

~~STUDENT UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP~~

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~~RULE 1 — ORGANIZATION AND STRUCTURE~~

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- I. ~~The Arkansas Department of Higher Education (ADHE) shall administer the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) within the policies set by the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board. All formal communications shall be addressed to or signed by the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education or his/her designee. The Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship Selection Panel shall select recipients for awards.~~
- II. ~~The Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship Selection Panel shall consist of:~~
  - A. ~~Faculty or administrators at an Arkansas public or private institution of higher education who have earned a Ph.D. or terminal degree in the discipline to be reviewed.~~
  - B. ~~Other panel members will be considered who have earned a Ph.D. or terminal degree in the discipline to be reviewed and who have an affiliation with an Arkansas public or private institution of higher education or an education-related entity.~~
  - C. ~~The Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education or his/her designee shall serve as presiding officer of the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship Selection Panel and shall ensure that staff services for the Panel are provided.~~
- III. ~~The focus of the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship is the continued development of undergraduate academic research efforts at Arkansas's public and private institutions of higher education and to provide funding to encourage students to conduct in-depth research projects in specific fields of study under the tutelage of tenured or full-time faculty member. The program is designed to assist all students throughout the state.~~
- IV. ~~The Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education has the final responsibility for selecting fellowship recipients pursuant to the provisions of Act 2124 of 2005 and subsequent legislation, and program rules and regulations.~~
- V. ~~The Arkansas Department of Higher Education shall follow the provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act when functioning under Act 2124 of 2005 and subsequent legislation.~~

## RULE 2 — FELLOWSHIP ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

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### I. Eligibility Criteria

An applicant must meet the following requirements to be eligible to receive the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship:

- A. The applicant must be a citizen of the United States or a permanent resident alien.
- B. The applicant shall be enrolled in an approved Arkansas institution of higher education as a full-time student, as defined by the Department of Higher Education.
- C. The applicant must be enrolled in a program of study that leads to or is creditable towards a baccalaureate degree. These programs include baccalaureate and associate degree programs.
- D. The applicant must have completed at least 30 semester credit hours before funds are awarded.
- E. The applicant must have a minimum cumulative 3.25 grade point average.
- F. The applicant must have a tenured or full-time faculty member to serve as his/her mentor.

### II. Continued Eligibility

A student may compete for additional years, but cannot receive more than three years of funding.

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## RULE 3 — APPLICATION PROCESS

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### I. Solicitation of Applicants

The Arkansas Department of Higher Education will disseminate the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship announcement through workshops, meetings, press releases, ADHE newsletter, ADHE website and other means deemed appropriate.

Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship announcements will be emailed to:

A. Presidents and Chancellors

B. Chief Academic Officers

- C. ~~Directors of Research and Sponsored Programs~~
- D. ~~Previous SURF panel members and mentors~~
- E. ~~Faculty, administrators, and other interested persons~~

## II. ~~Application~~

~~Students must submit an application for the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship to the Arkansas Department of Higher Education. The Arkansas Department of Higher Education will provide an application on the Department's website. The Arkansas Department of Higher Education will also provide application forms to any individual upon request. The applicant must complete the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship application to be considered for the fellowship.~~

## III. ~~Submission of Application and Application Deadline~~

~~Any interested student who has met the eligibility criteria listed in Rule 2 may apply.~~

~~The Arkansas Department of Higher Education shall establish the deadline for receipt of applications each year. The deadline date shall be clearly printed on the application and website.~~

~~All applications and supporting documentation must be postmarked by the established deadline date in order to be considered. It is the responsibility of the individual applicant to ensure that the application is postmarked by the deadline date.~~

~~\*If any deadline date occurs on a weekend or holiday, the deadline will be extended to the following business day.~~

## IV. ~~Application Review Process~~

- A. ~~The SURF Panel will read and score applications.~~
- B. ~~SURF Panel members meet at ADHE or another centrally located location to make recommendations for SURF awards based upon the selection criteria listed in Rule 4. The SURF Panel is divided into two groups (STEM and non-STEM). Based upon appropriations, the STEM SURF Panel will award 60% of the funds to STEM applicants; the non-STEM SURF Panel will award 40% of the funds to non-STEM applicants. Should there not be enough qualified applicants in the STEM or Non-STEM group to make recommendations for awards, funds can be shifted from one group to another until all funds are exhausted.~~

V. Amount of Fellowship

The amount of the fellowship awarded to each recipient shall be as follows:

~~\$1,250 maximum award— Student Stipend\*~~

~~\$ 750 maximum award— Student Travel~~

~~\$ 750 maximum award— Mentor Award~~

~~\$1,250 maximum award— Institution Match~~

~~**\$4,000**—— Maximum SURF Award~~

~~\*Student stipend— Spring only—— \$ 625 maximum award~~

~~Spring & Summer—— \$1,250 maximum award~~

~~Spring & Fall—— \$1,250 maximum award~~

~~Spring, Summer & Fall—— \$1,250 maximum award~~

VI. Award Notification

~~The Arkansas Department of Higher Education shall notify each eligible applicant of his/her award. The award notice includes the student's name, address, faculty mentor's name, institution, and the actual amount the student is eligible to receive. The award notice also explains the Arkansas Department of Higher Education's disbursement procedures and conditions, as detailed in Rule 5.~~

~~ADHE shall notify the Presidents/Chancellors, Chief Academic Officers, Offices of Research and Sponsored Programs, and the SURF Panel of SURF awardees.~~

VII. Ineligible Notification

~~The Arkansas Department of Higher Education shall notify applicants who are determined to be ineligible and provide the reason for ineligibility.~~

VIII. No Funds Left Notification

~~Once all applicants have accepted his/her SURF award and all funds are exhausted, the Arkansas Department of Higher Education shall notify the remaining eligible applicants that all funds have been awarded via a "no award" notice.~~

## RULE 4 – FELLOWSHIP SELECTION CRITERIA

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I. ~~All proposals will be reviewed by the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship Panel that is selected by the Arkansas Department of Higher Education. The SURF Panel will use the following selection criteria for judging proposals.~~

<b>Grading Criteria</b>	<b>Possible Points</b>	<b>Points Awarded</b>
<del>Student's performance and accomplishments (G.P.A., activities, community service, etc.).</del>	<del>10</del>	
<del>Appropriateness of courses completed for proposed research.</del>	<del>10</del>	
<del>Mentor's letter of support.</del>	<del>10</del>	
<del>Two letters of reference.</del>	<del>10</del>	
<del>Mentor has prior experience supervising students in the discipline. (New faculty should be considered, as well as faculty recently beginning involvement in research.)</del>	<del>10</del>	
<del>Appropriateness of proposed mentor's previous experience for the proposed project.</del>	<del>10</del>	
<del>Research/scholarly activity/productivity by the mentor.</del>	<del>10</del>	
<del>The proposed research project. *</del>	<del>30</del>	
<b>TOTAL POINTS AWARDED</b>	<b>100</b>	

\*Criteria for the awarding of points vary with the area of the endeavor. Criteria may include:

- ✓ Feasibility of the project, i.e., is the project reasonable for the proposed student with the available facilities?
- ✓ Is the proposed research/scholarly activity of value to the field of study?
- ✓ Is the project of sufficient difficulty to challenge the student?
- ✓ Will the project teach the student skills that are transferable to other research endeavors/ scholarly activities?
- ✓ Other criteria deemed appropriate by SURF Panel.
- ✓ Is there some justifiable reason to give this proposal consideration because the candidate is from a group under represented in the area of endeavor such as women and minorities in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM)?

~~The SURF Panel shall meet and make recommendation of students to be awarded a SURF fellowship based upon the above selection criteria. Recommendation of awards shall be made until all funds are exhausted. The SURF Panel shall also select alternates to be awarded in the event a student does not accept his/her SURF award.~~

~~The Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education has the final responsibility for selecting fellowship recipients.~~

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## ~~RULE 5 – FELLOWSHIP PAYMENT POLICIES~~

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### ~~I. Limits of Payment~~

#### ~~A. Disbursement of Fellowships~~

~~The Arkansas Department of Higher Education shall disburse fellowship funds to the institution designated on the student's application. The Arkansas Department of Higher Education shall send funds to the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP) or Financial Aid Office via electronic funds transfer or state warrant. Additionally, the ORSP or Financial Aid will be sent an Award Roster and Receipt Confirmation. The Award Roster lists the students to be awarded and the disbursement amounts. The Receipt Confirmation should be signed by the disbursement officer and returned to ADHE. The institution will disburse the grant funds to the student according to the institution's disbursement procedures.~~

#### ~~B. Cancellation of the Fellowship~~

- ~~1. The award will be terminated for any of the following reasons:
  - ~~a. Failure to maintain at least a 3.25 cumulative grade point average on a 4.00 scale.~~
  - ~~b. Failure to maintain satisfactory academic progress as defined by the institution.~~
  - ~~c. Failure to conduct the research for which the SURF fellowship was awarded.~~~~
- ~~2. The recipient is responsible for notifying, in writing, the Arkansas Department of Higher Education of any change in status (i.e. change of address, email, transfer of research to another mentor, etc.). Failure to provide written notification may result in the cancellation of the fellowship for that term.~~

