

1 State of Arkansas *As Engrossed: S3/17/25 S4/3/25*

2 95th General Assembly

A Bill

3 Regular Session, 2025

SENATE BILL 88

4

5 By: Joint Budget Committee

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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR PERSONAL SERVICES
10 AND OPERATING EXPENSES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF
11 EDUCATION - DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR THE
12 FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2026; AND FOR OTHER
13 PURPOSES.

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Subtitle

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AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION -
18 DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION
19 APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2025-2026 FISCAL
20 YEAR.

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23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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25 SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES - GENERAL OPERATIONS. There is hereby
26 established for the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education
27 for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular
28 employees.

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Item	Class		Maximum	Maximum Annual
No.	Code	Title	No. of	Salary Rate
			Employees	Fiscal Year
				2025-2026
(1)	U024U	DHE DIRECTOR	1	GRADE SE05
(2)	D022N	IT SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER	1	GRADE IT09
(3)	D012C	DATABASE SPECIALIST	2	GRADE IT08



1	(4)	D007C INFORMATION SYSTEMS MANAGER	2	GRADE IT08
2	(5)	D028C SENIOR SOFTWARE SUPPORT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE IT07
3	(6)	D016C SENIOR TECHNOLOGY ANALYST	1	GRADE IT06
4	(7)	G281C ADE POLICY & SPECIAL PROJECTS DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS15
5	(8)	N002N DHE SENIOR ASSOC DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS15
6	(9)	N069N ADE SPECIAL ADVISOR	1	GRADE GS14
7	(10)	N055N DHE ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS14
8	(11)	A010C AGENCY CONTROLLER II	1	GRADE GS13
9	(12)	N054N DHE CAREER PATHWAYS DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS13
10	(13)	N167N DHS POLICY & RESEARCH DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS12
11	(14)	A027C ACCOUNTING OPERATIONS MANAGER	1	GRADE GS11
12	(15)	G058C DHE FEDERAL PROGRAM MANAGER	2	GRADE GS11
13	(16)	E061C ACE PROGRAM COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS10
14	(17)	G071C DHE PROGRAM COORDINATOR	6	GRADE GS10
15	(18)	E062C ACE PROGRAM ADVISOR	2	GRADE GS09
16	(19)	G102C DHE PROGRAM SPECIALIST	18	GRADE GS09
17	(20)	G080C NATIONAL & COMMUNITY SVCS EXEC. DIR.	1	GRADE GS09
18	(21)	G295C OSTEOPATHIC RURAL MED PROG ADMIN	1	GRADE GS09
19	(22)	G147C GRANTS COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS07
20	(23)	G180C GRANTS ANALYST	1	GRADE GS06
21	(24)	A084C PROGRAM/FIELD AUDIT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS06
22	(25)	C056C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III	1	GRADE GS04
23	(26)	C073C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST II	<u>1</u>	GRADE GS03
24		MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	52	

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26 SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP - GENERAL OPERATIONS. There is hereby
 27 authorized, for the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education
 28 for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the following maximum number of part-time or
 29 temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from funds
 30 appropriated herein for such purposes: fifteen (15) temporary or part-time
 31 employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the
 32 Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act
 33 for the appropriate classification.

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35 SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - GENERAL OPERATIONS. There is hereby
 36 appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Division

1 of Higher Education Fund Account, for personal services and operating
2 expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education -
3 General Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

4	5 ITEM	6 FISCAL YEAR
7	8 NO.	9 2025-2026
10	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$2,367,990
11	(02) EXTRA HELP	75,000
12	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	777,058
13	(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
14	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	909,346
15	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	49,659
16	(C) PROF. FEES	25,000
17	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	50,000
18	(E) DATA PROC.	0
19	(05) STATEWIDE PROMOTION	<u>295,000</u>
20	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$4,549,053</u></u>

21 SECTION 4. EXTRA HELP - STATE BOARD OF PRIVATE CAREER EDUCATION. There
22 is hereby authorized, for the Department of Education - Division of Higher
23 Education - State Board of Private Career Education for the 2025-2026 fiscal
24 year, the following maximum number of part-time or temporary employees, to be
25 known as "Extra Help", payable from funds appropriated herein for such
26 purposes: two (2) temporary or part-time employees, when needed, at rates of
27 pay not to exceed those provided in the Uniform Classification and
28 Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act for the appropriate
29 classification.

