

**ALC – Personnel Subcommittee***Law Enforcement Officer Stipend Disbursements, Act 561 of 2023*

**1. Act 561.** Section 3 (a)(27) of Act 561 of 2023 states that the Uniform Personnel Classification and Compensation Plan Subcommittee of the Legislative Council (the “Subcommittee”) shall provide the Legislative Council a recommendation regarding distribution of the Law Enforcement Stipends as grants no later than September 15, 2023.

**2. Eligibility Criteria.**

a. For purposes of these procedures, an eligible full-time law enforcement officer means a person who:

i. Is an appointed law enforcement officer responsible for the prevention and detection of crime and the enforcement of the criminal, traffic, or highway laws of this state;

ii. Is employed by and receives a salary authorized by an eligible state agency or public institution of higher education as a law enforcement officer on or before January 31, 2023;

iii. Has the statutory authority to enforce the criminal, traffic, and highway laws of the state and serves a law enforcement function of an eligible state law enforcement agency or public institution of higher education;

iv. Is employed as a law enforcement officer more than twenty-four (24) hours per week; and

v. Has satisfactorily completed a program of basic law enforcement training at a school approved by the Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and training on or before June 30, 2023.

b. An eligible state agency or public institution of higher education will fall into one of the two (2) following groups, as determined by the Subcommittee:

i. **Group 1** shall consist of the following entities:

A. Arkansas Secretary of State;

B. Arkansas Game and Fish Commission;

C. Arkansas Department of Transportation;

D. Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage and Tourism; and

E. Public institutions of higher education; and

ii. **Group 2** shall be determined by submission of applications by state agencies that employ eligible full-time law enforcement officers. Applications shall be submitted to the Subcommittee beginning August 1, 2023 and no later than September 30, 2023 on the form developed and provided by the Subcommittee, attached hereto as Attachment A.

**3. Determination of Stipend Amounts.**

a. **Group 1.** The Department of Finance and Administration shall disburse law enforcement salary stipends in the form of grants to eligible full-time law enforcement

officers employed by an entity in Group 1 in the same manner as those stipends were disbursed under Act 224 of 2022, in the following amounts:

i. A Group 1 entity that provided an average salary increase of greater than thirteen percent (13%) to its eligible full-time law enforcement officers over the past two (2) fiscal years shall receive a grant in the amount of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) for each eligible full-time law enforcement officer;

**(Greater than 13% salary increase = \$2,000 stipend)**

ii. A Group 1 entity that provided an average salary increase between six percent (6%) and thirteen percent (13%) to its eligible full-time law enforcement officers over the past two (2) fiscal years shall receive a grant in the amount of three thousand five hundred dollars (\$3,500) for each eligible full-time law enforcement officer;

**(6% to 13% salary increase = \$3,500 stipend)**

iii. A Group 1 entity that provided an average salary increase in an amount less than six percent (6%) to its eligible full-time law enforcement officers over the past two (2) fiscal years shall receive a grant in the amount of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each eligible full-time law enforcement officer; and

**(Less than 6% salary increase = \$5,000 stipend)**

iv. A Group 1 entity that has already provided stipends to its eligible full-time law enforcement officers in the amount of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) during the past two (2) fiscal years shall be excluded from consideration for additional disbursements from the Law Enforcement Stipends Set-Aside.

b. **Group 2.** The Subcommittee shall make a determination regarding stipend amounts for entities determined to be part of Group 2 based on the number of applications received in accordance with Section 2.b.ii. of these procedures and the amount of funds remaining in the Law Enforcement Stipends Set-Aside following payment of the grants to the Group 1 eligible full-time law enforcement officers.