

For our 2-year colleges, the 150% graduation rate increased more than 3% for both the male and female cohorts.

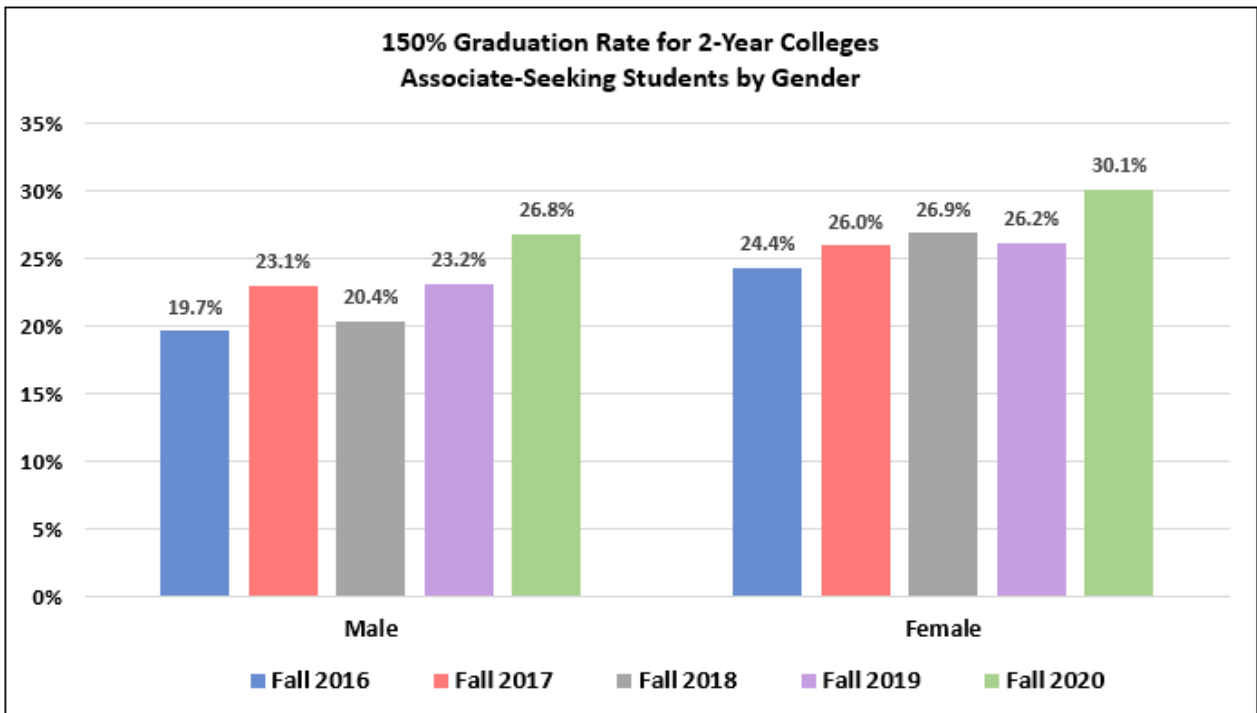


Chart 16.21: 150% Graduation Rates 2-Year Colleges

Charts 16.22 through 16.25 provide a 150% graduation rate for associate-seeking students for the 2-year colleges. Seventeen 2-year colleges reported a higher 150% graduation rate for the Fall 2020 cohort.