30 SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - STATE BOARD OF PRIVATE CAREER EDUCATION -
31 OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to
32 be payable from the Private Career Education Fund, for personal services and
33 operating expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Higher
34 Education - State Board of Private Career Education - Operations for the
35 fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

36 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
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1	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
2	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$163,983
3	(02) EXTRA HELP	20,000
4	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	55,427
5	(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
6	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	63,000
7	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	4,000
8	(C) PROF. FEES	6,000
9	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
10	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
11	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$312,410</u></u>

12

13 SECTION 6. APPROPRIATION - STUDENT ASSISTANCE GRANTS AND VARIOUS
14 SCHOLARSHIPS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education,
15 to be payable from the Higher Education Grants Fund Account, for providing
16 student assistance grants and various scholarships as provided by law of the
17 Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - Student Assistance
18 Grants and Various Scholarships for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the
19 following:

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21	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
22	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
23	(01) ARKANSAS FUTURE GRANTS	\$5,000,000
24	(02) NATIONAL GUARD TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM	4,400,000
25	(03) SINGLE PARENT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM	175,000
26	(04) STATE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM	4,000,000
27	(05) TEACHER OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM	2,500,000
28	(06) AR GEOGRAPHICAL CRITICAL NEEDS	
29	MINORITY TEACHER SCHOLARSHIPS	150,000
30	(07) ARKANSAS HEROES SCHOLARSHIP	5,500,000
31	(08) GOVERNOR'S HIGHER EDUCATION	
32	TRANSITION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM	2,000,000
33	(09) SREB MINORITY DOCTORAL SCHOLARS	175,000
34	(10) WASHINGTON CENTER SCHOLARSHIPS	150,000
35	(11) TUITION ADJUSTMENT	350,000
36	(12) AR ACADEMIC CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIPS	25,000,000

1	(13) AR GOVERNOR'S SCHOLAR	22,000,000
2	(14) STUDENT UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM (SURF)	<u>150,000</u>
3	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$71,550,000</u></u>

4

5 SECTION 7. APPROPRIATION - TECHNICAL EDUCATION - FEDERAL PROGRAMS.

6 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable

7 from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the

8 State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of

9 Education - Division of Higher Education - Technical Education - Federal

10 Programs for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

11	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
12		
13	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
14	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$139,791
15	(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	49,594
16	(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
17	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	108,271
18	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	80,000
19	(C) PROF. FEES	157,000
20	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
21	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
22	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$534,656</u></u>

23

24 SECTION 8. APPROPRIATION - RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM. There is

25 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the

26 Research Development Fund, for providing Arkansas Research Development

27 Program Grants to Institutions of Higher Education by the Department of

28 Education - Division of Higher Education - Research Development Program for

29 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

30	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
31		
32	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
33	(01) RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM GRANTS	<u><u>\$750,000</u></u>

34

35 SECTION 9. APPROPRIATION - HEALTH EDUCATION GRANTS AND LOANS. There is

36 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the

1 Higher Education Grants Fund Account, for payments of contracts and loans
 2 with participating out-of-state institutions of higher learning in the fields
 3 of dentistry, optometry, veterinary medicine, chiropractic, and podiatry for
 4 the education of Arkansas citizens by the Department of Education - Division
 5 of Higher Education - Health Education Grants and Loans for the fiscal year
 6 ending June 30, 2026, the following:

8 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
9 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
10 (01) CHIROPRACTIC AID	\$260,000
11 (02) DENTAL AID - GRANTS	2,950,000
12 (03) OPTOMETRY AID - GRANTS	650,000
13 (04) PODIATRY AID	130,400
14 (05) VETERINARY AID FORGIVENESS PROGRAM	1,750,000
15 (06) DENTAL AID - LOANS	987,370
16 (07) OPTOMETRY AID - LOANS	140,000
17 (08) VETERINARY MED. LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM	<u>250,000</u>
18 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$7,117,770</u></u>

