



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

C
OFFICE OF BUDGET
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March 25, 2025

Senator Kim Hammer, Co-Chair
Representative Aaron Pilkington, Co-Chair
PEER-Review Subcommittee
Joint Budget Committee
State Capitol Building
Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: FY 25 American Rescue Plan Act Request

Dear Co-Chairs:

Pursuant to Section 36 (01) of Act 152 of 2024, I am forwarding the attached American Rescue Plan Act request(s) that have received my approval as Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.

1. University of Arkansas – Phillips Community College – Higher Industry Readiness through Educational Development \$249,000
2. University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences – Arkansas Linking Industry to Grow Nurses Program \$1,679,566
3. Department of Health – Epidemiology/Lab Capacity for Infectious Disease – Plan Change Only \$0
4. Department of Human Services – Division of Aging, Adult, & Behavioral Health – Older Americans Act for Title IIID Preventive Health \$48,983
5. Department of Human Services – Division of Aging, Adult, & Behavioral Health – Older Americans Act for Title VII Ombudsman \$16,189
6. University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff - Arkansas Linking Industry to Grow Nurses Program \$1,004,000
7. University of Arkansas at Fayetteville – Arkansas Linking Industry to Grow Nurses Program \$1,198,353

Sincerely,

James L. Hudson
Secretary

Attachment(s)

**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 PROGRAM APPROPRIATION
AND PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATION REQUEST
SECTION 36 OF ACT 152 OF 2024**

C1

Agency: Phillips Community College of the University of Arkansas Business Area Code: 0190
 Program Title: HIRED GRANT 252615
 Granting Organization: Arkansas Office of Skills Development CFDA #: _____
 Effective Date of Authorization: Beginning: November 14, 2024 Ending: June 30, 2025

Purpose of Grant / Reason for addition or change (include attachments as necessary to provide thorough information):

- Develop and implement employer-driven career pathways aligned with the targeted industry sectors identified in the Arkansas Workforce Strategy.
- Collaborate with workforce alliance partners including but not limited to two or more employers, community colleges, universities, and, optionally, K-12 systems.
- Provide training and education that leads to industry-recognized credentials, apprenticeships, or academic credit credentials aligned with the needs of the local labor market.
- Use data-driven methods to demonstrate measurable outcomes including increased employment rates and labor force participation.

American Rescue Plan Act Program Funding

Func. Area: CCOL Fund Code: New Direct Funding: _____
 Funds Center: D68 Internal Order/WBS Element: _____ State: _____
 Continuation: _____

	Program Funding Amount
Regular Salaries	
Extra Help	
Personal Services Matching	
Operating Expenses	
Conference & Travel Expenses	
Professional Fees	
Capital Outlay	249,000.00
Data Processing	
Grants and Aid (CI: 04)	
Other:	
Other:	
Total	\$ 249,000.00

Anticipated Duration of Federal Funds: December 31, 2026

DFA IGS State Technology Planning	Date
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Items requested for information technology must be in compliance with Technology Plans as submitted to DFA IGS State Technology Planning.

Positions to be established: (list each position separately)

Org Unit	Pers Area	Pers SubArea	Cost Center	Position Number	Crnt Item	Position Title	Class Code	Grade	Line Item Maximum *

State funds will not be used to replace federal funds when such funds expire, unless appropriated by the General Assembly and authorized by the Governor.

Approved by: 
 Cabinet Secretary/Agency Director Date

Robert Brech 03/25/25
 Office of Budget Date

Office of Personnel Mgmt Date



Hugh McDonald
SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

Stephanie Isaacs
DIRECTOR,
OFFICE OF SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
ARKANSAS OFFICE OF SKILLS DEVELOPMENT
AND

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS ACTING ON BEHALF OF
PHILLIPS COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS

MOU # HIRED 252615

ASSURANCES AND COMPLIANCE: This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) shall be governed by and construed under the laws of the State of Arkansas. The parties agree to comply with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Executive Order 11246, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the related regulations to each. In addition, Phillips Community College of the University of Arkansas agrees to adhere to all state and local regulations, as well as the guidelines provided in the *Higher Industry Readiness through Educational Development (HIRED)* Program. Each Party assures that it will not discriminate against any individual on the basis of race, religion, creed, color, sex, age, disability, veteran status, or national origin. Nothing in this MOU may be construed to waive the sovereign or statutory immunities of either Party. Non-compliance may result in the suspension or termination of funding.

PERIOD COVERED: This MOU shall take effect on November 14, 2024, and shall continue through December 31, 2026.

PARTIES: Parties to this MOU are the Arkansas Office of Skills Development (OSD) and the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas acting for and on behalf of Phillips Community College of the University of Arkansas (PCC). OSD is a state agency authorized to award strategic grants to public and private organizations for the development and implementation of workforce training programs in Arkansas. PCC is a two-year college serving the communities of Eastern Arkansas that provides high-quality, accessible educational opportunities and skills development to promote life-long learning. PCC serves to support the development and implementation of the Ready for Life Initiative: Phase One, a project aimed at addressing critical workforce needs in the advanced manufacturing sector.

BACKGROUND: The Arkansas Workforce Strategy seeks to address critical workforce shortages and improve labor market participation through targeted skills development and industry-driven career pathways. The state's economic growth and competitiveness depends on a well-trained, adaptable workforce prepared to meet the evolving needs of high-demand sectors such as advanced manufacturing, energy infrastructure, information technology, and life sciences. The HIRED Grant

Arkansas Department of Commerce
Office of Skills Development
1 Commerce Way • Little Rock, AR 72202
WWW.ARKANSASOSD.COM

Program was created to provide funding for regional, employer-driven initiatives that address skills gaps.

OSD and training providers across the state have been empowered to fund innovative projects that involve collaborative partnerships between employers, educational institutions, and workforce development organizations to develop and implement training programs. These programs are designed to prepare workers for rapid entry into the workforce, provide upskilling opportunities for incumbent workers, and deliver industry-recognized credentials. Funded by American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, *HIRED Program – Arkansas Workforce Strategy Grants* are focused on funding strategic investments, aligned within the areas of focus, that will increase the state’s skilled workforce needs in current and future market strengths.

PURPOSE OF MOU: To outline the terms and conditions between OSD and PCC regarding the administration, implementation, and oversight of funds provided under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 for the *HIRED Program – Arkansas Workforce Strategy Grants*.

