



STATE OF ARKANSAS
**Department of Finance
and Administration**

E

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October 31, 2024

Senator Jonathan Dismang, Co-Chair
Representative Frances Cavanaugh, Co-Chair
Performance Evaluation & Expenditure Review Committee
Arkansas Legislative Council
State Capitol Building
Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: FY 25 Restricted Reserve Fund Transfer Recommendation

Dear Co-Chairs:

Pursuant to Act 561 of 2023 (3), as Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, I am recommending the transfer of the following Restricted Reserve Funds:

1. Department of Human Services – Division of County Operations –
Summer EBT Program for Children – Food Insecurity and Health Needs
Set-Aside \$2,900,000
2. University of Arkansas – UAPB Health and Wellness Center
Construction – Various General Discretionary Majority Vote Set-
Aside \$3,000,000

Sincerely,

James L. Hudson
Cabinet Secretary

Attachment(s)



ARKANSAS
DEPARTMENT OF
**HUMAN
SERVICES**

DHS Secretary Kristi Putnam
Office of the Secretary

P.O. Box 1437, Slot S201, Little Rock, AR 72203-1437
P: 501.682.8650 F: 501.682.6836 TDD: 501.682.8820

October 18, 2024

Jim Hudson, Secretary
Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration
1509 West 7th Street, Room 401
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

BA 0710
FC CD5
Fund PWE9600

Dear Secretary Hudson:

On behalf of the Department of Human Services (DHS), I respectfully request the release of Restricted Reserve Funds pursuant to Section 3 Subsection 24 of Act 561 of 2023 to pay required state matching funds for the continuation of a federal program started in the summer of 2024 and administered by DHS' Division of County Operations.

DHS is requesting the amount of \$2,900,000 to pay for required state matching funds to support the State of Arkansas' participation in the Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer (Summer EBT) Program for Children authorized by the USDA Food and Nutrition Services. DHS estimates the total administrative cost of the program to be \$5,686,338 with 50% federally funded and 50% matched by the state. The total requested appropriation for issuance of benefits and program operations is \$50,555,398. DHS was able to serve over 260,000 children through the summer of 2024 through this program.

Thank you for your assistance. If you need additional information, please contact Renee Ikard, DHS Chief Financial Officer, at 501-682-8985.

Sincerely,

Kristi Putnam, Secretary
Arkansas Department of Human Services

KP:sri

cc: Robert Brech, Administrator
DFA – Office of Budget



October 23, 2024

Secretary Jim Hudson
Arkansas Department of Finance & Administration
Office of the Secretary
1509 West 7th Street, Suite 401
Little Rock, AR 72201

Secretary Hudson:

The University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff is formally requesting the release of \$3,000,000 from the Restricted Reserve Fund for the following Development and Enhancement Fund appropriation:

University of Arkansas

For construction, renovation, maintenance, equipment, personal services and operating expenses of the various institutions and entities of the University of Arkansas System

This funding will provide support for the construction of the Health and Wellness Center. These funds will be used to complete the construction of the student health and wellness units while enhancing the health of the surrounding community and region.

This exceptional \$36,000,000 facility has been made possible through a combination of funding sources, including a dedicated student fee, Title III funds, and bonds, ensuring that the center meets the highest standards of quality and functionality for the benefit of the entire student body.

The state-of-the-art facility is designed to be the heart of campus life and will encompass a variety of essential services and co-curricular programs to support and enhance the student experience. Including a student success center that provides vital academic support and resources, dining options, and a comprehensive career services hub to guide students toward their professional goals. Additionally, the building will house a new auditorium/multi-purpose facility that will host a range of events, from lectures to performances.

The university has a critical need for upgrading facilities to better serve the students from the Delta and surrounding areas. The new Student Engagement Center project will help address that need.

We understand that the request requires approval by the Arkansas Legislative Council -PEER committee.

We appreciate your assistance and guidance in obtaining access to the requested funds.

Sincerely,

Andrea Stewart, DSW
Interim Chancellor

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