

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

A Bill

SENATE BILL 24

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 HUMAN
11 SERVICES - DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
12 SERVICES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2027;
13 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
14

Subtitle

15
16 AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
17 SERVICES - DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL
18 DISABILITIES SERVICES APPROPRIATION FOR
19 THE 2026-2027 FISCAL 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 - OPERATIONS. There is hereby established
26 for the Department of Human Services - Division of Developmental Disabilities
27 Services for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of
28 regular employees.
29

		Maximum Annual	
		Maximum	Salary Rate
Item	Class	No. of	Fiscal Year
No.	Code Title	Employees	2026-2027
34	(1) EEX22A HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION DIRECTOR	1	GRADE EXE02
35	(2) SSP03C DHS DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR	2	GRADE SPC09
36	(3) MHA01C NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATOR	5	GRADE SPC08



1	(4)	SSP04C DHS DIVISION MANAGER	3	GRADE SPC07
2	(5)	MHA02C NURSING HOME ASST ADMINISTRATOR	6	GRADE SPC06
3	(6)	PHS06C HEALTH PROGRAM MANAGER	9	GRADE SPC05
4	(7)	SLA03P LABORATORY SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SPC03
5	(8)	EES01P EDUCATION PROFESSIONAL I	1	GRADE SPC02
6	(9)	SCM06P LICENSED SOCIAL WORKER	4	GRADE SPC01
7	(10)	SCM07P SCHOOL COUNSELOR	1	GRADE SPC01
8	(11)	FFS01C FISCAL SUPPORT ADMINISTRATOR	1	GRADE SGS10
9	(12)	FFS03C FISCAL SUPPORT MANAGER	4	GRADE SGS09
10	(13)	PQA02C QUALITY ASSURANCE MANAGER	3	GRADE SGS09
11	(14)	PHS08P HEALTH PROGRAM SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	16	GRADE SGS08
12	(15)	HDH08P HR SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	5	GRADE SGS08
13	(16)	PQA04P QUALITY ASSURANCE SUPVR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS08
14	(17)	CTR04P TRAINING SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS08
15	(18)	TMA02C MAINTENANCE MANAGER	1	GRADE SGS07
16	(19)	PRC07C RESIDENTIAL CARE MANAGER	12	GRADE SGS07
17	(20)	PRC02C RESIDENTIAL SERVICES MANAGER	2	GRADE SGS07
18	(21)	FFS05P FISCAL SUPPORT SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	2	GRADE SGS07
19	(22)	PHS05P HEALTH PROGRAM COORDINATOR	104	GRADE SGS07
20	(23)	PQA01P QUALITY ASSURANCE COORDINATOR	8	GRADE SGS07
21	(24)	ETF06P TEACHER II	2	GRADE SGS07
22	(25)	CTR02P TRAINER	9	GRADE SGS07
23	(26)	PAS04C ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISOR	1	GRADE SGS06
24	(27)	SCM01I CHAPLAIN	1	GRADE SGS06
25	(28)	EEP05P EDUCATION PROGRAM SPECIALIST	7	GRADE SGS06
26	(29)	HDH04P HR ANALYST	5	GRADE SGS06
27	(30)	TMA04P MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	7	GRADE SGS06
28	(31)	PQA03P QUALITY ASSURANCE SPECIALIST	9	GRADE SGS06
29	(32)	ETF05P TEACHER I	9	GRADE SGS06
30	(33)	TFS04C FOOD SERVICES SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	8	GRADE SGS05
31	(34)	PRC06C RESIDENT. CARE TEAM SUPVR/EXPERT	85	GRADE SGS05
32	(35)	PAS01P ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	6	GRADE SGS05
33	(36)	PPR04P PROCUREMENT SPECIALIST	5	GRADE SGS05
34	(37)	TST06P TRADES APPRENTICE	1	GRADE SGS05
35	(38)	THT02I DENTAL ASSISTANT	2	GRADE SGS04
36	(39)	PAS02P ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR	45	GRADE SGS04

