

**Tentative Agenda Items  
April 25, 2025, 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 24, 2025, Regular Meeting

**EXECUTIVE SECTION**

- **Commissioner's Report**

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

- **Annual Report on First-Year Student Remediation for AY2024**

Annual Report on First-Year Student Remediation for AY2024. Remediation rates for the AY2024 entering class will be presented to the Coordinating Board as an information item.

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

The annual report on Retention, Persistence and Graduation will be presented to the Coordinating Board as an information item. The report provides fall-to-fall retention and persistence rates, graduation rates, and success rate trends for fall term entering students.

- **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.

**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.

## ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

- **Arkansas Northeastern College**  
**Associate of Applied Science in Industrial Maintenance**  
**Technical Certificate in Industrial Maintenance**  
**Certificate of Proficiency in Industrial Maintenance**  
**Certificate of Proficiency in Automation**  
**Certificate of Proficiency in Machine Tool Technology**

The proposed Industrial Maintenance program is designed to address the critical workforce need for skilled industrial maintenance technicians within the steel industry, steel service industries, and other manufacturing sectors in the region surrounding ANC. This proposal is in direct response to industry demands for a trained and adaptable workforce capable of maintaining and optimizing advanced manufacturing equipment and systems.

The proposed Industrial Maintenance program will educate students in the areas of electricity/electronics, mechanics, welding, automation systems, manufacturing, machining operations, blueprint/schematics, industrial tools, and troubleshooting. It will provide students with the knowledge and skills required to secure high skill, high demand, and high wage employment in a variety of industries. Three Certificates of Proficiency, each 12 credit hours, and a 30 credit-hour Technical Certificate are embedded in the 60 credit-hour Associate of Applied Science curriculum. These stackable credentials will give students the opportunity to earn nationally recognized industry credentials and local employer endorsed credentials while learning specific high-demand skillsets.

- **University of Arkansas Fort Smith**  
**Bachelor of Science in Advanced Manufacturing Engineering**  
**Certificate of Proficiency in Advanced Manufacturing**

The proposed 120 credit-hour Bachelor of Science in Advanced Manufacturing Engineering blends courses in traditional and applied mechanical and electrical engineering with courses from business and data science. Graduates will be prepared to design, implement, maintain, and manage modern manufacturing systems that require knowledge in automation, device networking, systems integration, technical communication, project management, quality control, procurement, supply chain management, compliance, safety, and manufacturing processes.

The embedded 9 credit-hour Certificate of Proficiency in Advanced Manufacturing prepares graduates to apply technical and management principles in an advanced manufacturing environment to achieve operational excellence. Graduates will apply technical skills such as quality assurance, risk analysis, process management, product management, and other necessary specialties in the field of technology management.

- **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 2025.

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California

Master of Science in Applied Technology and Aging

Master of Science in Clinical Trial Management

Master of Science in Spatial Data Science

- **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.