SCOPE OF WORK: PCC agrees to undertake the following activities under the terms of this MOU:

- Develop and implement employer-driven career pathways aligned with the targeted industry sectors identified in the Arkansas Workforce Strategy.
- Collaborate with workforce alliance partners including but not limited to two or more employers, community colleges, universities, and, optionally, K-12 systems.
- Provide training and education that leads to industry-recognized credentials, apprenticeships, or academic credit credentials aligned with the needs of the local labor market.
- Use data-driven methods to demonstrate measurable outcomes including increased employment rates and labor force participation.

FUNDING: The approved budget which is incorporated into this MOU shows all eligible expenses for reimbursement by OSD for actual expenses incurred between November 14, 2024, and December 31, 2026. PCC shall submit monthly reimbursement requests for expenses corresponding to the budget categories. Invoicing for reimbursement should be submitted by the 15th of each month for the preceding month’s expenses.

Invoices and supporting documents shall be submitted to osd.hiredgrants@Arkansas.gov.

MONITORING and EVALUATION: OSD reserves the rights to monitor the project’s progress, conduct site visits, and request additional documentation to ensure compliance with HIRED GRANT objectives.

PROGRAM REPORTING:

PCC will provide reports to OSD with the following reports:


- Quarterly Reports: Quarterly progress reports outlining key activities, milestones, and expenditures. Reports shall be submitted April 15, 2025, July 15, 2025, October 15, 2025, January 15, 2026, April 15, 2026, July 15, 2026, and October 15, 2026.
- Final Report: A final performance report will be submitted within 45 days of the project’s end, providing a summary of outcomes, achievements, and sustaining plan to ensure long-term impact and continued workforce development.

INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND CONFIDENTIALITY: The Parties agree to abide by the privacy and nondisclosure provisions of the Family Educational Rights Privacy Act, its associated federal regulations, and Arkansas privacy laws to the extent they apply.

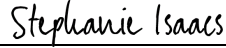
MODIFICATION: This MOU may be modified only by written agreement signed by both Parties.

MOU NOT VALID UNLESS SIGNED BY ALL PARTIES AND ALL INFORMATION FILLED OUT:

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE:

Signed by:		12/13/2024
 Stan Sullivan, Vice Chancellor, Finance & Administration		Date
University of Arkansas Board of Trustees Acting on Behalf of Phillips Community College of the University of Arkansas	870-338-6474 ext. 1274	ssullivan@pccua.edu

STATE STAFF:

Stephanie Isaacs, Director, Office of Skills Development Arkansas Department of Commerce	Date 12/13/2024
DocuSigned by: 	
Cody Waits, Executive Director of Workforce Connections Arkansas Department of Commerce	Date

FUND ACCOUNT: ARKANSAS WORKFORCE STRATEGY GRANTS

MOU Expiration Date	APPROPRIATION CODE	APPROPRIATION FUND	APPROPRIATION CHARACTER	SOURCE OF FUNDS	REVENUE CODE	Office of Skills Dev. Cost Ctr
12/31/26	***	XXX***	04	FEDERAL	N/A	B000000000

Total MOU Funding	\$249,000
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PHILLIPS COMMUNITY COLLEGE HIRED GRANT BUDGET

Budget Line Item #	Description	Total
01	Equipment	\$249,000
	TOTAL	\$249,000

**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 PROGRAM APPROPRIATION
AND PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATION REQUEST
SECTION 36 OF ACT 152 OF 2024**

C2

Agency: University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Business Area Code: 0150

Program Title: Arkansas Linking Industry to Grow Nurses (ALIGN) ARPA

Granting Organization: Arkansas Office of Skills Development CFDA #: 21.027

Effective Date of Authorization: Beginning: 5/17/2024 Ending: 6/30/2025

Purpose of Grant / Reason for addition or change (include attachments as necessary to provide thorough information):
OSD and Arkansas institutions of higher education have been empowered to design, develop, and implement innovative programs to fill this ever-increasing gap through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 for the Arkansas Linking Industry to Grow Nurses (ALIGN) Program. This grant program is aimed at upskilling lower-level professionals, expanding nursing apprenticeships, increasing nurse educator recruitment and retention, expanding clinical rotations, increasing nursing program capacity where relevant, reimbursing tuition, purchasing equipment, implementing simulation centers, and expanding labs. Each institution is required to provide a healthcare partner contribution, with a two-to-one match by the state for every dollar contributed.

American Rescue Plan Act Program Funding

Func. Area: UNIV
Funds Center: D57

Fund Code: new
Internal Order/WBS Element: _____

Direct Funding: X
State: _____
Continuation: _____

	Program Funding Amount
Regular Salaries	
Extra Help	
Personal Services Matching	
Operating Expenses	
Conference & Travel Expenses	
Professional Fees	
Capital Outlay	
Data Processing	
Grants and Aid (CI: 04)	1,679,566
Other:	
Other:	
Total	\$ 1,679,566

Anticipated Duration of Federal Funds: 12/31/2026

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DFA IGS State Technology Planning **Date**
Items requested for information technology must be in compliance with Technology Plans as submitted to DFA IGS State Technology Planning.

Positions to be established: (list each position separately)

* unclassified positions only

Org Unit	Pers Area	Pers SubArea	Cost Center	Position Number	Cmnt Item	Position Title	Class Code	Grade	Line Item Maximum *

State funds will not be used to replace federal funds when such funds expire, unless appropriated by the General Assembly and authorized by the Governor.

Approved by:

Cabinet Secretary/Agency Director Date

Robert Brech 03/25/25
Office of Budget Date

Office of Personnel Mgmt Date

MPK 3/3/25

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION NARRATIVE: SAFE-CARE Proposal

A. Personnel

Patricia A. Cowan, PhD, RN, FAAN. Project Director. (5% effort, Years 1, 2, & 3). **No salary support is requested.** Dr. Cowan's salary will be an in-kind contribution from the College of Nursing (CON) at UAMS. Dr. Patricia Cowan is the Dean of the UAMS CON. She has over 35 years of experience in nursing education and administration. Dr. Cowan has extensive experience in successful implementation, management and evaluation of educational programs and grants. She will oversee implementation of the grant, including awarding scholarships, hiring faculty and staff, purchasing of simulation equipment and supplies, and working with clinical practice partners for preceptors and the Earn-to-Learn initiative.