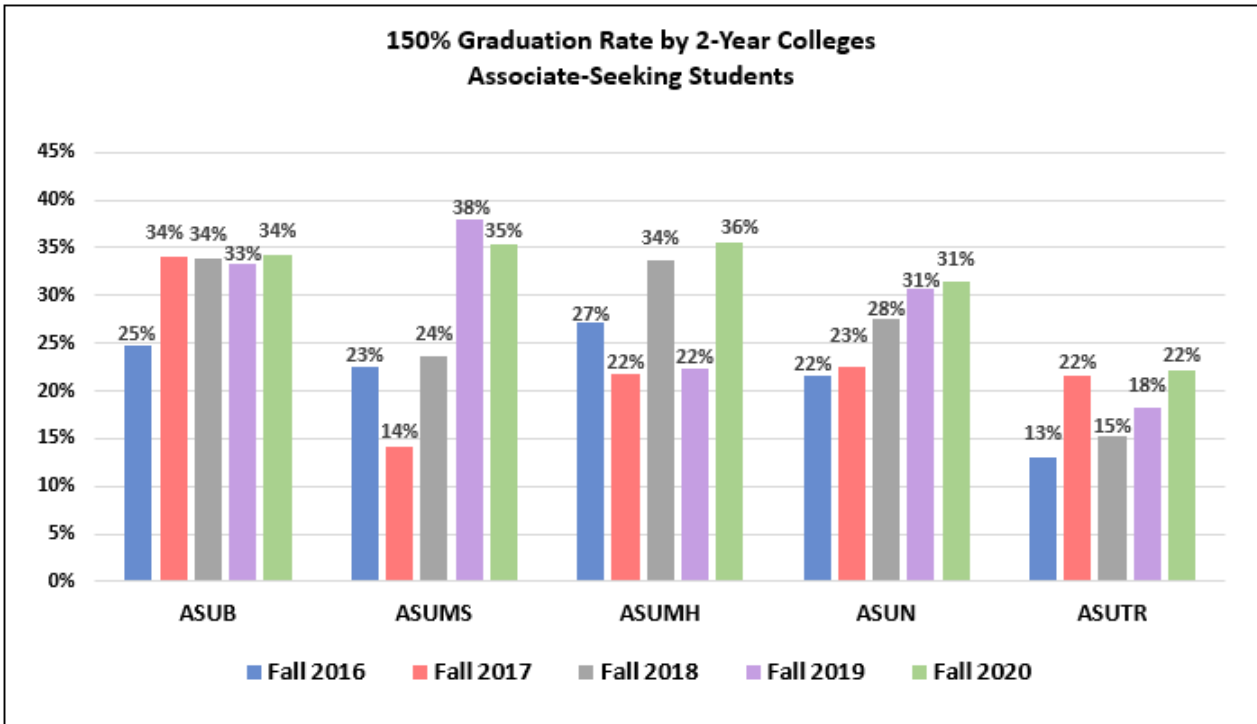


Chart 16.22 Graduation Rates 2-Year Associate Cohorts

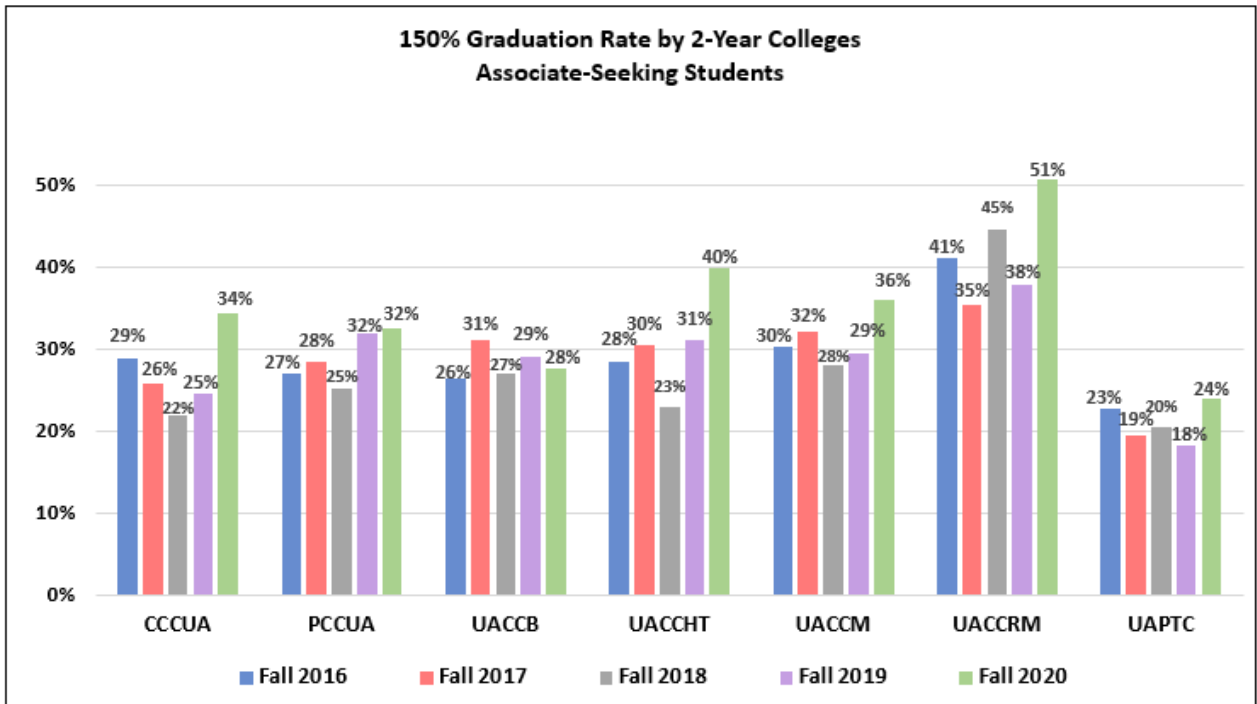


Chart 16.23 Graduation Rates 2-Year Associate Cohorts

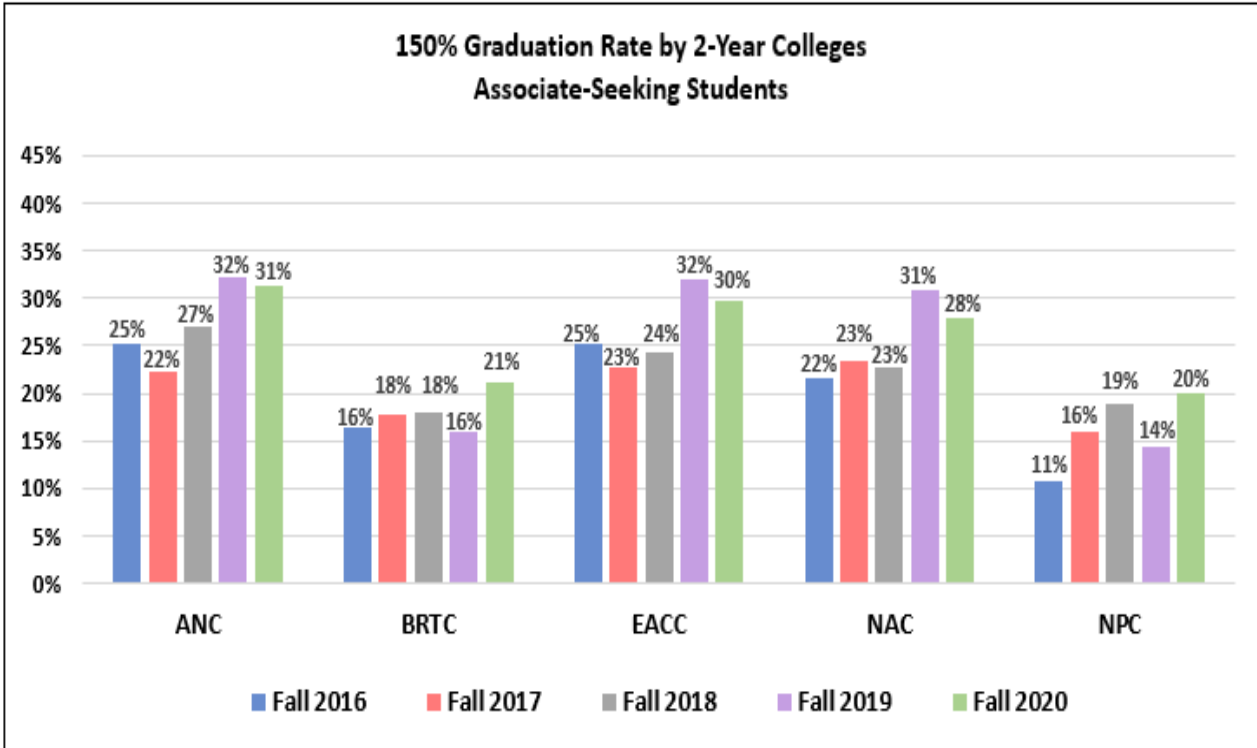


Chart 16.24 Graduation Rates 2-Year Associate Cohorts

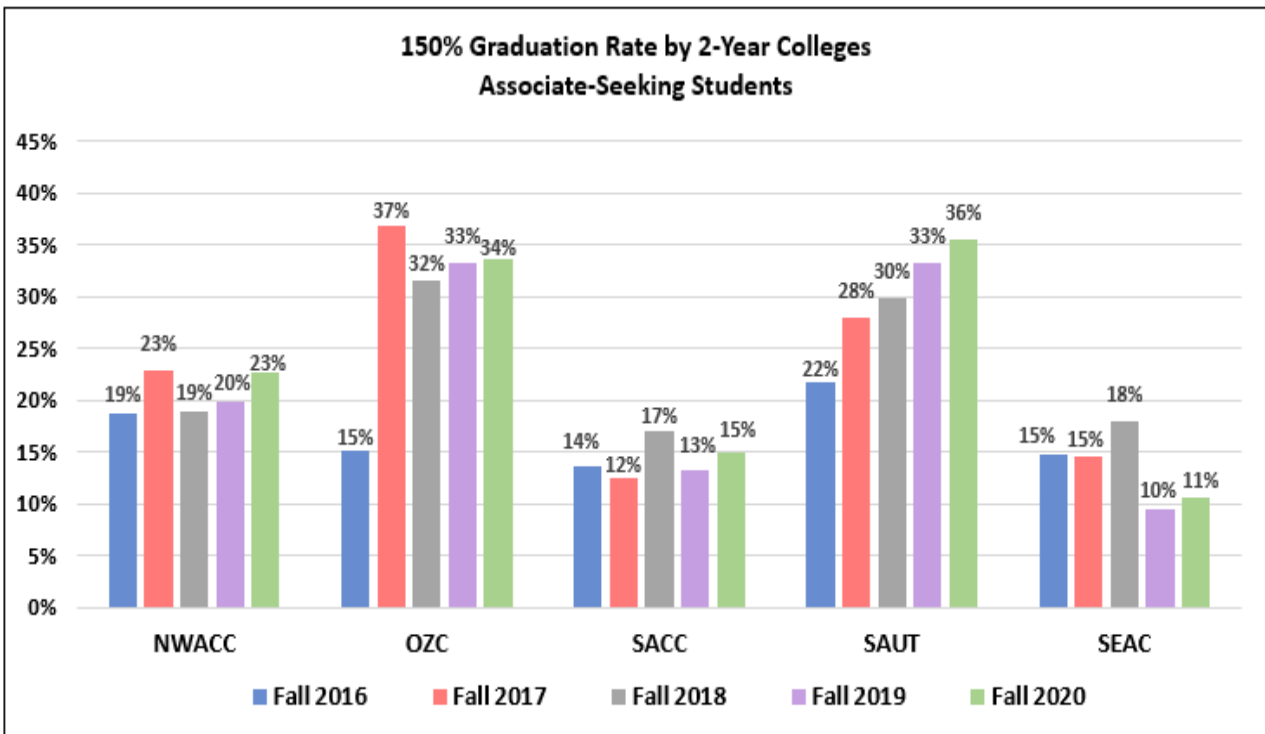


Chart 16.25 Graduation Rates 2-Year Associate Cohorts

### Private/Independent Institutions

The 150% graduation rate for the Fall 2017 cohort for those private/independent institutions awarding bachelor's degrees, increased for six institutions.

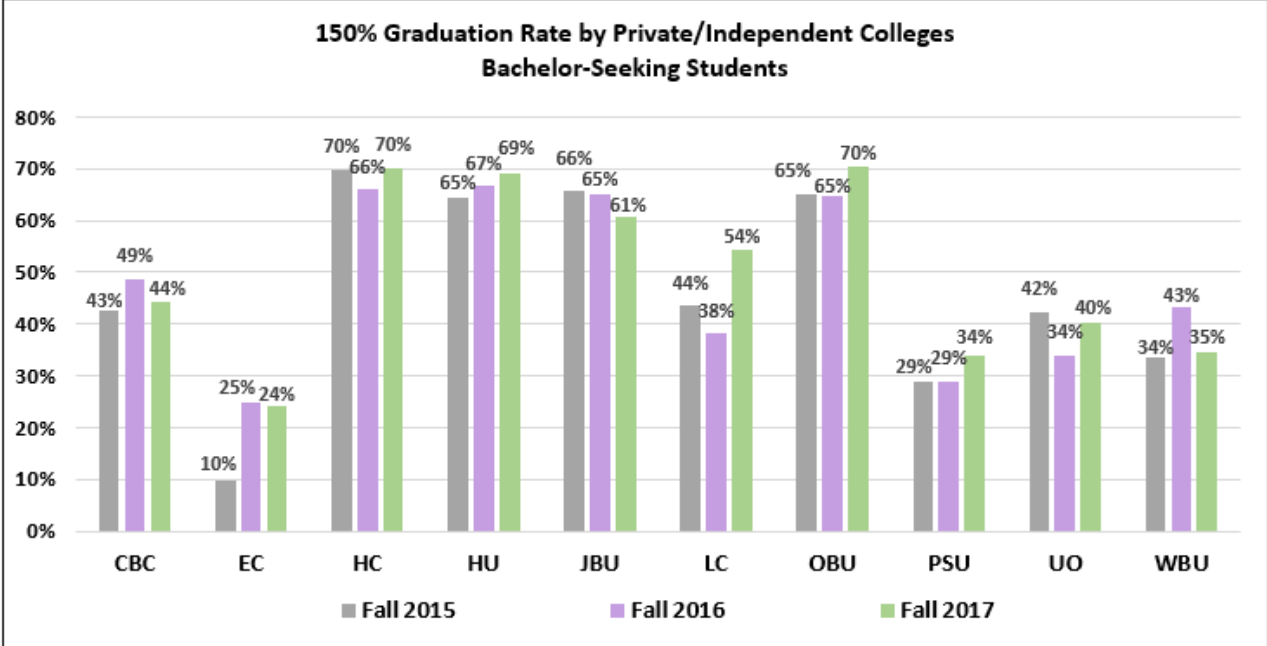


Chart 16.26: Graduation Rates by Private Institution

## **ANNUAL REPORT ON PARTICIPATION, RETENTION AND GRADUATION OF STUDENT-ATHLETES**

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This report complies with Act 267 of 1989 that requires reporting of retention and graduation rates for first-time in college students who participate in Arkansas intercollegiate athletics. This information is collected through institutional data submissions to the Arkansas Higher Education Information System (AHEIS) from all public colleges and universities with athletic programs. In addition to retention and graduation rates, this report provides data on all athletic participation by sport and scholarship status.