#### ~~C. Military Service~~

~~Recipients who are members of the Arkansas National Guard or Armed Forces Reserve units who are called to active duty for reasons other than regular unit training and are unable to complete the current term will be allowed to repeat the missed term. In addition, they will be placed in deferred status until six months after release from active duty, at which time they must be re-enrolled and continue research with the same mentor.~~

D. Refunds

~~The Arkansas Department of Higher Education is entitled to a refund of the fellowship amount, for that semester, if the recipient of a fellowship withdraws, drops out, is expelled, falls below the minimum standards detailed in Rule 2, or does not conduct the research for which the SURF award was made.~~

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RULE 6 – INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

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I. College/University Responsibilities

A. Administrative Agreement

~~The chief executive officer of the eligible institution is responsible for designating one institutional representative to act as administrator of the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship and to receive all communications, forms, etc. This representative is responsible for verification, data and compliance with all program rules and regulations. The institution must comply with all rules and regulations in order to maintain continued eligibility status.~~

~~The Authorizing Institutional Official ensures that by signing the SURF application that the applicant has met all conditions of the Fellowship Eligibility Criteria in Rule 2.~~

B. Disbursement Records

~~The institution shall maintain information on the student indicating disbursement of fellowship funds.~~

C. Institutional Verification

~~The institution shall provide certification of full-time enrollment, as of the close of business on the eleventh day of classes. The institution must comply with OMB Circular A21 (Cost Principles for Educational Institutions) and OMB Circular A110 (Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and other Non-Profit Organizations) when~~



managing SURF funds. Each institution shall establish a separate account for each student awarded a SURF fellowship.

Each Department\Division\Dean\Chair is responsible for ensuring that the student and mentor are conducting research as set forth in the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship proposal submitted to the Arkansas Department of Higher Education.

D. Deadlines for Disbursement of Funds & Refunds

Funds shall be disbursed to students and mentors in accordance with the institution's disbursement procedures according to OMB Circular A21 and OMB Circular A110. Any outstanding funds not disbursed by the end of the semester must be returned to ADHE within 15 days of the semester's end.

The Arkansas Department of Higher Education is entitled to a refund of the fellowship amount, for that semester, if the recipient of a fellowship withdraws, drops out, is expelled or does not conduct the research for which the SURF award was made. The Institutional Representative is responsible for issuing a refund to ADHE within 15 days of the semester's end.

E. Due Diligence

The institution will exercise due diligence in providing complete, accurate, and timely information as requested by the Arkansas Department of Higher Education on any Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship recipient or former recipient. In addition, the institution will exercise due diligence in complying with all the rules and regulations of the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program. The Arkansas Department of Higher Education shall periodically review the SURF program.

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#### RULE 7 — FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT'S RESPONSIBILITIES

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- I. It is the recipient's responsibility to notify the Arkansas Department of Higher Education, in writing, of any change in status (i.e. change of address, email, transfer of research to another mentor, etc.). Failure to provide written notification may result in the cancellation of the fellowship for that term.

Change in the research project is not allowed for the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship.

- II. Fellowship recipient is required to submit a one page abstract on the findings of his/her research upon completion of the project to the Arkansas Department of Higher Education as follows:

~~May 1 — Spring term project completion~~  
~~August 1 — Summer term project completion~~  
~~December 1 — Fall term project completion~~

III. ~~Fellowship recipients are required to present the findings of his/her research at a state or national conference in his/her discipline or attend a meeting of experts in his/her discipline as directed by his/her mentor.~~

~~Failure by a fellowship recipient to comply with any of the above may result in forfeiture of his/her SURF fellowship funds.~~

## RULE 8 – PROGRAM DEFINITIONS

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The following definitions are used in the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program:

**APPROVED INSTITUTION** — a public-supported or private, non-profit postsecondary institution with its primary headquarters located in Arkansas that is eligible to receive Title IV Federal student aid funds.

**CITIZEN** — a person who is a U.S. citizen or a permanent resident alien. If the recipient is not a U.S. citizen, but a permanent resident alien, the recipient must attach a copy of the permanent resident alien card to the application.

**ELIGIBLE APPLICANT** — any applicant who meets the eligibility criteria established in Rule 2.

**FELLOWSHIP** — an amount of money given to a student for a specified period of time that allows them to study and research a subject.

**FULL-TIME STUDENT** — 12 semester credit hours or its equivalent per semester.

**INSTITUTIONAL MATCH** — amount of funds the institution must match the student's stipend.

**OMB Circular A110** — sets forth the uniform administrative requirements for grants and agreements with institutions of higher education, hospitals, and other non-profit organizations.

**OMB Circular A21** — sets forth the rules governing the eligibility and calculation of costs in support of sponsored research, development, training and other works produced in agreement with the United States Federal Government, but does not attempt to identify or dictate agency or institutional participation in those works.

**MENTOR** — tenured or full-time faculty member.

**MENTOR COST** — salary, fringe benefits, materials, supplies and travel costs awarded to the mentor associated with mentoring the student.

- SEMESTER** \_\_\_\_\_ Spring, Summer or Fall terms.
- STUDENT STIPEND** \_\_\_\_\_ an amount of money awarded to the student to conduct his/her research.
- STUDENT TRAVEL** \_\_\_\_\_ cost incurred by student to present the results of his/her research at a state or national conference or to attend a meeting of experts in his/her discipline.
- SURF PANEL** \_\_\_\_\_ shall consist of faculty or administrators of Arkansas public or private institution of higher education who have earned a Ph.D. or terminal degree in the discipline to be reviewed. Other reviewers will be considered who have earned a Ph.D. or terminal degree in the discipline to be reviewed and who have an affiliation with an Arkansas public or private institution of higher education or an education-related entity.

**DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION RULES GOVERNING THE STUDENT UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP**

**Effective date: [insert date here]**

**1.00 PURPOSE**

- 1.01 The purpose of the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) Program is to support the continued development of undergraduate academic research efforts at state-supported colleges and universities.

**2.00 DEFINITIONS**

- 2.01 “Approved institution” means a public-supported or private, non-profit postsecondary institution with its primary headquarters located in Arkansas that is eligible to receive Title IV Federal student aid funds.
- 2.02 “Citizen” means a person who is a U.S. citizen or a permanent resident alien.
- 2.02.1 If the recipient is not a U.S. citizen, but a permanent resident alien, the recipient must attach a copy of the permanent resident alien card to the application.
- 2.03 “Eligible applicant” means any applicant who meets the eligibility criteria established in Section 4.00.
- 2.04 “Fellowship” means an amount of money given to a student for a specified period that allows them to study and research a subject.
- 2.05 “Full-time student” means a student enrolled in 12 semester credit hours or its

equivalent per semester.

2.06 “Institutional match” means the amount of funds institution must match for a student’s stipend.

2.07 “Mentor” means a tenured or full-time faculty member.

2.08 “Mentor cost” means any salary, fringe benefits, materials, supplies and travel costs awarded to the mentor associated with mentoring the student.

2.09 “Semester” means a spring, summer or fall term.

2.10 “Student stipend” means an amount of money awarded to the student to conduct his or her research.

2.11 “Student travel” means costs incurred by a student to present the results of his or her research at a state or national conference or to attend a meeting of experts in his or her discipline.

2.12 “SURF Selection Panel” means a panel of faculty or administrators of Arkansas public or private institution of higher education who have earned a Ph.D. or terminal degree in the discipline being reviewed.

2.12.1 Other reviewers will be considered who have earned a Ph.D. or terminal degree in the discipline to be reviewed and who have an affiliation with an Arkansas public or private institution of higher education or an education-related entity.

### **3.00 ORGANIZATION AND STRUCTURE**

3.01 The Division of Higher Education shall administer the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) within the policies set by the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

3.01.1 All formal communications shall be addressed to or signed by the Commissioner of Higher Education or his or her designee.

3.01.2 The SURF Selection Panel shall select recipients for awards.

3.02 The SURF Selection Panel shall consist of:

3.02.1 Faculty or administrators at an Arkansas public or private institution of higher education who have earned a Ph.D. or terminal degree in the discipline to be reviewed.

3.02.2 Other panel members will be considered who have earned a Ph.D. or terminal degree in the discipline to be reviewed and who have an affiliation with an Arkansas public or private institution of higher

education or an education- related entity.

3.02.3 The commissioner or his/her designee shall serve as presiding officer of the SURF Selection Panel.

3.03 The focus of the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship is the continued development of undergraduate academic research efforts at Arkansas's public and private institutions of higher education and to provide funding to encourage students to conduct in-depth research projects in specific fields of study under the tutelage of tenured or full-time faculty member. The program is designed to assist all students throughout the state.

3.04 The commissioner has the final responsibility for selecting fellowship recipients subject to the provisions of Arkansas Code 6-61-236 and these rules.

