

Stricken language will be deleted and underlined language will be added.  
Act 870 of the Regular Session

State of Arkansas      *As Engrossed: S1/30/23 S2/13/23 S4/3/23*  
94th General Assembly      **A Bill**  
Regular Session, 2023

SENATE BILL 75

By: Joint Budget Committee

**For An Act To Be Entitled**

AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR PERSONAL SERVICES  
AND OPERATING EXPENSES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION - DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR THE  
FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2024; AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES.

**Subtitle**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION -  
DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2023-2024 FISCAL  
YEAR.

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

SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES - GENERAL OPERATIONS. There is hereby established for the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.

Item No.	Class Code	Title	Maximum	Maximum Annual
			No. of Employees	Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2023-2024
(1)	U024U	DHE DIRECTOR	1	GRADE SE05
(2)	D022N	IT SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER	1	GRADE IT09
(3)	D012C	DATABASE SPECIALIST	2	GRADE IT08
(4)	D007C	INFORMATION SYSTEMS MANAGER	1	GRADE IT08



(5)	D028C SENIOR SOFTWARE SUPPORT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE IT07
(6)	D016C SENIOR TECHNOLOGY ANALYST	1	GRADE IT06
(7)	G281C ADE POLICY & SPECIAL PROJECTS DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS15
(8)	N002N DHE SENIOR ASSOC DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS15
(9)	N069N ADE SPECIAL ADVISOR	1	GRADE GS14
(10)	N055N DHE ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS14
(11)	A010C AGENCY CONTROLLER II	1	GRADE GS13
(12)	N054N DHE CAREER PATHWAYS DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS13
(13)	N167N DHS POLICY & RESEARCH DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS12
(14)	A027C ACCOUNTING OPERATIONS MANAGER	1	GRADE GS11
(15)	G058C DHE FEDERAL PROGRAM MANAGER	2	GRADE GS11
(16)	E061C ACE PROGRAM COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS10
(17)	G071C DHE PROGRAM COORDINATOR	6	GRADE GS10
(18)	E062C ACE PROGRAM ADVISOR	2	GRADE GS09
(19)	G102C DHE PROGRAM SPECIALIST	18	GRADE GS09
(20)	G080C NATIONAL & COMMUNITY SVCS EXEC. DIR.	1	GRADE GS09
(21)	G295C OSTEOPATHIC RURAL MED PROG ADMIN	1	GRADE GS09
(22)	P005C DHE COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS08
(23)	G147C GRANTS COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS07
(24)	G176C VOLUNTEER PROGRAM MANAGER	1	GRADE GS07
(25)	G214C GRANTS SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS06
(26)	A084C PROGRAM/FIELD AUDIT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS06
(27)	G202C VOLUNTEER PROGRAM COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS06
(28)	C056C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III	1	GRADE GS04
(29)	C073C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST II	<u>1</u>	GRADE GS03
	MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	54	

SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP - GENERAL OPERATIONS. There is hereby authorized, for the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the following maximum number of part-time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from funds appropriated herein for such purposes: fifteen (15) temporary or part-time employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act for the appropriate classification.

SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - GENERAL OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Division of Higher Education Fund Account, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - General Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$2,157,909
(02) EXTRA HELP	75,000
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	691,934
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	959,346
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	24,659
(C) PROF. FEES	50,000
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(05) STATEWIDE SCHOLARSHIP AND GRANT	
PROMOTION	<u>295,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$4,253,848</u></u>

SECTION 4. EXTRA HELP - STATE BOARD OF PRIVATE CAREER EDUCATION. There is hereby authorized, for the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - State Board of Private Career Education for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the following maximum number of part-time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from funds appropriated herein for such purposes: two (2) temporary or part-time employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act for the appropriate classification.

SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - STATE BOARD OF PRIVATE CAREER EDUCATION - OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Private Career Education Fund, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - State Board of Private Career Education - Operations for the

fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$161,777
(02) EXTRA HELP	20,000
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	51,726
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	63,000
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	4,000
(C) PROF. FEES	6,000
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$306,503</u></u>

SECTION 6. APPROPRIATION - STUDENT ASSISTANCE GRANTS AND VARIOUS SCHOLARSHIPS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Higher Education Grants Fund Account, for providing student assistance grants and various scholarships as provided by law of the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - Student Assistance Grants and Various Scholarships for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
(01) ARKANSAS FUTURE GRANTS	\$5,000,000
(02) NATIONAL GUARD TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM	1,400,000
(03) SINGLE PARENT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM	175,000
(04) STATE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM	4,000,000
(05) TEACHER OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM	2,500,000
(06) AR GEOGRAPHICAL CRITICAL NEEDS MINORITY TEACHER SCHOLARSHIPS	150,000
(07) DEPENDENTS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS, ETC SCHOLARSHIPS	400,000
(08) DEPENDENTS OF POWS, MIAS,	

KIAS-TUITION WAIVER SCHOLARSHIPS	1,500,000
(09) GOVERNOR'S HIGHER EDUCATION TRANSITION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM	2,000,000
(10) SREB MINORITY DOCTORAL SCHOLARS	175,000
(11) WASHINGTON CENTER SCHOLARSHIPS	150,000
(12) TUITION ADJUSTMENT	350,000
(13) AR ACADEMIC CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIPS	25,000,000
(14) AR GOVERNOR'S SCHOLAR	22,000,000
(15) STUDENT UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM (SURF)	<u>150,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$64,950,000</u></u>

SECTION 7. APPROPRIATION - TECHNICAL EDUCATION - FEDERAL PROGRAMS.

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 Higher Education - Technical Education - Federal Programs for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$152,979
(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	49,014
(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	108,271
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	80,000
(C) PROF. FEES	157,000
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$547,264</u></u>

SECTION 8. APPROPRIATION - RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Research Development Fund, for providing Arkansas Research Development Program Grants to Institutions of Higher Education by the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education for the fiscal year ending June 30,

2024, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
(01) RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM	
GRANTS	<u>\$1,000,000</u>

SECTION 9. APPROPRIATION - HEALTH EDUCATION GRANTS AND LOANS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Higher Education Grants Fund Account, for payments of contracts and loans with participating out-of-state institutions of higher learning in the fields of dentistry, optometry, veterinary medicine, chiropractic, and podiatry for the education of Arkansas citizens by the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - Health Education Grants and Loans for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
(01) CHIROPRACTIC AID	\$260,000
(02) DENTAL AID - GRANTS	2,950,000
(03) OPTOMETRY AID - GRANTS	650,000
(04) PODIATRY AID	130,400
(05) VETERINARY AID FORGIVENESS PROGRAM	1,750,000
(06) DENTAL AID - LOANS	987,370
(07) OPTOMETRY AID - LOANS	140,000
(08) VETERINARY MED. LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM	<u>250,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$7,117,770</u>

SECTION 10. APPROPRIATION - CASH. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for operating expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - Cash for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
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NO.	2023-2024
(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$269,233
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	32,865
(C) PROF. FEES	63,932
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(02) SCHOLARSHIPS	<u>50,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$416,030</u></u>

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

There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for operating expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - Private Career Education Board - Cash for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$9,500
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	6,000
(C) PROF. FEES	5,000
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$20,500</u></u>

SECTION 12. APPROPRIATION - STUDENT PROTECTION TRUST. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Private Career School Student Protection Trust Fund, for expenses, claims and fees of the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - State Board of Private Career Education - Student Protection Trust for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
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(01) EXPENSES/CLAIMS/FEES \$300,000

SECTION 13. APPROPRIATION - TANF PROGRAM - FEDERAL. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal services, operating expenses, grants and aid by the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - TANF Program - Federal for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$280,701
(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	87,816
(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	80,000
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	60,000
(C) PROF. FEES	70,000
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(04) SELF SUFFICIENCY/JOB TRAINING GRANTS	6,821,431
(05) ENROLLMENT AND EDUCATION	<u>3,000,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$10,399,948</u>

SECTION 14. APPROPRIATION - WEB BASED APPLICATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Higher Education Grants Fund Account, for personal services and operating expenses associated with web based applications of the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - Web Based Applications for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
(01) WEB BASED APPLICATIONS PERSONAL SERVICES AND OPERATING EXPENSES	<u>\$1,000,000</u>

SECTION 15. APPROPRIATION - SCHOLARSHIP ADMINISTRATION. There is

hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Higher Education Grants Fund Account, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - Scholarship Administration for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$467,936
(02) EXTRA HELP	10,000
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	163,738
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	500,000
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	30,000
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$1,171,674</u></u>