### **Methodology**

The methodology used in this report closely follows the methodology used in the Annual Report on Student Retention and Graduation. The retention calculations are based on fall-to-fall comparisons of the student-athletes in the cohort of first-time in college, full-time, and credential-seeking students from the fall term only. A student is considered retained if they returned to the same institution in the fall term of the next academic year.

Graduation rate calculations use the same cohort of first-time in college, full-time, credential-seeking students from the fall term. The graduation rates presented here include a 100% rate representing those graduating with a Bachelor's degree in four years, which is considered graduating 'on time', and a 150% graduation rate representing student-athletes graduating with a Bachelor's degree in six years.

The methodology used herein is not meant to and does not correspond with the NCAA GSR (Graduation Success Rate) methodology each institution is required to report to the NCAA.

### **Participation Overview**

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.

Sports included in student-athlete reporting are Football, Men's Basketball, Women's Basketball, Baseball, Track/Cross Country, Golf, Swimming, Tennis, Volleyball, Soccer, Softball, and an Other Sports category that includes student-athletes from all other sports.

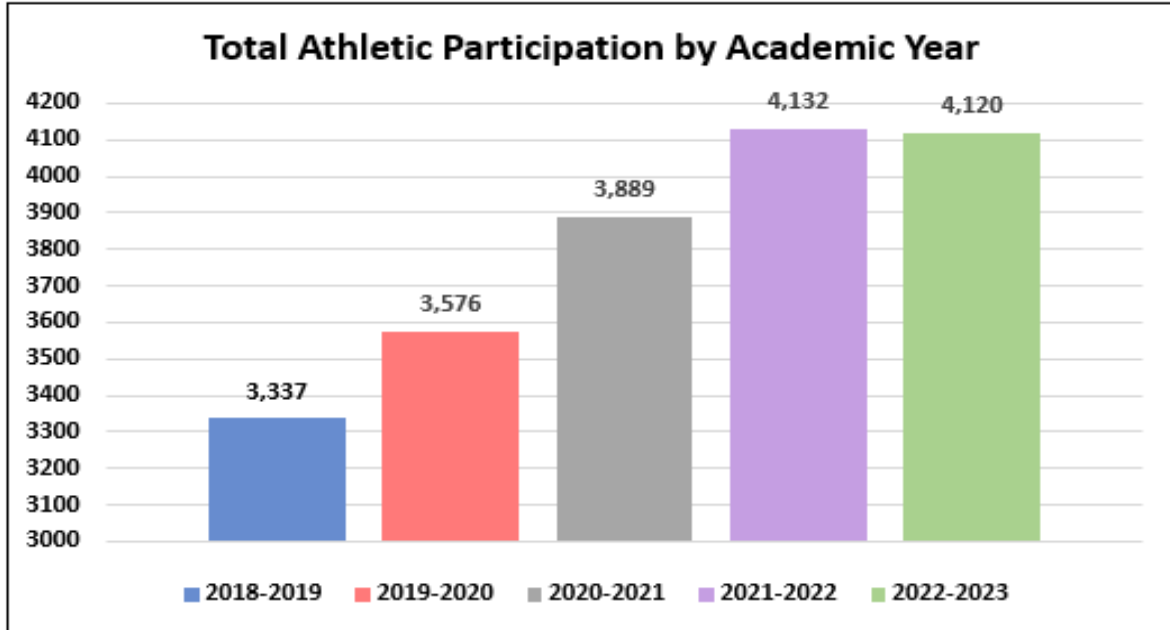


Chart 17.1: Athletic Participation by Academic Year

The number of student-athletes participating in football leads the way with 1,029 reported for the 2022-23 academic year. Softball had the largest increase in participation when compared to the 2021-2022 academic year.

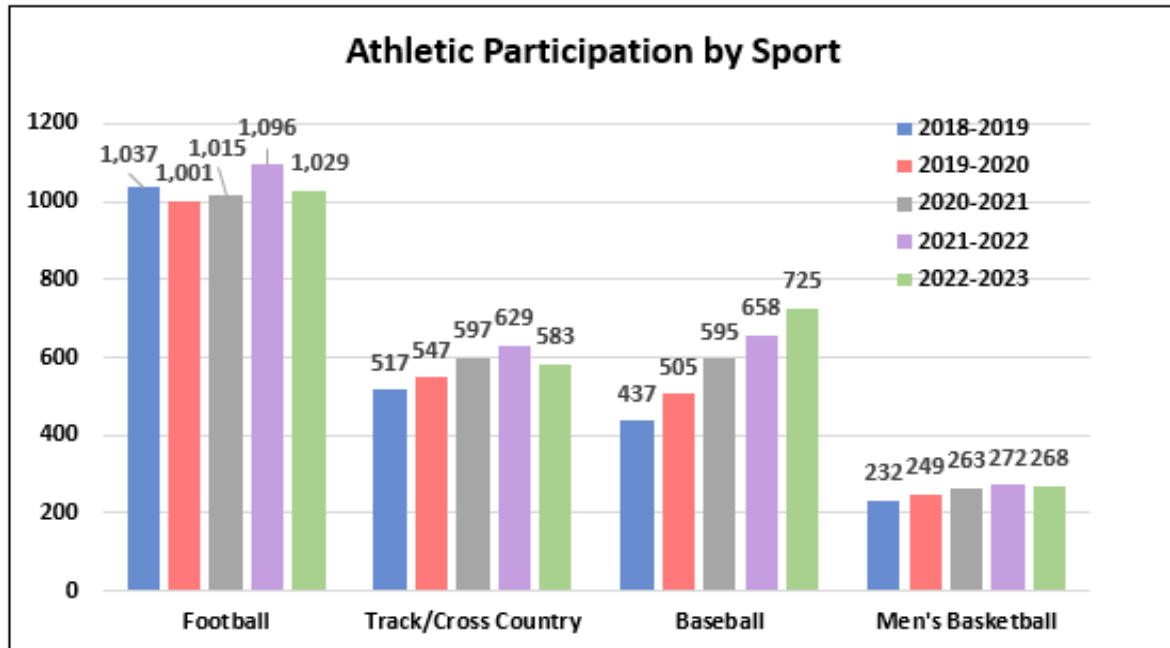


Chart 17.2: Athletes by Sport – Detailed

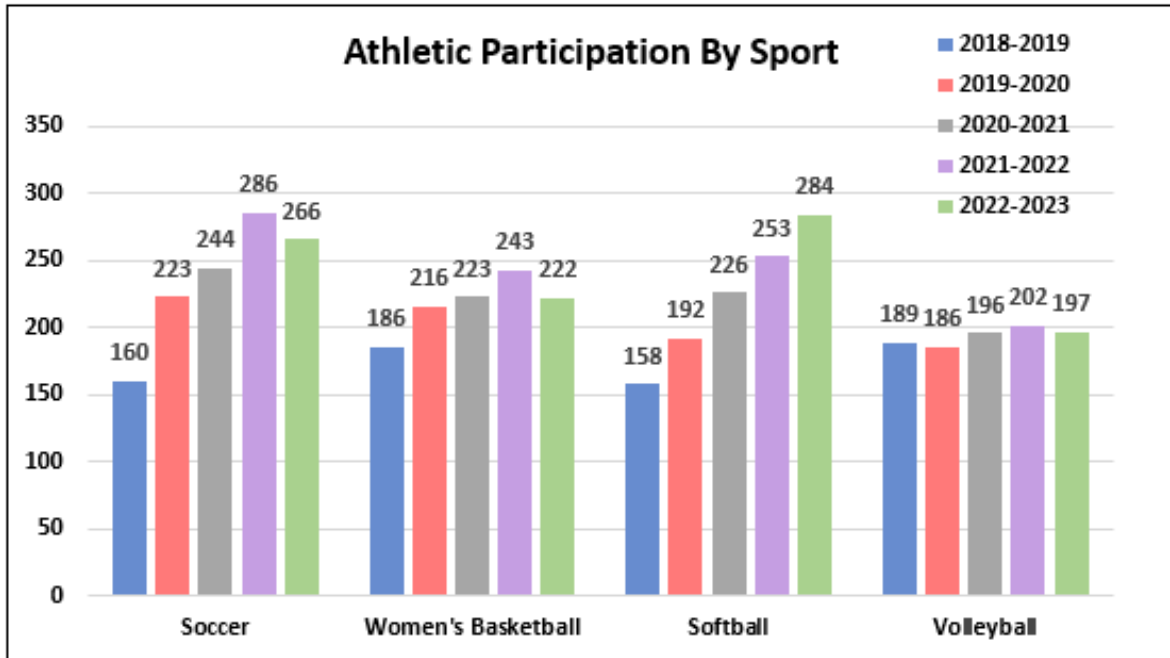


Chart 17.3: Athletes by Sport – Detailed

From academic year 2018-2019 to academic year 2022-2023, the Other Sports category participation ranged between 60 and 211 student-athletes.

