

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

A Bill

SENATE BILL 93

5 By: Joint Budget Committee
6
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

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

Subtitle

15 AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
16 APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2025-2026 FISCAL
17 YEAR.
18
19
20

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

23 SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES - SHARED SERVICES. There is hereby
24 established for the Department of Education - Shared Services for the 2025-
25 2026 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.
26

Item No.	Class Code	Title	Maximum No. of Employees	Maximum Annual Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2025-2026
31	(1) SC004	SECRETARY OF EDUCATION	1	GRADE SE05
32	(2) E080C	ADE CHIEF OF STAFF	1	GRADE SE04
33	(3) U089U	DHE DEPUTY DIRECTOR	1	GRADE SE02
34	(4) G331C	ADE CHIEF LEGAL COUNSEL	1	GRADE SE01
35	(5) D011N	ADE DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS	1	GRADE SE01
36	(6) N009N	ASST COMMISSIONER FISCAL & ADMIN SVCS	1	GRADE SE01



1	(7)	D147C ADE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER	1	GRADE IT12
2	(8)	D146C ADE ENTERPRISE ARCHITECT	1	GRADE IT11
3	(9)	D006N STATE SYSTEMS ARCHITECT	1	GRADE IT10
4	(10)	D022N IT SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER	2	GRADE IT09
5	(11)	D104C ADE STATE SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR	1	GRADE IT08
6	(12)	D006C SOFTWARE ENGINEER LEAD	1	GRADE IT08
7	(13)	D030C INFORMATION SYSTEMS COORDINATOR	3	GRADE IT07
8	(14)	D028C SENIOR SOFTWARE SUPPORT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE IT07
9	(15)	D038C SENIOR SOFTWARE SUPPORT ANALYST	2	GRADE IT06
10	(16)	D047C INFORMATION SYSTEMS BUSINESS ANALYST	1	GRADE IT05
11	(17)	D061C INFORMATION SYSTEMS COORDINATION SPEC	1	GRADE IT05
12	(18)	G001N ADE LITIGATION ATTORNEY	1	GRADE GS15
13	(19)	G281C ADE POLICY & SPECIAL PROJECTS DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS15
14	(20)	N002N DHE SENIOR ASSOC DIRECTOR	2	GRADE GS15
15	(21)	N069N ADE SPECIAL ADVISOR	1	GRADE GS14
16	(22)	E001N ADE COORDINATOR SPECIAL PROGRAMS	2	GRADE GS13
17	(23)	G012C ADE ASSISTANT TO DIRECTOR	3	GRADE GS12
18	(24)	G025C ATTORNEY SUPERVISOR	1	GRADE GS12
19	(25)	A014C FISCAL DIVISION MANAGER	1	GRADE GS12
20	(26)	A027C ACCOUNTING OPERATIONS MANAGER	2	GRADE GS11
21	(27)	A031C ASSISTANT CONTROLLER	1	GRADE GS11
22	(28)	G047C ATTORNEY SPECIALIST	2	GRADE GS11
23	(29)	E006C PUBLIC SCHOOL PROGRAM MANAGER	1	GRADE GS11
24	(30)	E061C ACE PROGRAM COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS10
25	(31)	G075C ADE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR	1	GRADE GS10
26	(32)	G076C ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES MANAGER	1	GRADE GS10
27	(33)	G073C ATTORNEY	1	GRADE GS10
28	(34)	E016C PUBLIC SCHOOL PROGRAM COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS10
29	(35)	A052C ACCOUNTING COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS09
30	(36)	A032C ADE FINANCE PROGRAM COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS09
31	(37)	A038C FISCAL SUPPORT MANAGER	2	GRADE GS09
32	(38)	G109C GRANTS MANAGER	1	GRADE GS09
33	(39)	P004C PUBLIC INFORMATION MANAGER	1	GRADE GS09
34	(40)	E019C PUBLIC SCHOOL PROGRAM ADVISOR	1	GRADE GS09
35	(41)	A082C ACCOUNTANT II	2	GRADE GS08
36	(42)	E031C EDUCATION PROGRAM COORDINATOR	2	GRADE GS08

