

1 State of Arkansas
2 95th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2025
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 88

5 By: Joint Budget Committee
6
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For An Act To Be Entitled

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9 AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR PERSONAL SERVICES
10 AND OPERATING EXPENSES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF
11 EDUCATION - DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR THE
12 FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2026; AND FOR OTHER
13 PURPOSES.
14

Subtitle

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17 AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION -
18 DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION
19 APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2025-2026 FISCAL
20 YEAR.
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23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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25 SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES - GENERAL OPERATIONS. There is hereby
26 established for the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education
27 for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular
28 employees.
29

				Maximum Annual
				Salary Rate
				Fiscal Year
Item	Class		Maximum	
No.	Code	Title	No. of	2025-2026
			Employees	
(1)	U024U	DHE DIRECTOR	1	GRADE SE05
(2)	D022N	IT SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER	1	GRADE IT09
(3)	D012C	DATABASE SPECIALIST	2	GRADE IT08



1	(4)	D007C INFORMATION SYSTEMS MANAGER	2	GRADE IT08
2	(5)	D028C SENIOR SOFTWARE SUPPORT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE IT07
3	(6)	D016C SENIOR TECHNOLOGY ANALYST	1	GRADE IT06
4	(7)	G281C ADE POLICY & SPECIAL PROJECTS DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS15
5	(8)	N002N DHE SENIOR ASSOC DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS15
6	(9)	N069N ADE SPECIAL ADVISOR	1	GRADE GS14
7	(10)	N055N DHE ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS14
8	(11)	A010C AGENCY CONTROLLER II	1	GRADE GS13
9	(12)	N054N DHE CAREER PATHWAYS DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS13
10	(13)	N167N DHS POLICY & RESEARCH DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS12
11	(14)	A027C ACCOUNTING OPERATIONS MANAGER	1	GRADE GS11
12	(15)	G058C DHE FEDERAL PROGRAM MANAGER	2	GRADE GS11
13	(16)	E061C ACE PROGRAM COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS10
14	(17)	G071C DHE PROGRAM COORDINATOR	6	GRADE GS10
15	(18)	E062C ACE PROGRAM ADVISOR	2	GRADE GS09
16	(19)	G102C DHE PROGRAM SPECIALIST	18	GRADE GS09
17	(20)	G080C NATIONAL & COMMUNITY SVCS EXEC. DIR.	1	GRADE GS09
18	(21)	G295C OSTEOPATHIC RURAL MED PROG ADMIN	1	GRADE GS09
19	(22)	G147C GRANTS COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS07
20	(23)	G180C GRANTS ANALYST	1	GRADE GS06
21	(24)	A084C PROGRAM/FIELD AUDIT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS06
22	(25)	C056C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III	1	GRADE GS04
23	(26)	C073C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST II	<u>1</u>	GRADE GS03
24		MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	52	

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26 SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP - GENERAL OPERATIONS. There is hereby

27 authorized, for the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education

28 for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the following maximum number of part-time or

29 temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from funds

30 appropriated herein for such purposes: fifteen (15) temporary or part-time

31 employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the

32 Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act

33 for the appropriate classification.

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35 SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - GENERAL OPERATIONS. There is hereby

36 appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Division

1 of Higher Education Fund Account, for personal services and operating
 2 expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education -
 3 General Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

5 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
6 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
7 (01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$2,367,990
8 (02) EXTRA HELP	75,000
9 (03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	777,058
10 (04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
11 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	909,346
12 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	49,659
13 (C) PROF. FEES	25,000
14 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	50,000
15 (E) DATA PROC.	0
16 (05) STATEWIDE SCHOLARSHIP AND GRANT PROMOTION	<u>295,000</u>
17 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$4,549,053</u></u>

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 19 SECTION 4. EXTRA HELP - STATE BOARD OF PRIVATE CAREER EDUCATION. There
 20 is hereby authorized, for the Department of Education - Division of Higher
 21 Education - State Board of Private Career Education for the 2025-2026 fiscal
 22 year, the following maximum number of part-time or temporary employees, to be
 23 known as "Extra Help", payable from funds appropriated herein for such
 24 purposes: two (2) temporary or part-time employees, when needed, at rates of
 25 pay not to exceed those provided in the Uniform Classification and
 26 Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act for the appropriate
 27 classification.

