

Science and Technology Authority (327)

FISCAL YEAR 2016

As Enacted by Act 885 of 2015

I) AGENCY SUMMARY & REVENUE SOURCES

MISSION

The Science and Technology Authority mission is to bring the benefits of science and advanced technology through grants, supporting scientific research, technological development, business innovation, and education.

The Arkansas Science & Technology Authority is comprised of a Board of Directors and its staff. The 14-member Board is appointed by the Governor to staggered four-year terms.

TOTAL APPROPRIATION

The total appropriation is \$44,089,271.

FUNDING SOURCE

The Science and Technology Authority is funded by General Revenues, Federal funding, Special Revenues, and Cash funds.

II) CHANGE LEVEL REQUESTS

Science and Technology Operations - budget is \$8,474,547. This appropriation is funded by General Revenues. Change level increase of \$3,536,236 and provides for:

- \$38,924 in Regular Salaries for the reclassification of three positions
- \$7,312 Personal Services Matching also for the reclassification of three positions.
- \$3,000,000 in Arkansas Acceleration Fund line item - \$1,500,000 for a grant to Innovate Arkansas and \$1,500,000 for the EPSCoR Research Alliance.

AMS Cash in Treasury - budget is \$1,455,986 and includes an increase of \$565,608 for the following:

- \$344,468 Regular Salaries for the transfer of two positions from the AMS Federal appropriation and to provide sufficient appropriation for budgeted staff.
- \$105,014 Personal Services Matching for the positions and appropriation named with regular salaries.
- \$331,457 in Operating Expenses to provide for the operation costs of the newly added positions.
- \$14,500 in Conference and Travel Expenses.

- \$229,831 decrease in Grants and Aid due to a decrease in the federal grants.

Arkansas Manufacturing Extension Network - Federal - \$941,110 is funded by a federal grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce for the following items:

- \$161,851 decrease in Regular Salaries to adjust for positions moved to the cash appropriation.
- \$46,918 decrease in Personal Services Matching to adjust for two positions transferred to cash appropriation.
- \$35,007 decrease in Operating expenses associated with transferring positions to the cash appropriation.
- \$240,000 increase in Grants/ Aid to provide for administrative costs to technical schools for the operation of grant programs.
- \$325,000 increase in field services to provide for four contract employees to work at the technical schools to provide services for the program.

EPSCOR II - Federal - An additional appropriation was approved for the EPSCOR grant during 2014 Fall Budget Hearings to add an existing Miscellaneous Federal Grant appropriation to the ASTA appropriation bill totaling \$3,150,000.

- Regular Salaries - \$13,218
- Personal Services Matching - \$3,952
- Operating Expenses - \$34,280
- Conference and Travel Expenses - \$133,200
- Professional Fees - \$55,500
- Grants and Aid - \$2,909,850

Innovate Arkansas - additional appropriation of \$5,000,000 was added for a grant or transfer to the Innovate Arkansas Fund for personal services and operating expenses of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission - Innovate Arkansas.

III) ADDITIONAL POSITIONS (Total FY2015 Authorized Positions: 30)

Total Authorized Positions FY2016: 30

Total Base Level Positions: 30

Increase/(Decrease) Over Base Level: 0

Extra Help Positions FY2016: 2 (Total FY2015 Authorized Extra Help: 2)

IV) SPECIAL LANGUAGE

SEED CAPITAL INVESTMENTS. Monies received from the repayment of Seed Capital Investments shall be deposited in the State Treasury to the credit of the Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account to provide additional Seed Capital Investments.

CARRY FORWARD. The Authority is authorized to carry forward any unexpended balance of funds for making grants under the Authority's Basic and Applied Research Grants Program which remains up to \$150,000 at the close of the fiscal year to the next fiscal year for the same purpose.

FUND BALANCE TRANSFER - Available balances received by the Arkansas Science and Technology Authority from client services provided through the Arkansas Manufacturing Extension Network - Federal Appropriation shall be transferred to the Arkansas Manufacturing Extension Network - Cash Fund Account.

APPROPRIATION AND FUND TRANSFERS - The Director of ASTA is authorized to transfer of appropriation and funds from the State Operations - Arkansas Acceleration Fund Programs line item to the Arkansas Acceleration Fund in an amount not to exceed \$3,500,000 annually.

UPDATED APRIL 2015