Larronda Rainey, DNP, RN. Co-Project Director. (5% effort, Years 1, 2, & 3). **No salary support is requested.** Dr. Rainey's salary will be an in-kind contribution from the College of Nursing at UAMS. Dr. Rainey is chair of the Baccalaureate Education Department. Dr. Rainey has expertise in curriculum development and implementation of BSN and graduate programs. She provides mentorship to faculty who teach in the BSN and Accelerated BSN programs and teaches nursing education courses to graduate nursing students. Dr. Rainey will have primary responsibility for the RN-MNSc program, recruitment of contract clinical faculty, and faculty implementation of simulations.

Healthcare Simulation Educator. To Be hired. (100% effort, Years 1, 2 & 3). Salary \$65,000 + \$19,500 fringe = \$84,500. **Year 1 = \$84,500; Year 2 = \$84,500; Year 3 (6 months) = \$42,250. Total = \$211,250.** This individual will coordinate BSN simulations for the Little Rock campus. Duties to include development of simulations with faculty, technical operations of the simulations, coordination of simulation space, ordering of supplies, physical preparation of the simulations, and maintenance of simulation equipment.

Simulation Clinical Instructor. To be hired. (60% FTE, Years 1, 2 & 3). Salary \$48,000 + \$12,240 fringe = \$53,040. **Year 1 = \$53,040; Year 2 = \$53,040; Year 3 (6 months) = \$26,520. Total = \$132,600.** This individual will participate in simulation development and operations, have primary responsibility related to preparing students for the simulation (pre-work) and debriefing of students, and evaluation of simulations.

Contract Clinical Instructor. To Be hired. (25% FTE Years 1, 2 & 12.5% FTE Year 3). Salary: \$72,000. Contract faculty do not receive fringe benefits. Contract salary of \$4,500 per clinical group x 4 clinical groups of 8 students per year (\$18,000); Year 3: Contract salary of \$4,500 per clinical group x 2 clinical groups of 8 students for fall semester (\$9,000). **Year 1 = \$18,000; Year 2 = \$18,000; Year 3 = \$9,000. Total = \$45,000.** This contract clinical instructor (faculty) provides clinical instruction to BSN students.

Contract Clinical Instructor. To Be hired. (25% FTE Years 1, 2 & 12.5% FTE Year 3). Salary: \$72,000. Contract faculty do not receive fringe benefits. Contract salary of \$4,500 per clinical group x 4 clinical groups of 8 students per year (\$18,000); Year 3: Contract salary of \$4,500 per clinical group x 2 clinical groups of 8 students for fall semester (\$9,000). **Year 1 = \$18,000; Year 2 = \$18,000; Year 3 = \$9,000. Total = \$45,000.** This contract clinical instructor (faculty) provides clinical instruction to BSN students.

Contract Clinical Instructor. To Be hired. (25% FTE Years 1, 2 & 12.5% FTE Year 3). Salary: \$72,000. Contract faculty do not receive fringe benefits. Contract salary of \$4,500 per clinical group x 4 clinical

groups of 8 students per year (\$18,000); Year 3: Contract salary of \$4,500 per clinical group x 2 clinical groups of 8 students for fall semester (\$9,000). **Year 1 = \$18,000; Year 2 = \$18,000; Year 3 = \$9,000. Total = \$45,000.** This contract clinical instructor (faculty) provides clinical instruction to BSN students.

Contract Clinical Instructor, Accelerated BSN Program. To Be hired. (25% FTE Years 1, 2 & 12.5% FTE Year 3). Salary: \$72,000. Contract faculty do not receive fringe benefits. Contract salary of \$4,500 per clinical group x 4 clinical groups of 8 students per year (\$18,000); Year 3: Contract salary of \$4,500 per clinical group x 2 clinical groups of 8 students for fall semester (\$9,000). **Year 1 = \$18,000; Year 2 = \$18,000; Year 3 = \$9,000. Total = \$45,000.** This contract clinical instructor (faculty) provides clinical instruction to students in the accelerated BSN program.

B. Simulation and Lab Equipment. Year 1 = \$649,850.58; Year 2 = \$0.00; Year 3 = \$0.00. Total = \$649,850.58

Simulation has become integral to nursing education and practice, supplementing learning outside the classroom and clinical settings. Use of task trainers, patient simulator manikins, and other high-fidelity simulation offers interactive, challenging learning experiences in a safe, nonthreatening environment that supports the development of technical competency, communication, teamwork and decision-making skills. Simulation replaces a percentage of time in the hospital/clinical setting. With limited clinical placement for students, expansion of our BSN program requires we substitute some clinical with simulation, particularly for pediatrics, obstetrics, and critical care. The requested simulation and lab equipment will enable us to provide simulated clinical experiences for students in these areas. All equipment is requested for year 1 so that we may begin expansion of our programs. Simulation equipment will be used by students in both their junior and senior years of the program. A detailed list of simulation and lab equipment, including the description of the item, vendor, items per unit, cost per unit, and quantity to purchase, are attached in a supplemental document.

C. Lab and Simulation Supplies. Year 1 = \$171,538.49; Year 2 = \$39,097.00; Year 3 = \$39,097.00. Total = \$249,732.49. Laboratory and simulations supplies are needed to provide experiential learning to students. Supplies will be used by juniors and senior BSN students. A detailed list of simulation and lab supplies, including the description of the item, vendor, items per unit, cost per unit, and quantity to purchase, are attached in a supplemental document.

D. Scholarships for Students. Year 1 = \$812,000; Year 2 = \$812,000; Year 3 = \$334,00; Total = \$1,958,000. Over half of BSN students at UAMS are educationally or economically disadvantaged. UAMS BSN and accelerated BSN students spend more than 60% of their program time performing direct patient care. This significantly increases the student's readiness to work as a registered nurse but decreases the student's ability to work full-time while enrolled in school. Many BSN students work part-time to help with living expenses. **In Year 1 and Year 2, new incoming Junior BSN students (n=124) will receive \$4,000 (\$2,000 in the fall and \$2,000 in the spring semesters). In Year 3, new incoming Junior BSN students will receive \$2,000 for the fall semester only. Total = \$1,240,000**

The "senior summer fast-track" accelerates time to graduation for BSN students, enabling them to graduate in 18 months. Students participating in the "senior summer fast-track," will need additional financial support. This is offered because federal financial aid is given during the Fall and Spring semesters, but not the summer, and students typically work during the summer to help pay for their senior year of school. **The 24 new BSN students who enroll in the "senior summer fast-track" in Years 1 and 2 will receive \$4,000 in the summer semester. Total = \$192,000.**

