

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
94th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2023

A Bill

SENATE BILL 89

By: Senator J. English

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS WORK PAYS PROGRAM; TO
AMEND THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ARKANSAS
WORK PAYS PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR
THE ARKANSAS WORK PAYS PROGRAM.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 20-76-444(b)(1), concerning eligibility for assistance under the Arkansas Work Pays Program, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) Eligibility for assistance under the Arkansas Work Pays Program is limited to applicants or participants who:

(A) Have care and custody of a related minor child;

(B) Reside in the State of Arkansas at the time of application for assistance and during the period of assistance;

~~(C) Apply for Arkansas Work Pays Program assistance within six (6) months of leaving the Transitional Employment Assistance Program after at least three (3) months of Transitional Employment Assistance Program assistance;~~

~~(D)~~(C) Have not received more than twenty-four (24) months of Arkansas Work Pays Program benefits;

~~(E)~~(D) Were engaged:

(i) In paid work activities for a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours per week or in a career and technical education Career



Pathways Initiative Program and met the federal work participation requirement for the past month; or

(ii) In the case of continuing eligibility, in paid work activities for a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours per week or in a career and technical education Career Pathways Initiative Program and met the federal work participation requirement for one (1) of the past three (3) months and for at least three (3) of the past six (6) months;

~~(F)~~(E) Are:

(i) Citizens of the United States;

(ii) Qualified aliens lawfully present in the United States before August 22, 1996;

(iii) Qualified aliens who physically entered the United States on or after August 22, 1996, and have been in qualified immigrant status for at least five (5) years; or

(iv) Aliens to whom benefits under Temporary Assistance for Needy Families must be provided under federal law;

~~(G)~~(F) Have income below one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the federal poverty level; and

~~(H)~~(G) Sign and comply with a personal responsibility agreement.