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 20 SECTION 10. APPROPRIATION - CASH. There is hereby appropriated, to the
 21 Department of Education, to be payable from the cash fund deposited in the
 22 State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for
 23 operating expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Higher
 24 Education - Cash for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

26 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
27 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
28 (01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
29 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$269,233
30 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	32,865
31 (C) PROF. FEES	63,932
32 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
33 (E) DATA PROC.	0
34 (02) SCHOLARSHIPS	<u>50,000</u>
35 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$416,030</u></u>

36

1 SECTION 11. APPROPRIATION - PRIVATE CAREER EDUCATION BOARD - CASH.
 2 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable
 3 from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief
 4 Fiscal Officer of the State, for operating expenses of the Department of
 5 Education - Division of Higher Education - Private Career Education Board -
 6 Cash for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

8 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
9 NO.	<u>2025-2026</u>
10 (01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
11 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$9,500
12 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	6,000
13 (C) PROF. FEES	5,000
14 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
15 (E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
16 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$20,500</u></u>

17
 18 SECTION 12. APPROPRIATION - STUDENT PROTECTION TRUST. There is hereby
 19 appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Private
 20 Career School Student Protection Trust Fund, for expenses, claims and fees of
 21 the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - State Board of
 22 Private Career Education - Student Protection Trust for the fiscal year
 23 ending June 30, 2026, the following:

25 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
26 NO.	<u>2025-2026</u>
27 (01) EXPENSES/CLAIMS/FEES	<u><u>\$300,000</u></u>

28
 29 SECTION 13. APPROPRIATION - TANF PROGRAM - FEDERAL. There is hereby
 30 appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the federal
 31 funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal
 32 services, operating expenses, grants and aid by the Department of Education -
 33 Division of Higher Education - TANF Program - Federal for the fiscal year
 34 ending June 30, 2026, the following:

36 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
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1	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
2	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$292,016
3	(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	100,134
4	(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
5	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	80,000
6	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	60,000
7	(C) PROF. FEES	70,000
8	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
9	(E) DATA PROC.	0
10	(04) SELF SUFFICIENCY/JOB TRAINING GRANTS	6,547,850
11	(05) ENROLLMENT AND EDUCATION	<u>3,000,000</u>
12	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$10,150,000</u></u>

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14 SECTION 14. APPROPRIATION - WEB BASED APPLICATIONS. There is hereby
 15 appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Higher
 16 Education Grants Fund Account, for personal services and operating expenses
 17 associated with web based applications of the Department of Education -
 18 Division of Higher Education - Web Based Applications for the fiscal year
 19 ending June 30, 2026, the following:

20

21	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
22	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
23	(01) WEB BASED APPLICATIONS PERSONAL	
24	SERVICES AND OPERATING EXPENSES	<u><u>\$500,000</u></u>

25

26 SECTION 15. APPROPRIATION - SCHOLARSHIP ADMINISTRATION. There is
 27 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the
 28 Higher Education Grants Fund Account, for personal services and operating
 29 expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education -
 30 Scholarship Administration for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the
 31 following:

32

33	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
34	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
35	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$282,079
36	(02) EXTRA HELP	10,000

1	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	107,174
2	(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
3	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	285,000
4	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
5	(C) PROF. FEES	30,000
6	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
7	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
8	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$714,253</u></u>

9

10 SECTION 16. APPROPRIATION - WORKFORCE INITIATIVE ACT OF 2015. There is
 11 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the
 12 Workforce Initiative Act of 2015 Fund, for workforce education grants,
 13 administrative and operating expenses of the Department of Education -
 14 Division of Higher Education - Workforce Initiative Act of 2015 for the
 15 fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

16

17	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
18	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
19	(01) WORKFORCE INITIATIVE ACT OF 2015 EXPENSES	<u><u>\$8,000,000</u></u>

20

21 SECTION 17. APPROPRIATION - VETERAN'S APPROVING AGENCY - FEDERAL.
 22 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable
 23 from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the
 24 State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of
 25 Education - Division of Higher Education - Veteran's Approving Agency -
 26 Federal for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

27

28	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
29	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
30	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$239,841
31	(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	88,427
32	(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
33	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	53,546
34	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	9,623
35	(C) PROF. FEES	0
36	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0

