

1 State of Arkansas
2 95th General Assembly
3 Fiscal Session, 2026
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1005

5 By: Joint Budget Committee
6
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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, 2027;
12 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

15 AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
16 APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2026-2027 FISCAL
17 YEAR.
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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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23 SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES - SHARED SERVICES. There is hereby
24 established for the Department of Education - Shared Services for the 2026-
25 2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.
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Item No.	Class Code	Title	Maximum No. of Employees	Maximum Annual Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2026-2027
31	(1) ESE05A	SECRETARY OF EDUCATION	1	GRADE EXE04
32	(2) EEX10A	CHIEF OF STAFF II	1	GRADE EXE02
33	(3) FAC09C	CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER II	1	GRADE SPC10
34	(4) LAT08C	CHIEF LEGAL COUNSEL I	1	GRADE SPC10
35	(5) EEA03C	HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAM MANAGER	2	GRADE SPC09
36	(6) EEA01C	EDUCATION DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR	2	GRADE SPC08



1	(7)	LAT05P ATTORNEY III	1	GRADE SPC08
2	(8)	CPR02C CHIEF OF COMMUNICATIONS II	1	GRADE SPC07
3	(9)	EEP04C EDUCATION PROGRAM MANAGER	1	GRADE SPC06
4	(10)	FIN03P FINANCE SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SPC06
5	(11)	CPR03C GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS SPECIALIST	1	GRADE SPC05
6	(12)	HDH02C HR ADMINISTRATOR I	1	GRADE SPC05
7	(13)	LAT04P ATTORNEY II	4	GRADE SPC05
8	(14)	EES02P EDUCATION PROFESSIONAL II	1	GRADE SPC04
9	(15)	LAT03P ATTORNEY I	1	GRADE SPC03
10	(16)	FAC02P ACCOUNTANT II	2	GRADE SPC02
11	(17)	FAU04P AUDITOR II	1	GRADE SPC02
12	(18)	EES01P EDUCATION PROFESSIONAL I	1	GRADE SPC02
13	(19)	FAC01P ACCOUNTANT I	1	GRADE SPC01
14	(20)	FFS03C FISCAL SUPPORT MANAGER	1	GRADE SGS09
15	(21)	SSP06I OMBUDSMAN	1	GRADE SGS08
16	(22)	PAS08I EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT	1	GRADE SGS07
17	(23)	EEP03P EDUCATION PROGRAM COORDINATOR	5	GRADE SGS07
18	(24)	FFS05P FISCAL SUPPORT SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	5	GRADE SGS07
19	(25)	CME03P GRAPHIC ARTIST	2	GRADE SGS07
20	(26)	HDH05P HR COORDINATOR	5	GRADE SGS07
21	(27)	PPR02P PROCUREMENT COORDINATOR	1	GRADE SGS07
22	(28)	CPR05P PUBLIC INFORMATION COORDINATOR	2	GRADE SGS07
23	(29)	ILS03I LEGAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	2	GRADE SGS06
24	(30)	FFS02P FISCAL SUPPORT COORDINATOR	2	GRADE SGS06
25	(31)	TMA04P MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	4	GRADE SGS06
26	(32)	PAS01P ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	1	GRADE SGS05
27	(33)	TIW04P INVENTORY SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS05
28	(34)	PAS02P ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR	3	GRADE SGS04
29	(35)	FFS04P FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE SGS04
30	(36)	FGM01P GRANTS ANALYST	1	GRADE SGS04
31	(37)	HDH07P HR SPECIALIST	3	GRADE SGS04
32	(38)	TMA05P MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN	2	GRADE SGS03
33	(39)	PAS03P ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST	1	GRADE SGS02
34	(40)	IIA03C CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER III	1	GRADE IST14
35	(41)	IDA01C DATA ARCHITECT	1	GRADE IST13
36	(42)	IIS08C IT INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGER	1	GRADE IST11

1	(43)	IAS06C APPLICATIONS SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	2	GRADE IST10
2	(44)	IIS07C IT INFRASTRUCTURE ENGINEER	1	GRADE IST10
3	(45)	IDM01P DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR	1	GRADE IST09
4	(46)	IIS01P IT COORDINATOR	2	GRADE IST08
5	(47)	IAS01P APPLICATIONS ANALYST I	1	GRADE IST07
6	(48)	IDN01P DATA ANALYST	2	GRADE IST07
7	(49)	IUS02P USER SUPPORT COORDINATOR	3	GRADE IST05
8	(50)	TMA03P MAINTENANCE SPECIALIST	3	GRADE SGS04
9	(51)	IIP03P IT SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER	<u>1</u>	GRADE IST10
10		MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	88	

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12 SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP - SHARED SERVICES PAYING ACCOUNT. There is

13 hereby authorized, for the Department of Education - Shared Services Paying

14 Account for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of part-

15 time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from funds

16 appropriated herein for such purposes: six (6) temporary or part-time

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

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

19 for the appropriate classification.