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 29 SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - STATE BOARD OF PRIVATE CAREER EDUCATION -
 30 OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to
 31 be payable from the Private Career Education Fund, for personal services and
 32 operating expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Higher
 33 Education - State Board of Private Career Education - Operations for the
 34 fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

36 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
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1	NO.	2025-2026
2	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$163,983
3	(02) EXTRA HELP	20,000
4	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	55,427
5	(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
6	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	63,000
7	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	4,000
8	(C) PROF. FEES	6,000
9	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
10	(E) DATA PROC.	0
11	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$312,410</u>

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13 SECTION 6. APPROPRIATION - STUDENT ASSISTANCE GRANTS AND VARIOUS

14 SCHOLARSHIPS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education,

15 to be payable from the Higher Education Grants Fund Account, for providing

16 student assistance grants and various scholarships as provided by law of the

17 Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - Student Assistance

18 Grants and Various Scholarships for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the

19 following:

21	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
22	NO.	2025-2026
23	(01) ARKANSAS FUTURE GRANTS	\$5,000,000
24	(02) NATIONAL GUARD TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM	1,400,000
25	(03) SINGLE PARENT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM	175,000
26	(04) STATE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM	4,000,000
27	(05) TEACHER OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM	2,500,000
28	(06) AR GEOGRAPHICAL CRITICAL NEEDS	
29	MINORITY TEACHER SCHOLARSHIPS	150,000
30	(07) DEPENDENTS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS, ETC. SCHOLARSHIPS	1,000,000
31	(08) DEPENDENTS-KIA'S, MIA'S, POW'S, ETC.	4,500,000
32	(09) GOVERNOR'S HIGHER EDUCATION	
33	TRANSITION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM	2,000,000
34	(10) SREB MINORITY DOCTORAL SCHOLARS	175,000
35	(11) WASHINGTON CENTER SCHOLARSHIPS	150,000
36	(12) TUITION ADJUSTMENT	350,000

1	(13) AR ACADEMIC CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIPS	25,000,000
2	(14) AR GOVERNOR'S SCHOLAR	22,000,000
3	(15) STUDENT UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM (SURF)	<u>150,000</u>
4	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$68,550,000</u></u>

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

7 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable

8 from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the

9 State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of

10 Education - Division of Higher Education - Technical Education - Federal

11 Programs for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

13	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
14	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
15	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$139,791
16	(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	49,594
17	(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
18	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	108,271
19	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	80,000
20	(C) PROF. FEES	157,000
21	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
22	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
23	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$534,656</u></u>

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

26 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the

27 Research Development Fund, for providing Arkansas Research Development

28 Program Grants to Institutions of Higher Education by the Department of

29 Education - Division of Higher Education - Research Development Program for

30 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

32	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
33	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
34	(01) RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM GRANTS	<u>\$750,000</u>

35

36 SECTION 9. APPROPRIATION - HEALTH EDUCATION GRANTS AND LOANS. There is

1 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the
 2 Higher Education Grants Fund Account, for payments of contracts and loans
 3 with participating out-of-state institutions of higher learning in the fields
 4 of dentistry, optometry, veterinary medicine, chiropractic, and podiatry for
 5 the education of Arkansas citizens by the Department of Education - Division
 6 of Higher Education - Health Education Grants and Loans for the fiscal year
 7 ending June 30, 2026, the following:

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9 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
10 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
11 (01) CHIROPRACTIC AID	\$260,000
12 (02) DENTAL AID - GRANTS	2,950,000
13 (03) OPTOMETRY AID - GRANTS	650,000
14 (04) PODIATRY AID	130,400
15 (05) VETERINARY AID FORGIVENESS PROGRAM	1,750,000
16 (06) DENTAL AID - LOANS	987,370
17 (07) OPTOMETRY AID - LOANS	140,000
18 (08) VETERINARY MED. LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM	<u>250,000</u>
19 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$7,117,770</u></u>