SECTION 16. APPROPRIATION - WORKFORCE INITIATIVE ACT OF 2015. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Workforce Initiative Act of 2015 Fund, for workforce education grants, administrative and operating expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - Workforce Initiative Act of 2015 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
(01) WORKFORCE INITIATIVE ACT OF 2015 EXPENSES	<u><u>\$8,000,000</u></u>

SECTION 17. APPROPRIATION - VETERAN'S APPROVING AGENCY - FEDERAL. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - Veteran's Approving Agency -

Federal for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$217,507
(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	77,703
(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	53,546
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	9,623
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$358,379</u></u>

SECTION 18. APPROPRIATION - AMERICORPS - OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Division of Higher Education Fund Account, for personal services, operating expenses, and grants and aid by the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - AmeriCorps - Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$314,152
(02) EXTRA HELP	30,000
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	116,071
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	363,650
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	85,650
(C) PROF. FEES	2,500
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(05) GRANTS AND AID	<u>50,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$962,023</u></u>

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

hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Division of Higher Education Fund Account, for grants and aid by the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - AmeriCorps - Grants and Aid for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
(01) GRANTS AND AID	<u>\$2,010,704</u>

SECTION 20. APPROPRIATION - OSTEOPATHIC RURAL MEDICAL PRACTICE STUDENT LOAN AND SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Higher Education Grants Fund Account, for Osteopathic Rural Medical Practice Student Loan & Scholarship Program loans and/or scholarships by the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - Osteopathic Rural Medical Practice Student Loan and Scholarship Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
(01) OSTEOPATHIC RURAL MEDICAL PRACTICE STUDENT LOANS/SCHOLARSHIP	<u>\$400,000</u>

SECTION 21. APPROPRIATION - GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION RESIDENCY EXPANSION BOARD. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Graduate Medical Education Fund, for planning grants to eligible entities for graduate medical education residency program expansion or new programs, and for board expenses and reimbursements of the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
(01) GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION RESIDENCY EXPANSION BOARD	<u>\$10,000,000</u>

SECTION 22. APPROPRIATION - HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND

UNIVERSITIES GRANTS AND EXPANSES. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Higher Education Grants Fund Account, for grants for scholarships to Historically Black Colleges and Universities and for personal services and operating expenses as determined by the Division of Higher Education for outreach programs to promote awareness of those scholarships of the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - HBCU Grants and Expenses for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
(01) HBCU GRANTS AND EXPENSES	<u>\$4,000,000</u>

SECTION 23. APPROPRIATION - NURSING PROGRAM EXPANSION GRANTS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Workforce Initiative Act of 2015 Fund, for grants for the expansion or creation of nursing programs at eligible institutions of higher education statewide by the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
(01) NURSING PROGRAM EXPANSION GRANTS	<u>\$3,000,000</u>

*SECTION 24. APPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS TEACHER ACADEMY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship Program Fund, for scholarships, personal services, and operating expenses necessary to create and maintain the Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship Program by the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - Arkansas Teacher Academy Scholarship Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:*

<i>ITEM</i>	<i>FISCAL YEAR</i>
<i><u>NO.</u></i>	<i><u>2023-2024</u></i>
<i>(01) ARKANSAS TEACHER ACADEMY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM</i>	<i><u>\$12,000,000</u></i>

SECTION 25. REGULAR SALARIES - NORTHWEST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE. There is hereby established for the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - Northwest Technical Institute for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.

Item No.	Class Code	Title	Maximum No. of Employees	Maximum Annual Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2023-2024
(1)	N227N	NORTHWEST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE DIRECTOR	1	GRADE SE01
(2)	D054C	COMPUTER SUPPORT COORDINATOR	1	GRADE IT05
(3)	D063C	COMPUTER SUPPORT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE IT05
(4)	D068C	INFORMATION SYSTEMS ANALYST	1	GRADE IT04
(5)	E077C	NWTI AMMONIA REFRIGN TECH SPEC & TRG	1	GRADE GS13
(6)	E009C	TECHNICAL INSTITUTE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	2	GRADE GS12
(7)	E071C	AMMONIA & INDUSTRIAL TRAINER	2	GRADE GS10
(8)	E013C	EDUCATION PROGRAM MANAGER	5	GRADE GS10
(9)	E078C	NWTI BUSINESS & INDUSTRY COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS10
(10)	E022C	EDUCATION & INSTRUCTION MANAGER	2	GRADE GS09
(11)	R014C	PERSONNEL MANAGER	1	GRADE GS08
(12)	E018C	SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL FACULTY	12	GRADE GS08
(13)	E027C	CAREER & TECHNICAL FACULTY	29	GRADE GS07
(14)	C010C	EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS07
(15)	S017C	MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS07
(16)	G144C	TECHNICAL INSTITUTE PRG COORDINATOR	2	GRADE GS07
(17)	C037C	ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	1	GRADE GS06
(18)	S033C	MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR	1	GRADE GS06
(19)	C035C	ASST REGISTRAR	1	GRADE GS05
(20)	G218C	STUDENT RECRUITMENT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS05
(21)	C056C	ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III	5	GRADE GS04
(22)	A098C	FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS04
(23)	A100C	PAYROLL OFFICER	1	GRADE GS04
(24)	C073C	ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST II	4	GRADE GS03
(25)	S050C	MAINTENANCE SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS03
(26)	S065C	MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT	<u>2</u>	GRADE GS01
		MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	81	