Accelerated BSN students complete 62 college credit hours in 15 months, while also completing clinical assignments and rotations. Their estimated course schedule is equivalent to a 60-hour work week, making it nearly impossible for them to hold even part time employment outside of school. **In Year 1 and Year 2, new incoming accelerated BSN students (n=28) will receive \$5,000 their first year in the program with funds disbursed as follows: \$1,000 Summer; \$2,000 in Fall; \$2,000 in Spring. In Year 3, new incoming accelerated BSN students will receive \$2,000 in the Fall semester only. Total = \$336,000.**

The RN-MNSc pathways provides an opportunity for RNs without their BSN to earn both the BSN and MNSc degree; however, most students need to reduce their employment to complete the program. By providing scholarships to students in the BSN, accelerated BSN, and RN-MNSc programs during their first year in the program, recruitment, retention, and graduation of students will be increased. **In Year 1 and Year 2, 10 new incoming RN-MNSc students will receive \$8,000 annually (\$3,000 Fall, \$3,000 Spring; \$2,000 Summer). In Year 3, 10 new incoming RN-MNSc students will receive \$3,000 for the Fall semester only. Total = \$190,000.**

SCHOLARSHIPS	Cost	Students each year	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3*	TOTAL
Scholarships: RN-MNsc (build faculty workforce)	\$ 8,000.00	10	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 190,000.00
Scholarships for Summer Fast-Track T-BSN Seniors (Summer only)	\$ 4,000.00	24	\$ 96,000.00	\$ 96,000.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 192,000.00
Scholarships Expansion T-BSN (junior students)	\$ 4,000.00	24	\$ 96,000.00	\$ 96,000.00	\$ 48,000.00	\$ 240,000.00
Scholarships for Non-Expansion T-BSN students (junior students)	\$ 4,000.00	100	\$ 400,000.00	\$ 400,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 1,000,000.00
Scholarships for Expansion of Accelerated BSN (first year students)	\$ 5,000.00	7	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 35,000.00	\$14,000	\$ 84,000.00
Scholarships for Non-Expansion Accelerated BSN Students (first year students)	\$ 5,000.00	21	\$ 105,000.00	\$ 105,000.00	\$42,000.00	\$ 252,000.00
Scholarships			\$ 812,000.00	\$ 812,000.00	\$ 334,000.00	\$ 1,958,000.00

***Year 3 (6-month grant funding): Scholarships are less due to funding ending in December 2026.**

E. Indirects: There are no indirects costs associated with the ALIGN funding mechanism.

Total Request: Year 1 = \$1,842,929.07; Year 2 = \$1,060,637.00; Year 3 = \$477,867.00; Total = \$3,381,433.07

F. Matching Funds: The required a 1:2 match, which can be in-kind, is provided as follows:
UAMSHealth: Year 1 = \$ 857,803.54; Year 2 = \$ 466,657.50; Year 3 = \$262,453.90; Total = \$1,586,914.94

ACH: Year 1 = \$34,813; Year 2 = \$34,813; Year 3 = \$11,407; Total = \$81,033

WRMC: Year 1 = \$33,186; Year 2 = \$33,186; Year 3 = \$9,918; Total = \$76,290

UAMSHealth (In-kind) And Budget Supplement

In-Kind Personnel	Salary	Fringe (30%)	Annual Salary + Fringe	FTE	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3 (6 months)	Total
Clinical Placement Coordinator for Students: LaShunna Hart (50% FTE)	\$ 62,500.00	\$ 18,750.00	\$ 81,250.00	0.5	\$ 40,625.00	\$ 40,625.00	\$ 20,312.50	\$ 101,562.50
Preceptor and Earn-to-Learn Coordinator: Shannon Finley (40% FTE)	\$ 114,390.00	\$ 34,317.00	\$148,707.00	0.4	\$ 59,482.80	\$ 59,482.80	\$ 29,741.40	\$ 148,707.00

In-Kind Preceptors	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Preceptors based on Contract Clinical Instructor cost for Care/Mgmt course (16 groups *\$4500 per group)	\$ 72,000.00	\$ 72,000.00	\$ 72,000.00	\$ 216,000.00
Preceptors based on Contract Clinical Instructor cost for Immersion course (16 groups*24 hr/week *4 weeks *\$45 hour) Year 1 and 2	\$ 69,120.00	\$ 69,120.00	0	\$ 138,240.00
Earn-to-Learn (Apprenticeship) Payment to BSN Students				
Earn to Learn Immersion (\$15 hr x 20hr/week*4 weeks*30 students)	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 108,000.00
Earn to Learn Care/Mgmt (\$15*12 hr/week *4 weeks*30 students)	\$ 20,160.00	\$ 20,160.00	\$ 20,160.00	\$ 60,480.00
TRAINING				
Epic Orientation/Training annually (all UAMS nursing students)	\$ 7,440.00	\$ 7,440.00	\$ 7,440.00	\$ 22,320.00
SPACE				
Post-conference Clinical Space Juniors (16 groups per week, x 23 weeks/year) 1 hour for conference at \$150 hr	\$ 55,200.00	\$ 55,200.00	\$ 38,400.00	\$ 148,800.00
Post-Conference Clinical Space Seniors (16 groups per week, x 23 weeks/year) 1 hour for conference at \$150 hr	\$ 55,200.00	\$ 55,200.00	\$ 38,400.00	\$ 148,800.00
Total In Kind Contributions from UAMSHealth	\$ 415,227.80	\$ 415,227.80	\$262,453.90	\$ 1,092,909.50
Budget Supplement from UAMSHealth to UAMS College of Nursing	\$ 442,575.74	\$ 51,429.70	--	\$ 494,005.44
TOTAL UAMSHealth Contributions	\$ 857,803.54;	\$466,657.50	\$262,453.90	\$1,586,914.94

Arkansas Children's Hospital

In-Kind Personnel	Salary	Fringe (30%)	Annual Salary + Fringe	FTE	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3 (6 months)	Total
Clinical Placement Coordinator for Students: TBD (10% FTE)	\$ 109,200	\$ 22,932	\$ 132,132	10 %	\$ 13,213	13,213	\$ 6,607	\$ 33,033

SPACE	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3*	Total
Post-Clinical Conference Space-Little Rock; Peds Rotation (16 groups *7 weeks/years 1-2) 1 hour for conference at \$150	\$16,800.00	\$16,800.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 33,600.00
Post-Clinical Conference Space-NW Arkansas; Peds Rotation (4 groups *8weeks/years 1-3) 1 hour for conference at \$150	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 14,400.00
ACH In-Kind TOTAL	\$ 34,813.00	\$ 34,813.00	\$ 11,407	\$ 81,033

*Pediatric clinical in Little Rock occur in the spring, after the Year 3 funding period ends December 2026.

