

State of Arkansas
95th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2025

A Bill

SENATE BILL 46

By: Senators Caldwell, R. Murdock
By: Representatives Hollowell, Barnett

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING EAST ARKANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE; TO REFLECT A MERGER BETWEEN THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AND EAST ARKANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE BY CHANGING THE NAME OF EAST ARKANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS EAST ARKANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE; TO REPEAL PORTIONS OF THE LAW CONCERNING A PREVIOUS MERGER INVOLVING EAST ARKANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO REFLECT A MERGER BETWEEN THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AND EAST ARKANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE BY CHANGING THE NAME OF EAST ARKANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS EAST ARKANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-5-302 is amended to read as follows:
6-5-302. Allocation and transfer of funds.

From the moneys accruing to the Educational Excellence Trust Fund, the Treasurer of State on the last day of the month shall transfer to the various funds and fund accounts listed below, the amounts determined by applying each fund or fund account's proportionate part of the total of all such allocations set forth in this section to the amount available for distribution as determined in § 6-5-301:



Fund or Fund Accounts	FISCAL YEAR ENDING	
	June 30, 2002	June 30, 2003 & Thereafter
Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Public School Fund Account	\$161,935,727	\$164,138,382
Division of Career and Technical Education Public School Fund Account	9,518,065	10,032,555
Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Fund Account	762,901	804,138
Division of Career and Technical Education Fund Account	2,856,557	3,010,965
Higher Education Grants Fund Account	10,499,767	11,067,322
School for Math, Sciences, and Arts Fund	0	5,988,465
Institutions of Higher Education:		
Arkansas State University Fund	4,797,713	5,057,049
Arkansas Tech University Fund	1,608,226	1,695,157
Henderson State University Fund	1,663,634	1,753,560
Southern Arkansas University Fund	983,576	1,036,743
University of Arkansas Fund	11,905,301	12,548,830
University of Arkansas at Little Rock Fund	4,224,809	4,453,177
University of Arkansas Medical Center Fund	7,274,293	7,667,498
University of Arkansas Medical Center Fund - Indigent Care	181,013	190,797
University of Arkansas at Monticello Fund	848,858	894,742
University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff Fund	1,473,599	1,553,253
University of Central Arkansas Fund	3,661,359	3,859,270
Arkansas State University-Beebe Fund	1,144,646	1,206,518
<u>University of Arkansas</u> East Arkansas Community College Fund	599,022	631,401
National Park College Fund	895,921	944,349
Arkansas Northeastern College Fund	573,810	604,827
North Arkansas College Fund	353,775	372,898
Northwest Arkansas Community College Fund	791,763	834,561
Phillips Community College of the University of Arkansas Fund	583,366	614,899

University of Arkansas Community College at Rich Mountain Fund	158,120	166,667
SAU-Tech Fund	256,801	270,683
South Arkansas Community College Fund	409,688	431,833
University of Arkansas at Fort Smith Fund	2,437,691	2,569,458
TOTAL INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION	\$ 46,826,984	\$ 49,358,170

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code §§ 6-51-1101 – 6-51-1104 are repealed.

~~6-51-1101. Merger.~~

~~(a)(1) This subchapter shall govern the merger of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute and East Arkansas Community College if:~~

~~(A) The Board of Directors of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute votes to merge with East Arkansas Community College;~~

~~(B) The Board of Directors of East Arkansas Community College votes to accept the merger; and~~

~~(C) The merger is approved under § 6-53-401.~~

~~(2)(A)(i) When voting to accept a merger under subdivision (a)(1)(B) of this section, the Board of Directors of East Arkansas Community College shall designate a date for the merger to become effective.~~

~~(ii) The Board of Directors of East Arkansas Community College shall consult the Board of Directors of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute in determining the date under subdivision (a)(2)(A)(i) of this section.~~

~~(B) If a merger of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute and East Arkansas Community College is approved under § 6-53-401, the merger shall become effective on the date designated under subdivision (a)(2)(A)(i) of this section.~~