SECTION 26. EXTRA HELP - NORTHWEST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE. There is hereby authorized, for the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - Northwest Technical Institute for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the following maximum number of part-time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from funds appropriated herein for such purposes: one hundred thirty-five (135) temporary or part-time employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act for the appropriate classification.

SECTION 27. APPROPRIATION - NORTHWEST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE - STATE. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the Northwest Technical Institute Fund, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - Northwest Technical Institute - State for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$3,585,355
(02) EXTRA HELP	516,673
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	1,274,568
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	639,564
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	44,866
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$6,061,026</u></u>

SECTION 28. APPROPRIATION - NORTHWEST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE - FEDERAL. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - Northwest Technical Institute -

Federal for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$50,322
(02) EXTRA HELP	245,000
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	38,576
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	14,278
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$348,176</u></u>

SECTION 29. APPROPRIATION - NORTHWEST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE - CASH.

There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Education, to be payable from cash funds as defined by Arkansas Code 19-4-801, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education - Northwest Technical Institute - Cash for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$967,161
(02) EXTRA HELP	556,450
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	462,988
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	1,394,530
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	15,000
(C) PROF. FEES	375,000
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	200,000
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(05) RESALE	<u>325,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$4,296,129</u></u>

SECTION 30. SPECIAL LANGUAGE - CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code Title 25,

Chapter 7, Subchapter 1, is amended to add an additional section to codify special language in appropriation acts to read as follows:

25-7-103. Emergency grants – Extra help pool.

(a) An institution of higher education affected by a disaster emergency resulting in the interruption of all or a significant portion of campus operations may request disaster assistance through the Division of Higher Education.

(b) Upon the declaration of a disaster emergency by the Governor under § 12-75-107, an institution of higher education affected by the disaster emergency may request, subject to the recommendation of the Director of the Division of Higher Education and approval by the Governor, a grant from the Disaster Relief Fund to:

(1) Return the institution of higher education to normal operations; or

(2)(A) Enable a campus that is part of and incorporated into the institution of higher education affected by the disaster emergency to provide services to the students enrolled in the campus of the institution of higher education affected by the disaster emergency.

(B) A certified law enforcement officer employed by an institution of higher education during the declaration of a disaster emergency by the Governor under § 12-75-107 may be granted jurisdiction at a campus that is part of and incorporated into the institution of higher education affected by the disaster emergency upon agreement of both campuses.

(c)(1) The division is authorized a pool of five hundred (500) extra help positions for use in an emergency or a disaster event.

(2) The extra help positions authorized under subdivision (c)(1) of this section may be assigned to:

(A) The campus affected by the disaster emergency; or

(B) A campus that is part of and incorporated into the institution of higher education affected by the disaster emergency that is providing services to the students enrolled in the campus affected by the disaster emergency.

(3) The Governor may waive the restriction on periods of time during which an employee may be employed as extra help during a fiscal year under § 6-63-314.

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

DHE - REALLOCATION OF RESOURCES FOR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION. Upon determination by the president or chancellor of an institution of higher education that a reallocation of resources for purposes of reorganization or consolidation of administrative functions within the institution is necessary for efficient and effective operations of the institution, the president or chancellor, with approval of the institution's board of trustees, may have the authority to transfer positions, appropriations and related funds between campuses, divisions, branches, and other budgetary units of the institution, after receiving prior approval of the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee. The transfers of positions, programs, or activities shall be used for those purposes for which the appropriations were approved by the General Assembly. The transfers, consolidations, or reorganizations which involve academic programs shall be reviewed by the Division of Higher Education prior to submission to the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee. Provided, however, that the institution shall be limited to submitting no more than two (2) individual transaction transfer requests during any fiscal year and shall be further limited to no more than five percent (5%) of the total General Revenue and Special Revenue appropriation, funding, positions specific to each institution, and no Tobacco Settlement funds or appropriations may be reallocated pursuant to this section.

