



Administrative Rules Update¹

(Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-216)

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I. ACT INFORMATION

Act No.	Summary of Act	Necessary Rule Changes	ATRS Rule	Proposed Action for Agency Rule
222	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Permits a surviving spouse who is a residue beneficiary to submit an Option A benefit election by the end of the fourth full calendar month following the retiree's death.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Amend rule to permit a surviving spouse who is a residue beneficiary to submit an Option A benefit election by the end of the fourth full calendar month following the retiree's death.	24 CAR § 10-613	Amend
224	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Allows a deceased active member's spouse to qualify for survivor benefits if the member and the spouse were married for at least one year immediately preceding the member's death.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Amend rule to provide that a deceased active member's spouse qualifies for survivor benefits if the member and the spouse were married for at least one year immediately preceding the member's death.	24 CAR § 10-804	Amend

¹ The symbol * denotes an act that was included in the *Report on Acts of the 2025 Regular Session Requiring New Rulemaking* and identified by the Bureau of Legislative Research as a newly enacted law requiring the promulgation of rules by the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System.



225	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows a dependent child to receive a dependent child annuity up until the age of 22, irrespective of whether they are a full-time student or participating in active military duty or training. Allows children of a deceased disability retiree to receive a dependent child annuity from ATRS if the child qualifies as a dependent child and has not been designated as the retiree's option beneficiary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amend rule to provide that a dependent child may receive a dependent child annuity until the age of twenty-two, irrespective of whether they are a full-time student or participating in active military duty or training. Repeal rules providing to the contrary. Amend rule to allow children of a deceased disability retiree to receive a dependent child annuity from ATRS if the child qualifies as a dependent child and has not been designated as the retiree's option beneficiary. 	24 CAR §§ 10-807, 10-808, 10-809, and 10-811	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amend 24 CAR §§ 10-807 and 10-811 Repeal 24 CAR §§ 10-808 and 10-809
226	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amended the law to allow a member to cancel their original T-DROP distribution election before the end of the second full calendar month following his or her effective retirement date and elect another distribution option under certain circumstances. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amended rule to allow a member to cancel their original T-DROP distribution election before the end of the second full calendar month following their effective retirement date and elect another distribution option under certain circumstances. 	24 CAR § 10-710	Amend
227	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amends the definition of "gap period" and allows an eligible member to purchase partial years of gap year service credit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amend definition of "gap period". Amend rule to allow eligible members to purchase partial years of gap year service credit. 	24 CAR §§ 10-501 and 10-512	Amend



363	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permits a member who designates a person or the parent or legal guardian of a person who is designated as a beneficiary of an annuity or benefit under §§ 24-7-706, 24-7-709, 24-7-711, or 24-7-720 to elect to have the annuity or benefit paid to a special needs trust that is established for the benefit of the person. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amend rule to provide that a member who designates a person or the parent or legal guardian of a person who is designated as a beneficiary of an annuity or benefit under §§ 24-7-706, 24-7-709, 24-7-711, or 24-7-720 may elect to have the annuity or benefit paid to a special needs trust that is established for the benefit of the person. 	24 CAR § 10-613	Amend
*587	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permits certain early childhood workers to become members of ATRS. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create new rule to address the participation of eligible early childhood workers as members of ATRS. 	24 CAR § 10-329	Create New Rule
938	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amended the law to remove the minority qualification for membership on the ATRS Board. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amend rule to remove the minority qualification for membership on the ATRS Board. 	24 CAR § 10-207	Amend



II. PROMULGATION STATUS FOR ALL RULES

June 2, 2025	ATRTRS Board reviewed the proposed rules and approved proceeding with the promulgation process.
August 8, 2025	Proposed rules submitted to Governor's office for review.
August 8, 2025	Proposed rules submitted to Secretary of State for filing.
August 8, 2025	Proposed rules filed with Bureau of Legislative Research.
August 9, 2025	Start of public comment period for proposed rules.
September 8, 2025	End of public comment period for proposed rules.
September 29, 2025	Public comments and revisions presented to the ATRTRS Board. The ATRTRS Board approved the revisions to the proposed rules that were based on public comment.
October 10, 2025	Proposed rules reviewed by the Joint Committee on Public Retirement and Social Security Programs.
October 16, 2025	Request for placement of proposed rules on the agenda for the next available meeting of the Administrative Rules Subcommittee. Next meeting date currently scheduled for November 20, 2025.
November 20, 2025	Proposed rules reviewed and approved by Administrative Rules Subcommittee on November 20, 2025.
November 25, 2025	Final rules filed with Secretary of State, Bureau of Legislative Research, and Arkansas State Library. Proposed effective date of final rules notice published on ATRTRS website. Anticipated effective date of final rules is December 5, 2025.