~~(b) On the effective date of a merger under subdivision (a)(2) of this section, all statutory authority, powers, duties, functions, records, personnel, property, unexpended balances of appropriations, allocations, or other funds, including the functions of budgeting or purchasing, of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute shall be transferred to East Arkansas Community College.~~

~~6-51-1102. Board of directors.~~

~~On the effective date of a merger under § 6-51-1101(a)(2):~~

~~(1) The Board of Directors of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute shall be abolished; and~~

~~(2) The Board of Directors of East Arkansas Community College shall assume the powers and duties of the Board of Directors of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute.~~

~~6-51-1103. Purchasing.~~

~~(a) Upon the vote of the Board of Directors of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute to merge with East Arkansas Community College under § 6-51-1101(a)(1)(A) and before the effective date of a merger under § 6-51-1101(a)(2):~~

~~(1) Purchases by Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute shall be made under the Arkansas Procurement Law, § 19-11-201 et seq.; and~~

~~(2) Purchases by East Arkansas Community College may continue to be made under procedures that were applicable to East Arkansas Community College.~~

~~(b) This section shall not apply if a merger is not subsequently approved under § 6-51-1101(a).~~

~~6-51-1104. Transfer of assets, obligations, records, personnel, property, unexpended balances, and legal authority.~~

~~Beginning on the effective date of a merger under § 6-51-1101(a)(2):~~

~~(1) All property and other rights, claims, and assets of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute shall be transferred to East Arkansas Community College;~~

~~(2) All obligations of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute shall be obligations of East Arkansas Community College;~~

~~(3)(A) Except as provided in subdivision (3)(B) of this section, all records, personnel, property, unexpended balances, and legal authority shall be transferred from Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute to East Arkansas Community College.~~

~~(B) If applicable, the personnel transferred from Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute to East Arkansas Community College shall comply with Acts 2017, No. 94, § 1, as amended by this subchapter; and~~

~~(4) All cash fund balances of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute transferred to East Arkansas Community College shall be used for~~

~~the operation, support, and improvement of occupational, vocational, technical, and workforce development programs of East Arkansas Community College.~~

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code §§ 6-51-1105 and 6-51-1106 are amended to read as follows:

6-51-1105. Funding from the Work Force 2000 Development Fund.

Beginning on the effective date of a merger under § 6-51-1101(a)(2), funding from the Work Force 2000 Development Fund, which would have been provided to Crowley’s Ridge Technical Institute, shall be provided to the University of Arkansas East Arkansas Community College to fund workforce development, vocational, occupational, and training programs offered by the University of Arkansas East Arkansas Community College.

6-51-1106. Funding from the Federal Adult Basic Education Fund.

Beginning on the effective date of a merger under § 6-51-1101(a)(2), funding from the Federal Adult Basic Education Fund, which would have been provided to Crowley’s Ridge Technical Institute, shall be provided to the University of Arkansas East Arkansas Community College.

SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 6-63-305(b)(8), concerning new or additional positions at institutions of higher education, is amended to read as follows:

(8) University of Arkansas East Arkansas Community College

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SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 19-4-906(a)(093), concerning the maximum number of authorized passenger motor vehicles for East Arkansas Community College, is amended to read as follows:

(093) University of Arkansas East Arkansas Community College 28

SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 19-5-303(n), concerning funds of institutions of higher education, is amended to read as follows:

(n) University of Arkansas East Arkansas Community College Fund.

(1) There is established on the books of the Treasurer of State, the Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State a fund to be

known as the "University of Arkansas East Arkansas Community College Fund".

(2) The University of Arkansas East Arkansas Community College Fund shall be used for the maintenance, operation, and improvement of the University of Arkansas East Arkansas Community College.

(3) The University of Arkansas East Arkansas Community College Fund shall consist of:

(A) Those general revenues as may be provided by law; and

(B) Any other funds made available for the support of the University of Arkansas East Arkansas Community College which are required to be deposited into the State Treasury by law.

SECTION 7. Arkansas Code § 19-11-220(a)(19), concerning state agencies authorized to have an agency procurement official under the Arkansas Procurement Law, is amended to read as follows:

(19) University of Arkansas East Arkansas Community College;

APPROVED: 2/11/25