1	(43)	G093C OPERATIONS MANAGER	4	GRADE GS08
2	(44)	R014C PERSONNEL MANAGER	3	GRADE GS08
3	(45)	V007C PROCUREMENT COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS08
4	(46)	A041C PROGRAM FISCAL MANAGER	1	GRADE GS08
5	(47)	A089C ACCOUNTANT I	1	GRADE GS07
6	(48)	S008C CAMPUS MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR	2	GRADE GS07
7	(49)	C010C EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR	2	GRADE GS07
8	(50)	A075C FINANCIAL ANALYST I	1	GRADE GS07
9	(51)	G147C GRANTS COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS07
10	(52)	P020C PRODUCTION ARTIST	2	GRADE GS07
11	(53)	C037C ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	1	GRADE GS06
12	(54)	R025C HUMAN RESOURCES ANALYST	1	GRADE GS06
13	(55)	S033C MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR	2	GRADE GS06
14	(56)	A091C FISCAL SUPPORT ANALYST	1	GRADE GS05
15	(57)	A090C PAYROLL SERVICES SPECIALIST	2	GRADE GS05
16	(58)	C056C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III	2	GRADE GS04
17	(59)	A098C FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	2	GRADE GS04
18	(60)	V020C INVENTORY CONTROL MANAGER	1	GRADE GS04
19	(61)	C046C LEGAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS04
20	(62)	S046C MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN	2	GRADE GS04
21	(63)	C073C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST II	<u>1</u>	GRADE GS03
22		MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	89	

23

24 SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP - SHARED SERVICES PAYING ACCOUNT. There is
 25 hereby authorized, for the Department of Education - Shared Services Paying
 26 Account for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the following maximum number of part-
 27 time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from funds
 28 appropriated herein for such purposes: six (6) temporary or part-time
 29 employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the
 30 Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act
 31 for the appropriate classification.

32

33 SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - SHARED SERVICES PAYING ACCOUNT. There is
 34 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the
 35 paying account as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for
 36 personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Education -

1 Shared Services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

3	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
4	NO.	2025-2026
5	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$6,769,373
6	(02) EXTRA HELP	80,000
7	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	2,227,462
8	(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
9	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	100,000
10	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	10,000
11	(C) PROF. FEES	0
12	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
13	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
14	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$9,186,835</u></u>

15
 16 SECTION 4. REGULAR SALARIES - STATE OPERATIONS. There is hereby
 17 established for the Department of Education - Division of Elementary and
 18 Secondary Education - State Operations for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the
 19 following maximum number of regular employees.

21			Maximum Annual
22		Maximum	Salary Rate
23	Item Class	No. of	Fiscal Year
24	No. Code Title	Employees	2025-2026
25	(1) E083C ADE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF EDUCATION	1	GRADE SE04
26	(2) U027U DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION	1	GRADE SE03
27	(3) E081C ADE ASSOCIATE DEPUTY	3	GRADE SE02
28	(4) N005N ADE ASST COMMISSIONER LEARNING SERVICES	1	GRADE SE01
29	(5) N006N ADE ASST COMMISSIONER PUB SCH ACCOUNT	1	GRADE SE01
30	(6) N008N ASST COMMISSIONER RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGY	1	GRADE SE01
31	(7) N010N ASST COMM EDUC EFFECTIVENESS	1	GRADE SE01
32	(8) L027C REGISTERED NURSE SUPERVISOR	1	GRADE MP02
33	(9) D104C ADE STATE SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR	4	GRADE IT08
34	(10) D030C INFORMATION SYSTEMS COORDINATOR	1	GRADE IT07
35	(11) D054C COMPUTER SUPPORT COORDINATOR	1	GRADE IT05
36	(12) D047C INFORMATION SYSTEMS BUSINESS ANALYST	2	GRADE IT05