1	(40)	TFM01P FACILITY COORDINATOR	1	GRADE SGS04
2	(41)	FFS04P FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	17	GRADE SGS04
3	(42)	HDH07P HR SPECIALIST	11	GRADE SGS04
4	(43)	TIW01P INVENTORY COORDINATOR	5	GRADE SGS04
5	(44)	TMA03P MAINTENANCE SPECIALIST	40	GRADE SGS04
6	(45)	PRC05P RESIDENTIAL CARE SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	422	GRADE SGS04
7	(46)	TST07P TRADES SPECIALIST	2	GRADE SGS04
8	(47)	THT01I CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANT	899	GRADE SGS03
9	(48)	EEP01P EDUCATION PARAPROFESSIONAL	1	GRADE SGS03
10	(49)	TIW03P INVENTORY SPECIALIST	9	GRADE SGS03
11	(50)	TFS05P KITCHEN SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	7	GRADE SGS03
12	(51)	TMA05P MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN	38	GRADE SGS03
13	(52)	SSE01P SECURITY GUARD	1	GRADE SGS03
14	(53)	PAS05I CALL CENTER SPECIALIST	1	GRADE SGS02
15	(54)	PAS03P ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST	120	GRADE SGS02
16	(55)	THO02P HOUSEKEEPER SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	3	GRADE SGS02
17	(56)	TGR01P LANDSCAPE COORDINATOR	13	GRADE SGS02
18	(57)	TAT01I BEAUTICIAN	3	GRADE SGS01
19	(58)	TFS01P COOK	128	GRADE SGS01
20	(59)	PRC01P HEALTH AIDE	1	GRADE SGS01
21	(60)	THO01P HOUSEKEEPER	119	GRADE SGS01
22	(61)	MPH02P PHYSICIAN SPECIALIST	4	GRADE MED12
23	(62)	MDE01I DENTIST	1	GRADE MED09
24	(63)	MPS04P PSYCHOLOGIST II	3	GRADE MED09
25	(64)	MNU04P NURSE PRACTITIONER	8	GRADE MED08
26	(65)	MNU07C REGISTERED NURSE MANAGER	5	GRADE MED07
27	(66)	MLM07C SPEECH PATHOLOGIST	8	GRADE MED07
28	(67)	MDI02P DIETICIAN SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	2	GRADE MED06
29	(68)	MNU03P NURSE INSTRUCTOR	3	GRADE MED06
30	(69)	MNU08P REG. NURSE SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	24	GRADE MED06
31	(70)	MNU06P REGISTERED NURSE	73	GRADE MED05
32	(71)	MLM02C MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIST	2	GRADE MED04
33	(72)	MDI01P DIETICIAN	1	GRADE MED03
34	(73)	MPS02P PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINER	10	GRADE MED03
35	(74)	MNU01P LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE	104	GRADE MED02
36	(75)	IIS06P IT INFRASTRUCTURE COORDINATOR	1	GRADE IST08

1	(76) IIS09P IT INFRASTRUCTURE SPECIALIST	4	GRADE IST04
2	(77) IUS04P USER SUPPORT SPECIALIST	<u>1</u>	GRADE IST02
3	MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	2,490	

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5 SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP - OPERATIONS. There is hereby authorized, for
6 the Department of Human Services - Division of Developmental Disabilities
7 Services for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of part-
8 time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from funds
9 appropriated herein for such purposes: one hundred ninety-nine (199)
10 temporary or part-time employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed
11 those provided in the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its
12 successor, or this act for the appropriate classification.

13

14 SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated,
15 to the Department of Human Services, to be payable from the paying account as
16 determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal services
17 and operating expenses of the Department of Human Services - Division of
18 Developmental Disabilities Services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027,
19 the following:

21	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
22	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
23	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$104,129,983
24	(02) EXTRA HELP	2,860,944
25	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	45,142,858
26	(04) OVERTIME	4,310,000
27	(05) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
28	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	30,477,449
29	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	25,000
30	(C) PROF. FEES	3,238,079
31	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	1,000,000
32	(E) DATA PROC.	0
33	(06) GRANTS/PATIENT SERVICES	2,487,134
34	(07) DATA PROCESSING SERVICES	1,000,000
35	(08) VOCATIONAL TRAINEES	239,000
36	(09) CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENT SERVICES	67,191

1	(10) PURCHASE OF SERVICES	<u>6,805,302</u>
2	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$201,782,940</u></u>

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 4 SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - SPECIAL OLYMPICS. There is hereby
 5 appropriated, to the Department of Human Services, to be payable from the
 6 Developmental Disabilities Services Fund Account, for grants to the Arkansas
 7 Special Olympics by the Department of Human Services - Division of
 8 Developmental Disabilities Services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027,
 9 the following:

11	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
12	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
13	(01) GRANTS-SPECIAL OLYMPICS	<u><u>\$178,768</u></u>

14
 15 SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - COMMUNITY PROGRAMS. There is hereby
 16 appropriated, to the Department of Human Services, to be payable from the
 17 Developmental Disabilities Services-Dog Track Special Revenue Fund, for
 18 expenses of the private non-profit community based programs licensed by the
 19 Department of Human Services - Division of Developmental Disabilities
 20 Services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

22	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
23	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
24	(01) COMMUNITY PROGRAMS	<u><u>\$50,000</u></u>

25
 26 SECTION 6. APPROPRIATION - GRANTS-IN-AID. There is hereby
 27 appropriated, to the Department of Human Services, to be payable from the
 28 Developmental Disabilities Services Fund Account, for grants-in-aid to the
 29 community providers of services to the developmentally disabled by the
 30 Department of Human Services - Division of Developmental Disabilities
 31 Services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