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21 SECTION 10. APPROPRIATION - CASH. There is hereby appropriated, to the
 22 Department of Education, to be payable from the cash fund deposited in the
 23 State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for
 24 operating expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Higher
 25 Education - Cash for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

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27 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
28 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
29 (01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
30 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$269,233
31 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	32,865
32 (C) PROF. FEES	63,932
33 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
34 (E) DATA PROC.	0
35 (02) SCHOLARSHIPS	<u>50,000</u>
36 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$416,030</u></u>

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

There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for operating expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - Private Career Education Board - Cash for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$9,500
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	6,000
(C) PROF. FEES	5,000
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$20,500</u></u>

SECTION 12. APPROPRIATION - STUDENT PROTECTION TRUST. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Private Career School Student Protection Trust Fund, for expenses, claims and fees of the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - State Board of Private Career Education - Student Protection Trust for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
(01) EXPENSES/CLAIMS/FEES	<u><u>\$300,000</u></u>

SECTION 13. APPROPRIATION - TANF PROGRAM - 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, operating expenses, grants and aid by the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - TANF Program - Federal for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

1	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
2	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
3	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$292,016
4	(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	100,134
5	(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
6	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	80,000
7	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	60,000
8	(C) PROF. FEES	70,000
9	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
10	(E) DATA PROC.	0
11	(04) SELF SUFFICIENCY/JOB TRAINING GRANTS	6,547,850
12	(05) ENROLLMENT AND EDUCATION	<u>3,000,000</u>
13	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$10,150,000</u>

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15 SECTION 14. APPROPRIATION - WEB BASED APPLICATIONS. There is hereby

16 appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Higher

17 Education Grants Fund Account, for personal services and operating expenses

18 associated with web based applications of the Department of Education -

19 Division of Higher Education - Web Based Applications for the fiscal year

20 ending June 30, 2026, the following:

22	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
23	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
24	(01) WEB BASED APPLICATIONS PERSONAL	
25	SERVICES AND OPERATING EXPENSES	<u>\$500,000</u>

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27 SECTION 15. APPROPRIATION - SCHOLARSHIP ADMINISTRATION. There is

28 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the

29 Higher Education Grants Fund Account, for personal services and operating

30 expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education -

31 Scholarship Administration for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the

32 following:

34	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
35	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
36	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$282,079

1	(02) EXTRA HELP	10,000
2	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	107,174
3	(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
4	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	285,000
5	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
6	(C) PROF. FEES	30,000
7	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
8	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
9	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$714,253</u></u>

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11 SECTION 16. APPROPRIATION - WORKFORCE INITIATIVE ACT OF 2015. There is
 12 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the
 13 Workforce Initiative Act of 2015 Fund, for workforce education grants,
 14 administrative and operating expenses of the Department of Education -
 15 Division of Higher Education - Workforce Initiative Act of 2015 for the
 16 fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

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18	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
19	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
20	(01) WORKFORCE INITIATIVE ACT OF 2015 EXPENSES	<u><u>\$8,000,000</u></u>

21

22 SECTION 17. APPROPRIATION - VETERAN'S APPROVING AGENCY - FEDERAL.
 23 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable
 24 from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the
 25 State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of
 26 Education - Division of Higher Education - Veteran's Approving Agency -
 27 Federal for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

28

29	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
30	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
31	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$239,841
32	(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	88,427
33	(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
34	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	53,546
35	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	9,623
36	(C) PROF. FEES	0

1	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
2	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
3	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$391,437</u></u>

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5 SECTION 18. APPROPRIATION - AMERICORPS - OPERATIONS. There is hereby

6 appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Division

7 of Higher Education Fund Account, for personal services, operating expenses,

8 and grants and aid by the Department of Education - Division of Higher

9 Education - AmeriCorps - Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026,

10 the following:

11	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
12		
13	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
14	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$324,617
15	(02) EXTRA HELP	30,000
16	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	126,827
17	(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
18	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	363,650
19	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	85,650
20	(C) PROF. FEES	2,500
21	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
22	(E) DATA PROC.	0
23	(05) GRANTS AND AID	<u>50,000</u>
24	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$983,244</u></u>