WASHINGTON REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER (WRMC)

In-Kind Personnel	Salary	Fringe (23%)	Annual Salary + Fringe	FTE	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3 (6-month)	Total
Clinical Placement Coordinator for Students: TBD (0.05%)	\$ 64,000.00	\$ 14,720.00	\$ 78,720.00	0.05	\$ 3,936.00	\$ 3,936.00	\$ 1,968.00	\$ 9,840.00

In-Kind Preceptors	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3*	Total
Preceptors in lieu of clinical instructors for 24 students (3 groups) at \$4700 per group for summer immersion experience (Year 1 and 2).	\$ 14,100.00	\$ 14,100.00	0	\$ 28,200.00
SPACE				
Post-Clinical Conference Space 32 days/Year 1 & 2; 16 days/Year 3 * 3 groups* \$150 hour	\$ 14,400.00	\$ 14,400.00	\$7,200.00	\$ 28,200.00
Affiliation Agreements (Legal/Contracts) and Compliance Monitoring	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 2,250.00
In Kind Contributions from WRMC	\$ 33,186.00	\$ 33,186.00	\$ 9,918.00	\$ 76,290.00

Total Match from Clinical Partners

Year 1= \$921,464.54; Year 2 = \$530,318.50; Year 3 = \$281,984.40; Total Match: \$1,733,767.44

**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 PROGRAM APPROPRIATION
AND PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATION REQUEST
SECTION 36 OF ACT 152 OF 2024**

C3

Agency: Arkansas Department of Health Business Area Code: 0645
 Program Title: Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Infectious Diseases (ELC)
 Granting Organization: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention CFDA #: 93.323
 Effective Date of Authorization: Beginning: 7/1/2024 Ending: 6/30/2025

Purpose of Grant / Reason for addition or change (include attachments as necessary to provide thorough information):
REALLOCATION - CDC ELC grant awarded supplemental funds to support activities not funded on the core ELC grant for budget period 5. The MFG requests reallocation of appropriation from Regular Salaries, Match, and Capital Outlay to Operating Expenses. The award supports technical services, laboratory information management system (LIMS) annual license fees, and the Lab Web Portal annual license fees.

American Rescue Plan Act Program Funding

Func. Area: HHS Fund Code: FRP645Z Direct Funding: X
 Funds Center: CB7 Internal Order/WBS Element: RCAH0023 State: _____
 Continuation: _____

	Program Funding Amount
Regular Salaries	(\$132,205)
Extra Help	
Personal Services Matching	(\$44,625)
Operating Expenses	\$330,827
Conference & Travel Expenses	
Professional Fees	
Capital Outlay	(\$153,997)
Data Processing	
Grants and Aid (CI: 04)	
Other:	
Other:	
Total	\$ -

Anticipated Duration of Federal Funds: 07/31/2026

Minghua Li 3/7/2025
DFA IGS State Technology Planning Date
 Items requested for information technology must be in compliance with Technology Plans as submitted to DFA IGS State Technology Planning.

Positions to be established: (list each position separately)

* unclassified positions only

Org Unit	Pers Area	Pers SubArea	Cost Center	Position Number	Cmnt Item	Position Title	Class Code	Grade	Line Item Maximum *

State funds will not be used to replace federal funds when such funds expire, unless appropriated by the General Assembly and authorized by the Governor.

Approved by: *[Signature]* 3-5-25 Robert Brech 03/25/25
 Cabinet Secretary/Agency Director Date Office of Budget Date Office of Personnel Mgmt Date

CRB 3/6/2025

Funds will be reallocated from Regular Salaries, Match, and Capital Outlay appropriations to Operating Expenses to support ongoing laboratory operations. The reallocation of funds will support technical services necessary to address the ADH PHL's needs where LIMS technical services are required. It will assist and support technical services, laboratory information management system (LIMS) annual license fees, and the Lab Web Portal annual license fees. STARLIMS is used for configuration and validation of new test methods, and to manage data for a variety of functions and workflows throughout various areas/laboratories.

**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 PROGRAM APPROPRIATION
AND PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATION REQUEST
SECTION 36 OF ACT 152 OF 2024**

C4

Agency: DHS, Division of Aging, Adult & Behavioral Health Services Business Area Code: 0710

Program Title: Older Americans Act-American Rescue Plan for Title IIID Preventive Health

Granting Organization: Administration for Community Living CFDA #: 93.043

Effective Date of Authorization: Beginning: 7/1/2024 Ending: 6/30/2025

Purpose of Grant / Reason for addition or change (include attachments as necessary to provide thorough information):
To provide COVID-19 funds under the Older Americans Act Title III American Rescue Plan for Preventive Health for seniors. These services are to improve the health and well being or reduce disease, disability, and/or injury among older adults. This is to request additional appropriation due to invoices that DAABHS thought would be paid by the end of FY24 not being billed and paid therefore not enough appropriation was requested to carryforward to FY2025.

American Rescue Plan Act Program Funding

Func. Area: HHS Fund Code: FRP7147 Direct Funding: State: _____
Funds Center: A05 Internal Order/WBS Element: RAGPAR20 Continuation: _____

	Program Funding Amount
Regular Salaries	
Extra Help	
Personal Services Matching	
Operating Expenses	
Conference & Travel Expenses	
Professional Fees	
Capital Outlay	
Data Processing	
Grants and Aid (CI: 04)	48,983
Other:	
Other:	
Total	\$ 48,983

Anticipated Duration of Federal Funds: 9/30/2025

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DFA IGS State Technology Planning Date
Items requested for information technology must be in compliance with Technology Plans as submitted to DFA IGS State Technology Planning.

Positions to be established: (list each position separately)

* unclassified positions only

Org Unit	Pers Area	Pers SubArea	Cost Center	Position Number	Cmnt Item	Position Title	Class Code	Grade	Line Item Maximum *

State funds will not be used to replace federal funds when such funds expire, unless appropriated by the General Assembly and authorized by the Governor.

