

State of Arkansas
95th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2025

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1761

By: Representative D. Garner

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO INCREASE FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF INCOME LIMITS FOR STUDENTS ELIGIBLE FOR EDUCATIONAL FREEDOM ACCOUNTS IN THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR AND THEREAFTER; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO INCREASE FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF INCOME LIMITS FOR STUDENTS ELIGIBLE FOR EDUCATIONAL FREEDOM ACCOUNTS IN THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR AND THEREAFTER.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-18-2506(a)(3)(A)(i)(e)-(g), concerning student eligibility for the Arkansas Children's Educational Freedom Account Program, is amended to read as follows:

(e) A child of active-duty uniformed service personnel, as identified under Title 10, Title 32, Title 33, or Title 42 of the United States Code; or

(f) A student who was enrolled in the previous school year in a:

(1) Public school that has a rating of "F" under §§ 6-15-2105 and 6-15-2106 and State Board of Education rules; or

(2) Public school district classified as in need of Level 5 – Intensive support under § 6-15-2913 or § 6-15-2915; ~~or~~

~~(g) A student who is enrolling in kindergarten~~



~~for the first time.~~

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-18-2506(a)(3)(C) is amended to read as follows:

~~(C)(i) For the 2025-2026 school year and each year thereafter, any resident of this state who is eligible to enroll in a public elementary or secondary school shall be eligible~~ student eligibility shall include students who meet at least one (1) of the following:

(i) A student who is eligible under subdivision (a)(3)(B)(i) of this section;

(ii) A student who is continuing to participate in the Arkansas Children's Educational Freedom Account Program from the 2024-2025 school year; or

(iii) A resident of this state who is eligible to enroll in a public elementary or secondary school if:

(a) His or her family has a gross family income not exceeding two hundred fifty percent (250%) of the federal poverty level;

(b)(1) His or her family has a gross family income exceeding two hundred fifty percent (250%) of the federal poverty level but not exceeding three hundred fifty percent (350%) of the federal poverty level.

(2) However, a student eligible for an account under subdivision (a)(3)(C)(iii)(b)(1) of this section shall receive only fifty percent (50%) of the prior year's statewide foundation funding allocated per student under § 6-20-2305; or

(c)(1) His or her family has a gross family income exceeding three hundred fifty percent (350%) of the federal poverty level but not exceeding four hundred percent (400%) of the federal poverty level.

(2) However, a student eligible for an account under subdivision (a)(3)(C)(iii)(c)(1) of this section shall receive only twenty-five percent (25%) of the prior year's statewide foundation funding allocated per student under § 6-20-2305.

~~(ii) Beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, there shall be no limitation on student participation in the Arkansas Children's~~

~~Educational Freedom Account Program.~~