1	(13)	D052C SOFTWARE SUPPORT ANALYST	1	GRADE IT05
2	(14)	D044C SYSTEMS ANALYST	1	GRADE IT05
3	(15)	D064C WEBSITE DEVELOPER	1	GRADE IT04
4	(16)	D079C COMPUTER SUPPORT TECHNICIAN	1	GRADE IT02
5	(17)	E082C ADE PROGRAM DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS15
6	(18)	N069N ADE SPECIAL ADVISOR	7	GRADE GS14
7	(19)	E003N ADE COORD SCH. IMP / STANDARDS ASSUR	1	GRADE GS13
8	(20)	E001N ADE COORDINATOR SPECIAL PROGRAMS	7	GRADE GS13
9	(21)	A010C AGENCY CONTROLLER II	1	GRADE GS13
10	(22)	G012C ADE ASSISTANT TO DIRECTOR	8	GRADE GS12
11	(23)	G006C ADE SPECIAL EDUCATION DIVISION MGR	1	GRADE GS12
12	(24)	N145N DHS ASSISTANT DIRECTOR CMS	1	GRADE GS12
13	(25)	E006N ADE COORD COMPUTER SCIENCE	1	GRADE GS11
14	(26)	E069C ADE DIRECTOR OF MEDICAID IN THE SCHOOLS	1	GRADE GS11
15	(27)	E006C PUBLIC SCHOOL PROGRAM MANAGER	11	GRADE GS11
16	(28)	E007C ADE OERZ DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS10
17	(29)	G075C ADE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR	5	GRADE GS10
18	(30)	E016C PUBLIC SCHOOL PROGRAM COORDINATOR	19	GRADE GS10
19	(31)	A052C ACCOUNTING COORDINATOR	8	GRADE GS09
20	(32)	G074C ADE COORD OF GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS	1	GRADE GS09
21	(33)	A032C ADE FINANCE PROGRAM COORDINATOR	3	GRADE GS09
22	(34)	X012C ADE PLSB CHIEF INVESTIGATOR	2	GRADE GS09
23	(35)	A050C AGENCY FISCAL MANAGER	1	GRADE GS09
24	(36)	G099C DHS PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR	1	GRADE GS09
25	(37)	A038C FISCAL SUPPORT MANAGER	4	GRADE GS09
26	(38)	G109C GRANTS MANAGER	2	GRADE GS09
27	(39)	P004C PUBLIC INFORMATION MANAGER	1	GRADE GS09
28	(40)	E019C PUBLIC SCHOOL PROGRAM ADVISOR	93	GRADE GS09
29	(41)	E066C DCCECE EDUCATION MANAGER	1	GRADE GS08
30	(42)	G152C DHS PROGRAM MANAGER	3	GRADE GS08
31	(43)	E026C EDUCATION & INSTRUCTION COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS08
32	(44)	A047C FINANCIAL ANALYST II	1	GRADE GS08
33	(45)	L043C HEALTH PROGRAM SPECIALIST III	1	GRADE GS08
34	(46)	L035C NUTRITIONIST CONSULTANT	9	GRADE GS08
35	(47)	G093C OPERATIONS MANAGER	1	GRADE GS08
36	(48)	R014C PERSONNEL MANAGER	1	GRADE GS08

1	(49)	A041C PROGRAM FISCAL MANAGER	6	GRADE GS08
2	(50)	G183C DHS PROGRAM COORDINATOR	9	GRADE GS07
3	(51)	G267C DHS PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY ANALYST	1	GRADE GS07
4	(52)	M042C DHS STAFF SUPERVISOR	1	GRADE GS07
5	(53)	G182C DHS/DDS PROGRAM COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS07
6	(54)	E048C EDUCATION & INSTRUCTION SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS07
7	(55)	C010C EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR	2	GRADE GS07
8	(56)	M025C PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY COORDINATOR I	1	GRADE GS07
9	(57)	A063C RESEARCH & STATISTICS SUPERVISOR	1	GRADE GS07
10	(58)	E040C STAFF DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS07
11	(59)	C037C ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	11	GRADE GS06
12	(60)	M053C CHILD CARE SERVICE SPECIALIST	5	GRADE GS06
13	(61)	A074C FISCAL SUPPORT SUPERVISOR	3	GRADE GS06
14	(62)	G180C GRANTS ANALYST	3	GRADE GS06
15	(63)	R025C HUMAN RESOURCES ANALYST	1	GRADE GS06
16	(64)	G179C LEGAL SERVICES SPECIALIST	2	GRADE GS06
17	(65)	G178C POLICY DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR	2	GRADE GS06
18	(66)	X094C SERVICES & PROGRAM LICENSING SPECIALIST	6	GRADE GS06
19	(67)	V014C BUYER	1	GRADE GS05
20	(68)	A091C FISCAL SUPPORT ANALYST	3	GRADE GS05
21	(69)	C054C LOCAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST	7	GRADE GS05
22	(70)	C056C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III	28	GRADE GS04
23	(71)	S046C MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN	1	GRADE GS04
24	(72)	C073C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST II	<u>17</u>	GRADE GS03
25		MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	335	