#### **4.00 FELLOWSHIP ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

4.01 An applicant must meet the following requirements to be eligible to receive the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship:

4.01.1 The applicant must be a citizen of the United States or a permanent resident alien.

4.01.2 The applicant shall be enrolled in an approved Arkansas institution of higher education as a full-time student, as defined by the Department of Higher Education ADHE.

4.01.3 The applicant must be enrolled in a program of study that leads to or is creditable towards a baccalaureate degree.

4.01.3.1 These programs include baccalaureate and associate degree programs.

4.01.4 The applicant must have completed at least 30 semester credit hours before funds are awarded.

4.01.5 The applicant must have a minimum cumulative 3.25 grade point average.

4.01.6 The applicant must have a tenured or full-time faculty member to serve as his or her mentor.

4.02 A student may compete for additional years, but cannot receive more than three academic years of funding.

#### **5.00 APPLICATION PROCESS**

- 5.01 The Division of Higher Education will disseminate the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship announcement through workshops, meetings, press releases, division newsletters, the division's website and by other appropriate methods.
- 5.02 Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship announcements will be emailed to:
- 5.02.1 Presidents and chancellors of institutions of higher education.
  - 5.02.2 Chief Academic Officers
  - 5.02.3 Directors of Research and Sponsored Programs
  - 5.02.4 Previous SURF panel members and mentors
  - 5.02.5 Faculty, administrators, and other interested persons
- 5.03 Students must submit an application for the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship to the division.
- 5.03.1 The division shall provide an application form on its website and to any individual upon request.
  - 5.03.2 The applicant must complete and submit the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship application to be considered for the fellowship.
- 5.04 Any interested student who meets the eligibility criteria in Section 4.00 may apply.
- 5.05 The division shall establish the deadline for receipt of applications each year.
- 5.05.1 The deadline date shall be clearly printed on the application and website.
  - 5.05.2 All applications and supporting documentation must be postmarked by the established deadline date in order to be considered.
    - 5.05.2.1 It is the responsibility of the individual applicant to ensure that the application is postmarked by the deadline date.
  - 5.05.3 If any deadline date occurs on a weekend or holiday, the deadline will be extended to the following business day.
- 5.06 The SURF Selection Panel shall read and score applications.
- 5.07 SURF Selection Panel members shall meet with the division to make recommendations for SURF awards based upon the selection criteria listed in Section 6.00.

- 5.07.1 The SURF Selection Panel is divided into two groups to represent STEM disciplines and non-STEM disciplines.
- 5.07.2 Each group will make recommendations for applicants from the respective disciplines.
- 5.07.1.1 Subject to appropriations, the SURF Selection Panel will award 60% of the funds to STEM applicants and 40% of the funds to non-STEM applicants.
- 5.07.1.2 Should there not be enough qualified applicants in the STEM or Non-STEM group to make recommendations for awards, funds can be shifted from one group to another until all funds are exhausted.
- 5.08 The amount of the fellowship awarded to each recipient shall be as follows:
- 5.08.1 Up to \$1,250.00 for a student stipend;
- 5.08.1.1 If a student is awarded a fellowship for only a spring or fall semester, the student stipend shall not exceed \$625.00.
- 5.08.2 Up to \$750.00 for student travel;
- 5.08.3 Up to \$750.00 for a mentor award; and
- 5.08.4 Up to \$1,250.00 for the institution match.
- 5.09 The maximum award shall not exceed \$4,000.
- 5.10 The division shall notify each eligible applicant of his or her award.
- 5.10.1 The award notice shall include the student's name, address, faculty mentor's name, institution, and the actual amount the student is eligible to receive.
- 5.10.2 The award notice shall explain the division's disbursement procedures and conditions, as detailed in Section 7.00.
- 5.11 The division shall notify the appropriate faculty and administration at each institution, and the SURF Panel of SURF awardees.
- 5.12 The division shall notify applicants who are determined to be ineligible and provide the reason for ineligibility.
- 5.13 Once each applicant have accepted his or her SURF award and all funds are exhausted, the division shall notify all remaining eligible applicants that all funds have been awarded via a "no award" notice.



## **6.00 FELLOWSHIP SELECTION CRITERIA**

- 6.01 All proposals will be reviewed by the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship Selection Panel that is selected by the Arkansas Department of Higher Education ADHE.
- 6.02 The SURF Selection Panel will use the following scale to grade the selection criteria found in the table at Appendix A (the selection criteria), 1 being the best score and 9 being the worst score:
- 1 – Superior: Extraordinary and needs little to no revision, improvement, or both.
  - 2 – Excellent: Easily addressable issues and needs little revision, improvement, or both.
  - 3 – Above Average: Has strong quality and would benefit from revision, improvement, or both.
  - 4 – Good: Has slightly above average quality and needs some revision, improvement, or both.
  - 5 – Average: Has average quality and needs revision, improvement, or both.
  - 6 – Fair: Has slightly below average quality and needs revision, improvement, or both.
  - 7 – Below Average: Has weak quality and requires revision, improvement, or both.
  - 8 – Minimal: Multiple issues and severely requires revision, improvement, or both.
  - 9 – Poor: Not recommended for funding or consideration.
- 6.03 The SURF Selection Panel shall meet and make recommendation for students to be awarded a fellowship based upon the selection criteria.
- 6.03.1 Recommendation of awards shall be made until all funds are exhausted.
  - 6.03.2 The SURF Panel shall also select alternates to be awarded in the event a student does not accept his or her SURF award.
- 6.04 The Commissioner of Higher Education has the final responsibility for selecting fellowship recipients.

## **7.00 FELLOWSHIP PAYMENT PROCEDURES**

- 7.01 The Division of Higher Education shall disburse fellowship funds to the institution designated on the student's application.
- 7.01.1 The division shall send funds to the appropriate administrative staff at the institution via electronic funds transfer or state warrant.
- 7.01.2 The division will also send an award roster and receipt confirmation to the appropriate institution.
- 7.01.2.1 The award roster lists the students to be awarded and the disbursement amounts.
- 7.01.2.2 The Receipt Confirmation should be signed by the disbursement officer and returned to the division.
- 7.01.3 The institution will disburse the grant funds to the student according to the institution's disbursement procedures.
- 7.02 Fellowships shall be terminated for a recipient's:
- 7.02.1 Failure to maintain at least a 3.25 cumulative grade point average on a 4.00 scale.
- 7.02.2 Failure to maintain satisfactory academic progress as defined by the institution.
- 7.02.3 Failure to conduct the research for which the fellowship was awarded.
- 7.03 The recipient is responsible for notifying the division, in writing, of any change in status (i.e. change of address, email, transfer of research to another mentor, etc.).
- 7.03.1 A recipient's failure to provide written notification may result in the cancellation of the fellowship for that term.
- 7.04 Recipients who are members of the Arkansas National Guard or Armed Forces Reserve units who are called to active duty for reasons other than regular unit training and are unable to complete the current term will be allowed to repeat the missed term.
- 7.04.1 Those recipients shall be placed in deferred status until six months after release from active duty, at which time they must be re-enrolled and continue research with the same mentor.
- 7.05 If the recipient of a fellowship withdraws, drops out, is expelled, falls below the minimum standards in Section 4.00, or does not conduct the research for which the fellowship award was received, the fellowship award for that semester shall

be refunded to the division.

## **8.00 INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

8.01 The chief executive officer of the eligible institution is responsible for designating one institutional representative to act as administrator of the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship and to receive all communications, forms, and the like for that institution.

8.01.1 This representative is responsible for verification, data and compliance with all law and Division of Higher Education rules related to the program.

8.01.2 The institution must comply with all law and rules in order to maintain continued eligibility status.

8.02 Each authorizing institutional official certifies, by signing the program application, that the applicant has met all conditions of the fellowship eligibility criteria in Section 4.00.

8.03 The institution shall maintain information on the student indicating disbursement of fellowship funds.

8.04 The institution shall provide certification of full-time enrollment, as of the close of business on the eleventh day of classes.

8.05 The institution must comply with OMB Circular A21 (Cost Principles for Educational Institutions) and OMB Circular A110 (Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and other Non- Profit Organizations) when managing fellowship funds.

8.06 Each institution shall establish a separate account for each student awarded a SURF fellowship.

8.07 The appropriate faculty head of the academic discipline for which a recipient is conducting research under the fellowship is responsible for ensuring that the student and mentor are conducting research as set forth in the fellowship application submitted to the division.

8.08 Funds shall be disbursed to students and mentors in accordance with the institution's disbursement procedures according to OMB Circular A21 and OMB Circular A110.

8.08.1 Any outstanding funds not disbursed by the end of the semester must be returned to the division within 15 days of the semester's end.

8.08.2 The Institutional Representative is responsible for issuing a refund under

7.05 to the division within 15 days of the semester's end.

8.09 Each institution shall exercise due diligence in providing complete, accurate, and timely information as requested by the division on any fellowship recipient or former recipient.

8.10 The Arkansas Department of Higher Education ADHE shall periodically review the program.

## **9.00 FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT'S RESPONSIBILITIES**

9.01 It is the recipient's responsibility to notify the Division of Higher Education, in writing, of any change in status (i.e. change of address, email, transfer of research to another mentor, etc.).