Approved by:  3/4/2025 Robert Brech 03/25/25
Cabinet Secretary/Agency Director Date Office of Budget Date Office of Personnel Mgmt Date
ALICIA MALONE 3/6/25 **Item C page 15**

**DHS – Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Health Services (DAABHS)
American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Funding for Older Americans Act Services**

Through the Older Americans Act (OAA), the Administration for Community Living of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services distributes funding to states for an array of services for individuals aged 60 and over. In Arkansas, these funds are distributed through DAABHS to the state's eight Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs). OAA funds are allocated to each AAA based on a formula that considers population and demographic characteristics of the areas served by each AAA. OAA funds are awarded based on population aged 60+, minority population, and rural population

Section 2921 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 appropriates additional funding for states to carry out the programs funded under the OAA. DHS proposes to distribute this additional ARPA funding to the AAAs through the same funding formula used to distribute other OAA funds. The effective period of the award is April 01, 2021 through September 30, 2024.

OAA Title III-D Preventive Health: \$400,469

- Preventive health services can include:
- evidence-based disease prevention programs
- health risk assessments
- routine health screenings
- nutritional counseling
- physical fitness and exercise programs
- home injury control services
- medication management, screening, and education.

The purpose of these funds is to assist Arkansas seniors impacted by the effects of COVID-19 and improve their overall health.

This funding will be utilized for seniors in all 75 Arkansas counties.

**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 PROGRAM APPROPRIATION
AND PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATION REQUEST
SECTION 36 OF ACT 152 OF 2024**

C5

Agency: DHS, Division of Aging, Adult & Behavioral Health Services Business Area Code: 0710

Program Title: Older Americans Act-American Rescue Plan for Title VII Ombudsman

Granting Organization: Administration for Community Living CFDA #: 93.042

Effective Date of Authorization: Beginning: 7/1/2024 Ending: 6/30/2025

Purpose of Grant / Reason for addition or change (include attachments as necessary to provide thorough information):
To provide COVID-19 funds under the Older Americans Act Title VII American Rescue Plan for long term care ombudsman. The ombudsmen identify, investigate, and resolve complaints made by or on behalf of residents, provide information to residents about LTSS, ensure residents have regular and timely access to ombudsman services, represent the interests of residents before governmental agencies and seek administrative, legal, and other remedies to protect residents, and analyze comment on, and recommend changes in laws and regulations pertaining to the health, safety, welfare, and rights of residents. This is to request appropriation for FY25 as there was not enough appropriation carried forward to FY25 for the funding remaining because invoices DAABHS thought would be billed and paid in FY24 were not billed until FY25.

American Rescue Plan Act Program Funding

Func. Area: HHS Fund Code: FRP7143 Direct Funding: X
Funds Center: A01 Internal Order/WBS Element: RAIPAR20 State: _____
Continuation: _____

	Program Funding Amount
Regular Salaries	
Extra Help	
Personal Services Matching	
Operating Expenses	
Conference & Travel Expenses	
Professional Fees	
Capital Outlay	
Data Processing	
Grants and Aid (CI: 04)	16,189
Other:	
Other:	
Total	\$ 16,189

Anticipated Duration of Federal Funds: 9/30/2025

DFA IGS State Technology Planning Date _____
Items requested for information technology must be in compliance with Technology Plans as submitted to DFA IGS State Technology Planning.

Positions to be established: (list each position separately) * unclassified positions only

Org Unit	Pers Area	Pers SubArea	Cost Center	Position Number	Cmnt Item	Position Title	Class Code	Grade	Line Item Maximum *
<i>Joy Hill</i>									

State funds will not be used to replace federal funds when such funds expire, unless appropriated by the General Assembly and authorized by the Governor.

Approved by: *[Signature]* 3/4/2025 Robert Brech 03/25/25
Cabinet Secretary/Agency Director Date Office of Budget Date Office of Personnel Mgmt Date
ALICIA MALONE
3/6/25

**DHS – Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Health Services (DAABHS)
American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Funding for Older Americans Act Services**

Through the Older Americans Act (OAA), the Administration for Community Living of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services distributes funding to states for an array of services for individuals aged 60 and over. In Arkansas, these funds are distributed through DAABHS to the state's eight Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs). OAA funds are allocated to each AAA based on a formula that considers population and demographic characteristics of the areas served by each AAA. OAA funds are awarded based on population aged 60+, minority population, and rural population.

Section 2921 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 appropriates additional funding for states to carry out the programs funded under the OAA. DHS proposes to distribute this additional ARPA funding to the AAAs through the same funding formula used to distribute other OAA funds. The effective period of the award is April 01, 2021 through September 30, 2024.

OAA Title VII Ombudsman Program: \$91,016

The Ombudsman Program provides statewide advocacy for residents of nursing facilities, assisted living facilities and residential care facilities. The ombudsman works with beneficiaries and their families to ensure quality of care in residential settings. The ombudsman work with provider administration, DHS, and the Office of Long Term Care.

This funding is available to support ombudsman serving all 75 Arkansas counties.

**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 PROGRAM APPROPRIATION
AND PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATION REQUEST
SECTION 36 OF ACT 152 OF 2024**

C6

Agency: University of Arkansas Pine Bluff Business Area Code: 0160
 Program Title: Arkansas Linking Industry to Grow Nurses (ALIGN) ARPA
 Granting Organization: Arkansas Office of Skills Development CFDA #: 21.027
 Effective Date of Authorization: Beginning: 5/17/2024 Ending: 6/30/2025
 Purpose of Grant / Reason for addition or change (include attachments as necessary to provide thorough information):
 Please see attachment.

American Rescue Plan Act Program Funding

Func. Area: UNIV Fund Code: new Direct Funding: X
 Funds Center: D59 Internal Order/WBS Element: _____ State: _____
 Continuation: _____

	Program Funding Amount
Regular Salaries	454,000
Extra Help	
Personal Services Matching	
Operating Expenses	
Conference & Travel Expenses	
Professional Fees	
Capital Outlay	
Data Processing	
Grants and Aid (CI: 04)	
Other: Nursing Faculty Recruitment	200,000
Other: Student Development	350,000
Total	\$ 1,004,000

Anticipated Duration of Federal Funds: 12/31/2026

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DFA IGS State Technology Planning Date
 Items requested for information technology must be in compliance with Technology Plans as submitted to DFA IGS State Technology Planning.

