

ARKANSAS SENATE
95th General Assembly - Fiscal Session, 2026
Amendment Form

DRAFT

Subtitle of Senate Bill 58

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION
APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2026-2027 FISCAL YEAR.

Amendment No. ___ to Senate Bill 58

Amend Senate Bill 58 as originally introduced:

Page 19, immediately following SECTION 37, insert a new SECTION to read as follows:

" SECTION 38. SPECIAL LANGUAGE - CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 60, Subchapter 1, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

6-60-128. Funding for illegal immigrants prohibited – Definition.

(a) As used in this section, "illegal immigrant" means a person who is not a citizen of the United States who has:

(1) Entered the United States in violation of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1101 et seq., as it existed on January 1, 2026, or regulations issued under the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1101 et seq., as existed on January 1, 2026; or

(2) Legally entered the United States subject to a time limit but has remained illegally after expiration of the time limit.

(b) A state-supported institution of higher education shall not provide any funding, including without limitation scholarships, to an illegal immigrant."

AND

Appropriately renumber subsequent SECTION numbers of the bill.

DRAFT

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The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and _____

By: Joint Budget Committee

By: Representative Underwood

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KMW097

Secretary

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

A Bill

SENATE BILL 58

4
5 By: Joint Budget Committee
6
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

8
9 AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR PERSONAL SERVICES
10 AND OPERATING EXPENSES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF
11 EDUCATION - DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR THE
12 FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2027; AND FOR OTHER
13 PURPOSES.
14

Subtitle

15
16
17 AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION -
18 DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION
19 APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2026-2027 FISCAL
20 YEAR.
21
22

23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
24

25 SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES - GENERAL OPERATIONS. There is hereby
26 established for the Department of Education - Division of Higher Education
27 for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular
28 employees.
29

Item No.	Class Code	Title	Maximum No. of Employees	Maximum Annual Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2026-2027
34	(1) EEX13A	COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION	1	GRADE EXE03
35	(2) EEA03C	HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAM MANAGER	1	GRADE SPC09
36	(3) FAC10C	CONTROLLER	1	GRADE SPC06



1 DHE - STATEWIDE PROMOTION. Of the general revenue that is received by and
2 distributed from the Higher Education Grants Fund Account, the Chief Fiscal
3 Officer of the State shall transfer two hundred ninety-five thousand dollars
4 (\$295,000) to the Division of Higher Education Fund Account to be allocated,
5 budgeted, committed and distributed to the Statewide Promotion line item in
6 the General Operations section of this Act for the purpose of increasing
7 public awareness of the programs and initiatives offered by the State through
8 the Arkansas Department of Education - Division of Higher Education. The
9 Department shall utilize a minimum of one hundred forty-seven thousand five
10 hundred dollars (\$147,500) of the aforementioned total specifically for the
11 promotion of the Arkansas Future Grant Program.

12 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, 2025
13 2026 through June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027.

14
15 SECTION 37. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS
16 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.
17 GOVERNOR'S HIGHER EDUCATION TRANSITION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. The Department
18 of Education - Division of Higher Education shall provide for the
19 administration of the "Governor's Higher Education Transition Scholarship
20 Program" as appropriated in the Student Assistance Grants and Various
21 Scholarships Appropriation section of this Act to assist students accepted
22 into transitional programs for students with intellectual and/or
23 developmental disabilities at state institutions of higher education and
24 shall promulgate rules for the implementation of the program and for the
25 disbursement of scholarships to eligible students.

26 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1,
27 ~~2025~~ 2026 through June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027.

28
29 SECTION 38. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds
30 authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency
31 and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and
32 the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and
33 Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary
34 Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal
35 control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by
36 the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be