9.01.1 Failure to provide written notification may result in the cancellation of the fellowship for that term.

9.02 A fellowship recipient shall not change the purpose for his or her research project.

9.03 Each fellowship recipient shall submit a one page abstract on the findings of his or her research upon completion of the project to the division as follows:

9.03.1 By May 1 for a spring term project completion;

9.03.2 By August 1 for a summer term project completion;

9.03.3 By December 1 for a fall term project completion

9.04 Fellowship recipients are required to present the findings of his or her research at a state or national conference in his/her discipline or attend a meeting of experts in his or her discipline as directed by his/her mentor.

9.04.1 Failure by a fellowship recipient to comply with any of the above may result in forfeiture of his/her SURF fellowship funds.

**APPENDIX A: STUDENT UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP  
SELECTION CRITERIA**

<p><b><u>Student's Academic Success:</u></b> GPA, Extracurricular Activities, Leadership, etc.</p>
<p><b><u>Qualifications of the Mentor and Research Team (if applicable):</u></b> Clear plan for support, research history, experience in the field of proposal, contributions to undergraduate research.</p>
<p><b><u>Innovation/Originality:</u></b> Generates new ideas and/or applies existing ideas in a new context.</p>
<p><b><u>Significance of the Study:</u></b> Outcomes are clearly proposed and Impact is anticipated. <b>STEM</b> – Addresses an area of importance to the discipline and shows potential to advance the science. <b>Non-STEM</b> - Expands knowledge of best/creative practices in the field, increases creative output.</p>
<p><b><u>Appropriateness of the methodology:</u></b> <b>STEM</b> - Research design, Sampling approach, Data collection protocol/plan, Data analysis procedure/plan, Protection of human subjects and/or plan for seeking IRB approval. <b>Non-STEM</b> – Preliminary Research showing selection and citation of primary and secondary sources, Hermeneutic framework, analytical approach is well defined or creative process and products are well planned/described.</p>
<p><b><u>Merit:</u></b> <b>STEM</b> - Utilizes established scientific principles, Demonstrates how scientific knowledge will be gained, Problem/topic being investigated is of value to the larger scientific community. <b>Non-STEM</b> – Uses best practices and innovative approaches in the field, betters the understanding of the human experience, benefits and engages the fields community.</p>
<p><b><u>Other Criteria:</u></b> Reference Letters, plan for dissemination, appropriate budget, feasibility of completing the project in projected timeframe, cohesiveness and coherency, clarity of writing</p>

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2023  
4

As Engrossed: H2/14/23

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1412

5 By: Representative J. Mayberry  
6 By: Senator J. English  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT CONCERNING RULES PROMULGATED BY THE DIVISION  
10 OF HIGHER EDUCATION; TO REQUIRE THE DIVISION OF  
11 HIGHER EDUCATION TO PROMULGATE CERTAIN RULES  
12 CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS FUNDED  
13 WITH STATE FUNDS AND LOTTERY PROCEEDS; TO DECLARE AN  
14 EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
15

## Subtitle

16  
17  
18 TO REQUIRE THE DIVISION OF HIGHER  
19 EDUCATION TO PROMULGATE CERTAIN RULES  
20 CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF  
21 SCHOLARSHIPS FUNDED WITH STATE FUNDS AND  
22 LOTTERY PROCEEDS; AND TO DECLARE AN  
23 EMERGENCY.  
24  
25

26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
27

28 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 80, Subchapter 1, is amended  
29 to add an additional section to read as follows:

30 6-80-109. Division of Higher Education – Rules.

31 (a) The Division of Higher Education shall promulgate or update  
32 existing division rules to allow a student who is a recipient of a  
33 scholarship to utilize scholarship funds to enroll in and attend courses  
34 offered during a summer term at the postsecondary institution in which the  
35 student is enrolled.

36 (b) Rules promulgated under this section shall include without



1 limitation requirements concerning:

2 (1) Student eligibility; and

3 (2) The disbursement and administration of scholarship funds  
4 utilized by a student to enroll in and attend courses offered during a summer  
5 term.

6 (c) As used in this section, "scholarship" shall include a scholarship  
7 program that is:

8 (1) Funded with state funds or lottery proceeds; and

9 (2) Administered by the division.

10  
11 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-85-204(14), concerning the definition of  
12 "semester" under the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 (14)(A) "Semester" means one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of a traditional academic  
15 year at an institution of higher education, or an equivalent approved by the  
16 division, in which a student enrolls for not less than:

17 ~~(A)(i)~~ Fifteen (15) credit hours as a full-time student,  
18 except that in the first semester as a first-time full-time freshman, a  
19 traditional student shall enroll in not less than twelve (12) credit hours;  
20 or

21 ~~(B)(ii)~~ Six (6) credit hours as a part-time student.

22 (B) For purposes of summer courses at an institution of  
23 higher education, a "semester" shall mean the same as is defined by the  
24 division, as required by § 6-80-109;

25  
26 SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
27 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the Division of Higher  
28 Education must make certain arrangements to facilitate the use of Arkansas  
29 Academic Challenge Scholarship funds for upcoming summer courses; and that  
30 many of these arrangements must occur in time for the 2023-2024 school year.  
31 Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being necessary  
32 for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become  
33 effective on July 1, 2023.

34  
35 /s/J. Mayberry

36 **APPROVED: 3/30/23**

Stricken language will be deleted and underlined language will be added.  
Act 870 of the Regular Session

1 State of Arkansas As Engrossed: S1/30/23 S2/13/23 S4/3/23

2 94th General Assembly

# A Bill

3 Regular Session, 2023

SENATE BILL 75

4

5 By: Joint Budget Committee

6

7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8

AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR PERSONAL SERVICES

9

AND OPERATING EXPENSES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF

10

EDUCATION - DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR THE

11

FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2024; AND FOR OTHER

12

PURPOSES.

13

14

15

## Subtitle

16

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION -

17

DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION

18

APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2023-2024 FISCAL

19

YEAR.

20

21

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

23

24

SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES - GENERAL OPERATIONS. There is hereby  
25 established for the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education  
26 for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular  
27 employees.

28

29

Maximum Annual

30

Maximum

Salary Rate

31

Item Class

No. of

Fiscal Year

32

No. Code Title

Employees

2023-2024

33

(1) U024U DHE DIRECTOR

1

GRADE SE05

34

(2) D022N IT SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER

1

GRADE IT09

35

(3) D012C DATABASE SPECIALIST

2

GRADE IT08

36

(4) D007C INFORMATION SYSTEMS MANAGER

1

GRADE IT08





1	(5)	D028C SENIOR SOFTWARE SUPPORT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE IT07
2	(6)	D016C SENIOR TECHNOLOGY ANALYST	1	GRADE IT06
3	(7)	G281C ADE POLICY & SPECIAL PROJECTS DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS15
4	(8)	N002N DHE SENIOR ASSOC DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS15
5	(9)	N069N ADE SPECIAL ADVISOR	1	GRADE GS14
6	(10)	N055N DHE ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS14
7	(11)	A010C AGENCY CONTROLLER II	1	GRADE GS13
8	(12)	N054N DHE CAREER PATHWAYS DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS13
9	(13)	N167N DHS POLICY & RESEARCH DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS12
10	(14)	A027C ACCOUNTING OPERATIONS MANAGER	1	GRADE GS11
11	(15)	G058C DHE FEDERAL PROGRAM MANAGER	2	GRADE GS11
12	(16)	E061C ACE PROGRAM COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS10
13	(17)	G071C DHE PROGRAM COORDINATOR	6	GRADE GS10
14	(18)	E062C ACE PROGRAM ADVISOR	2	GRADE GS09
15	(19)	G102C DHE PROGRAM SPECIALIST	18	GRADE GS09
16	(20)	G080C NATIONAL & COMMUNITY SVCS EXEC. DIR.	1	GRADE GS09
17	(21)	G295C OSTEOPATHIC RURAL MED PROG ADMIN	1	GRADE GS09
18	(22)	P005C DHE COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS08
19	(23)	G147C GRANTS COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS07
20	(24)	G176C VOLUNTEER PROGRAM MANAGER	1	GRADE GS07
21	(25)	G214C GRANTS SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS06
22	(26)	A084C PROGRAM/FIELD AUDIT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS06
23	(27)	G202C VOLUNTEER PROGRAM COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS06
24	(28)	C056C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III	1	GRADE GS04
25	(29)	C073C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST II	<u>1</u>	GRADE GS03
26		MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	54	

27

28 SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP - GENERAL OPERATIONS. There is hereby  
 29 authorized, for the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education  
 30 for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the following maximum number of part-time or  
 31 temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from funds  
 32 appropriated herein for such purposes: fifteen (15) temporary or part-time  
 33 employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the  
 34 Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act  
 35 for the appropriate classification.