1	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
2	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$391,437</u></u>

3
4 SECTION 18. APPROPRIATION - AMERICORPS - OPERATIONS. There is hereby
5 appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Division
6 of Higher Education Fund Account, for personal services, operating expenses,
7 and grants and aid by the Department of Education - Division of Higher
8 Education - AmeriCorps - Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026,
9 the following:

11	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
12	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
13	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$324,617
14	(02) EXTRA HELP	30,000
15	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	126,827
16	(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
17	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	363,650
18	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	85,650
19	(C) PROF. FEES	2,500
20	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
21	(E) DATA PROC.	0
22	(05) GRANTS AND AID	<u>50,000</u>
23	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$983,244</u></u>

24
25 SECTION 19. APPROPRIATION - AMERICORPS - GRANTS AND AID. There is
26 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the
27 Division of Higher Education Fund Account, for grants and aid by the
28 Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - AmeriCorps - Grants
29 and Aid for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

31	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
32	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
33	(01) GRANTS AND AID	<u><u>\$2,010,704</u></u>

34
35 SECTION 20. APPROPRIATION - OSTEOPATHIC RURAL MEDICAL PRACTICE STUDENT
36 LOAN AND SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the

1 Department of Education, to be payable from the Higher Education Grants Fund
 2 Account, for Osteopathic Rural Medical Practice Student Loan & Scholarship
 3 Program loans and/or scholarships by the Department of Education - Division
 4 of Higher Education - Osteopathic Rural Medical Practice Student Loan &
 5 Scholarship Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

6	7 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
8	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
9	(01) OSTEOPATHIC RURAL MEDICAL PRACTICE	
10	STUDENT LOANS/SCHOLARSHIP	<u>\$400,000</u>

11

12 SECTION 21. APPROPRIATION - GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION RESIDENCY

13 EXPANSION BOARD. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of
 14 Education, to be payable from the Graduate Medical Education Fund, for
 15 planning grants to eligible entities for graduate medical education residency
 16 program expansion or new programs, and for board expenses and reimbursements
 17 of the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - Graduate
 18 Medical Education Residency Expansion Board for the fiscal year ending June
 19 30, 2026, the following:

20

21 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
22 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
23 (01) GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION RESIDENCY EXPANSION BOARD	<u>\$10,000,000</u>

24

25 SECTION 22. APPROPRIATION - HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND

26 UNIVERSITIES GRANTS AND EXPENSES. There is hereby appropriated, to the
 27 Department of Education, to be payable from the Higher Education Grants Fund
 28 Account, for grants for scholarships to Historically Black Colleges and
 29 Universities and for personal services and operating expenses as determined
 30 by the Division of Higher Education for outreach programs to promote
 31 awareness of those scholarships of the Department of Education - Division of
 32 Higher Education - HBCU Grants and Expenses for the fiscal year ending June
 33 30, 2026, the following:

34

35 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
36 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>

1 (01) HBCU GRANTS AND EXPENSES \$4,000,000

2

3 SECTION 23. APPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS TEACHER ACADEMY SCHOLARSHIP
4 PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be
5 payable from the Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship Program Fund, for
6 scholarships, personal services, and operating expenses necessary to create
7 and maintain the Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship Program by the
8 Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - Arkansas Teacher
9 Academy Scholarship Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the
10 following:

11

12 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
13 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
14 (01) AR TEACHER ACADEMY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM	<u>\$12,000,000</u>

15

16 SECTION 24. APPROPRIATION - SUSTAINABLE BUILDING MAINTENANCE PROGRAM
17 FOR STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION. There is hereby
18 appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the
19 Sustainable Building Maintenance Program for State-Supported Institutions of
20 Higher Education Revolving Loan Fund, for transfers or loans to a state-
21 supported institution of higher education for deferred maintenance, critical
22 maintenance, or renovation of state-owned property of the Department of
23 Education - Division of Higher Education - Sustainable Building Maintenance
24 Program for State-Supported Institutions of Higher Education for the fiscal
25 year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

26

27 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
28 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
29 (01) LOANS	<u>\$7,437,405</u>