33	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
34	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
35	(01) GRANTS TO COMMUNITY PROVIDERS	<u><u>\$15,892,045</u></u>

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SECTION 7. APPROPRIATION - INTER-DIVISIONAL PROGRAMS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Human Services, to be payable from the Developmental Disabilities Services Fund Account, for integrated services and programs developed by the various divisions, for services and programs developed in conjunction with other state agencies, and the development and implementation of an integrated case management system for the Department of Human Services - Division of Developmental Disabilities Services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) INTER-DIVISIONAL PROGRAMS	<u>\$108,644</u>

SECTION 8. APPROPRIATION - GRANTS - STATE. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Human Services, to be payable from the Department of Human Services Grants Fund Account, for grant payments of the Department of Human Services - Division of Developmental Disabilities Services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) CHILDREN'S MEDICAL SERVICES-STATE	<u>\$1,729,279</u>

SECTION 9. APPROPRIATION - GRANTS - FEDERAL. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Human Services, to be payable from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for federally funded grants of the Department of Human Services - Division of Developmental Disabilities Services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) CHILDREN'S MEDICAL SERVICES-FEDERAL	<u>\$446,205</u>

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

1 DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES - GRANTS TO COMMUNITY BASED PROVIDERS. Funds
2 allocated for community-based services under the appropriation for (i) the
3 Grants-in-Aid appropriation in this act, (ii) the Grants/Patient Services
4 Line in the Operations appropriation in this act, and (iii) the Inter-
5 Divisional Programs appropriation in this act, shall be used only to provide
6 services through private community based services licensed or certified by
7 the Arkansas Division of Developmental Disabilities Services (DDS) or
8 licensed or certified by a Provider-Led Arkansas Shared Savings Entity
9 (PASSE). Non-profit community-based programs licensed by the Division of
10 Developmental Disabilities Services are quasi-governmental instrumentalities
11 of the state which provide supports and services to individuals who have a
12 developmental disability or delay, who would otherwise require supports and
13 services through state-operated programs and facilities owned by the State of
14 Arkansas. When licensed providers are involved in delivering services which
15 are Medicaid reimbursable, they must enroll as a provider with the Arkansas
16 Medicaid Program and must bill the Arkansas Medicaid Program for all covered
17 services for eligible individuals.

18 Services which are covered by the Arkansas State Medicaid Program,
19 including the Provider-Led Arkansas Shared Savings Entity (PASSE) model, will
20 be utilized to the maximum extent possible for any individual who is eligible
21 for Medicaid coverage. It is the intent of this section that DDS, as a
22 general policy, maximize the use of Medicaid funding available for
23 appropriate services.

24 Licensed private community providers funded from these appropriations for
25 community based services shall:

- 26 1. Screen each individual to whom services are provided for a determination
27 of eligibility or ineligibility for Medicaid coverage within thirty days of
28 the first date that services are provided.
- 29 2. Meet minimum standards of performance in the delivery of services to
30 people with disabilities as defined by the Department of Human Services -
31 Division of Developmental Disabilities Services.
- 32 3. Supply statistical and financial data to the Department of Human Services
33 - Division of Developmental Disabilities Services.
- 34 4. Establish and maintain a sound financial management system in accordance
35 with guidelines as set forth by the Department of Human Services.
- 36 5. Establish and maintain community support programs designed to provide

1 coordinated care and treatment to ensure ongoing involvement and
2 individualized services for persons with disabilities.
3 It is the intent of this section to insure that wherever possible and
4 appropriate, Medicaid funds are utilized.

5 Nothing in this Act shall prevent the Division or any provider from
6 extending emergency services when appropriate measures have been taken in a
7 timely manner to secure Medicaid eligibility.

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

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11 SECTION 11. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
12 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

13 ELIMINATION OF AUTISM WAIVER SERVICES WAITING LIST. Immediately upon the
14 effective date of this Act, the Department of Human Services - Division of
15 Developmental Disabilities Services shall budget, allocate, and expend up to
16 one million dollars (\$1,000,000) for the elimination of the Autism Waiver
17 Services Program waiting list.

18 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1,
19 ~~2025~~ 2026 through June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027.

20

21 SECTION 12. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds
22 authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency
23 and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and
24 the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and
25 Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary
26 Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal
27 control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by
28 the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be
29 strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.

30

31 SECTION 13. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General
32 Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations
33 contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for
34 which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive
35 Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget
36 manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or

1 summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative
2 Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.

3
4 SECTION 14. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
5 General Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits
6 the appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the
7 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2026 is essential to the operation of
8 the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in
9 the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the
10 effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2026 could work irreparable harm
11 upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental
12 programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act
13 being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health
14 and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2026.