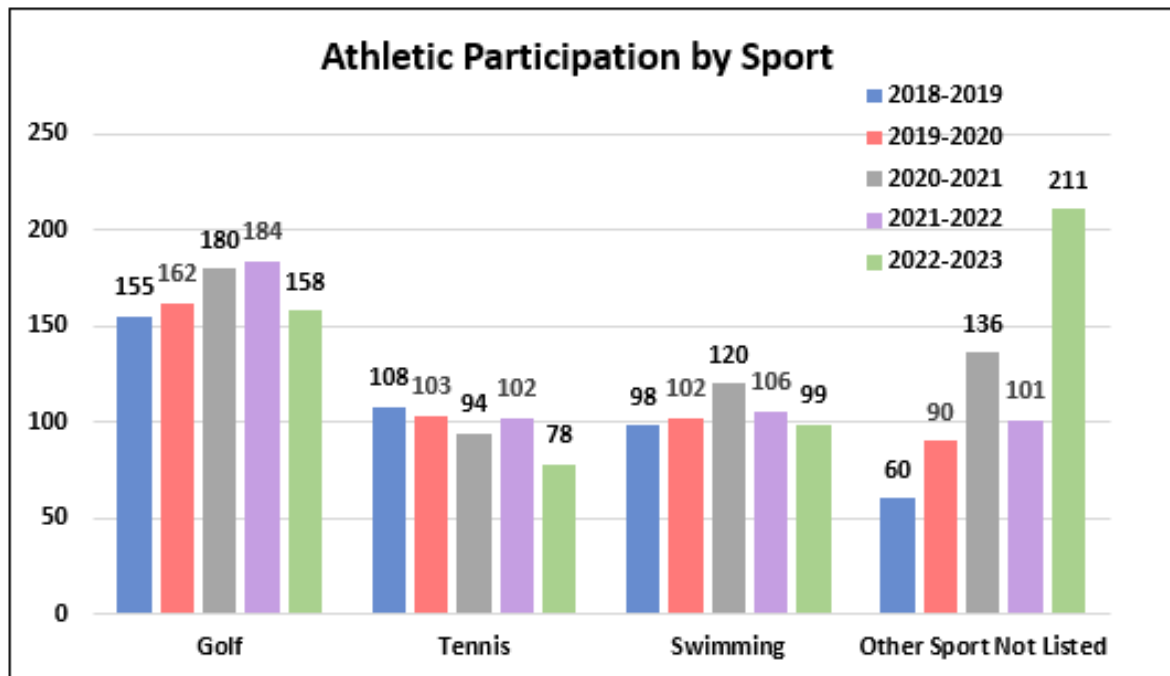


Chart 17.4: Athletes by Sport – Detailed

Many students receive scholarships to participate in athletics. The following graph illustrates the majority of students receive a partial scholarship, 2,438 of 4,120 student-athletes (59.2%), while only 589 (14.3%) receive a full scholarship.

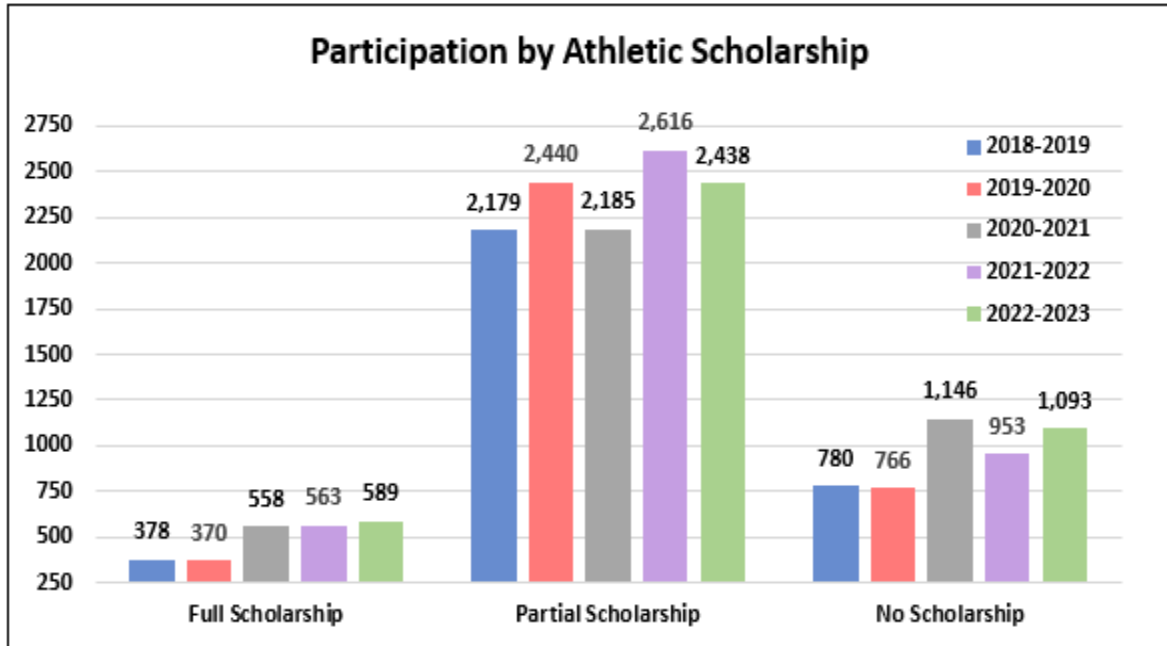


Chart 17.5: Athletes by Scholarship

The University of Central Arkansas reported the most student-athletes with the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville reporting the second largest number of athletes for the 2022-23 academic year.