30

31 SECTION 25. REGULAR SALARIES - NORTHWEST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE.
32 *There is hereby established for the Department of Education - Division of*
33 *Higher Education - Northwest Technical Institute for the 2025-2026 fiscal*
34 *year, the following maximum number of regular employees.*

35

36 *Maximum Annual*

			<i>Maximum</i>	<i>Salary Rate</i>	
	<i>Item</i>	<i>Class</i>	<i>No. of</i>	<i>Fiscal Year</i>	
	<i>No.</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Employees</i>	
				<i>2025-2026</i>	
4	(1)	NWT10C	NWTI DIRECTOR	1	\$169,298
5	(2)	NWT07C	NWTI ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	2	\$127,195
6	(3)	NWT19P	NWTI NURSE INSTRUCTOR	6	\$124,726
7	(4)	NWT06P	NWTI AMMONIA & INDUST TRAIN SUPV/EXPERT	1	\$112,976
8	(5)	NWT12P	NWTI EDUC PROG SUPV/EXPERT	3	\$112,976
9	(6)	NWT01P	NWTI ACCOUNTANT II	1	\$95,564
10	(7)	NWT09P	NWTI CAREER & TECH FACULTY II	7	\$95,564
11	(8)	NWT05P	NWTI AMMONIA & INDUST TRAINER	2	\$93,367
12	(9)	NWT21P	NWTI USER SUPPORT ANALYST	2	\$89,613
13	(10)	NWT08P	NWTI CAREER & TECH FACULTY I	28	\$86,876
14	(11)	NWT11P	NWTI EDUCATION PROGRAM COORDINATOR	3	\$84,879
15	(12)	NWT13P	NWTI EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT	1	\$84,879
16	(13)	NWT15P	NWTI HR COORDINATOR	1	\$84,879
17	(14)	NWT20P	NWTI TRAINER	3	\$84,879
18	(15)	NWT17P	NWTI MAINT SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	2	\$77,163
19	(16)	NWT02P	NWTI ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	2	\$70,148
20	(17)	NWT03P	NWTI ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR	5	\$63,770
21	(18)	NWT14P	NWTI FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	1	\$63,770
22	(19)	NWT16P	NWTI HR SPECIALIST	1	\$63,770
23	(20)	NWT18P	NWTI MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN	3	\$57,973
24	(21)	NWT04P	NWTI ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST	<u>4</u>	\$52,703
25			<i>MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES</i>	<u>79</u>	

26

27 SECTION 26. EXTRA HELP - NORTHWEST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE. There is
28 hereby authorized, for the Department of Education - Division of Higher
29 Education - Northwest Technical Institute for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the
30 following maximum number of part-time or temporary employees, to be known as
31 "Extra Help", payable from funds appropriated herein for such purposes: one
32 hundred thirty-five (135) temporary or part-time employees, when needed, at
33 rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the Uniform Classification and
34 Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act for the appropriate
35 classification.

36

1 SECTION 27. APPROPRIATION - NORTHWEST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE - STATE.

2 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable
 3 from the Northwest Technical Institute Fund, for personal services and
 4 operating expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Higher
 5 Education - Northwest Technical Institute - State for the fiscal year ending
 6 June 30, 2026, the following:

7	8 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
9	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
10	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$3,199,793
11	(02) EXTRA HELP	453,411
12	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	1,199,110
13	(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
14	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	668,564
15	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	44,866
16	(C) PROF. FEES	0
17	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
18	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
19	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$5,565,744</u></u>

20

21 SECTION 28. APPROPRIATION - NORTHWEST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE - FEDERAL.

22 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable
 23 from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the
 24 State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of
 25 Education - Division of Higher Education - Northwest Technical Institute -
 26 Federal for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

27

28	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
29	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
30	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$82,696
31	(02) EXTRA HELP	171,492
32	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	47,690
33	(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
34	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	14,278
35	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
36	(C) PROF. FEES	0

1	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
2	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
3	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$316,156</u></u>

4

5 SECTION 29. APPROPRIATION - NORTHWEST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE - CASH.

6 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable
7 from cash funds as defined by Arkansas Code §19-4-801, for personal services
8 and operating expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Higher
9 Education - Northwest Technical Institute - Cash for the fiscal year ending
10 June 30, 2026, the following:

11

12	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
13	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
14	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$1,005,551
15	(02) EXTRA HELP	556,450
16	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	440,606
17	(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
18	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	1,894,530
19	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	15,000
20	(C) PROF. FEES	275,000
21	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	200,000
22	(E) DATA PROC.	0
23	(05) RESALE	<u>325,000</u>
24	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$4,712,137</u></u>

25

26 SECTION 30. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
27 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

28 DHE - REALLOCATION OF RESOURCES FOR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION. Upon
29 determination by the president or chancellor of an institution of higher
30 education that a reallocation of resources for purposes of reorganization or
31 consolidation of administrative functions within the institution is necessary
32 for efficient and effective operations of the institution, the president or
33 chancellor, with approval of the institution's board of trustees, may have
34 the authority to transfer positions, appropriations and related funds between
35 campuses, divisions, branches, and other budgetary units of the institution,
36 after receiving prior approval of the Legislative Council or Joint Budget

1 Committee. The transfers of positions, programs, or activities shall be used
2 for those purposes for which the appropriations were approved by the General
3 Assembly. The transfers, consolidations, or reorganizations which involve
4 academic programs shall be reviewed by the Division of Higher Education prior
5 to submission to the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee. Provided,
6 however, that the institution shall be limited to submitting no more than two
7 (2) individual transaction transfer requests during any fiscal year and shall
8 be further limited to no more than five percent (5%) of the total General
9 Revenue and Special Revenue appropriation, funding, positions specific to
10 each institution, and no Tobacco Settlement funds or appropriations may be
11 reallocated pursuant to this section.

12 Determining the maximum number of employees and the maximum amount of
13 appropriation and general revenue funding for institutions of higher
14 education each fiscal year is the prerogative of the General Assembly. This
15 is usually accomplished by delineating such maximums in the appropriation
16 act(s) for institutions of higher education and the general revenue
17 allocations authorized for each fund and fund account by amendment to the
18 Revenue Stabilization law. Further, the General Assembly has determined that
19 institutions of higher education may operate more efficiently if some
20 flexibility is provided to institutions of higher education authorizing broad
21 powers under this section. Therefore, it is both necessary and appropriate
22 that the General Assembly maintain oversight by requiring prior approval of
23 the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee as provided by this
24 section. The requirement of approval by the Legislative Council or Joint
25 Budget Committee is not a severable part of this section. If the requirement
26 of approval by the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee is ruled
27 unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, this entire section is
28 void.

29 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2024~~
30 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

31

32 SECTION 31. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
33 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

34 DHE - BUILDING MAINTENANCE FUND. After the sum of \$13,200,000 has been
35 deposited into the Higher Education Building Maintenance Fund, any additional
36 deposits are to be transferred to the Research Development Fund there to be

1 used as provided by law.

2 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, 2024
3 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

4

5 SECTION 32. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
6 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

7 DHE - TRANSFER PROVISION. Upon certification by the Director of the Division
8 of Higher Education that transfers are needed to make maximum utilization of
9 funds and appropriations provided for financial aid programs, and with the
10 approval of the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State and a review by the
11 Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee, funds and
12 appropriations may be transferred between financial aid programs to more
13 adequately align the appropriation with the number of eligible students.

14 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, 2024
15 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

16

17 SECTION 33. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
18 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

19 DHE - TRANSFER OF HIGHER EDUCATION GRANTS FUND APPROPRIATIONS - HEALTH
20 EDUCATION GRANTS AND LOANS. Upon certification to and with the approval of
21 the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, surplus funds and appropriations may
22 be transferred between the appropriations provided for "Health Education
23 Grants and Loans" by this Act by the General Assembly for Dental Aid Grants
24 and Loans, Optometry Aid Grants and Loans, Veterinary Aid, Veterinary Med.
25 Loan Forgiveness Program, Podiatry Aid, and Chiropractic Aid.