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21 SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - SHARED SERVICES PAYING ACCOUNT. There is

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

23 paying account as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for

24 personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Education -

25 Shared Services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

27	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
28	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
29	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$6,776,073
30	(02) EXTRA HELP	80,000
31	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	2,228,979
32	(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
33	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	100,000
34	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	10,000
35	(C) PROF. FEES	0
36	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0

1	(E) DATA PROC.	0
2	(05) PROMOTIONAL ITEMS	<u>300,000</u>
3	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$9,495,052</u>

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5 SECTION 4. REGULAR SALARIES - STATE OPERATIONS. There is hereby

6 established for the Department of Education - Division of Elementary and

7 Secondary Education - State Operations for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the

8 following maximum number of regular employees.

10				Maximum Annual
11				Salary Rate
12	Item Class		Maximum	Fiscal Year
13	No. Code Title		No. of	2026-2027
			Employees	
14	(1) EEX11A CHIEF PROGRAMS DIRECTOR		2	GRADE EXE03
15	(2) EEA02C EDUCATION DIVISION DIRECTOR		3	GRADE SPC09
16	(3) EEA01C EDUCATION DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR		4	GRADE SPC08
17	(4) EEP02C EDUCATION PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR		2	GRADE SPC07
18	(5) FAC10C CONTROLLER		1	GRADE SPC06
19	(6) EEP04C EDUCATION PROGRAM MANAGER		1	GRADE SPC06
20	(7) EES03P EDUCATION PROFESSIONAL SUPV/EXP		7	GRADE SPC06
21	(8) FIN03P FINANCE SUPERVISOR/EXPERT		1	GRADE SPC06
22	(9) EES02P EDUCATION PROFESSIONAL II		17	GRADE SPC04
23	(10) FAC02P ACCOUNTANT II		4	GRADE SPC02
24	(11) EES01P EDUCATION PROFESSIONAL I		107	GRADE SPC02
25	(12) SIA23P PUBLIC SAFETY SUPERVISOR/EXPERT		1	GRADE SGS08
26	(13) PQA04P QUALITY ASSURANCE SUPERVISOR/EXP		2	GRADE SGS08
27	(14) FGM03C GRANTS MANAGER		1	GRADE SGS07
28	(15) PAS08I EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT		3	GRADE SGS07
29	(16) EEP03P EDUCATION PROGRAM COORDINATOR		27	GRADE SGS07
30	(17) FFS05P FISCAL SUPPORT SUPERVISOR/EXPERT		4	GRADE SGS07
31	(18) HDH05P HR COORDINATOR		2	GRADE SGS07
32	(19) IIV05P INVESTIGATOR SUPERVISOR/EXPERT		1	GRADE SGS07
33	(20) PPE04P PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY SUPERVISOR/EXP		1	GRADE SGS07
34	(21) CPR05P PUBLIC INFORMATION COORDINATOR		2	GRADE SGS07
35	(22) PQA01P QUALITY ASSURANCE COORDINATOR		9	GRADE SGS07
36	(23) CTR02P TRAINER		1	GRADE SGS07