Determining the maximum number of employees and the maximum amount of appropriation and general revenue funding for institutions of higher education each fiscal year is the prerogative of the General Assembly. This is usually accomplished by delineating such maximums in the appropriation act(s) for institutions of higher education and the general revenue allocations authorized for each fund and fund account by amendment to the Revenue Stabilization law. Further, the General Assembly has determined that institutions of higher education may operate more efficiently if some flexibility is provided to institutions of higher education authorizing broad powers under this section. Therefore, it is both necessary and appropriate that the General Assembly maintain oversight by requiring prior approval of the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee as provided by this section. The requirement of approval by the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee is not a severable part of this section. If the requirement

of approval by the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee is ruled unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, this entire section is void.

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~ 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

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

DHE - WORK FORCE 2000 DEVELOPMENT FUND PROCEDURES. After the amounts to be made available to the various technical colleges have been determined as set out in Arkansas Code 26-51-205(d)(2)(A) and 26-51-205(d)(2)(B), such documents as may be necessary shall be processed so that funds may be transferred from the Work Force 2000 Development Fund to the State Treasury fund or fund account from which the technical college draws its general revenue support. Such funds as may be transferred shall not exceed 93.691% of the total funds available from the Work Force 2000 Development Fund during the fiscal year.

In the event that a technical institute or comprehensive lifelong learning center which receives support from the Work Force 2000 Development Fund as determined by law transfers or merges into the Arkansas Technical College and Community College System for which Work Force 2000 Development Fund monies are determined by law, then the actual amount of support from the Work Force 2000 Development Fund in the preceding fiscal year for such educational institution shall be made available irrespective of any other provision of law which sets out maximum levels of support from such fund.

The funds distributed under Arkansas Code 26-51-205(d)(2)(C) in excess of those amounts collected and distributed prior to June 30, 2014 shall be deposited into the Skills Development Fund to be used only for personal services, grants, operation, support, and improvement of occupational, vocational, technical, and workforce development programs by the Department of Career Education - Office of Skills Development. The distributions of funds under Arkansas Code 26-51-205(d)(2)(C) in excess of those amounts collected and distributed prior to June 30, 2014 shall not apply to proceeds allocated to schools, colleges and educational institutions under Arkansas Code 26-51-205(d)(2)(A) and 26-51-205(d)(2)(B).

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~

2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

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

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

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~ 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

SECTION 34. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 6-81-1101(f), concerning tuition assistance for certain professional schools, is amended to codify special language in appropriation acts to read as follows:

(f)(1)(A)(i) The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board, after consulting with the recognized associations of each of the applicable medical professions and other interested persons, shall determine the priorities for the grants and loans under this section.

(ii) The division shall readjust, if necessary, the number of positions for entering students to be funded for each grant or loan based upon the priorities determined by the board.

(B) The division will allocate, based upon funds appropriated, the number of eligible grant recipients to receive funds at each participating institution for each applicable academic period.

(2)(A) Each participating institution will select eligible grant recipients for each applicable academic period.

(B) In the event that the number of eligible students accepted for enrollment at such participating institution exceeds the number of eligible grant recipients for whom funds have been allocated by the division from funds appropriated, such participating institution shall have sole discretion in selecting the eligible students to designate as eligible grant recipients.

(3) The division shall make grants according to the allocations made by the division and selections made by the participating institutions. The division shall have no obligation to make any grants except to the extent that funds have been appropriated and funded for the program.

SECTION 35. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 61, Subchapter 2, is amended to add an additional section to codify special language in appropriation acts to read as follows:

6-61-235. Reporting requirements – Financial aid programs.

The Division of Higher Education shall report annually by May 30 to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education the:

(1) Budgeted allocation for each financial aid program that is funded through the Higher Education Grants Fund Account for the upcoming fiscal year; and

(2) Projections for the following fiscal year for the budgeted allocation for each financial aid program that is funded through the Higher Education Grants Fund Account.