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

27 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the

28 Division of Higher Education Fund Account, for grants and aid by the

29 Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - AmeriCorps - Grants

30 and Aid for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

31	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
32		
33	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
34	(01) GRANTS AND AID	<u><u>\$2,010,704</u></u>

35

36 SECTION 20. APPROPRIATION - OSTEOPATHIC RURAL MEDICAL PRACTICE STUDENT

1 LOAN AND SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the
 2 Department of Education, to be payable from the Higher Education Grants Fund
 3 Account, for Osteopathic Rural Medical Practice Student Loan & Scholarship
 4 Program loans and/or scholarships by the Department of Education - Division
 5 of Higher Education - Osteopathic Rural Medical Practice Student Loan &
 6 Scholarship Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

8 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
9 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
10 (01) OSTEOPATHIC RURAL MEDICAL PRACTICE	
11 STUDENT LOANS/SCHOLARSHIP	<u>\$400,000</u>

12
 13 SECTION 21. APPROPRIATION - GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION RESIDENCY
 14 EXPANSION BOARD. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of
 15 Education, to be payable from the Graduate Medical Education Fund, for
 16 planning grants to eligible entities for graduate medical education residency
 17 program expansion or new programs, and for board expenses and reimbursements
 18 of the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - Graduate
 19 Medical Education Residency Expansion Board for the fiscal year ending June
 20 30, 2026, the following:

22 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
23 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
24 (01) GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION RESIDENCY EXPANSION BOARD	<u>\$10,000,000</u>

25
 26 SECTION 22. APPROPRIATION - HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND
 27 UNIVERSITIES GRANTS AND EXPENSES. There is hereby appropriated, to the
 28 Department of Education, to be payable from the Higher Education Grants Fund
 29 Account, for grants for scholarships to Historically Black Colleges and
 30 Universities and for personal services and operating expenses as determined
 31 by the Division of Higher Education for outreach programs to promote
 32 awareness of those scholarships of the Department of Education - Division of
 33 Higher Education - HBCU Grants and Expenses for the fiscal year ending June
 34 30, 2026, the following:

36 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
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1	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
2	(01) HBCU GRANTS AND EXPENSES	<u>\$4,000,000</u>

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4 SECTION 23. APPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS TEACHER ACADEMY SCHOLARSHIP

5 PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be

6 payable from the Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship Program Fund, for

7 scholarships, personal services, and operating expenses necessary to create

8 and maintain the Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship Program by the

9 Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - Arkansas Teacher

10 Academy Scholarship Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the

11 following:

12	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
13	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
14	(01) AR TEACHER ACADEMY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM	<u>\$12,000,000</u>

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17 SECTION 24. APPROPRIATION - SUSTAINABLE BUILDING MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

18 FOR STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION. There is hereby

19 appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the

20 Sustainable Building Maintenance Program for State-Supported Institutions of

21 Higher Education Revolving Loan Fund, for transfers or loans to a state-

22 supported institution of higher education for deferred maintenance, critical

23 maintenance, or renovation of state-owned property of the Department of

24 Education - Division of Higher Education - Sustainable Building Maintenance

25 Program for State-Supported Institutions of Higher Education for the fiscal

26 year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

27	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
28	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
29	(01) LOANS	<u>\$4,555,985</u>

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32 SECTION 25. REGULAR SALARIES - NORTHWEST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE. There is

33 hereby established for the Department of Education - Division of Higher

34 Education - Northwest Technical Institute for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the

35 following maximum number of regular employees.