26

27 SECTION 5. EXTRA HELP - STATE OPERATIONS. There is hereby authorized,
 28 for the Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary
 29 Education - State Operations for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the following
 30 maximum number of part-time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra
 31 Help", payable from funds appropriated herein for such purposes: eight (8)
 32 temporary or part-time employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed
 33 those provided in the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its
 34 successor, or this act for the appropriate classification.

35

36 SECTION 6. APPROPRIATION - STATE OPERATIONS. There is hereby

1 appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Division
 2 of Elementary and Secondary Education Fund Account, for personal services and
 3 operating expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Elementary
 4 and Secondary Education - State Operations for the fiscal year ending June
 5 30, 2026, the following:

7 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
8 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
9 (01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$13,832,717
10 (02) EXTRA HELP	160,000
11 (03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	4,877,933
12 (04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
13 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	3,411,057
14 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	60,000
15 (C) PROF. FEES	25,000
16 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	100,000
17 (E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
18 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$22,466,707</u>

19
 20 SECTION 7. APPROPRIATION - FEDERAL GRANTS ADMINISTRATION. There is
 21 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the
 22 federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for
 23 personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Education -
 24 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education - Federal Grants
 25 Administration for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

27 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
28 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
29 (01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$254,677
30 (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	88,477
31 (03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
32 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	49,970
33 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	19,672
34 (C) PROF. FEES	260,000
35 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
36 (E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>

1 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED \$672,796

2

3 SECTION 8. APPROPRIATION - BUILDING MAINTENANCE. There is hereby
 4 appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the
 5 Educational Buildings Maintenance Fund, for operating expenses of the
 6 Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education -
 7 Building Maintenance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

8

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

18

19 SECTION 9. APPROPRIATION - REVOLVING LOAN CERTIFICATES PROGRAM. There
 20 is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from
 21 the Education Revolving Loan Certificates Fund, for personal services,
 22 operating expenses, and loans to school districts by the Department of
 23 Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education - Revolving Loan
 24 Certificates Fund for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

25

26 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
27 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
28 (01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$54,790
29 (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	20,856
30 (03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
31 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	27,500
32 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	2,500
33 (C) PROF. FEES	10,000
34 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
35 (E) DATA PROC.	0
36 (04) LOANS TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS	13,000,000

1	(05) LOANS TO OPEN-ENROLLMENT PUBLIC	
2	CHARTER SCHOOLS	<u>10,000,000</u>
3	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$23,115,646</u>

4

5 SECTION 10. APPROPRIATION - CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM. There is hereby
6 appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the federal
7 funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal
8 services, operating expenses, aid and reimbursements of the Department of
9 Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education - Child Nutrition
10 Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

11		
12	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
13	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
14	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$1,102,049
15	(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	418,594
16	(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
17	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	1,172,100
18	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	10,000
19	(C) PROF. FEES	100,000
20	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	50,000
21	(E) DATA PROC.	0
22	(04) SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE/NUTRITION ED	425,099,000
23	(05) REFUNDS/REIMBURSEMENTS	<u>450,000</u>
24	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$428,401,743</u>

25

26 SECTION 11. EXTRA HELP - FEDERAL ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION.
27 There is hereby authorized, for the Department of Education - Division of
28 Elementary and Secondary Education - Federal Elementary and Secondary
29 Education for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the following maximum number of
30 part-time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from
31 funds appropriated herein for such purposes: four (4) temporary or part-time
32 employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the
33 Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act
34 for the appropriate classification.