1	(24)	ILS03I LEGAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	2	GRADE SGS06
2	(25)	EEP05P EDUCATION PROGRAM SPECIALIST	1	GRADE SGS06
3	(26)	FFS02P FISCAL SUPPORT COORDINATOR	12	GRADE SGS06
4	(27)	IIV04P INVESTIGATOR III	1	GRADE SGS06
5	(28)	PAS01P ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	16	GRADE SGS05
6	(29)	FGM02P GRANTS COORDINATOR	1	GRADE SGS05
7	(30)	PPR04P PROCUREMENT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE SGS05
8	(31)	PAS02P ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR	28	GRADE SGS04
9	(32)	EEC04P EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM SPECIALIST	5	GRADE SGS04
10	(33)	FFS04P FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	3	GRADE SGS04
11	(34)	FGM01P GRANTS ANALYST	4	GRADE SGS04
12	(35)	PAS09P LICENSING COORDINATOR	6	GRADE SGS03
13	(36)	TMA05P MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN	1	GRADE SGS03
14	(37)	PAS03P ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST	24	GRADE SGS02
15	(38)	MNU06P REGISTERED NURSE	1	GRADE MED05
16	(39)	IAS01P APPLICATIONS ANALYST I	8	GRADE IST07
17	(40)	IDN01P DATA ANALYST	3	GRADE IST07
18	(41)	IAS08I WEBSITE SPECIALIST	1	GRADE IST05
19	(42)	IUS01P USER SUPPORT ANALYST	1	GRADE IST04
20	(43)	IUS04P USER SUPPORT SPECIALIST	3	GRADE IST02
21	(44)	EEC01C EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR	1	GRADE SGS10
22	(45)	EEC02P EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM COORDINATOR	3	GRADE SGS06
23	(46)	EEP06P EDUCATION PROGRAM SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	3	GRADE SGS10
24	(47)	FAC01P ACCOUNTANT I	1	GRADE SPC01
25	(48)	IIS01P IT COORDINATOR	1	GRADE IST08
26	(49)	SPS08P SCHOOL SAFETY COORDINATOR	<u>1</u>	GRADE LES07
27		MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	335	

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29 SECTION 5. EXTRA HELP - STATE OPERATIONS. There is hereby authorized,

30 for the Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary

31 Education - State Operations for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following

32 maximum number of part-time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra

33 Help", payable from funds appropriated herein for such purposes: eight (8)

34 temporary or part-time employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed

35 those provided in the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its

36 successor, or this act for the appropriate classification.

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SECTION 6. APPROPRIATION - STATE OPERATIONS. 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 - State Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$13,840,817
(02) EXTRA HELP	160,000
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	4,879,844
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	3,411,057
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	60,000
(C) PROF. FEES	25,000
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	100,000
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$22,476,718</u>

SECTION 7. APPROPRIATION - FEDERAL GRANTS ADMINISTRATION. 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 Elementary and Secondary Education - Federal Grants Administration for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$254,677
(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	88,477
(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	49,970
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	19,672
(C) PROF. FEES	260,000

1	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
2	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
3	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$672,796</u></u>

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 5 SECTION 8. APPROPRIATION - BUILDING MAINTENANCE. There is hereby
 6 appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the
 7 Educational Buildings Maintenance Fund, for operating expenses of the
 8 Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education -
 9 Building Maintenance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

11	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
12	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
13	(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
14	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$500,000
15	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
16	(C) PROF. FEES	0
17	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
18	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
19	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$500,000</u></u>

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 21 SECTION 9. APPROPRIATION - REVOLVING LOAN CERTIFICATES PROGRAM. There
 22 is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from
 23 the Education Revolving Loan Certificates Fund, for personal services,
 24 operating expenses, and loans to school districts by the Department of
 25 Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education - Revolving Loan
 26 Certificates Fund for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

28	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
29	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
30	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$54,790
31	(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	20,856
32	(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
33	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	27,500
34	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	2,500
35	(C) PROF. FEES	10,000
36	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0

1	(E) DATA PROC.	0
2	(04) LOANS TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS	13,000,000
3	(05) LOANS TO OPEN-ENROLLMENT PUBLIC	
4	CHARTER SCHOOLS	<u>10,000,000</u>
5	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$23,115,646</u>

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7 SECTION 10. APPROPRIATION - CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM. There is hereby
 8 appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the federal
 9 funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal
 10 services, operating expenses, aid and reimbursements of the Department of
 11 Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education - Child Nutrition
 12 Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

14	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
15	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
16	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$1,102,449
17	(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	418,688
18	(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
19	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	1,172,100
20	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	10,000
21	(C) PROF. FEES	100,000
22	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	50,000
23	(E) DATA PROC.	0
24	(04) SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE/NUTRITION ED	425,099,000
25	(05) REFUNDS/REIMBURSEMENTS	<u>450,000</u>
26	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$428,402,237</u>

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28 SECTION 11. EXTRA HELP - FEDERAL ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION.
 29 There is hereby authorized, for the Department of Education - Division of
 30 Elementary and Secondary Education - Federal Elementary and Secondary
 31 Education for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of
 32 part-time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from
 33 funds appropriated herein for such purposes: four (4) temporary or part-time
 34 employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the
 35 Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act
 36 for the appropriate classification.

