

**Tentative Agenda Items
April 26, 2024, AHECB Meeting**

BOARD BUSINESS (Introductions, announcements, minutes)

EXECUTIVE SECTION

AGENCY UPDATES

ACADEMIC COMMITTEE REPORT*

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT*

OTHER INFORMATION ITEMS

*The Academic Affairs and Finance Committees will continue to meet before the full Board meeting. However, agenda items that will be considered by the full Board will be placed in the Executive section.

BOARD BUSINESS

- Introductions
- Minutes, January 26, 2024, Regular Meeting

EXECUTIVE SECTION

- **Commissioner's Report**

This agenda item will include updates on new employees, legislation, and current events.

- **Annual Report on Student Retention and Graduation**

The annual report on Graduation and Retention Rates will be presented to the Coordinating Board as an information item. The report provides fall-to-fall retention, graduation, and success rate calculations on cohorts of students along with segmentations by gender and race.

- **Annual Report on Retention and Graduation of Intercollegiate Athletes**

The annual report on retention and graduation of intercollegiate athletes will be presented to the Coordinating Board.

- **Annual Report on First-Year Student Remediation for AY2023**

Annual Report on First-Year Student Remediation for AY2023. Remediation rates for the AY2023 entering class will be presented to the Coordinating Board as an information item.

- **Request for ARHEG Slot Fee Increase**

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, veterinary medicine, podiatry, or chiropractic, which do not participate in the Southern Regional Education Board program, if the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board determines that the needs of the state are not being met by supporting students participating in the program.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

- **Distribution of Mineral Lease Funds**

The Division of Higher Education recommends that up to \$475,000 from the Higher Education Research Development Fund be allocated to the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville for expenses associated with the operation of the Arkansas Research and Education Optical Network of all public universities.

- **Economic Feasibility for University of Arkansas at Fayetteville**

The University of Arkansas, Fayetteville requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to issue bonds not to exceed \$34,175,000 with a maximum term of thirty (30) years at an estimated annual interest rate not to exceed 5.50%. Proceeds from this bond issue will be used for (1) the renovation, acquisition, construction, furnishing, and equipping of the Health, Physical Education, and Recreation Building; (2) the acquisition of property for expansion purposes and other purposes of the Fayetteville Campus; and (3) 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 University of Arkansas Board of Trustees approved financing for this bond issue at its meeting on March 12-13, 2024.

- **Economic Feasibility for University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton**

The University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton 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 estimated annual interest rate not to exceed 5.50%. 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 University of Arkansas Board of Trustees approved financing for this bond issue at its meeting on March 12-13, 2024.

- **Economic Feasibility for Arkansas Tech University**

Arkansas Tech University (ATU) requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to issue bonds to be used for Educational & General purposes. Additional details regarding this bond issue are forthcoming and will be provided once available.

- **Economic Feasibility for Arkansas Tech University**

Arkansas Tech University (ATU) requests approval of the economic feasibility of plans to issue bonds to be used for Auxiliary purposes. Additional details regarding this bond issue are forthcoming and will be provided once available.

ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

Consent Agenda

- **Arkansas State University Newport
Associate of Applied Science in Radiologic Technology**

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.

▪ ~~North Arkansas College~~
~~Technical Certificate in Energy Management~~
~~Certificate of Proficiency in Energy Management~~

~~Students enrolling in the proposed Energy Management program will explore energy auditing, renewable energy systems, energy efficient building design, energy modeling, and energy codes and standards. Students will learn how to analyze energy usage data and develop energy management plans that can help reduce energy consumption and save costs. They will learn how to perform blower door and duct blasting tests; capture and interpret thermal imagery; install and service scaled solar, wind, and hydronic systems; and perform load calculations. The proposed 17-credit-hour Certificate of Proficiency and 35-credit-hour Technical Certificate in Energy Management are designed to prepare students for an entry-level career in energy management, building science, and related fields, with a focus on sustainable practices and green technologies. The program will also focus on workforce training for local and regional businesses, partners, and contractors in the renewable energies industry. The proposed program will stack into the existing Associate of Applied Science in General Technology for these students wishing to further their education.~~

▪ **University of Arkansas Fort Smith**
Associate of Applied Science in Nursing

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.

▪ **Arkansas Public Institutions Letters of Notification**

Programs included in the Arkansas Public Institution Letters of Notification have been approved by the ADHE Director and must be included on the AHECB agenda prior to program initiation. The programs are reasonable and moderate extensions of existing certificates and degrees.

▪ **Arkansas Public Institutions Letters of Intent**

A Letter of Intent informs the AHECB of institutions that plan to offer new programs or organizational units that require a proposal and Coordinating Board approval. Chief academic and chief executive officers can comment on the proposed programs and organizational units before the proposals are considered by AHECB.

▪ **Out-of-State and Arkansas Private Institutions**

The following applications may be reviewed by ADHE for possible consideration at the AHECB meeting in April 2024.

Initial Certifications – Arkansas Campus

Alice Walton School of Medicine, Bentonville, Arkansas
Bentonville Campus

Doctor of Medicine

Initial Certifications – Distance Technology

Aspen University, Phoenix, Arizona

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

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

University of California, Irvine, Irvine, California

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

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California

Doctor of Regulatory Science

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

RN to Master of Science in Nursing

Walden University, Minneapolis, Minnesota

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

▪ **Out-of-State and Arkansas Private Institutions Letters of Notification**

Programs included in the Out-of-State and Arkansas Private Institutions' Letters of Notification have been approved by the ADHE Director and must be included on the AHECB agenda.

▪ **Out-of-State and Arkansas Private Institutions Letters of Intent**

A Letter of Intent informs the AHECB of institutions that plan to offer new programs that require a proposal and Coordinating Board approval.