35

36 SECTION 12. APPROPRIATION - FEDERAL ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION.

1 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable
 2 from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the
 3 State, for personal services, operating expenses, aid and reimbursements of
 4 the Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education
 5 - Federal Elementary and Secondary Education for the fiscal year ending June
 6 30, 2026, the following:

8	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
9	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
10	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$4,280,286
11	(02) EXTRA HELP	60,000
12	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	1,607,708
13	(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
14	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	91,242,005
15	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	100,000
16	(C) PROF. FEES	1,500,000
17	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	200,000
18	(E) DATA PROC.	0
19	(05) ENTITLEMENT GRANT PROGRAMS	1,181,835,058
20	(06) REFUNDS/REIMBURSEMENTS	<u>1,110,000</u>
21	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$1,281,935,057</u>

22
 23 SECTION 13. APPROPRIATION - MULTIPLE GRANT AWARD PROGRAM. There is
 24 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the
 25 cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal
 26 Officer of the State, for operating expenses and grants by the Department of
 27 Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education - Multiple Grant
 28 Award Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

30	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
31	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
32	(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
33	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$422,000
34	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	16,500
35	(C) PROF. FEES	40,000
36	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	100,000

1	(E) DATA PROC.	0
2	(02) MULTIPLE GRANT AWARDS	<u>1,900,000</u>
3	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$2,478,500</u></u>

4

5 SECTION 14. APPROPRIATION - MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM. There is
 6 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the
 7 cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal
 8 Officer of the State, for Medicaid reimbursement and administration of the
 9 Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education -
 10 Medicaid Reimbursement Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the
 11 following:

13	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
14	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
15	(01) REFUNDS/REIMBURSEMENTS	\$13,659,017
16	(02) MEDICAID ADMIN	<u>10,500</u>
17	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$13,669,517</u></u>

18

19 SECTION 15. APPROPRIATION - ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM. There
 20 is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from
 21 the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief
 22 Fiscal Officer of the State, for operating expenses and grants by the
 23 Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education -
 24 Alternative Certification Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026,
 25 the following:

27	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
28	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
29	(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
30	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$27,367
31	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	8,500
32	(C) PROF. FEES	35,420
33	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
34	(E) DATA PROC.	0
35	(02) ALT. CERT. PROG. GRANTS AND AID	<u>827,925</u>
36	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$899,212</u></u>

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36

SECTION 16. APPROPRIATION - CONFERENCES. 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 conferences sponsored by the Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education - Conferences 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	\$400,000
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	25,000
(C) PROF. FEES	50,000
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$475,000</u></u>

SECTION 17. APPROPRIATION - MEDICAID ADMINISTRATION CLAIMING PROGRAM. 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 reimbursement of school districts for administrative activities that support the Arkansas Medicaid Program of the Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education - Medicaid Administration Claiming Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
(01) AR MEDICAID ADMIN CLAIMS	<u><u>\$45,000,000</u></u>

SECTION 18. APPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS BETTER CHANCE PROGRAM - ADMINISTRATION. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Fund Account, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education -

1 Arkansas Better Chance Program - Administration for the fiscal year ending
 2 June 30, 2026, the following:

4 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
5 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
6 (01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$611,206
7 (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	231,426
8 (03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
9 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	1,245,291
10 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	3,917
11 (C) PROF. FEES	297,610
12 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
13 (E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
14 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$2,389,450</u></u>

15
 16 SECTION 19. REGULAR SALARIES - PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE STANDARDS BOARD.
 17 There is hereby established for the Department of Education - Division of
 18 Elementary and Secondary Education - Professional Licensure Standards Board
 19 for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular
 20 employees.