SECTION 36. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 21-5-1404, concerning effect of the Higher Education Uniform Classification and Compensation Act on appropriation acts, is amended to add an additional subsection to codify special language in appropriation acts to read as follows:

(e)(1) New funding through the Revenue Stabilization Law, § 19-5-101 et seq., that is determined by the Division of Higher Education to have been for salary increases for the current fiscal year for institutions of higher education shall be used exclusively for salary increases.

(2) New funding through the Revenue Stabilization Law, § 19-5-101 et seq., that is actually received for salary increases shall be spent exclusively for salary increases based upon the state general revenue portion of total unrestricted educational and general revenue.

(3)(A) Funding received under this subsection shall be used for no purposes other than to provide salary increases.

(B) Any designated funds not used for salary increases under this subsection shall be recouped at the end of each fiscal year and transferred by the division to the General Revenue Allotment Reserve Fund.

SECTION 37. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. DHE PROGRAM COORDINATOR FUNDING. The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall

transfer sufficient funding for the fiscal year from the Higher Education Grants Fund Account to the Division of Higher Education Fund Account in order to finance the personal services costs of a DHE Program Coordinator.

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~ 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

SECTION 38. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

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

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~ 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

SECTION 39. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

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

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~ 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

SECTION 40. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

DHE - CONTINGENCY APPROPRIATIONS - TRANSFERS AND REPORTS. (a) Upon approval by the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, institutions of higher education may transfer appropriation from the cash contingency appropriation to any other

appropriation made to the institution from cash funds including the establishment of commitment items, and may transfer appropriation from the contingency appropriation made payable from each institution's State Treasury Fund to the state operations appropriation made payable from each institution's State Treasury Fund including the establishment of commitment items, and may transfer appropriation from the contingency appropriation made payable from the Tobacco Settlement Program Fund Accounts to any other appropriation made to the institution from Tobacco Settlement Program Fund Accounts including the establishment of commitment items.

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

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

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~ 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

SECTION 41. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 61, Subchapter 2, is amended to add an additional section to codify special language in appropriation acts to read as follows:

6-61-236. Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program – Established.

(a) There is established the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program, which shall be administered by the Division of Higher Education and

division staff.

(b) The program shall focus on the continued development of undergraduate academic research efforts at state-supported colleges and universities.

(c) The division shall promulgate rules necessary for the implementation and operation of the program.

(d) The responsibilities of the division in administering the program shall include without limitation the following:

(1) The development of eligibility criteria for a recipient of a fellowship under the program;

(2) The collection of applications for a fellowship under the program;

(3) The coordination of student evaluations under the program;

(4) The distribution of public notices regarding the program;

and

(5) The funding of grants for academic research purposes under the program.

(e) The division may expense costs associated with the administration of the program from funds made payable from the Higher Education Grants Fund Account for the program as authorized to be used for student assistance grants and scholarships in the division's operative appropriation act.

SECTION 42. SPECIAL LANGUAGE - CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 23-115-801(d)(3)(C), concerning lottery proceeds, is amended to codify special language in appropriation acts to read as follows:

(C)(i) The office shall reimburse the division for the costs of administering the scholarship awards funded with net proceeds from the lottery after the Legislative Council's review under this subsection.

(ii) After the reimbursement of funds received by the division from the office under subdivision (d)(3)(C)(i) of this section, the division may refund the funds to the:

(a) Division of Higher Education Fund Account;

or

(b) Higher Education Grants Fund Account.

SECTION 43. SPECIAL LANGUAGE - CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 6-82-

1503, concerning the eligibility for amount of the Critical Needs Minority Teacher Scholarship Program, is amended to add an additional subsection to codify special language in appropriation acts to read as follows:

(g) The Director of the Division of Higher Education shall:

(1)(A) Determine the amount available to fund the Critical Needs Minority Teacher Scholarship Program.

(B) However, the amount determined under subdivision (g)(1)(A) of this section shall not exceed two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000); and

(2)(A) Certify to the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State and the Treasurer of State the amount determined under subdivision (g)(1)(A) of this section to be transferred from the Higher Education Grants Fund Account.

(B)(i) Upon receipt of the certification under subdivision (g)(2)(A) of this section, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State and the Treasurer of State shall transfer the necessary amount from the Higher Education Grants Fund Account and the related appropriation to the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff Fund.

(ii) The university may use up to twenty percent (20%) of the funds and appropriation received under subdivision (g)(2)(B)(i) of this section for the administration of the Critical Needs Minority Teacher Scholarship Program under this section.