26 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, 2024
27 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

28

29 SECTION 34. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
30 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

31 DHE - CONTINGENCY APPROPRIATIONS - TRANSFERS AND REPORTS. (a) Upon approval
32 by the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education and the Chief
33 Fiscal Officer of the State, institutions of higher education may transfer
34 appropriation from the cash contingency appropriation to any other
35 appropriation made to the institution from cash funds including the
36 establishment of commitment items, and may transfer appropriation from the

1 contingency appropriation made payable from each institution's State Treasury
2 Fund to the state operations appropriation made payable from each
3 institution's State Treasury Fund including the establishment of commitment
4 items, and may transfer appropriation from the contingency appropriation made
5 payable from the Tobacco Settlement Program Fund Accounts to any other
6 appropriation made to the institution from Tobacco Settlement Program Fund
7 Accounts including the establishment of commitment items.

8 (b) Contingency appropriation transfers shall only establish and
9 supplement commitment items that were recommended by the Higher Education
10 Coordinating Board in the budget manuals presented to the Legislative Council
11 and Joint Budget Committee.

12 (c) The Department of Education - Division of Higher Education shall
13 report contingency appropriation transfers and the establishment of any
14 commitment items authorized by this Section to the Legislative Council or
15 Joint Budget Committee for review during its July meeting. The report shall
16 include, by institution, the establishment of, and the amounts transferred
17 to, each commitment item, the reasons therefor and the source of funds.
18 Institutions shall submit contingency appropriation transfer and commitment
19 item establishment requests authorized by this Section to the Division of
20 Higher Education no later than July 1. Upon the failure of an institution to
21 submit the required information by the July 1 deadline, the Department of
22 Education - Division of Higher Education shall immediately notify by written
23 notification the chairpersons of the Legislative Council or Joint Budget
24 Committee.

25 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2024~~
26 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

27
28 SECTION 35. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
29 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

30 DHE WORKFORCE INITIATIVE ACT FUNDING. The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State
31 may transfer, on his or her books and those of the State Treasurer and the
32 Auditor of the State, funding up to the amount authorized in the Workforce
33 Initiative Act of 2015 appropriation section in this Act, from the Division
34 of Higher Education Fund Account to the Workforce Initiative Act of 2015 Fund
35 in order to finance the distribution of grants identified under §6-60-107.

36 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2024~~

1 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

2

3 SECTION 36. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
4 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.
5 DHE - STATEWIDE ~~SCHOLARSHIP AND GRANT~~ PROMOTION. Of the general revenue that
6 is received by and distributed from the Higher Education Grants Fund Account,
7 the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall transfer two hundred ninety-five
8 thousand dollars (\$295,000) to the Division of Higher Education Fund Account
9 to be allocated, budgeted, committed and distributed to the Statewide
10 ~~Scholarship and Grant~~ Promotion line item in the General Operations section
11 of this Act for the purpose of increasing public awareness of the
12 ~~scholarships and grants~~ programs and initiatives offered by the State through
13 the Arkansas Department of Education - Division of Higher Education. The
14 Department shall utilize a minimum of one hundred forty-seven thousand five
15 hundred dollars (\$147,500) of the aforementioned total specifically for the
16 promotion of the Arkansas Future Grant Program.

17 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2024~~
18 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

19

20 SECTION 37. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
21 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.
22 GOVERNOR'S HIGHER EDUCATION TRANSITION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. The Department
23 of Education - Division of Higher Education shall provide for the
24 administration of the "Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship
25 Program" as appropriated in the Student Assistance Grants and Various
26 Scholarships Appropriation section of this Act to assist students accepted
27 into transitional programs for students with intellectual and/or
28 developmental disabilities at state institutions of higher education and
29 shall promulgate rules for the implementation of the program and for the
30 disbursement of scholarships to eligible students.

31 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2024~~
32 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

33

34 SECTION 38. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds
35 authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency
36 and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and

1 the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and
2 Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary
3 Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal
4 control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by
5 the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be
6 strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.

7
8 SECTION 39. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General
9 Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations
10 contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for
11 which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive
12 Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget
13 manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or
14 summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative
15 Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.

16
17 SECTION 40. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
18 General Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits
19 the appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the
20 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2025 is essential to the operation of
21 the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in
22 the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the
23 effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2025 could work irreparable harm
24 upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental
25 programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act
26 being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health
27 and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2025.

28
29 /s/Joint Budget Committee

30
31
32 **APPROVED: 4/14/25**