24 Item Class	Maximum	Maximum Annual
25 <u>No. Code Title</u>	<u>No. of</u>	<u>Salary Rate</u>
	Employees	Fiscal Year
		2025-2026
26 (1) G004C MANAGING ATTORNEY	1	GRADE GS13
27 (2) A038C FISCAL SUPPORT MANAGER	1	GRADE GS09
28 (3) X202C ADE PLSB SENIOR INVESTIGATOR	1	GRADE GS08
29 (4) X037C EDUCATION INVESTIGATOR	3	GRADE GS08
30 (5) G093C OPERATIONS MANAGER	1	GRADE GS08
31 (6) C037C ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	2	GRADE GS06
32 (7) G179C LEGAL SERVICES SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS06
33 (8) C056C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III	<u>1</u>	GRADE GS04
34 MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	11	

35
 36 SECTION 20. APPROPRIATION - PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE STANDARDS BOARD.

1 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable
 2 from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief
 3 Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal services, operating expenses, and
 4 grants by the Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary
 5 Education - Professional Licensure Standards Board for the fiscal year ending
 6 June 30, 2026, the following:

8 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
9 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
10 (01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$629,772
11 (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	235,810
12 (03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
13 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	376,325
14 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	10,000
15 (C) PROF. FEES	9,505
16 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	50,000
17 (E) DATA PROC.	0
18 (04) EDTPA PROGRAM GRANTS	<u>100,000</u>
19 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$1,411,412</u></u>

21 SECTION 21. APPROPRIATION - OPEN ENROLLMENT PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL
 22 CLOSURE. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be
 23 payable from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by
 24 the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for outstanding obligations incurred
 25 by closed charter schools of the Department of Education - Division of
 26 Elementary and Secondary Education - Open Enrollment Public Charter School
 27 Closure for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

29 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
30 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
31 (01) CHARTER SCHOOL CLOSURE	<u>\$300,000</u>

33 SECTION 22. APPROPRIATION - SAVE THE CHILDREN GRANT. There is hereby
 34 appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Division
 35 of Elementary and Secondary Education Fund Account, for a grant for statewide
 36 in-school, summer, and after school literacy, nutrition, home visiting, and

1 early childhood programs to be administered by Save the Children for low
 2 income, at-risk children by the Department of Education - Division of
 3 Elementary and Secondary Education - Save the Children Grant for the fiscal
 4 year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

6 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
7 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
8 (01) SAVE THE CHILDREN GRANTS	<u>\$500,000</u>

9
 10 SECTION 23. APPROPRIATION - SCHOOL SAFETY GRANTS. There is hereby
 11 appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Division
 12 of Elementary and Secondary Education Fund Account, for School Safety Grants
 13 by the Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary
 14 Education - School Safety Grants for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026,
 15 the following:

17 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
18 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
19 (01) SCHOOL SAFETY GRANTS	<u>\$50,000,000</u>

20
 21 SECTION 24. APPROPRIATION - EDUCATIONAL FREEDOM ACCOUNTS. There is
 22 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the
 23 Arkansas Children’s Educational Freedom Account Fund, for Educational Freedom
 24 Accounts by the Department of Education - Division of Elementary and
 25 Secondary Education - Educational Freedom Accounts for the fiscal year ending
 26 June 30, 2026, the following:

28 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
29 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
30 (01) EDUCATIONAL FREEDOM ACCOUNTS	<u>\$97,487,318</u>

31
 32 SECTION 25. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
 33 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.
 34 CARRY FORWARD. Notwithstanding any law pertaining to the transfer of year-end
 35 fund balances or any law to the contrary, any funds which remain in the
 36 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Fund Account at the end of a

1 fiscal year shall remain in the Division of Elementary and Secondary
2 Education Fund Account and be made available to fund appropriation(s)
3 authorized by law and made payable from the Division of Elementary and
4 Secondary Education Fund Account for the following fiscal year.