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SECTION 12. APPROPRIATION - FEDERAL ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION.
 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, aid and reimbursements of the Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education - Federal Elementary and Secondary Education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$4,282,186
(02) EXTRA HELP	60,000
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	1,608,156
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	91,242,005
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	100,000
(C) PROF. FEES	1,500,000
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	200,000
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(05) ENTITLEMENT GRANT PROGRAMS	1,181,832,710
(06) REFUNDS/REIMBURSEMENTS	<u>1,110,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$1,281,935,057</u>

SECTION 13. APPROPRIATION - MULTIPLE GRANT AWARD 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 operating expenses and grants by the Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education - Multiple Grant Award Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$422,000
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	16,500

1	(C) PROF. FEES	40,000
2	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	100,000
3	(E) DATA PROC.	0
4	(02) MULTIPLE GRANT AWARDS	<u>1,900,000</u>
5	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$2,478,500</u>

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7 SECTION 14. APPROPRIATION - MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM. There is

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

9 cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal

10 Officer of the State, for Medicaid reimbursement and administration of the

11 Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education -

12 Medicaid Reimbursement Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the

13 following:

15	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
16	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
17	(01) REFUNDS/REIMBURSEMENTS	\$13,659,017
18	(02) MEDICAID ADMIN	<u>10,500</u>
19	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$13,669,517</u>

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21 SECTION 15. APPROPRIATION - ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM. There

22 is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from

23 the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief

24 Fiscal Officer of the State, for operating expenses and grants by the

25 Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education -

26 Alternative Certification Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027,

27 the following:

29	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
30	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
31	(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
32	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$27,367
33	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	8,500
34	(C) PROF. FEES	35,420
35	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
36	(E) DATA PROC.	0

1	(02) ALT. CERT. PROG. GRANTS AND AID	<u>827,925</u>
2	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$899,212</u></u>

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 4 SECTION 16. APPROPRIATION - CONFERENCES. There is hereby appropriated,
 5 to the Department of Education, to be payable from the cash fund deposited in
 6 the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State,
 7 for operating expenses of conferences sponsored by the Department of
 8 Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education - Conferences for
 9 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

11	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
12	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
13	(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
14	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$400,000
15	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	25,000
16	(C) PROF. FEES	50,000
17	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
18	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
19	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$475,000</u></u>

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 21 SECTION 17. APPROPRIATION - MEDICAID ADMINISTRATION CLAIMING PROGRAM.
 22 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable
 23 from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief
 24 Fiscal Officer of the State, for reimbursement of school districts for
 25 administrative activities that support the Arkansas Medicaid Program of the
 26 Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education -
 27 Medicaid Administration Claiming Program for the fiscal year ending June 30,
 28 2027, the following:

30	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
31	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
32	(01) AR MEDICAID ADMIN CLAIMS	<u><u>\$45,000,000</u></u>

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 34 SECTION 18. APPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS BETTER CHANCE PROGRAM -
 35 ADMINISTRATION. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of
 36 Education, to be payable from the Division of Elementary and Secondary

1 Education Fund Account, for personal services and operating expenses of the
 2 Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education -
 3 Arkansas Better Chance Program - Administration for the fiscal year ending
 4 June 30, 2027, the following:

6 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
7 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
8 (01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$611,206
9 (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	231,426
10 (03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
11 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	1,245,291
12 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	3,917
13 (C) PROF. FEES	297,610
14 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
15 (E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
16 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$2,389,450</u></u>

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 18 SECTION 19. REGULAR SALARIES - PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE STANDARDS BOARD.
 19 There is hereby established for the Department of Education - Division of
 20 Elementary and Secondary Education - Professional Licensure Standards Board
 21 for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular
 22 employees.

24	Maximum Annual
25	Salary Rate
26 Item Class	Fiscal Year
27 <u>No. Code Title</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
28 (1) LAT05P ATTORNEY III	1 GRADE SPC08
29 (2) ILS03I LEGAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	1 GRADE SGS06
30 (3) FFS02P FISCAL SUPPORT COORDINATOR	1 GRADE SGS06
31 (4) IIV04P INVESTIGATOR III	4 GRADE SGS06
32 (5) PAS01P ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	2 GRADE SGS05
33 (6) PAS02P ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR	<u>2</u> GRADE SGS04
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 of the Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary
 5 Education - Professional Licensure Standards Board for the fiscal year ending
 6 June 30, 2027, the following:

8 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
9 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</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>

20
 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, 2027, the following:

29 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
30 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
31 (01) CHARTER SCHOOL CLOSURE	<u>\$300,000</u>

32
 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, 2027, the following:

6 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
7 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</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, 2027,
 15 the following:

17 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
18 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</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, 2027, the following:

28 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
29 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
30 (01) EDUCATIONAL FREEDOM ACCOUNTS	<u>\$277,487,318</u>

31
 32 SECTION 25. APPROPRIATION - ASTHMA TRAINING AND TREATMENT PROGRAM
 33 GRANTS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be
 34 payable from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by
 35 the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for grants for expenses related to
 36 providing asthma treatment in local school districts, asthma treatment

1 equipment for school districts, school personnel training, and monitoring and
 2 tracking of asthma cases in local public school districts by the Department
 3 of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education for the fiscal
 4 year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) ASTHMA TRAINING AND TREATMENT PROGRAM GRANTS	<u>\$1,000,000</u>

9
 10 SECTION 26. APPROPRIATION - OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME PROGRAM GRANTS. There
 11 is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from
 12 the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief
 13 Fiscal Officer of the State, for a grant program for comprehensive out-of-
 14 school time programs for school aged children which shall provide evidence-
 15 based academic enhancement programs and activities that align with and
 16 support state curriculum standards by the Department of Education - Division
 17 of Elementary and Secondary Education for the fiscal year ending June 30,
 18 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME PROGRAM GRANTS	<u>\$3,900,000</u>

23
 24 SECTION 27. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
 25 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.
 26 CARRY FORWARD. Notwithstanding any law pertaining to the transfer of year-end
 27 fund balances or any law to the contrary, any funds which remain in the
 28 Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Fund Account at the end of a
 29 fiscal year shall remain in the Division of Elementary and Secondary
 30 Education Fund Account and be made available to fund appropriation(s)
 31 authorized by law and made payable from the Division of Elementary and
 32 Secondary Education Fund Account for the following fiscal year.

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

- 35 (1) Prior to June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027 the Agency shall by written statement
- 36 set forth its reason(s) for the need to carry forward said funding to the

1 Department of Finance and Administration Office of Budget;

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

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

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

21 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2025~~
22 2026 through June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027.

23
24 SECTION 28. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
25 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL, AND TEMPORARY LAW. SCHOOL
26 SAFETY SET-ASIDE.

27 (a)(1) The Department of Education shall not begin the process of
28 promulgating rules for the distribution of funds in the School Safety Set-
29 Aside or Contingency Vote 3/5 Set-Aside until authorized by Legislative
30 Council.

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

34 (b) Notwithstanding other provisions of law, the Chief Fiscal Officer of
35 the State may from time to time transfer on his or her books and those of the
36 Treasurer of State and the Auditor of State funds from the Restricted Reserve

1 Fund School Safety Set-Aside or Contingency Vote 3/5 Set-Aside after
2 receiving prior approval of the greater of three-fifths (3/5) of the quorum
3 present or a majority of the membership of the Legislative Council or, if the
4 General Assembly is in session, the Joint Budget Committee, for the
5 Department of Education to distribute funds for the School Safety Grant
6 program, as approved in this section as set out in subsection (a) herein, or
7 for the distribution of funds from this set-aside for unanticipated state
8 needs.

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

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

13 (B) Determining the maximum amount of appropriation and funding for a
14 state agency or institution is usually accomplished by delineating the
15 maximum amounts in the appropriation acts for the state agency or institution
16 and in the general revenue allocations authorized for each relevant fund and
17 fund account by amendment to the Revenue Stabilization Law, § 19-20-101 et
18 seq.; and

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

22 (2)(A) It is necessary and appropriate that the General Assembly
23 maintain oversight by requiring prior approval of the Legislative Council or,
24 if the General Assembly is in session, the Joint Budget Committee, as
25 provided in § 19-27-317(c).

26 (B) The requirement of approval by the Legislative Council or, if the
27 General Assembly is in session, the Joint Budget Committee, is not a
28 severable part of § 19-27-317.

29 (C) If the requirement of approval by the Legislative Council or, if
30 the General Assembly is in session, the Joint Budget Committee, is ruled
31 unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, § 19-27-317(c)-(e) are
32 void in their entirety.

33 (d) The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1,
34 ~~2025~~ 2026 through June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027.

35
36 SECTION 29. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS

1 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

2 ESTABLISHMENT OF A "POSITION POOL". (a) To address needs emerging from
3 statewide education issues and the necessity of recruiting and retaining
4 qualified personnel, the Arkansas Department of Education or its successor
5 agency is authorized for the ~~2025-2026~~ 2026-2027 fiscal year a pool of no
6 more than five (5) Information Systems and Technology positions at a salary
7 not to exceed the maximum salary for a grade IST12. These positions are to be
8 used by the Department of Education in the event that the personal services
9 needs of the Department during the ~~2025-2026~~ 2026-2027 fiscal year require
10 additional positions, either by title or in number, that are not authorized
11 by the General Assembly in the Regular Salaries section of this Act. These
12 positions may also be used to properly classify positions when the Department
13 does not have a vacant position available with the appropriate title and
14 salary level.