SECTION 44. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 61, Subchapter 2, is amended to add an additional section to codify special language in appropriation acts to read as follows:

6-61-235. Administrative fees.

(a) The Division of Higher Education may recover nonrefundable administrative fees related to the institutional certification and exemption process for out-of-state, nonpublic, and for-profit colleges and universities.

(b) Fees in this section eligible for recovery include:

(1) Notification fees;

(2) Application processing fees; and

(3) Travel expenses for individuals on the certification review teams.

SECTION 45. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

DHE WORKFORCE INITIATIVE ACT FUNDING. The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State may transfer, on his or her books and those of the State Treasurer and the Auditor of the State, funding up to the amount authorized in the Workforce Initiative Act of 2015 appropriation section in this Act, from the Division of Higher Education Fund Account to the Workforce Initiative Act of 2015 Fund in order to finance the distribution of grants identified under §6-60-107.

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~ 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

SECTION 46. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

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

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~ 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

SECTION 47. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

GOVERNOR'S HIGHER EDUCATION TRANSITION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. The Department of Education - Division of Higher Education shall provide for the administration of the "Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship Program" as appropriated in the Student Assistance Grants and Various Scholarships Appropriation section of this Act to assist students accepted into transitional programs for students with intellectual and/or

developmental disabilities at state institutions of higher education and shall promulgate rules for the implementation of the program and for the disbursement of scholarships to eligible students.

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~ 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

SECTION 48. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 51, Subchapter 2, is amended to add an additional section to codify special language in appropriation acts to read as follows:

6-51-218. Northwest Technical Institute – Additional Teaching Load.

(a)(1) Any Full-time staff and ten (10) extra help positions at Northwest Technical Institute, may be paid up to

(A) Seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) per clock hour for the fiscal year for noncredit teaching assignments; or

(B) Five hundred fifty dollars (\$550) per semester hour for the fiscal year for teaching courses beyond the defined teaching load.

(2) An amount paid under subdivision (a)(1) of this section may be in addition to an eligible institute employee's maximum allowable salary.

(b) A teaching load that makes an institute employee eligible for additional payments under subsection (a) of this section shall not exceed one hundred fifty (150) clock hours or nine (9) semester credit hours per school year.

(c) This section applies only to credit and noncredit courses that are funded by private industry.

SECTION 49. SPECIAL LANGUAGE - CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 62, Subchapter 8, pertaining to Women's Sport Athletic Programs is amended to read as follows:

§ 6-62-803(c) This section shall not apply to expenditures related to compliance with § 6-60-111 or increased compliance under 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f), nor the transfer of funds necessary to support women's athletic programs.

SECTION 50. SPECIAL LANGUAGE - CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 6-62-110 is amended to read as follows:

6-62-110. Additional compensation for state-supported four-year institutions of higher education athletic department.

(a)(1) In recognition of the extra work involved in the participation of intercollegiate athletic teams in post-season competitions, and to promote exceptional achievement in the total sports program of each state-supported four-year institution of higher education, the Chancellor or President of a state-supported four-year institution of higher education, in accordance with policies issued by its Board of Trustees, may approve additional compensation for the athletic department and band personnel when any athletic team participates in a post-season competition or achieves exceptional recognition.

(2) Additional compensation approved under subdivision (a)(1) of this section shall be in addition to the regular salaries authorized by law, provided that the additional compensation shall be paid from income other than state funds.

(b) A Board of Trustees of a state-supported four-year institution of higher education may make additional payments to employees in the Athletic Department at the institution, or to employees that directly support the operation of the Athletic Department at the institution, in such amounts as the Board of Trustees may determine is appropriate in view of the unusual and exacting duties of such employees, provided the additional compensation shall be paid from income other than state funds.

(c)(1) Any such allowances authorized in this section shall be in addition to the regular salaries of such employees.

(2) If the allowance funds authorized under this section are utilized, a state-supported four-year institution of higher education shall report annually to the Arkansas Legislative Joint Auditing Committee the exact disposition of those allowance funds.

SECTION 51. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.

SECTION 52. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.

SECTION 53. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits the appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2023, with the exception that Section 49 is effective upon passage and approval, is essential to the operation of the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2023, with the exception that Section 49 is effective upon passage and approval, could work irreparable harm upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2023 with the exception that Section 49 is effective upon passage and approval.

*/s/ Joint Budget Committee*

**APPROVED: 4/13/23**