Positions to be established: (list each position separately)

* unclassified positions only

Org Unit	Pers Area	Pers SubArea	Cost Center	Position Number	Cmnt Item	Position Title	Class Code	Grade	Line Item Maximum *

State funds will not be used to replace federal funds when such funds expire, unless appropriated by the General Assembly and authorized by the Governor.

Approved by: Andrew Stewart Date: _____
 Cabinet Secretary/Agency Director Office of Budget Office of Personnel Mgmt

Robert Brech 03/25/25 _____
 Office of Budget Office of Personnel Mgmt



February 28, 2025

Jim Hudson, Secretary
Department of Finance and Administration
Office of the Secretary
1509 West 7th Street, Suite 401
Little Rock, AR 72203-3278

Dear Secretary Hudson,

The University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff respectfully requests a review of appropriation from the ALIGN Grant portion of the American Rescue Plan Act 152 of 2024 for the following purposes:

- Nursing Education-Student Readiness/Quality control and testing support
- Faculty-staff Performance and Incentive support
 - Increase the salary base for faculty, allowing the university to narrow the salary gap between educators and those in the service sector
 - Support Test Prep and Test Coaches
 - Annual Incentives for Test Success Readiness
- Nursing Faculty Recruitment
- Nursing Program Development
 - NCLEX Bootcamp
 - Nursing skill kit
 - Recruitment events
 - Pathway promotion
 - Sim Lab enhancements & Simulation training

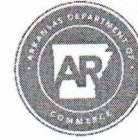
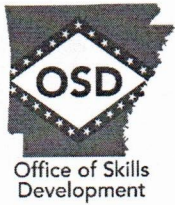
The University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff will use these funds as agreed upon between the ALIGN Grant MOU and us. A copy of the approved budget and MOU has been attached for review.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Carla Martin, Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administration, at martinc@uapb.edu or me at stewart@uapb.edu.

Thank you for considering this request for the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff.

Sincerely,

Dr. Andrea Stewart
Interim Chancellor



Hugh McDonald
SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

Stephanie Isaacs
DIRECTOR,
OFFICE OF SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

May 17, 2024

Ms. Brenda Jacobs
Department of Nursing Chairperson, UAPB
University of Arkansas Pine Bluff
1200 N University
Pine Bluff, AR 71603

RE: Arkansas Linking Industry to Grow Nurses Program (ALIGN) Award, \$1,004,000.00,
University of Arkansas Pine Bluff

Dear Ms. Jacobs:

Congratulations on a successful application to the Arkansas Linking Industry to Grow Nurses Program, ALIGN. The application for University of Arkansas Pine Bluff has been recommended and approved for funding in the amount of \$1,004,000.00 to enhance Arkansas' nursing workforce as outlined in your submitted proposal.

Your grant agreement, containing your approved budget items, is attached with this letter. Please note these funds must be obligated by December 31, 2024, and expended by September 30, 2026. Any unobligated funds can be reallocated by the Office of Skills Development, and any unexpended funds must be returned to the Treasury. Awards will be paid on a reimbursement basis by the Office of Skills Development. Please refer to the RFP and to your approved budget for allowable expenses under the grant.

Requests for reimbursement must be submitted on the ALIGN ARPA Expenses form and should reference the expense line number shown on your approved budget. Reimbursement requests and supporting documentation must be submitted to OSD for approval. Prior to any reimbursement, the State of Arkansas requires completion and submission of the attached vendor packet. OSD also recommends your organization authorizes direct deposit for payment requests. Please email your completed paperwork by May 31, 2024, to Bonnie Casey at bonnie.b.casey@arkansas.gov. Reimbursement requests should be submitted to OSD by emailing bonnie.b.casey@arkansas.gov.

Please contact Bonnie at (501) 682-1687 in the Office of Skills Development with any additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Isaacs, Director

University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff
 Department of Nursing
 ALIGN Program Budget

Purpose	Activities	2024-2025	2025-2026
Nursing Education- Student Readiness/Quality control and testing support/Faculty-staff Performance and Incentive support \$454,000.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Annual Nursing Prep and Academies ✓ Nursing Boot Camp ✓ Student Nursing & Career EXPO ✓ Nursing off-site leaning experiences ✓ Nursing Real-Life Seminars ✓ High School Nursing Recruitment Events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Increase salary base for faculty narrowing salary gap between nurse educators and those in the service sector) ✓ Funding Professional Development/Certifications ✓ Support Test Prep and Test Coaches ✓ Test Success Readiness Incentives ✓ Annual incentives to fund <u>faculty professional development</u> and <u>supplement pay including but not limited to salary supplements and bonuses</u> ✓ <p>\$229,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase salary base for faculty narrowing the salary gap between nurse educators and those in the service sector) ✓ Funding Professional Development/Certifications ✓ Test Success Readiness Incentives ✓ Annual incentives to fund <u>faculty professional development</u> and <u>supplement pay including but not limited to salary supplements and bonuses</u> ✓ <p>\$225,000</p>
Nursing Faculty Recruitment Allocated Funds: \$200,000.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Limited term <u>salary pays to increase</u> the DON's ability to recruit educators. ✓ Increase salaries to recruit and retain educators and practitioners with advance degrees (MSN, PhD, DNS) to be more competitive with bedside/clinical practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Provide retention bonus of 5% (Not added to base salary) ✓ Incentive supplements (merit based when Department goals are met up to 5%) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Quality faculty credentials *75% NCLEX-RN Pass rates *Scholarly Activities ✓ Success coach/ Peer to Peer Trainers <p>\$100,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Provide retention bonus of 5% (Not added to base salary) ✓ Incentive supplements (merit based when Department goals are met up to 5%) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Quality faculty credentials *75% NCLEX-RN Pass rates *Scholarly Activities ✓ Success coach/ Peer to Peer Trainers <p>\$100,000</p>

University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff
 Department of Nursing
 ALIGN Program Budget