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Item	Class		Maximum	Maximum Annual
No.	Code	Title	No. of	Salary Rate
			Employees	Fiscal Year
				2025-2026
(1)	N227N	NORTHWEST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE DIRECTOR	1	GRADE SE01
(2)	L036C	NURSE INSTRUCTOR	6	GRADE MP02
(3)	D054C	COMPUTER SUPPORT COORDINATOR	1	GRADE IT05
(4)	D068C	INFORMATION SYSTEMS ANALYST	1	GRADE IT04
(5)	E077C	NWTI AMMONIA REFRIGN TECH SPEC & TRG	1	GRADE GS13
(6)	E009C	TECHNICAL INSTITUTE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	2	GRADE GS12
(7)	E071C	AMMONIA & INDUSTRIAL TRAINER	2	GRADE GS10
(8)	E013C	EDUCATION PROGRAM MANAGER	4	GRADE GS10
(9)	E078C	NWTI BUSINESS & INDUSTRY COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS10
(10)	E022C	EDUCATION & INSTRUCTION MANAGER	3	GRADE GS09
(11)	A082C	ACCOUNTANT II	1	GRADE GS08
(12)	E018C	SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL FACULTY	7	GRADE GS08
(13)	E027C	CAREER & TECHNICAL FACULTY	28	GRADE GS07
(14)	C010C	EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS07
(15)	S017C	MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS07
(16)	G144C	TECHNICAL INSTITUTE PRG COORDINATOR	2	GRADE GS07
(17)	C037C	ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	1	GRADE GS06
(18)	S033C	MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR	1	GRADE GS06
(19)	C035C	ASST REGISTRAR	1	GRADE GS05
(20)	G218C	STUDENT RECRUITMENT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS05
(21)	C056C	ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III	4	GRADE GS04
(22)	A098C	FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS04
(23)	A100C	PAYROLL OFFICER	1	GRADE GS04
(24)	C073C	ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST II	4	GRADE GS03
(25)	S050C	MAINTENANCE SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS03
(26)	S065C	MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT	<u>2</u>	GRADE GS01
		MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	79	

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 2025-2026 fiscal year, the following maximum number of part-time or temporary employees, to be known as

1 "Extra Help", payable from funds appropriated herein for such purposes: one
 2 hundred thirty-five (135) temporary or part-time employees, when needed, at
 3 rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the Uniform Classification and
 4 Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act for the appropriate
 5 classification.

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 7 SECTION 27. APPROPRIATION - NORTHWEST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE - STATE.
 8 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable
 9 from the Northwest Technical Institute Fund, for personal services and
 10 operating expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Higher
 11 Education - Northwest Technical Institute - State for the fiscal year ending
 12 June 30, 2026, the following:

14 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
15 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
16 (01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$3,199,793
17 (02) EXTRA HELP	453,411
18 (03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	1,199,110
19 (04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
20 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	668,564
21 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	44,866
22 (C) PROF. FEES	0
23 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
24 (E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
25 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$5,565,744</u>

26
 27 SECTION 28. APPROPRIATION - NORTHWEST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE - FEDERAL.
 28 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable
 29 from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the
 30 State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of
 31 Education - Division of Higher Education - Northwest Technical Institute -
 32 Federal for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

34 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
35 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
36 (01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$82,696

1	(02) EXTRA HELP	171,492
2	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	47,690
3	(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
4	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	14,278
5	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
6	(C) PROF. FEES	0
7	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
8	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
9	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$316,156</u></u>

10

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

12 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable
 13 from cash funds as defined by Arkansas Code §19-4-801, for personal services
 14 and operating expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Higher
 15 Education - Northwest Technical Institute - Cash for the fiscal year ending
 16 June 30, 2026, the following:

17

18	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
19	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
20	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$1,005,551
21	(02) EXTRA HELP	556,450
22	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	440,606
23	(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
24	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	1,894,530
25	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	15,000
26	(C) PROF. FEES	275,000
27	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	200,000
28	(E) DATA PROC.	0
29	(05) RESALE	<u>325,000</u>
30	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$4,712,137</u></u>

31

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

34 DHE - REALLOCATION OF RESOURCES FOR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION. Upon
 35 determination by the president or chancellor of an institution of higher
 36 education that a reallocation of resources for purposes of reorganization or

1 consolidation of administrative functions within the institution is necessary
2 for efficient and effective operations of the institution, the president or
3 chancellor, with approval of the institution's board of trustees, may have
4 the authority to transfer positions, appropriations and related funds between
5 campuses, divisions, branches, and other budgetary units of the institution,
6 after receiving prior approval of the Legislative Council or Joint Budget
7 Committee. The transfers of positions, programs, or activities shall be used
8 for those purposes for which the appropriations were approved by the General
9 Assembly. The transfers, consolidations, or reorganizations which involve
10 academic programs shall be reviewed by the Division of Higher Education prior
11 to submission to the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee. Provided,
12 however, that the institution shall be limited to submitting no more than two
13 (2) individual transaction transfer requests during any fiscal year and shall
14 be further limited to no more than five percent (5%) of the total General
15 Revenue and Special Revenue appropriation, funding, positions specific to
16 each institution, and no Tobacco Settlement funds or appropriations may be
17 reallocated pursuant to this section.