5 Any carry forward of unexpended balance of funding as authorized
6 herein, may be carried forward under the following conditions:

7 (1) Prior to June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026 the Agency shall by written statement
8 set forth its reason(s) for the need to carry forward said funding to the
9 Department of Finance and Administration Office of Budget;

10 (2) The Department of Finance and Administration Office of Budget shall
11 report to the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee all
12 amounts carried forward by the September Arkansas Legislative Council or
13 Joint Budget Committee meeting which report shall include the name of the
14 Agency, Board, Commission or Institution and the amount of the funding
15 carried forward, the program name or line item, the funding source of that
16 appropriation and a copy of the written request set forth in (1) above;

17 (3) Each Agency, Board, Commission or Institution shall provide a
18 written report to the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee
19 containing all information set forth in item (2) above, along with a written
20 statement as to the current status of the project, contract, purpose etc. for
21 which the carry forward was originally requested no later than thirty (30)
22 days prior to the time the Agency, Board, Commission or Institution presents
23 its budget request to the Arkansas Legislative Council/Joint Budget
24 Committee; and

25 (4) Thereupon, the Department of Finance and Administration shall
26 include all information obtained in item (3) above in the budget manuals
27 and/or a statement of non-compliance by the Agency, Board, Commission or
28 Institution.

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

31

32 SECTION 26. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
33 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL, AND TEMPORARY LAW. SCHOOL
34 SAFETY SET-ASIDE.

35 (a) (1) The Department of Education shall not begin the process of
36 promulgating rules for the distribution of funds in the School Safety Set-

1 Aside or Contingency Vote 3/5 Set-Aside until authorized by Legislative
2 Council.

3 (2) The department shall not disburse any funds in the School Safety
4 Set-Aside or Contingency Vote 3/5 Set-Aside until the rules have been
5 approved by Legislative Council.

6 (b) Notwithstanding other provisions of law, the Chief Fiscal Officer of
7 the State may from time to time transfer on his or her books and those of the
8 Treasurer of State and the Auditor of State funds from the Restricted Reserve
9 Fund School Safety Set-Aside or Contingency Vote 3/5 Set-Aside after
10 receiving prior approval of the greater of three-fifths (3/5) of the quorum
11 present or a majority of the membership of the Legislative Council or, if the
12 General Assembly is in session, the Joint Budget Committee, for the
13 Department of Education to distribute funds for the School Safety Grant
14 program, as approved in this section as set out in subsection (a) herein, or
15 for the distribution of funds from this set-aside for unanticipated state
16 needs.

17 (c)(1) The General Assembly finds:

18 (A) Determining the maximum amount of appropriation and funding for a
19 state agency or institution each fiscal year is the prerogative of the
20 General Assembly;

21 (B) Determining the maximum amount of appropriation and funding for a
22 state agency or institution is usually accomplished by delineating the
23 maximum amounts in the appropriation acts for the state agency or institution
24 and in the general revenue allocations authorized for each relevant fund and
25 fund account by amendment to the Revenue Stabilization Law, § 19-5-101 et
26 seq.; and

27 (C) The Restricted Reserve Fund has established procedures for the
28 transfer of funds to various funds and fund accounts for the efficient and
29 effective operation of state government.

30 (2)(A) It is necessary and appropriate that the General Assembly
31 maintain oversight by requiring prior approval of the Legislative Council or,
32 if the General Assembly is in session, the Joint Budget Committee, as
33 provided in § 19-5-1263(c).

34 (B) The requirement of approval by the Legislative Council or, if the
35 General Assembly is in session, the Joint Budget Committee, is not a
36 severable part of § 19-5-1263.

1 (C) If the requirement of approval by the Legislative Council or, if
2 the General Assembly is in session, the Joint Budget Committee, is ruled
3 unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, § 19-5-1263(c)-(e) are
4 void in their entirety.

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

7
8 SECTION 27. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
9 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

10 ESTABLISHMENT OF A "POSITION POOL". (a) To address needs emerging from
11 statewide education issues and the necessity of recruiting and retaining
12 qualified personnel, the Arkansas Department of Education or its successor
13 agency is authorized for the ~~2024-2025~~ 2025-2026 fiscal year a pool of no
14 more than five (5) Information Technology positions at a salary not to exceed
15 the maximum salary for a grade IT12. These positions are to be used by the
16 Department of Education in the event that the personal services needs of the
17 Department during the ~~2024-2025~~ 2025-2026 fiscal year require additional
18 positions, either by title or in number, that are not authorized by the
19 General Assembly in the Regular Salaries section of this Act. These positions
20 may also be used to properly classify positions when the Department does not
21 have a vacant position available with the appropriate title and salary level.

