Agenda Item No. 23
Higher Education Coordinating Board
October 23, 2026

ANNUAL STATUS REPORT FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION ON CAMPUS (ACT 563 OF 2017)

Under Act 563 of 2017, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board was directed to develop an action plan to address the prevention of sexual assault on college and university campuses and to submit annual reports on implementation by November 1 to the Arkansas General Assembly via the House and Senate Education Committees and the House and Senate Public Health, Welfare and Labor Committees.

The Division of Higher Education of the Department of Education has collected the annual campus status reports for the 2025-2026 academic year, as required by the legislation. We received reports from all campuses.

The legislative requirements for the action plan direct Arkansas public colleges and universities:

1) To incorporate sexual assault prevention into advising and student orientation.
2) To integrate information into academic courses as appropriate;
3) To identify opportunities to raise awareness and provide resources for sexual assault prevention across the entire student population;
4) To identify available grants and partnerships to assist with the work;
5) To collaborate with sources for access to care; and
6) To identify other topics or issues relating to the prevention and reduction of sexual assault.

The issue of sexual assault continues to be addressed seriously by all campuses. Institutions have incorporated this into student orientation and have put in place extra staff training, extra safety measures, and additional activities and resources for students.