15 (b) To address needs emerging from statewide education issues and the
16 necessity of recruiting and retaining qualified personnel, the Arkansas
17 Department of Education or its successor agency is authorized for the ~~2025-~~
18 ~~2026~~ 2026-2027 fiscal year a pool of ten (10) State Government Services
19 positions at up to a grade SGS12. These positions are to be used by the
20 Department of Education in the event that the personal services needs of the
21 Department during the ~~2025-2026~~ 2026-2027 fiscal year require additional
22 positions, either by classification or in number, that are not authorized by
23 the General Assembly in the Regular Salaries section of this Act. These
24 positions may also be used to properly classify positions when the Department
25 does not have a vacant position available with the appropriate title and
26 grade level.

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

31 (d) The Department of Education is authorized to access the pool
32 positions authorized in this Section at any time when it is determined by the
33 Secretary that the need exists. The Secretary shall provide a monthly report
34 of the justification for the need to allocate titles from this growth pool to
35 the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State and to the Arkansas Legislative Council
36 or Joint Budget Committee for review. The report shall also include an

1 accounting of the names, titles, and salaries of personnel whose salaries
2 have been adjusted under provisions of Subsections (a) and (b) of this
3 Section.

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

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

24 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2025~~
25 2026 through June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027.

26

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

29 SHARED SERVICES. (a)(1) The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State may create a
30 Shared Services paying accounts on his or her books and on the books of the
31 Treasurer of State and the Auditor of State for the payment of personal
32 services and operating expenses in the Shared Services Paying Account
33 Appropriation by the Department of Education.

34 (2) The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall direct the transfer
35 of funds and appropriations to the Shared Services Paying Account
36 appropriation section of this act on the books of the Treasurer of State, the

1 Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.

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

6 (4) The provisions of this section shall be in effect from the
7 date of passage through June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027.

8
9 SECTION 31. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
10 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. OUT-OF-
11 SCHOOL TIME PROGRAM GRANTS REQUIREMENTS. (a) Of the amount appropriated to
12 the Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education
13 for Out-Of-School Time Program Grants in this act, funding shall only be made
14 available to eligible entities for comprehensive out-of-school time programs
15 for school aged children.

16 (b) Eligible programs shall be limited to applicants meeting the following
17 criteria:

18 (1) Provide out-of-school time programs during the school year to school
19 aged children;

20 (2) Provide regular activities designed for evidence-based academic
21 enhancement that aligns and supports state curriculum standards and will
22 include a minimum of two of the following five activity areas:

23 (A) STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math);

24 (B) Academic support;

25 (C) Goal setting/leadership;

26 (D) Career exposure/Workforce Readiness; and

27 (E) Community service.

28 (3) Provide activities above as a part of a comprehensive out-of-school
29 program;

30 (4) Operate for a minimum of 12 hours weekly during the school year;
31 minimum of four days per week during the calendar school year; not including
32 school breaks such as holiday or seasonal;

33 (5) Collect data on participants' demographics, attendance and program
34 participation and compile statewide aggregated data;

35 (6) Implement rigorous safety standards including employee background
36 checks, compliance with mandated reporting laws; and

1 (7) Must be a qualified 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) organization that has been
2 in operation for more than 5 years and has a record of fiscal accountability.
3 Organizations must also provide a sustainability model with a minimum of 50%
4 of funding derived from non-state resources.

5 (c) The Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary
6 Education shall promulgate rules for the determination of eligibility and
7 administration of the Out-Of-School Time Program Grants.

8 (d) The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2025~~
9 2026 through June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027.

10
11 SECTION 32. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds
12 authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency
13 and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and
14 the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and
15 Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary
16 Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal
17 control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by
18 the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be
19 strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.

20
21 SECTION 33. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General
22 Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations
23 contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for
24 which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive
25 Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget
26 manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or
27 summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative
28 Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.

29
30 SECTION 34. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
31 General Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits
32 the appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the
33 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2026 is essential to the operation of
34 the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in
35 the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the
36 effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2026 could work irreparable harm

1 upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental
2 programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act
3 being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health
4 and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2026.

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