22 (b) To address needs emerging from statewide education issues and the
23 necessity of recruiting and retaining qualified personnel, the Arkansas
24 Department of Education or its successor agency is authorized for the ~~2024-~~
25 ~~2025~~ 2025-2026 fiscal year a pool of ten (10) General Salaries positions at
26 up to a grade GS15. These positions are to be used by the Department of
27 Education in the event that the personal services needs of the Department
28 during the ~~2024-2025~~ 2025-2026 fiscal year require additional positions,
29 either by classification or in number, that are not authorized by the General
30 Assembly in the Regular Salaries section of this Act. These positions may
31 also be used to properly classify positions when the Department does not have
32 a vacant position available with the appropriate title and grade level.

33 (c) Any salary determinations or adjustments administered under the
34 provisions of Subsections (a) and (b) of this Section shall be made by
35 comparing the qualifications and salary levels of similar employees in school
36 districts or in other state education agencies.

1 (d) The Department of Education is authorized to access the pool
2 positions authorized in this Section at any time when it is determined by the
3 Secretary that the need exists. The Secretary shall provide a monthly report
4 of the justification for the need to allocate titles from this growth pool to
5 the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State and to the Arkansas Legislative Council
6 or Joint Budget Committee for review. The report shall also include an
7 accounting of the names, titles, and salaries of personnel whose salaries
8 have been adjusted under provisions of Subsections (a) and (b) of this
9 Section.

10 (e) If the Department of Education requests continuation of any
11 "Position Pool" position(s) as established herein during the next fiscal
12 year, the position(s) must be requested as a new position(s) in the agency's
13 budget request.

14 (f) Determining the number of personnel to be employed by a state agency
15 is the prerogative of the General Assembly and is usually accomplished by
16 delineating the maximum number of personnel by identifying job titles and the
17 maximum grade or salary attached to those titles. The General Assembly has
18 determined that the Arkansas Department of Education could be operated more
19 efficiently if some flexibility is given to that agency. That flexibility is
20 being accomplished by providing a position pool in Subsections (a) and (b) of
21 this Section and since the General Assembly has granted the agency broad
22 powers under the growth pool concept, it is both necessary and appropriate
23 that the General Assembly maintain oversight of the utilization of the
24 position pool by requiring review of the Legislative Council or Joint Budget
25 Committee in the utilization of the position pool. Therefore, the requirement
26 of review by the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee is not a
27 severable part of this section. If the requirement of review by the
28 Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee is ruled unconstitutional by a
29 court of competent jurisdiction, this entire section is void.

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

32
33 SECTION 28. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
34 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

35 SHARED SERVICES. (a)(1) The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State may create a
36 Shared Services paying accounts on his or her books and on the books of the

1 Treasurer of State and the Auditor of State for the payment of personal
2 services and operating expenses in the Shared Services Paying Account
3 Appropriation by the Department of Education.

4 (2) The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall direct the transfer
5 of funds and appropriations to the Shared Services Paying Account
6 appropriation section of this act on the books of the Treasurer of State, the
7 Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.

8 (3) The transfer authority provided to the department in
9 subdivision (a)(2) of this section may be used to make transfers only within
10 the department's appropriation act or between other appropriation acts
11 authorized for the department.

12 (4) The provisions of this section shall be in effect from the
13 date of passage through June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

14
15 SECTION 29. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds
16 authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency
17 and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and
18 the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and
19 Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary
20 Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal
21 control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by
22 the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be
23 strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.

24
25 SECTION 30. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General
26 Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations
27 contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for
28 which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive
29 Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget
30 manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or
31 summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative
32 Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.

33
34 SECTION 31. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
35 General Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits
36 the appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the

1 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2025 is essential to the operation of
2 the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in
3 the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the
4 effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2025 could work irreparable harm
5 upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental
6 programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act
7 being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health
8 and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2025.

9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36