36

1 SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - GENERAL OPERATIONS. There is hereby  
 2 appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Division  
 3 of Higher Education Fund Account, for personal services and operating  
 4 expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education -  
 5 General Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

7 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
8 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
9 (01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$2,157,909
10 (02) EXTRA HELP	75,000
11 (03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	691,934
12 (04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
13 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	959,346
14 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	24,659
15 (C) PROF. FEES	50,000
16 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
17 (E) DATA PROC.	0
18 (05) STATEWIDE SCHOLARSHIP AND GRANT	
19 PROMOTION	<u>295,000</u>
20 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$4,253,848</u></u>

21  
 22 SECTION 4. EXTRA HELP - STATE BOARD OF PRIVATE CAREER EDUCATION. There  
 23 is hereby authorized, for the Department of Education - Division of Higher  
 24 Education - State Board of Private Career Education for the 2023-2024 fiscal  
 25 year, the following maximum number of part-time or temporary employees, to be  
 26 known as "Extra Help", payable from funds appropriated herein for such  
 27 purposes: two (2) temporary or part-time employees, when needed, at rates of  
 28 pay not to exceed those provided in the Uniform Classification and  
 29 Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act for the appropriate  
 30 classification.

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

1 fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

2

3 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
4 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
5 (01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$161,777
6 (02) EXTRA HELP	20,000
7 (03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	51,726
8 (04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
9 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	63,000
10 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	4,000
11 (C) PROF. FEES	6,000
12 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
13 (E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
14 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$306,503</u></u>

15

16 SECTION 6. APPROPRIATION - STUDENT ASSISTANCE GRANTS AND VARIOUS  
 17 SCHOLARSHIPS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education,  
 18 to be payable from the Higher Education Grants Fund Account, for providing  
 19 student assistance grants and various scholarships as provided by law of the  
 20 Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - Student Assistance  
 21 Grants and Various Scholarships for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the  
 22 following:

23

24 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
25 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
26 (01) ARKANSAS FUTURE GRANTS	\$5,000,000
27 (02) NATIONAL GUARD TUITION ASSISTANCE	
28 PROGRAM	1,400,000
29 (03) SINGLE PARENT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM	175,000
30 (04) STATE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM	4,000,000
31 (05) TEACHER OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM	2,500,000
32 (06) AR GEOGRAPHICAL CRITICAL NEEDS	
33 MINORITY TEACHER SCHOLARSHIPS	150,000
34 (07) DEPENDENTS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT	
35 OFFICERS, ETC SCHOLARSHIPS	400,000
36 (08) DEPENDENTS OF POWS, MIAS,	

1	KIAS-TUITION WAIVER SCHOLARSHIPS	1,500,000
2	(09) GOVERNOR'S HIGHER EDUCATION	
3	TRANSITION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM	2,000,000
4	(10) SREB MINORITY DOCTORAL SCHOLARS	175,000
5	(11) WASHINGTON CENTER SCHOLARSHIPS	150,000
6	(12) TUITION ADJUSTMENT	350,000
7	(13) AR ACADEMIC CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIPS	25,000,000
8	(14) AR GOVERNOR'S SCHOLAR	22,000,000
9	(15) STUDENT UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH	
10	FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM (SURF)	<u>150,000</u>
11	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$64,950,000</u>

12

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

14 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable  
 15 from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the  
 16 State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of  
 17 Education - Division of Higher Education - Technical Education - Federal  
 18 Programs for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

19

20	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
21	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
22	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$152,979
23	(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	49,014
24	(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
25	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	108,271
26	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	80,000
27	(C) PROF. FEES	157,000
28	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
29	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
30	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$547,264</u>

31

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

33 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the  
 34 Research Development Fund, for providing Arkansas Research Development  
 35 Program Grants to Institutions of Higher Education by the Department of  
 36 Education - Division of Higher Education for the fiscal year ending June 30,

1 2024, the following:

2

3 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
4 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
5 (01) RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM	
6 GRANTS	<u>\$1,000,000</u>

7

8 SECTION 9. APPROPRIATION - HEALTH EDUCATION GRANTS AND LOANS. There is  
 9 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the  
 10 Higher Education Grants Fund Account, for payments of contracts and loans  
 11 with participating out-of-state institutions of higher learning in the fields  
 12 of dentistry, optometry, veterinary medicine, chiropractic, and podiatry for  
 13 the education of Arkansas citizens by the Department of Education - Division  
 14 of Higher Education - Health Education Grants and Loans for the fiscal year  
 15 ending June 30, 2024, the following:

16

17 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
18 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
19 (01) CHIROPRACTIC AID	\$260,000
20 (02) DENTAL AID - GRANTS	2,950,000
21 (03) OPTOMETRY AID - GRANTS	650,000
22 (04) PODIATRY AID	130,400
23 (05) VETERINARY AID FORGIVENESS PROGRAM	1,750,000
24 (06) DENTAL AID - LOANS	987,370
25 (07) OPTOMETRY AID - LOANS	140,000
26 (08) VETERINARY MED. LOAN FORGIVENESS	
27 PROGRAM	<u>250,000</u>
28 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$7,117,770</u>

29

30 SECTION 10. APPROPRIATION - CASH. There is hereby appropriated, to the  
 31 Department of Education, to be payable from the cash fund deposited in the  
 32 State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for  
 33 operating expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Higher  
 34 Education - Cash for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

35

36 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
---------	-------------

1	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
2	(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
3	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$269,233
4	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	32,865
5	(C) PROF. FEES	63,932
6	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
7	(E) DATA PROC.	0
8	(02) SCHOLARSHIPS	<u>50,000</u>
9	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$416,030</u></u>

10

11 SECTION 11. APPROPRIATION - PRIVATE CAREER EDUCATION BOARD - CASH.

12 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable  
 13 from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief  
 14 Fiscal Officer of the State, for operating expenses of the Department of  
 15 Education - Division of Higher Education - Private Career Education Board -  
 16 Cash for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

17

18	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
19	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
20	(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
21	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$9,500
22	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	6,000
23	(C) PROF. FEES	5,000
24	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
25	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
26	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$20,500</u></u>

27

28 SECTION 12. APPROPRIATION - STUDENT PROTECTION TRUST. There is hereby  
 29 appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Private  
 30 Career School Student Protection Trust Fund, for expenses, claims and fees of  
 31 the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - State Board of  
 32 Private Career Education - Student Protection Trust for the fiscal year  
 33 ending June 30, 2024, the following:

34

35	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
36	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>

1 (01) EXPENSES/CLAIMS/FEES \$300,000

2

3 SECTION 13. APPROPRIATION - TANF PROGRAM - FEDERAL. There is hereby  
4 appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the federal  
5 funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal  
6 services, operating expenses, grants and aid by the Department of Education -  
7 Division of Higher Education - TANF Program - Federal for the fiscal year  
8 ending June 30, 2024, the following:

9

10 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
11 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
12 (01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$280,701
13 (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	87,816
14 (03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
15 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	80,000
16 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	60,000
17 (C) PROF. FEES	70,000
18 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
19 (E) DATA PROC.	0
20 (04) SELF SUFFICIENCY/JOB TRAINING GRANTS	6,821,431
21 (05) ENROLLMENT AND EDUCATION	<u>3,000,000</u>
22 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$10,399,948</u>

23

24 SECTION 14. APPROPRIATION - WEB BASED APPLICATIONS. There is hereby  
25 appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Higher  
26 Education Grants Fund Account, for personal services and operating expenses  
27 associated with web based applications of the Department of Education -  
28 Division of Higher Education - Web Based Applications for the fiscal year  
29 ending June 30, 2024, the following:

30

31 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
32 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
33 (01) WEB BASED APPLICATIONS PERSONAL	
34 SERVICES AND OPERATING EXPENSES	<u>\$1,000,000</u>

35

36 SECTION 15. APPROPRIATION - SCHOLARSHIP ADMINISTRATION. There is

1 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the  
 2 Higher Education Grants Fund Account, for personal services and operating  
 3 expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education -  
 4 Scholarship Administration for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the  
 5 following:

7 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
8 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
9 (01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$467,936
10 (02) EXTRA HELP	10,000
11 (03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	163,738
12 (04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
13 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	500,000
14 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
15 (C) PROF. FEES	30,000
16 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
17 (E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
18 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$1,171,674</u></u>

19  
 20 SECTION 16. APPROPRIATION - WORKFORCE INITIATIVE ACT OF 2015. There is  
 21 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the  
 22 Workforce Initiative Act of 2015 Fund, for workforce education grants,  
 23 administrative and operating expenses of the Department of Education -  
 24 Division of Higher Education - Workforce Initiative Act of 2015 for the  
 25 fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

27 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
28 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
29 (01) WORKFORCE INITIATIVE ACT OF 2015	
30 EXPENSES	<u><u>\$8,000,000</u></u>

31  
 32 SECTION 17. APPROPRIATION - VETERAN'S APPROVING AGENCY - FEDERAL.  
 33 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable  
 34 from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the  
 35 State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of  
 36 Education - Division of Higher Education - Veteran's Approving Agency -



1 Federal for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

2		
3	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
4	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
5	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$217,507
6	(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	77,703
7	(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
8	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	53,546
9	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	9,623
10	(C) PROF. FEES	0
11	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
12	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
13	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$358,379</u></u>