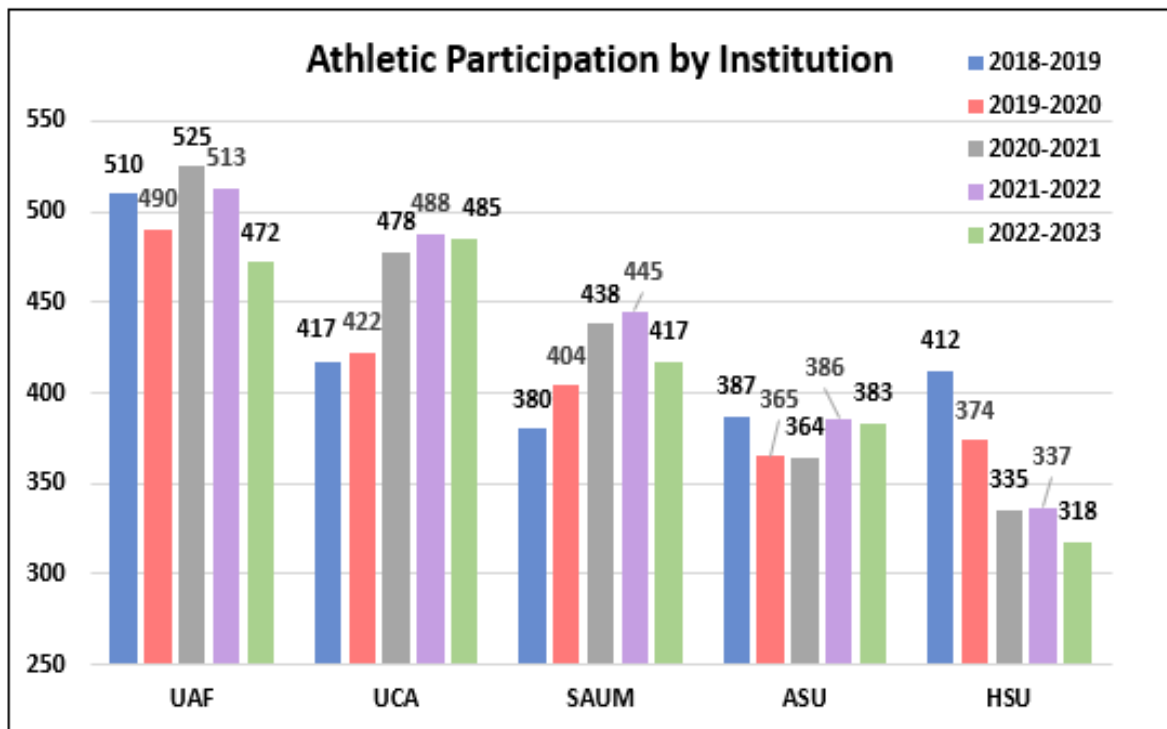


Chart 17.6: Athletes by Institution



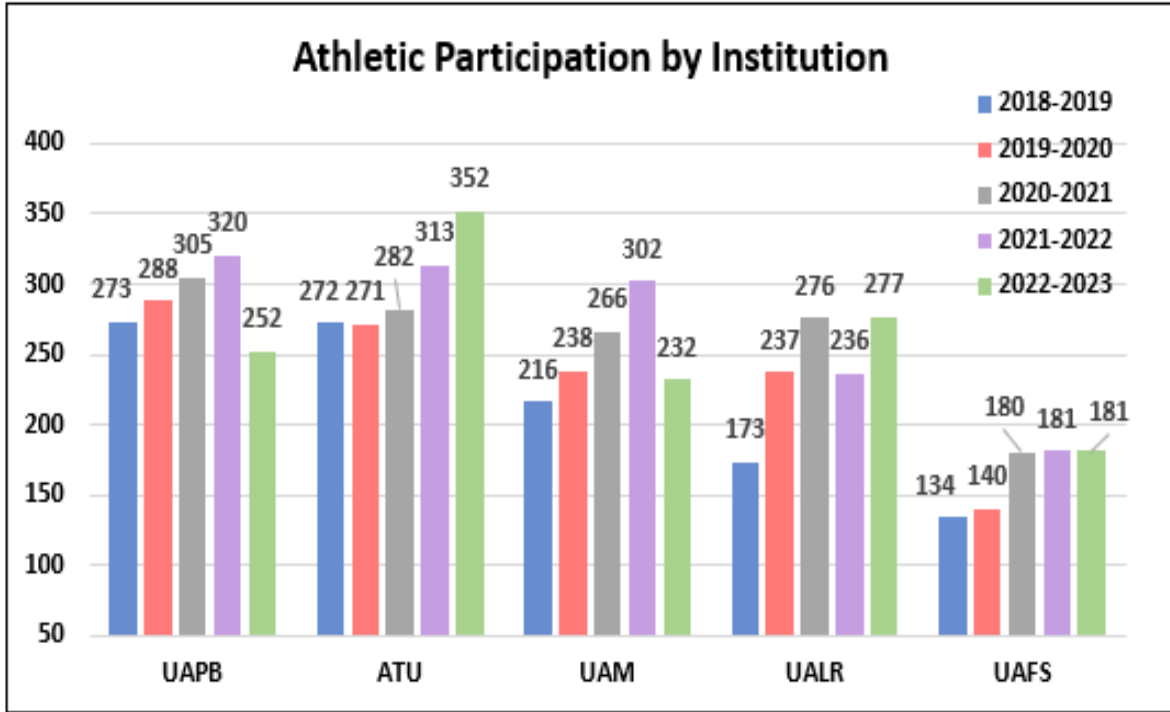


Chart 17.7: Athletes by Institution

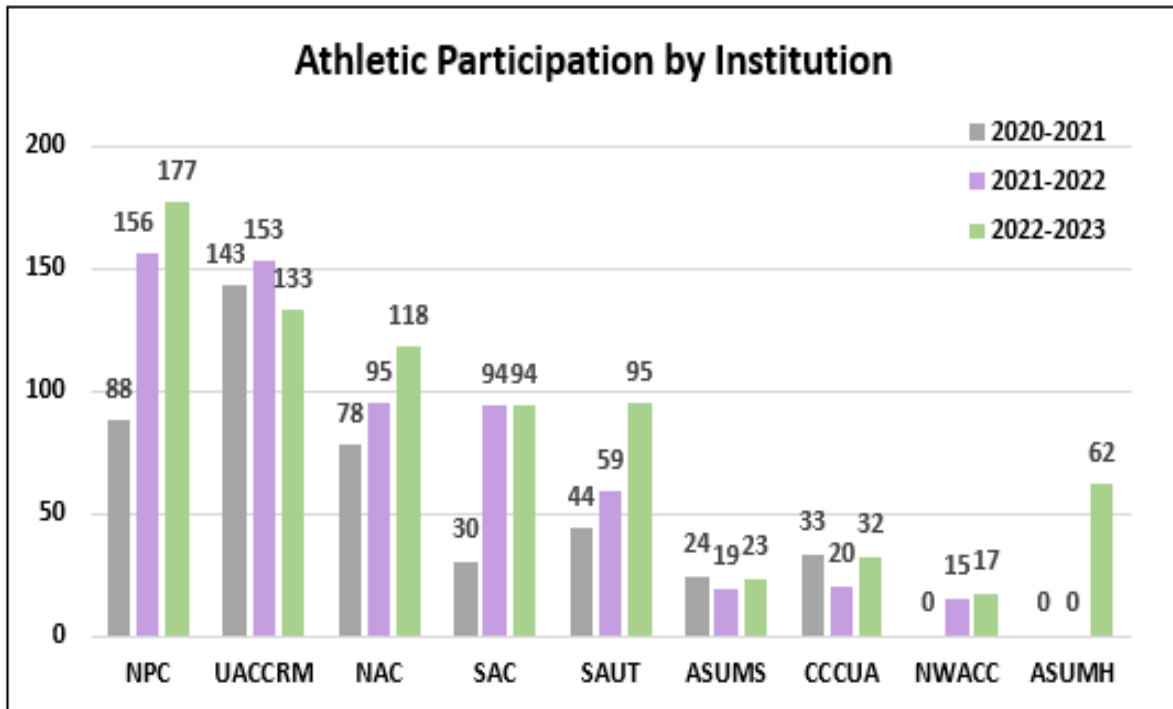


Chart 17.8: Athletes by Institution

### STUDENT-ATHLETE FALL-TO-FALL RETENTION

Athletes are retained at higher rates than non-athlete students due to the commitment to and interest in participating in college athletics; also, a correlation may be made between participation and the impact of support services many institutions provide.

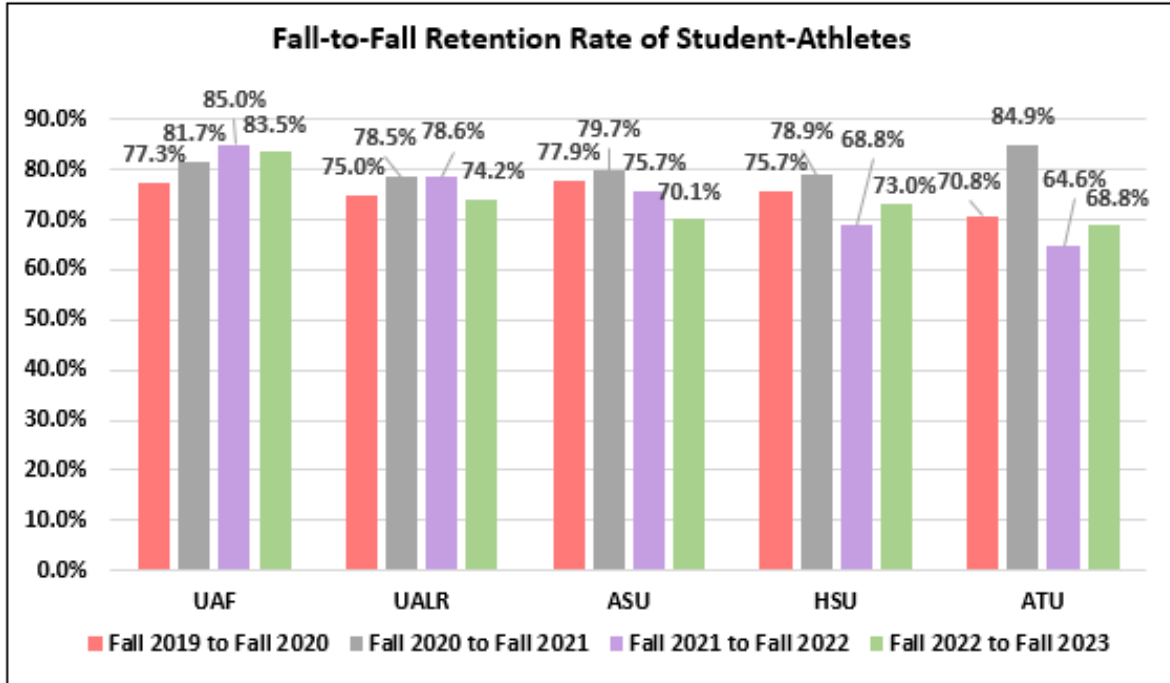


Chart 17.9: Retention Rate of Athletes by Institution

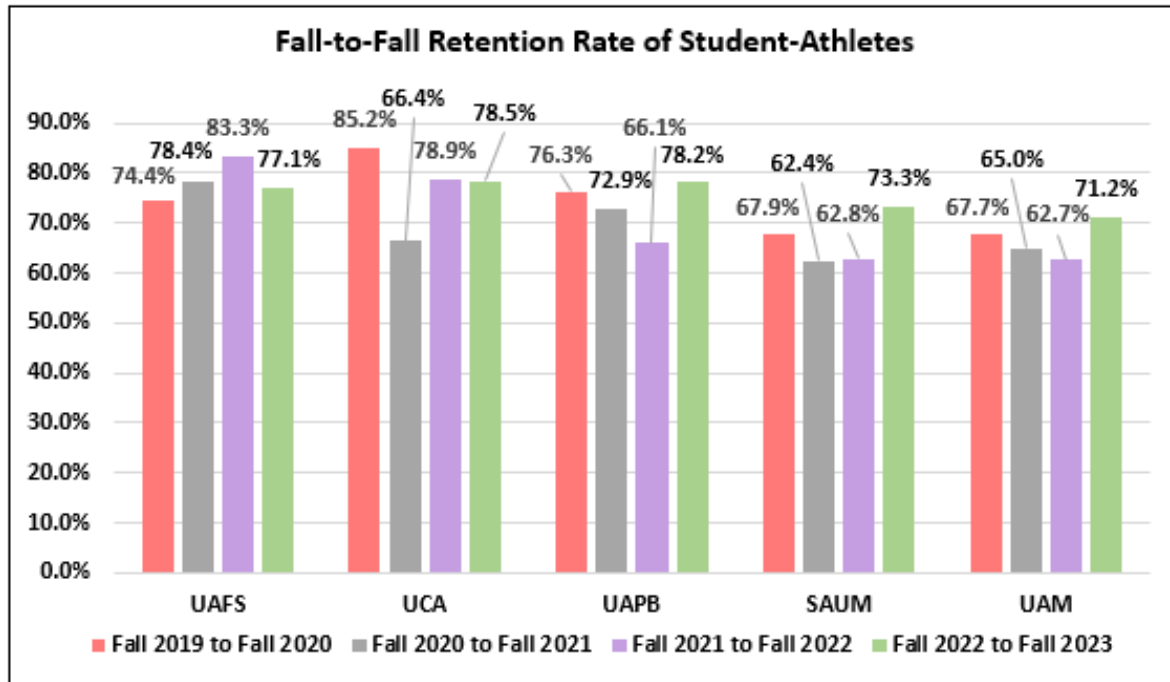


Chart 17.10: Retention Rate of Athletes by Institution

For our 2-year colleges, NWACC had the highest student-athlete retention rate of 80.0% of their Fall 2022 cohort to Fall 2023.