<p>Nursing Program Development Allocated Funds: \$350,000.00</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Nursing program and student development cost, including but not limited to, <u>student fees for testing and Test prep courses and study.</u> ✓ Ongoing technology updates: ✓ Increase program capacity 10-20% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ATI Program \$26,000.00 ✓ Green Light Scholarship ✓ Program development ✓ NCLEX Bootcamp ✓ Nursing skill kit ✓ Recruitment Events ✓ Pathway Promotion ✓ Partnerships ✓ Computer Refresh 6/year ✓ Research ✓ Sim Lab enhancements ✓ Simulation training <p style="text-align: center;">\$175000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ATI Program \$26,000.00 ✓ Green Light Scholarship ✓ Program development ✓ NCLEX Bootcamp ✓ Nursing skill kit ✓ Recruitment Events ✓ Pathway Promotion ✓ Partnerships ✓ Computer Refresh 6/year ✓ Research ✓ Sim Lab enhancement ✓ Simulation training <p style="text-align: center;">\$175000</p>
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Approved Budget for ALIGN Funding

University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff

SALARY	2024-2025	2025-2026	Request	<i>Line #</i>
Nursing Education/QC & Testing Faculty-Staff Incentive	\$229,000.00	\$225,000.00		1
Nursing Faculty Recruitment	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00		2
Total Salary & Recruitment	\$329,000.00	\$325,000.00	\$ 654,000.00	
STUDENT DEVELOPMENT				
Nursing Program Development - 10-20% Increase	\$175,000.00	\$175,000.00		3
Total Program Development	\$175,000.00	\$175,000.00	\$ 350,000.00	
Award Approved			\$ 1,004,000.00	
Total ALIGN Funding			\$ 1,004,000.00	

**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 PROGRAM APPROPRIATION
AND PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATION REQUEST
SECTION 36 OF ACT 152 OF 2024**

C7

Agency: University of Arkansas Business Area Code: 0135

Program Title: Arkansas Linking Industry to Grow Nurses (ALIGN) ARPA

Granting Organization: Arkansas Office of Skills Development CFDA #: 21.027

Effective Date of Authorization: Beginning: 5/17/2024 Ending: 6/30/2025

Purpose of Grant / Reason for addition or change (include attachments as necessary to provide thorough information):
Please see attachment.

American Rescue Plan Act Program Funding

Func. Area: UNIV
Funds Center: D55

Fund Code: new
Internal Order/WBS Element: _____

Direct Funding: X
State: _____
Continuation: _____

	Program Funding Amount
Regular Salaries	
Extra Help	
Personal Services Matching	
Operating Expenses	
Conference & Travel Expenses	
Professional Fees	
Capital Outlay	
Data Processing	
Grants and Aid (CI: 04)	
Other: Program costs to conduct ALIGN program	1,198,353
Other:	
Total	\$ 1,198,353

Anticipated Duration of Federal Funds: 12/31/2026

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DFA IGS State Technology Planning **Date**
Items requested for information technology must be in compliance with Technology Plans as submitted to DFA IGS State Technology Planning.

Positions to be established: (list each position separately)

* unclassified positions only

Org Unit	Pers Area	Pers SubArea	Cost Center	Position Number	Cmnt Item	Position Title	Class Code	Grade	Line Item Maximum *

State funds will not be used to replace federal funds when such funds expire, unless appropriated by the General Assembly and authorized by the Governor.

Approved by: 
Cabinet Secretary/Agency Director Date 3.12.25

Robert Brech 03/25/25
Office of Budget Date

Office of Personnel Mgmt Date



February 28, 2025
Jim Hudson, Secretary
Department of Finance and Administration
Office of the Secretary
1509 West 7th Street, Suite 401
Little Rock, AR 72203-3278

RE: American Rescue Plan Act Funding – Act 152 of 2024

The University of Arkansas Fayetteville has been awarded funding from the Arkansas Office of Skills Development (OSD) through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 for the Arkansas Linking Industry to Grow Nurses (ALIGN) Program. In accordance with Section 36 of Act 152 of 2024, the University hereby submits a supplemental appropriation request and detailed plan for expenditures of these funds.

The total funding to be disbursed or reimbursed from the award for the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville is \$1,198,353.

The University of Arkansas, Fayetteville respectfully requests review of appropriations from the American Rescue Plan funds to upskill working full-time Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) to Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN).

In 2011, the Institute of Medicine recommended that 80% of all registered nurses obtain a BSN (Bachelor of Science in Nursing) by 2020. By 2023, 51.5% of nurses in the U.S. entered the workforce with a BSN or entry-level master's degree, and 71.7% of those actively working have earned a BSN at some point in their career.

The RN-BSN program at the Eleanor Mann School of Nursing (EMSON) offers a flexible option for working nurses who have RN licensures but not a BSN. With Arkansas's rapidly growing population, the demand for registered nurses is increasing. Upskilling the ADN-prepared RN workforce to a BSN-prepared workforce is crucial for patient safety and organizational stability, allowing students to work full-time while studying. EMSON's virtual BSN pathways provide the efficiency and flexibility needed for success, with most students completing their degree within one to two years.

Research shows that hospitals with more BSN-educated nurses have better patient outcomes, including lower mortality rates and shorter hospital stays. Additional benefits of obtaining a BSN include career advancement, higher earning potential, and a foundation for further studies. The RN to BSN program is vital for Arkansas, improving patient safety and care quality while preparing for population growth. More BSN-prepared nurses will help fill advanced healthcare roles, ensuring our community has qualified nurses ready to practice at their full potential.

We propose to allocate these funds as follows:

University of Arkansas Eleanor Mann School of Nursing

PERSONNEL	Year 1	Year 2	Request
Academic Support Coordinator	\$ 78,192.00	\$ 80,538.00	
Admin Spec	\$ 35,355.00	\$ 36,416.00	
Academic Support Coordinator	\$ 20,879.00	\$ 21,505.00	
Total Personnel	\$ 134,426.00	\$138,459.00	\$ 272,885.00
Award Approved			\$ 272,885.00
SCHOLARSHIPS			
Student Tuition & Fees (RN to BSN)	\$ 600,000.00		
Student Tuition & Fees (LPN to BSN)	\$ 300,000.00		
Student Pre-Req Tuition	\$ 25,468.00		
	\$ 925,468.00		\$ 925,468.00
Tuition/Scholarships Approved			\$ 925,468.00
Total ALIGN Funding			\$1,198,353.00

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this supplemental appropriation request and spending plan. Please feel free to reach out to Ann Bordelon, Executive Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration by email at bordelon@uark.edu.

Respectfully,



Charles F. Robinson, Ph.D.
Chancellor, University of Arkansas