14

15 SECTION 18. APPROPRIATION - AMERICORPS - OPERATIONS. There is hereby  
 16 appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Division  
 17 of Higher Education Fund Account, for personal services, operating expenses,  
 18 and grants and aid by the Department of Education - Division of Higher  
 19 Education - AmeriCorps - Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024,  
 20 the following:

21

22	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
23	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
24	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$314,152
25	(02) EXTRA HELP	30,000
26	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	116,071
27	(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
28	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	363,650
29	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	85,650
30	(C) PROF. FEES	2,500
31	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
32	(E) DATA PROC.	0
33	(05) GRANTS AND AID	<u>50,000</u>
34	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$962,023</u></u>

35

36 SECTION 19. APPROPRIATION - AMERICORPS - GRANTS AND AID. There is

1 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the  
2 Division of Higher Education Fund Account, for grants and aid by the  
3 Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - AmeriCorps - Grants  
4 and Aid for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
(01) GRANTS AND AID	<u>\$2,010,704</u>

9  
10 SECTION 20. APPROPRIATION - OSTEOPATHIC RURAL MEDICAL PRACTICE STUDENT  
11 LOAN AND SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the  
12 Department of Education, to be payable from the Higher Education Grants Fund  
13 Account, for Osteopathic Rural Medical Practice Student Loan & Scholarship  
14 Program loans and/or scholarships by the Department of Education - Division  
15 of Higher Education - Osteopathic Rural Medical Practice Student Loan and  
16 Scholarship Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
(01) OSTEOPATHIC RURAL MEDICAL PRACTICE STUDENT LOANS/SCHOLARSHIP	<u>\$400,000</u>

22  
23 SECTION 21. APPROPRIATION - GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION RESIDENCY  
24 EXPANSION BOARD. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of  
25 Education, to be payable from the Graduate Medical Education Fund, for  
26 planning grants to eligible entities for graduate medical education residency  
27 program expansion or new programs, and for board expenses and reimbursements  
28 of the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education for the fiscal  
29 year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
(01) GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION RESIDENCY EXPANSION BOARD	<u>\$10,000,000</u>

35  
36 SECTION 22. APPROPRIATION - HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND

1 UNIVERSITIES GRANTS AND EXPANSES. There is hereby appropriated, to the  
 2 Department of Education, to be payable from the Higher Education Grants Fund  
 3 Account, for grants for scholarships to Historically Black Colleges and  
 4 Universities and for personal services and operating expenses as determined  
 5 by the Division of Higher Education for outreach programs to promote  
 6 awareness of those scholarships of the Department of Education - Division of  
 7 Higher Education - HBCU Grants and Expenses for the fiscal year ending June  
 8 30, 2024, the following:

10 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
11 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
12 (01) HBCU GRANTS AND EXPENSES	<u>\$4,000,000</u>

13  
 14 SECTION 23. APPROPRIATION - NURSING PROGRAM EXPANSION GRANTS. There is  
 15 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the  
 16 Workforce Initiative Act of 2015 Fund, for grants for the expansion or  
 17 creation of nursing programs at eligible institutions of higher education  
 18 statewide by the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education for  
 19 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

21 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
22 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
23 (01) NURSING PROGRAM EXPANSION GRANTS	<u>\$3,000,000</u>

24  
 25 SECTION 24. APPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS TEACHER ACADEMY SCHOLARSHIP  
 26 PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be  
 27 payable from the Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship Program Fund, for  
 28 scholarships, personal services, and operating expenses necessary to create  
 29 and maintain the Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship Program by the  
 30 Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - Arkansas Teacher  
 31 Academy Scholarship Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the  
 32 following:

34 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
35 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
36 (01) ARKANSAS TEACHER ACADEMY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM	<u>\$12,000,000</u>

1 SECTION 25. REGULAR SALARIES - NORTHWEST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE. There is  
 2 hereby established for the Department of Education - Division of Higher  
 3 Education - Northwest Technical Institute for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the  
 4 following maximum number of regular employees.

5				6	Maximum Annual
7				Maximum	Salary Rate
8	Item	Class		No. of	Fiscal Year
9	No.	Code	Title	Employees	2023-2024
10	(1)	N227N	NORTHWEST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE DIRECTOR	1	GRADE SE01
11	(2)	D054C	COMPUTER SUPPORT COORDINATOR	1	GRADE IT05
12	(3)	D063C	COMPUTER SUPPORT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE IT05
13	(4)	D068C	INFORMATION SYSTEMS ANALYST	1	GRADE IT04
14	(5)	E077C	NWTI AMMONIA REFRIGN TECH SPEC & TRG	1	GRADE GS13
15	(6)	E009C	TECHNICAL INSTITUTE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	2	GRADE GS12
16	(7)	E071C	AMMONIA & INDUSTRIAL TRAINER	2	GRADE GS10
17	(8)	E013C	EDUCATION PROGRAM MANAGER	5	GRADE GS10
18	(9)	E078C	NWTI BUSINESS & INDUSTRY COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS10
19	(10)	E022C	EDUCATION & INSTRUCTION MANAGER	2	GRADE GS09
20	(11)	R014C	PERSONNEL MANAGER	1	GRADE GS08
21	(12)	E018C	SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL FACULTY	12	GRADE GS08
22	(13)	E027C	CAREER & TECHNICAL FACULTY	29	GRADE GS07
23	(14)	C010C	EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS07
24	(15)	S017C	MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS07
25	(16)	G144C	TECHNICAL INSTITUTE PRG COORDINATOR	2	GRADE GS07
26	(17)	C037C	ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	1	GRADE GS06
27	(18)	S033C	MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR	1	GRADE GS06
28	(19)	C035C	ASST REGISTRAR	1	GRADE GS05
29	(20)	G218C	STUDENT RECRUITMENT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS05
30	(21)	C056C	ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III	5	GRADE GS04
31	(22)	A098C	FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS04
32	(23)	A100C	PAYROLL OFFICER	1	GRADE GS04
33	(24)	C073C	ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST II	4	GRADE GS03
34	(25)	S050C	MAINTENANCE SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS03
35	(26)	S065C	MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT	<u>2</u>	GRADE GS01
36	MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES			81	

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SECTION 26. EXTRA HELP - NORTHWEST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE. There is hereby authorized, for the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - Northwest Technical Institute for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the following maximum number of part-time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from funds appropriated herein for such purposes: one hundred thirty-five (135) temporary or part-time employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act for the appropriate classification.

SECTION 27. APPROPRIATION - NORTHWEST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE - STATE. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Northwest Technical Institute Fund, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - Northwest Technical Institute - State for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$3,585,355
(02) EXTRA HELP	516,673
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	1,274,568
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	639,564
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	44,866
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$6,061,026</u></u>

SECTION 28. APPROPRIATION - NORTHWEST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE - FEDERAL. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - Northwest Technical Institute -

1 Federal for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

2

3 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
4 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
5 (01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$50,322
6 (02) EXTRA HELP	245,000
7 (03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	38,576
8 (04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
9 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	14,278
10 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
11 (C) PROF. FEES	0
12 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
13 (E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
14 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$348,176</u></u>

15

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

17 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable  
 18 from cash funds as defined by Arkansas Code 19-4-801, for personal services  
 19 and operating expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Higher  
 20 Education - Northwest Technical Institute - Cash for the fiscal year ending  
 21 June 30, 2024, the following:

22 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
23 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
24 (01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$967,161
25 (02) EXTRA HELP	556,450
26 (03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	462,988
27 (04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
28 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	1,394,530
29 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	15,000
30 (C) PROF. FEES	375,000
31 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	200,000
32 (E) DATA PROC.	0
33 (05) RESALE	<u>325,000</u>
34 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$4,296,129</u></u>

35

36 SECTION 30. SPECIAL LANGUAGE - CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code Title 25,

1 Chapter 7, Subchapter 1, is amended to add an additional section to codify  
2 special language in appropriation acts to read as follows:

3 25-7-103. Emergency grants – Extra help pool.

4 (a) An institution of higher education affected by a disaster  
5 emergency resulting in the interruption of all or a significant portion of  
6 campus operations may request disaster assistance through the Division of  
7 Higher Education.

8 (b) Upon the declaration of a disaster emergency by the Governor under  
9 § 12-75-107, an institution of higher education affected by the disaster  
10 emergency may request, subject to the recommendation of the Director of the  
11 Division of Higher Education and approval by the Governor, a grant from the  
12 Disaster Relief Fund to:

13 (1) Return the institution of higher education to normal  
14 operations; or

15 (2)(A) Enable a campus that is part of and incorporated into the  
16 institution of higher education affected by the disaster emergency to provide  
17 services to the students enrolled in the campus of the institution of higher  
18 education affected by the disaster emergency.

19 (B) A certified law enforcement officer employed by an  
20 institution of higher education during the declaration of a disaster  
21 emergency by the Governor under § 12-75-107 may be granted jurisdiction at a  
22 campus that is part of and incorporated into the institution of higher  
23 education affected by the disaster emergency upon agreement of both campuses.