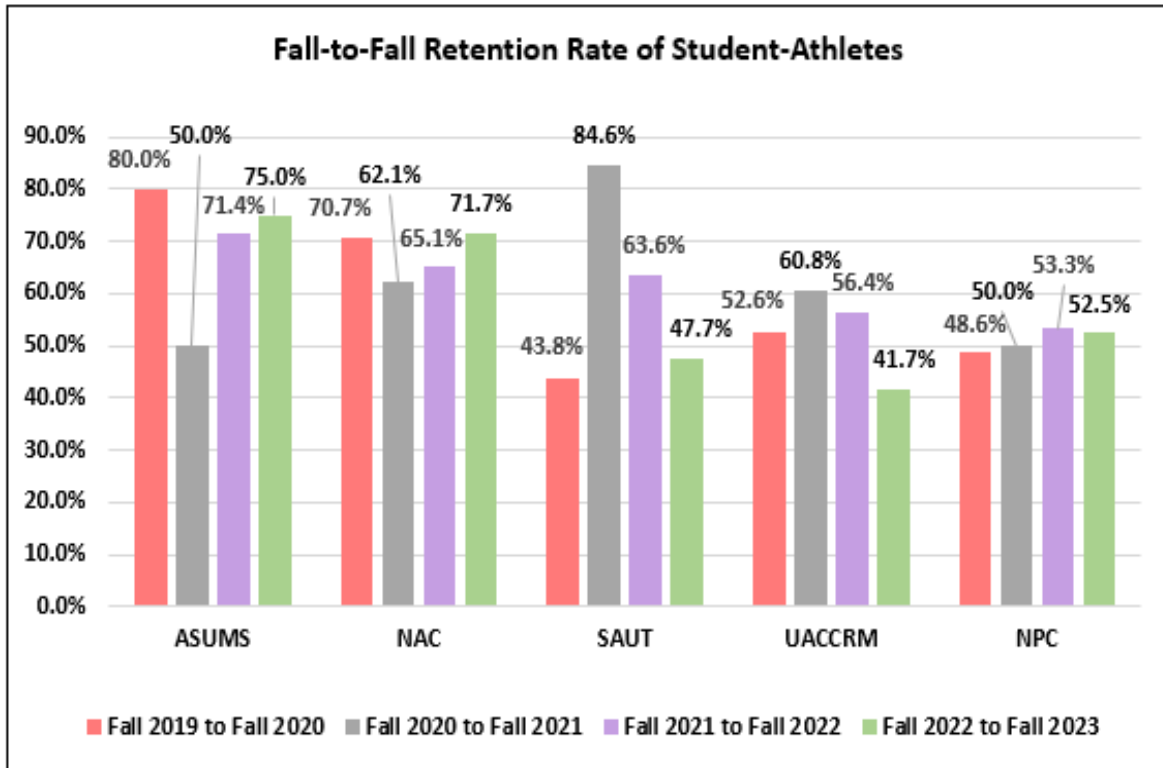


Chart 17.11: Retention Rate of Athletes by Institution

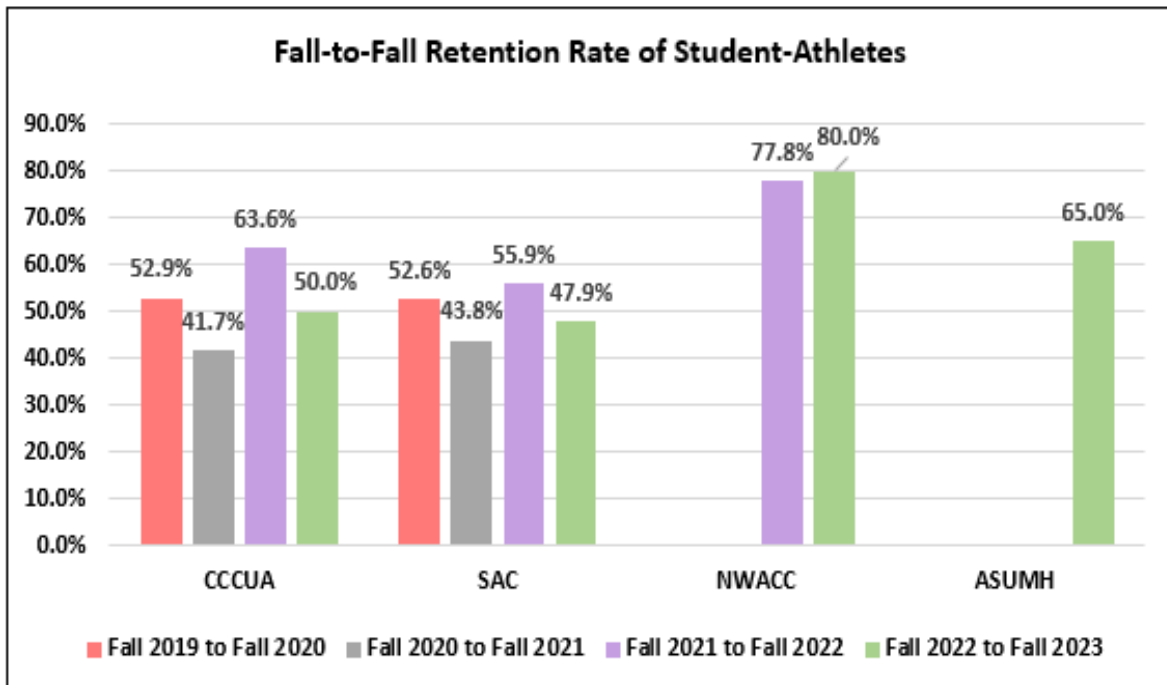


Chart 17.12: Retention Rate of Athletes by Institution

### STUDENT-ATHLETE GRADUATION RATES

The graduation rate calculations for student-athletes are based on the same methodology as the other graduation report. First-time in college, student-athletes enrolled for the first time define the cohorts. The chart below shows the graduation rate progression for three cohorts for the 4-year universities. Due to the varying sizes of the entering student-athlete cohorts each year, graduation rates for athletes tend to fluctuate more than rates of non-athletes. Graduating in four years (100%) is considered graduating on time for a Bachelor’s degree.