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

35 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2024~~
36 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

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

DHE - BUILDING MAINTENANCE FUND. After the sum of \$13,200,000 has been deposited into the Higher Education Building Maintenance Fund, any additional deposits are to be transferred to the Research Development Fund there to be used as provided by law.

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2024~~ 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

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

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

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2024~~ 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

SECTION 33. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

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

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2024~~ 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

SECTION 34. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

1 DHE - CONTINGENCY APPROPRIATIONS - TRANSFERS AND REPORTS. (a) Upon approval
2 by the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education and the Chief
3 Fiscal Officer of the State, institutions of higher education may transfer
4 appropriation from the cash contingency appropriation to any other
5 appropriation made to the institution from cash funds including the
6 establishment of commitment items, and may transfer appropriation from the
7 contingency appropriation made payable from each institution's State Treasury
8 Fund to the state operations appropriation made payable from each
9 institution's State Treasury Fund including the establishment of commitment
10 items, and may transfer appropriation from the contingency appropriation made
11 payable from the Tobacco Settlement Program Fund Accounts to any other
12 appropriation made to the institution from Tobacco Settlement Program Fund
13 Accounts including the establishment of commitment items.

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

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

31 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2024~~
32 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

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34 SECTION 35. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
35 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

36 DHE WORKFORCE INITIATIVE ACT FUNDING. The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State

1 may transfer, on his or her books and those of the State Treasurer and the
2 Auditor of the State, funding up to the amount authorized in the Workforce
3 Initiative Act of 2015 appropriation section in this Act, from the Division
4 of Higher Education Fund Account to the Workforce Initiative Act of 2015 Fund
5 in order to finance the distribution of grants identified under §6-60-107.

6 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2024~~
7 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

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9 SECTION 36. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
10 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

11 DHE - STATEWIDE SCHOLARSHIP AND GRANT PROMOTION. Of the general revenue that
12 is received by and distributed from the Higher Education Grants Fund Account,
13 the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall transfer two hundred ninety-five
14 thousand dollars (\$295,000) to the Division of Higher Education Fund Account
15 to be allocated, budgeted, committed and distributed to the Statewide
16 Scholarship and Grant Promotion line item in the General Operations section
17 of this Act for the purpose of increasing public awareness of the
18 scholarships and grants offered by the State through the Arkansas Department
19 of Education - Division of Higher Education. The Department shall utilize a
20 minimum of one hundred forty-seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$147,500)
21 of the aforementioned total specifically for the promotion of the Arkansas
22 Future Grant Program.

23 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2024~~
24 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

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26 SECTION 37. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
27 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

28 GOVERNOR'S HIGHER EDUCATION TRANSITION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. The Department
29 of Education - Division of Higher Education shall provide for the
30 administration of the "Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship
31 Program" as appropriated in the Student Assistance Grants and Various
32 Scholarships Appropriation section of this Act to assist students accepted
33 into transitional programs for students with intellectual and/or
34 developmental disabilities at state institutions of higher education and
35 shall promulgate rules for the implementation of the program and for the
36 disbursement of scholarships to eligible students.

1 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, 2024
2 2025 through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

3
4 SECTION 38. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds
5 authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency
6 and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and
7 the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and
8 Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary
9 Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal
10 control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by
11 the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be
12 strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.

13
14 SECTION 39. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General
15 Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations
16 contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for
17 which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive
18 Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget
19 manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or
20 summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative
21 Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.

22
23 SECTION 40. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
24 General Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits
25 the appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the
26 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2025 is essential to the operation of
27 the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in
28 the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the
29 effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2025 could work irreparable harm
30 upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental
31 programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act
32 being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health
33 and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2025.