24 (c)(1) The division is authorized a pool of five hundred (500) extra  
25 help positions for use in an emergency or a disaster event.

26 (2) The extra help positions authorized under subdivision (c)(1)  
27 of this section may be assigned to:

28 (A) The campus affected by the disaster emergency; or

29 (B) A campus that is part of and incorporated into the  
30 institution of higher education affected by the disaster emergency that is  
31 providing services to the students enrolled in the campus affected by the  
32 disaster emergency.

33 (3) The Governor may waive the restriction on periods of time  
34 during which an employee may be employed as extra help during a fiscal year  
35 under § 6-63-314.

36

1 SECTION 31. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
2 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.  
3 DHE - REALLOCATION OF RESOURCES FOR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION. Upon  
4 determination by the president or chancellor of an institution of higher  
5 education that a reallocation of resources for purposes of reorganization or  
6 consolidation of administrative functions within the institution is necessary  
7 for efficient and effective operations of the institution, the president or  
8 chancellor, with approval of the institution's board of trustees, may have  
9 the authority to transfer positions, appropriations and related funds between  
10 campuses, divisions, branches, and other budgetary units of the institution,  
11 after receiving prior approval of the Legislative Council or Joint Budget  
12 Committee. The transfers of positions, programs, or activities shall be used  
13 for those purposes for which the appropriations were approved by the General  
14 Assembly. The transfers, consolidations, or reorganizations which involve  
15 academic programs shall be reviewed by the Division of Higher Education prior  
16 to submission to the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee. Provided,  
17 however, that the institution shall be limited to submitting no more than two  
18 (2) individual transaction transfer requests during any fiscal year and shall  
19 be further limited to no more than five percent (5%) of the total General  
20 Revenue and Special Revenue appropriation, funding, positions specific to  
21 each institution, and no Tobacco Settlement funds or appropriations may be  
22 reallocated pursuant to this section.

23 Determining the maximum number of employees and the maximum amount of  
24 appropriation and general revenue funding for institutions of higher  
25 education each fiscal year is the prerogative of the General Assembly. This  
26 is usually accomplished by delineating such maximums in the appropriation  
27 act(s) for institutions of higher education and the general revenue  
28 allocations authorized for each fund and fund account by amendment to the  
29 Revenue Stabilization law. Further, the General Assembly has determined that  
30 institutions of higher education may operate more efficiently if some  
31 flexibility is provided to institutions of higher education authorizing broad  
32 powers under this section. Therefore, it is both necessary and appropriate  
33 that the General Assembly maintain oversight by requiring prior approval of  
34 the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee as provided by this  
35 section. The requirement of approval by the Legislative Council or Joint  
36 Budget Committee is not a severable part of this section. If the requirement



1 of approval by the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee is ruled  
2 unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, this entire section is  
3 void.

4 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~  
5 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

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

9 DHE - WORK FORCE 2000 DEVELOPMENT FUND PROCEDURES. After the amounts to be  
10 made available to the various technical colleges have been determined as set  
11 out in Arkansas Code 26-51-205(d)(2)(A) and 26-51-205(d)(2)(B), such  
12 documents as may be necessary shall be processed so that funds may be  
13 transferred from the Work Force 2000 Development Fund to the State Treasury  
14 fund or fund account from which the technical college draws its general  
15 revenue support. Such funds as may be transferred shall not exceed 93.691%  
16 of the total funds available from the Work Force 2000 Development Fund during  
17 the fiscal year.

18 In the event that a technical institute or comprehensive lifelong learning  
19 center which receives support from the Work Force 2000 Development Fund as  
20 determined by law transfers or merges into the Arkansas Technical College and  
21 Community College System for which Work Force 2000 Development Fund monies  
22 are determined by law, then the actual amount of support from the Work Force  
23 2000 Development Fund in the preceding fiscal year for such educational  
24 institution shall be made available irrespective of any other provision of  
25 law which sets out maximum levels of support from such fund.

26 The funds distributed under Arkansas Code 26-51-205(d)(2)(C) in excess of  
27 those amounts collected and distributed prior to June 30, 2014 shall be  
28 deposited into the Skills Development Fund to be used only for personal  
29 services, grants, operation, support, and improvement of occupational,  
30 vocational, technical, and workforce development programs by the Department  
31 of Career Education - Office of Skills Development. The distributions of  
32 funds under Arkansas Code 26-51-205(d)(2)(C) in excess of those amounts  
33 collected and distributed prior to June 30, 2014 shall not apply to proceeds  
34 allocated to schools, colleges and educational institutions under Arkansas  
35 Code 26-51-205(d)(2)(A) and 26-51-205(d)(2)(B).

36 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~

1 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

2

3 SECTION 33. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
4 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.  
5 DHE - BUILDING MAINTENANCE FUND. After the sum of \$13,200,000 has been  
6 deposited into the Higher Education Building Maintenance Fund, any additional  
7 deposits are to be transferred to the Research Development Fund there to be  
8 used as provided by law.

9 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~  
10 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

11

12 SECTION 34. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 6-81-  
13 1101(f), concerning tuition assistance for certain professional schools, is  
14 amended to codify special language in appropriation acts to read as follows:

15 (f)(1)(A)(i) The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board, after  
16 consulting with the recognized associations of each of the applicable medical  
17 professions and other interested persons, shall determine the priorities for  
18 the grants and loans under this section.

19 (ii) The division shall readjust, if necessary, the  
20 number of positions for entering students to be funded for each grant or loan  
21 based upon the priorities determined by the board.

22 (B) The division will allocate, based upon funds  
23 appropriated, the number of eligible grant recipients to receive funds at  
24 each participating institution for each applicable academic period.

25 (2)(A) Each participating institution will select eligible grant  
26 recipients for each applicable academic period.

27 (B) In the event that the number of eligible students  
28 accepted for enrollment at such participating institution exceeds the number  
29 of eligible grant recipients for whom funds have been allocated by the  
30 division from funds appropriated, such participating institution shall have  
31 sole discretion in selecting the eligible students to designate as eligible  
32 grant recipients.

33 (3) The division shall make grants according to the allocations  
34 made by the division and selections made by the participating institutions.  
35 The division shall have no obligation to make any grants except to the extent  
36 that funds have been appropriated and funded for the program.

1  
2 SECTION 35. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code Title 6,  
3 Chapter 61, Subchapter 2, is amended to add an additional section to codify  
4 special language in appropriation acts to read as follows:

5 6-61-235. Reporting requirements – Financial aid programs.

6 The Division of Higher Education shall report annually by May 30 to the  
7 House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education the:

8 (1) Budgeted allocation for each financial aid program that is  
9 funded through the Higher Education Grants Fund Account for the upcoming  
10 fiscal year; and

11 (2) Projections for the following fiscal year for the budgeted  
12 allocation for each financial aid program that is funded through the Higher  
13 Education Grants Fund Account.

14  
15 SECTION 36. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 21-5-  
16 1404, concerning effect of the Higher Education Uniform Classification and  
17 Compensation Act on appropriation acts, is amended to add an additional  
18 subsection to codify special language in appropriation acts to read as  
19 follows:

20 (e)(1) New funding through the Revenue Stabilization Law, § 19-5-101  
21 et seq., that is determined by the Division of Higher Education to have been  
22 for salary increases for the current fiscal year for institutions of higher  
23 education shall be used exclusively for salary increases.

24 (2) New funding through the Revenue Stabilization Law, § 19-5-  
25 101 et seq., that is actually received for salary increases shall be spent  
26 exclusively for salary increases based upon the state general revenue portion  
27 of total unrestricted educational and general revenue.

28 (3)(A) Funding received under this subsection shall be used for  
29 no purposes other than to provide salary increases.

30 (B) Any designated funds not used for salary increases  
31 under this subsection shall be recouped at the end of each fiscal year and  
32 transferred by the division to the General Revenue Allotment Reserve Fund.

33  
34 SECTION 37. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
35 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.  
36 DHE PROGRAM COORDINATOR FUNDING. The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall

1 transfer sufficient funding for the fiscal year from the Higher Education  
2 Grants Fund Account to the Division of Higher Education Fund Account in order  
3 to finance the personal services costs of a DHE Program Coordinator.

4 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~  
5 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

6  
7 SECTION 38. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
8 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

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

16 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~  
17 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

18  
19 SECTION 39. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
20 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

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

28 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~  
29 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

30  
31 SECTION 40. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
32 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

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

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

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

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

27 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~  
28 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

29  
30 SECTION 41. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code Title 6,  
31 Chapter 61, Subchapter 2, is amended to add an additional section to codify  
32 special language in appropriation acts to read as follows:

33 6-61-236. Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program –  
34 Established.

35 (a) There is established the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship  
36 Program, which shall be administered by the Division of Higher Education and

1 division staff.

2 (b) The program shall focus on the continued development of  
3 undergraduate academic research efforts at state-supported colleges and  
4 universities.

5 (c) The division shall promulgate rules necessary for the  
6 implementation and operation of the program.