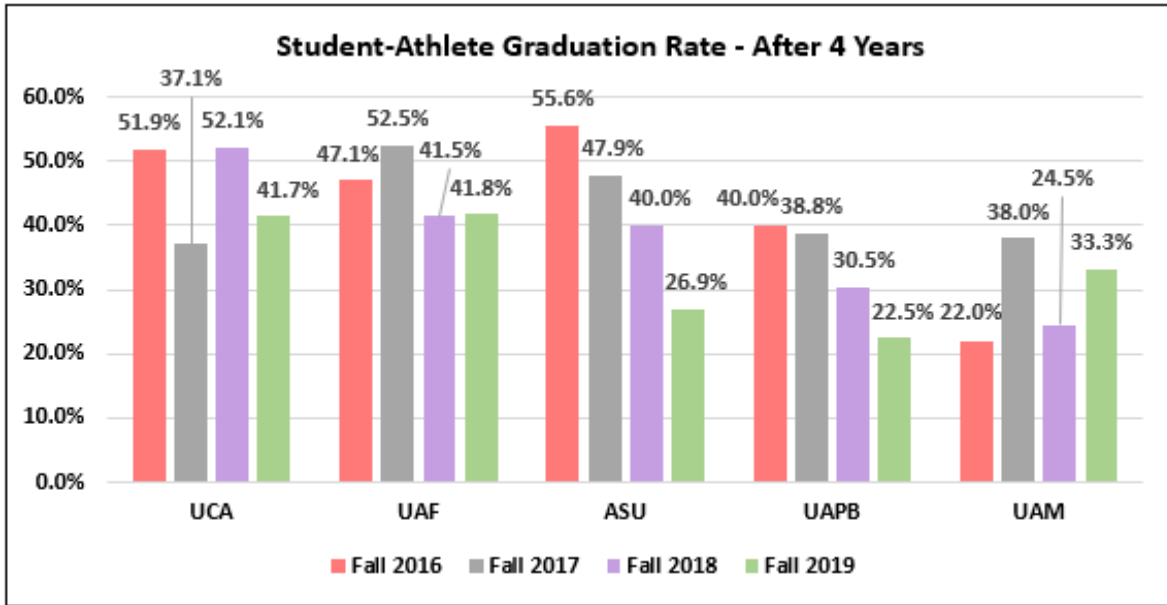


Chart 17.13: 100% Graduation Rates of Athletes by Institution

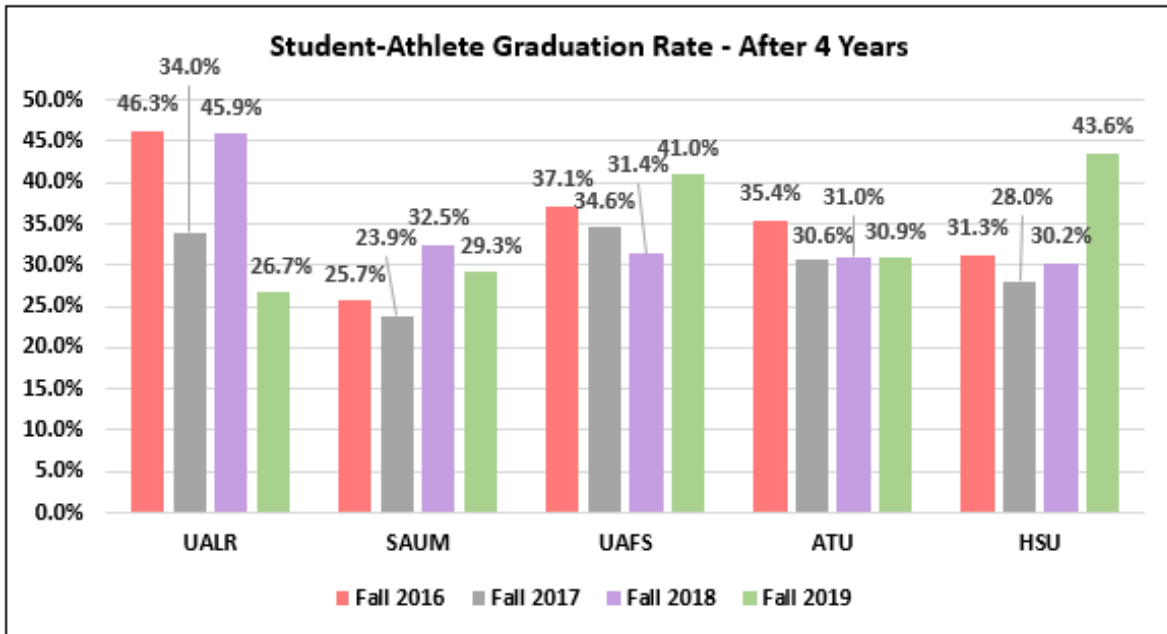


Chart 17.14: 100% Graduation Rates of Athletes by Institution

UAF and ASU reported a six-year (150%) graduation rate of 60.2% and 57.4% respectively.

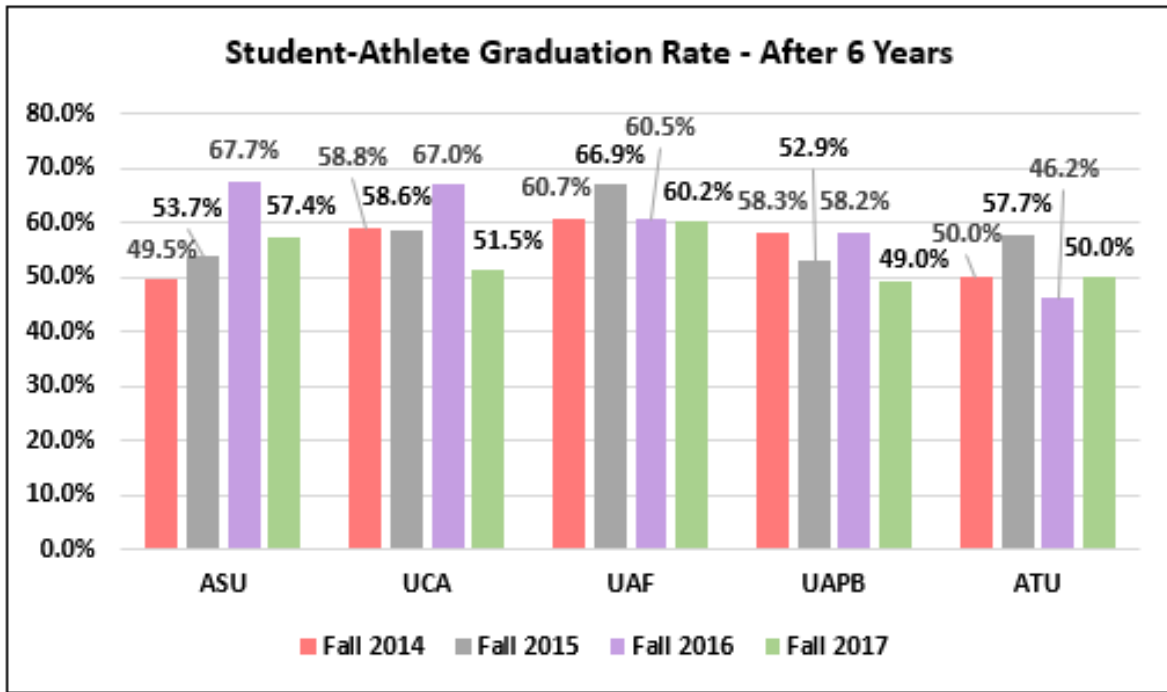


Chart 17.15: 150% Graduation Rates of Athletes by Institution

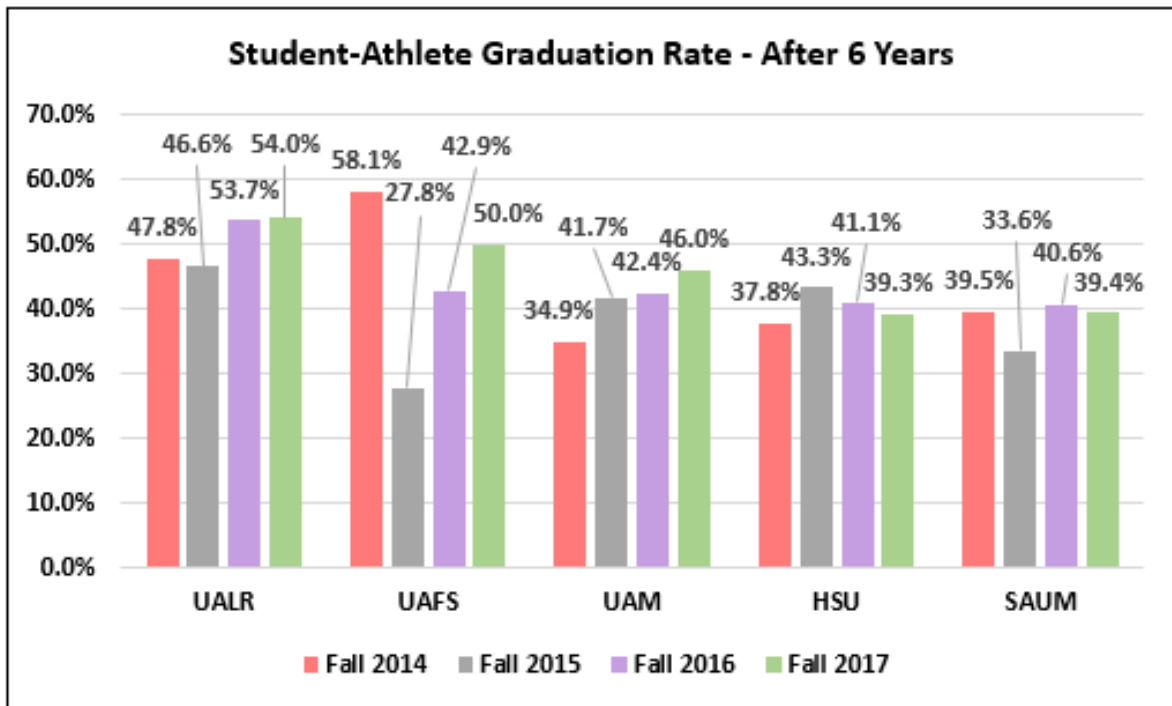


Chart 17.16: 150% Graduation Rates of Athletes by Institution

**ARKANSAS HEALTH EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM  
REQUEST FOR CONTRACT 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).

## **RULES GOVERNING THE ARKANSAS FUTURE GRANT PROGRAM**

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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 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 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.

**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 ~~i~~n 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; i

2.01.3.1.2 ~~i~~ Information technology; i

2.01.3.1.3 ~~d~~ Data analysis; i 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~~eporting ~~A~~gencies:

- 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.

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  
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**

**RULE GOVERNING THE GOVERNOR'S HIGHER EDUCATION  
TRANSITION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

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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 initial 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 public comment release.

**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.  
15

## Subtitle

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 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 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 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.

**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.

## 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  
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 an "approved institution of higher education" under the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, is amended to read as follows:*

30

31

32

*(3)(A) "Approved institution of higher education" means an institution of higher education approved by the division to participate in the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program and that is:*

33

34

35

*~~(A)(i)~~ A state-supported two-year or four-year college or university;*

36



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 GOVERNOR'S SCHOLARS PROGRAM**

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In compliance with Acts 413 of 2023, the rules for the Governor's Scholars 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 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.

**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 Education 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 Education 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 Education 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 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 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.

**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.  
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 *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 TEACHER ACADEMY  
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

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In compliance with Act 215 of 2021, the rules for the Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program are presented to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board (AHECB) for adoption, pending approval of the Administrative Rules Subcommittee of the Arkansas Legislative Council.

The following resolution is offered for the Board's consideration:

**RESOLVED**, That the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board adopts the proposed rules presented in this agenda item for implementation of the Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program, 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 implement the Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program.

**ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
RULES GOVERNING THE ARKANSAS TEACHER ACADEMY  
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

**Effective Date:**

**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 Arkansas Teacher Academy 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 per Act 237 of 2023.
- 1.03 The purpose of these rules is to establish the requirements and processes governing the Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship Program.

**2.00 DEFINITIONS**

- 2.01 “Academy attendee” means an individual who is enrolled in an Arkansas Teacher Academy at an eligible postsecondary institution who is a :
- 2.01.1 Current teacher;
- 2.01.2 Teacher who has graduated from an Arkansas Teacher Academy at an eligible postsecondary institution; or
- 2.01.3 Current student.
- 2.02 “Division” means Arkansas Department of Education Division of Higher Education.
- 2.03 “Eligible postsecondary institution means a public or private two-year or four-year institution of higher education that:
- 2.03.1 Offers a postbaccalaureate program that leads to teacher certification; and
- 2.03.2 Has entered into an agreement with the Division of Higher Education for purposes of the Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship Program.

2.03 “Tuition and fees” means any one (1) of the following charged by an eligible postsecondary institution that is associated with a program of study that is part of the Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship Program and that leads to teacher certification:

2.03.1 Tuition;

2.03.2 Mandatory fees; and

2.03.3 Program fees.

### **3.00 IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAM AND PURPOSE**

3.01 An eligible postsecondary institution shall implement an Arkansas Teacher Academy to incentivize potential and enrolled academy attendees to:

3.01.1 Enter the teaching profession; and

3.01.2 Commit to teaching in:

3.01.2.1 Arkansas public schools; or

3.01.2.2 Critical shortage areas in Arkansas based on subject areas or geographical areas.

3.01.3 As outlined in Section 5.03.1, teach at least one (1) full school year in a public school or in a school that serves primarily public school students with disabilities in the State of Arkansas for each academic year the academy attendee successfully completes and for which the academy attendee receives a scholarship for all or part of his or her tuition and fees.

3.02 The Division of Higher Education, in consultation with public and private postsecondary institutions, shall develop and implement a centralized administrative process for each Arkansas Teacher Academy, which shall include, without limitation, the following:

3.02.1 A marketing and promotion plan to recruit academy attendees for an Arkansas Teacher Academy;

3.02.2 Data collection and reporting;



3.02.3 Tracking of postgraduation service requirements;

3.02.4 Coordination of induction services;

3.02.5 Distribution of moneys in the Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship Program Fund between eligible postsecondary institutions;

3.02.6 Collection of reimbursements from individuals who fail to meet the service requirements under these rules;

3.02.7 A process for assessing an academy attendee's ability to repay financial assistance received under this subchapter if the academy attendee who receives financial assistance under this subchapter is physically or mentally unable to fulfill the requirements of an Arkansas Teacher Academy program; and

3.02.8 A process for deferring service or repayment required by this subchapter based on factors adopted by the Division.

#### **4.00 ELIGIBLE POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION DUTIES**

4.01 An Arkansas 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.

4.02 An eligible postsecondary institution may:

4.02.1 Develop a portfolio of teacher preparation programs to offer as part of its Arkansas Teacher Academy; and

4.02.2 Give priority to students in grades eleven (11) and twelve (12).

4.03 An eligible postsecondary institution shall not:

4.03.1 Exclude students in grades nine (9) and ten (10) from its Arkansas Teacher Academy; and

4.03.2 Use scholarship funds that exceed the cost of tuition and fees at the eligible postsecondary institution to support its Arkansas Teacher Academy costs.

4.04 If a scholarship awarded to an academy attendee under these rules does not cover the eligible postsecondary institution's tuition and fees after an academy attendee receives all other financial gifts, financial aid, and grants, the eligible postsecondary institution shall not charge an academy attendee awarded a scholarship under this subchapter the remaining difference.

4.03 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 an Arkansas Teacher Academy program.

4.04 The targeted deployment of academy attendees who are currently teachers who have completed an Arkansas Teacher Academy program shall be based on the:

4.04.1 Needs of each public school system;

4.04.2 Community that is being served; and

4.04.3 Individual skills of each current teacher who has completed an Arkansas Teacher Academy program.

4.05 A program offered as part of an eligible postsecondary institution's Arkansas Teacher Academy shall include accelerated program models for the following, without limitation:

4.05.1 Subject areas and geographical areas identified by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education as experiencing a critical shortage of teachers;

4.05.2 An individual seeking postbaccalaureate coursework that results in a professional certification; and

4.05.3 A student in a non-education program who seeks to complete one (1) or more teacher preparation courses in order to prepare him or her to receive a teaching certification following his or her graduation.

## **5.00 SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNTS AND ACADEMY ATTENDEE REQUIREMENTS**

5.01 An eligible postsecondary institution shall provide to each academy attendee who is enrolled in its Arkansas Teacher Academy an annual scholarship up to the actual cost of the:

5.01.1 Eligible postsecondary institution's tuition and fees for a maximum of:

5.01.1.1 Two (2) academic years or four (4) academic semesters for an academy attendee who is a graduate student enrolled in the Arkansas Teacher Academy at an eligible postsecondary institution;

5.01.1.2 Four (4) academic years or eight (8) academic semesters for an undergraduate student enrolled in the Arkansas Teacher Academy at the eligible postsecondary institution; and

5.01.1.3 Two (2) academic years or four (4) academic semesters for a community college student enrolled in the Arkansas Teacher Academy at the eligible postsecondary institution.

5.01.1.3.1 A student who qualifies under Section 5.01.1.3 of these rules shall receive continued eligibility for two (2) additional academic years or four (4) additional academic semesters at a postsecondary institution that is an undergraduate institution.

5.01.2 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 state board.

5.02 A scholarship distributed to an academy attendee under Section 5.01 of these rules shall be distributed only after all other financial gifts, financial aid, and grants have been received by an academy attendee enrolled in an Arkansas Teacher Academy at an eligible postsecondary institution.

5.03 Each academy attendee who is enrolled in an Arkansas Teacher Academy shall:

5.03.1 Agree to teach at least one (1) full school year in a public school or in a school that serves primarily public school students with disabilities in the

State of Arkansas for each academic year the academy attendee successfully completes and for which the academy attendee receives a scholarship for all or part of his or her tuition and fees.

5.03.1.1 For an academy attendee who teaches and receives the scholarship concurrently, the academy attendee's commitment period to teach in a public school in the State of Arkansas as required under Section 5.03.1 of these rules shall begin after the academy attendee's graduation from an Arkansas Teacher Academy.

5.03.2 Reimburse the Division for the:

5.03.2.1 Total amount of scholarship funds the academy attendee received for tuition and fees for an academic year in which the academy attendee does not successfully complete the academic year in good academic standing; and

5.03.2.2 Proportional amount of the scholarship the academy attendee received for tuition and fees that corresponds to the number of school years the academy attendee agreed to teach in a public school in the State of Arkansas but did not teach in a public school in the State of Arkansas as required under Section 5.03.1 of these rules.

5.03.3 In the calculation of the academy attendee's commitment period to teach in a public school in the State of Arkansas per Section 5.03.1 of these rules, not include time that the academy attendee is enrolled in a summer term.

5.04 Students must apply for the scholarship via the Division's Scholarship Application Management System (SAMS) portal during the open application period.

## **6.00 SCHOLARSHIP DISTRIBUTION DUTIES AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

6.01 The Division shall:

6.01.1 Administer the Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship Program Fund;  
and

6.01.2 Establish criteria for distributing scholarships from the fund.

6.02 On or before March 1, 2024, and each year thereafter, the Division 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:

6.02.1 The total number of academy attendees enrolled in each eligible postsecondary institution's Arkansas Teacher Academy in the current academic year; and

6.02.2 The total number of Arkansas Teacher Academy graduates receiving induction services in the current academic year.

6.03 On or before September 1, 2024, and each year thereafter, the Division shall report the following information 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:

6.03.1 The total number of academy attendees enrolled in each eligible postsecondary institution's Arkansas Teacher Academy by year of college enrollment;

6.03.2 The percentage of academy attendees who complete each year of an eligible postsecondary institution's Arkansas Teacher Academy and who plan to continue to the subsequent year, delineated by each teacher preparation program offered by each eligible postsecondary institution as part of the Arkansas Teacher Academy;

6.03.3 The number of academy attendees who are currently teachers and who complete a program of study through an eligible postsecondary institution's Arkansas Teacher Academy;

6.03.4 The number of academy attendees who are currently teaching in a public school in the State of Arkansas as part of an agreement for receiving a scholarship under this subchapter;

6.03.5 The total number of Arkansas Teacher Academy graduates receiving induction services;

6.03.6 The number of academy attendees who have defaulted on their obligations

under this subchapter and who are in repayment agreements;

6.03.7 The number of academy attendees who have deferred repayment agreements;

6.03.8 The number of academy attendees who have completed repayment agreements;

6.03.9 The methodology for distributing any moneys appropriated for the scholarships distributed under this subchapter to each eligible postsecondary institution and the amounts distributed to each eligible postsecondary institution; and

6.03.10 The amount of any unused moneys in the fund from the previous fiscal year.

DRAFT

**RULES GOVERNING THE PRODUCTIVITY  
DISTRIBUTION POLICY**

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

The following resolution is offered for the Board's consideration:

**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.

# **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 “Productivity index” means
- 2.04 “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.