7 (d) The responsibilities of the division in administering the program  
8 shall include without limitation the following:

9 (1) The development of eligibility criteria for a recipient of a  
10 fellowship under the program;

11 (2) The collection of applications for a fellowship under the  
12 program;

13 (3) The coordination of student evaluations under the program;

14 (4) The distribution of public notices regarding the program;

15 and

16 (5) The funding of grants for academic research purposes under  
17 the program.

18 (e) The division may expense costs associated with the administration  
19 of the program from funds made payable from the Higher Education Grants Fund  
20 Account for the program as authorized to be used for student assistance  
21 grants and scholarships in the division's operative appropriation act.

22

23 SECTION 42. SPECIAL LANGUAGE - CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 23-115-  
24 801(d)(3)(C), concerning lottery proceeds, is amended to codify special  
25 language in appropriation acts to read as follows:

26 (C)(i) The office shall reimburse the division for the  
27 costs of administering the scholarship awards funded with net proceeds from  
28 the lottery after the Legislative Council's review under this subsection.

29 (ii) After the reimbursement of funds received by  
30 the division from the office under subdivision (d)(3)(C)(i) of this section,  
31 the division may refund the funds to the:

32 (a) Division of Higher Education Fund Account;

33 or

34 (b) Higher Education Grants Fund Account.

35

36 SECTION 43. SPECIAL LANGUAGE - CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 6-82-

1 1503, concerning the eligibility for amount of the Critical Needs Minority  
2 Teacher Scholarship Program, is amended to add an additional subsection to  
3 codify special language in appropriation acts to read as follows:

4 (g) The Director of the Division of Higher Education shall:

5 (1)(A) Determine the amount available to fund the Critical Needs  
6 Minority Teacher Scholarship Program.

7 (B) However, the amount determined under subdivision  
8 (g)(1)(A) of this section shall not exceed two hundred thousand dollars  
9 (\$200,000); and

10 (2)(A) Certify to the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State and the  
11 Treasurer of State the amount determined under subdivision (g)(1)(A) of this  
12 section to be transferred from the Higher Education Grants Fund Account.

13 (B)(i) Upon receipt of the certification under subdivision  
14 (g)(2)(A) of this section, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State and the  
15 Treasurer of State shall transfer the necessary amount from the Higher  
16 Education Grants Fund Account and the related appropriation to the University  
17 of Arkansas at Pine Bluff Fund.

18 (ii) The university may use up to twenty percent  
19 (20%) of the funds and appropriation received under subdivision (g)(2)(B)(i)  
20 of this section for the administration of the Critical Needs Minority Teacher  
21 Scholarship Program under this section.

22  
23 SECTION 44. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code Title 6,  
24 Chapter 61, Subchapter 2, is amended to add an additional section to codify  
25 special language in appropriation acts to read as follows:

26 6-61-235. Administrative fees.

27 (a) The Division of Higher Education may recover nonrefundable  
28 administrative fees related to the institutional certification and exemption  
29 process for out-of-state, nonpublic, and for-profit colleges and  
30 universities.

31 (b) Fees in this section eligible for recovery include:

32 (1) Notification fees;

33 (2) Application processing fees; and

34 (3) Travel expenses for individuals on the certification review  
35 teams.

36

1 SECTION 45. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
2 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.  
3 DHE WORKFORCE INITIATIVE ACT FUNDING. The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State  
4 may transfer, on his or her books and those of the State Treasurer and the  
5 Auditor of the State, funding up to the amount authorized in the Workforce  
6 Initiative Act of 2015 appropriation section in this Act, from the Division  
7 of Higher Education Fund Account to the Workforce Initiative Act of 2015 Fund  
8 in order to finance the distribution of grants identified under §6-60-107.

9 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~  
10 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

11  
12 SECTION 46. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
13 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.  
14 DHE - STATEWIDE SCHOLARSHIP AND GRANT PROMOTION. Of the general revenue that  
15 is received by and distributed from the Higher Education Grants Fund Account,  
16 the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall transfer two hundred ninety-five  
17 thousand dollars (\$295,000) to the Division of Higher Education Fund Account  
18 to be allocated, budgeted, committed and distributed to the Statewide  
19 Scholarship and Grant Promotion line item in the General Operations section  
20 of this Act for the purpose of increasing public awareness of the  
21 scholarships and grants offered by the State through the Arkansas Department  
22 of Education - Division of Higher Education. The Department shall utilize a  
23 minimum of one hundred forty-seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$147,500)  
24 of the aforementioned total specifically for the promotion of the Arkansas  
25 Futures Grant Program.

26 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~  
27 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

28  
29 SECTION 47. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
30 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.  
31 GOVERNOR'S HIGHER EDUCATION TRANSITION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. The Department  
32 of Education - Division of Higher Education shall provide for the  
33 administration of the "Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship  
34 Program" as appropriated in the Student Assistance Grants and Various  
35 Scholarships Appropriation section of this Act to assist students accepted  
36 into transitional programs for students with intellectual and/or



1 developmental disabilities at state institutions of higher education and  
2 shall promulgate rules for the implementation of the program and for the  
3 disbursement of scholarships to eligible students.

4 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1,  
5 ~~2022~~ 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

6  
7 SECTION 48. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code Title 6,  
8 Chapter 51, Subchapter 2, is amended to add an additional section to codify  
9 special language in appropriation acts to read as follows:

10 6-51-218. Northwest Technical Institute – Additional Teaching Load.

11 (a)(1) Any Full-time staff and ten (10) extra help positions at  
12 Northwest Technical Institute, may be paid up to

13 (A) Seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) per clock hour for the  
14 fiscal year for noncredit teaching assignments; or

15 (B) Five hundred fifty dollars (\$550) per semester hour  
16 for the fiscal year for teaching courses beyond the defined teaching load.

17 (2) An amount paid under subdivision (a)(1) of this section may  
18 be in addition to an eligible institute employee’s maximum allowable salary.

19 (b) A teaching load that makes an institute employee eligible for  
20 additional payments under subsection (a) of this section shall not exceed one  
21 hundred fifty (150) clock hours or nine (9) semester credit hours per school  
22 year.

23 (c) This section applies only to credit and noncredit courses that are  
24 funded by private industry.

25  
26 SECTION 49. SPECIAL LANGUAGE - CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code Title 6,  
27 Chapter 62, Subchapter 8, pertaining to Women’s Sport Athletic Programs is  
28 amended to read as follows:

29 § 6-62-803(c) This section shall not apply to expenditures related to  
30 compliance with § 6-60-111 or increased compliance under 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f),  
31 nor the transfer of funds necessary to support women’s athletic programs.

32  
33 SECTION 50. SPECIAL LANGUAGE - CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 6-62-  
34 110 is amended to read as follows:

35 6-62-110. Additional compensation for state-supported four-year institutions  
36 of higher education athletic department.

1       (a)(1) In recognition of the extra work involved in the participation  
2 of intercollegiate athletic teams in post-season competitions, and to promote  
3 exceptional achievement in the total sports program of each state-supported  
4 four-year institution of higher education, the Chancellor or President of a  
5 state-supported four-year institution of higher education, in accordance with  
6 policies issued by its Board of Trustees, may approve additional compensation  
7 for the athletic department and band personnel when any athletic team  
8 participates in a post-season competition or achieves exceptional  
9 recognition.

10       (2) Additional compensation approved under subdivision (a)(1) of  
11 this section shall be in addition to the regular salaries authorized by law,  
12 provided that the additional compensation shall be paid from income other  
13 than state funds.

14       (b) A Board of Trustees of a state-supported four-year institution of  
15 higher education may make additional payments to employees in the Athletic  
16 Department at the institution, or to employees that directly support the  
17 operation of the Athletic Department at the institution, in such amounts as  
18 the Board of Trustees may determine is appropriate in view of the unusual and  
19 exacting duties of such employees, provided the additional compensation shall  
20 be paid from income other than state funds.

21       (c)(1) Any such allowances authorized in this section shall be in  
22 addition to the regular salaries of such employees.

23       (2) If the allowance funds authorized under this section are  
24 utilized, a state-supported four-year institution of higher education shall  
25 report annually to the Arkansas Legislative Joint Auditing Committee the  
26 exact disposition of those allowance funds.

27  
28       SECTION 51. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds  
29 authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency  
30 and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and  
31 the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and  
32 Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary  
33 Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal  
34 control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by  
35 the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be  
36 strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.

1  
2 SECTION 52. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General  
3 Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations  
4 contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for  
5 which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive  
6 Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget  
7 manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or  
8 summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative  
9 Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.

10  
11 SECTION 53. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
12 General Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits  
13 the appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the  
14 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2023, with the exception that Section 49  
15 is effective upon passage and approval, is essential to the operation of the  
16 agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in the  
17 event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the effective  
18 date of this Act beyond July 1, 2023, with the exception that Section 49 is  
19 effective upon passage and approval, could work irreparable harm upon the  
20 proper administration and provision of essential governmental programs.  
21 Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act being  
22 necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and  
23 safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2023 with the  
24 exception that Section 49 is effective upon passage and approval.

25  
26 /s/Joint Budget Committee

27  
28  
29 **APPROVED: 4/13/23**  
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36