

State of Arkansas  
95th General Assembly  
Fiscal Session, 2026

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 43

By: Joint Budget Committee

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR PERSONAL SERVICES AND OPERATING EXPENSES FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS - DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2027; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

AN ACT FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS - DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2026-2027 FISCAL YEAR.

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

SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES - OPERATIONS. There is hereby established for the University of Arkansas - Division of Agriculture for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.

Item No.	Title	Maximum No. of Employees	Maximum Annual Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2026-2027
<u>DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE</u>			
<u>TWELVE MONTH EDUCATIONAL AND GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS</u>			
(1)	Vice-Pres. for Agriculture/Chance.	1	\$290,156
(2)	Senior Associate Vice President	2	\$255,607
(3)	Associate VP	6	\$249,780



(4)	District Director	3	\$231,053
(5)	Assistant VP	6	\$218,562
(6)	Project/Program Administrator	170	
	Executive Project/Program Director		\$213,928
	Exec. Project/Program Manager		\$186,892
	Sr. Project/Program Director		\$172,738
	Project/Program Director		\$140,094
	Project/Program Manager		\$126,956
	Executive Assistant		\$118,680
	Project/Program Specialist		\$109,536
(7)	IT Pool	20	
	Network Engineer		\$207,404
	Information Systems Manager		\$133,122
	Computer Network Coordinator		\$132,901
	Technical Support Staff		\$126,956
	Coordinator, Academic Computing		\$125,461
	Coord., Administrative Computing		\$125,461
	Coordinator of Information Tech		\$123,806
	Website Developer/Programmer		\$123,806
	System Programmer/Web Developer		\$122,387
	Computer Systems Mgr.		\$112,475
	Database Administrator		\$110,019
	Systems Administrator		\$108,925
	Information Systems Security Spec		\$106,894
	Institution Information Tech Coord		\$104,736
	Assistant Database Administrator		\$100,790
	Computer Support Manager		\$100,708
	Information Systems Coordinator		\$100,708
	Senior Software Support Specialist		\$100,708
	Systems Specialist		\$100,708
	Information Technology Manager		\$99,493
	Network Support Specialist		\$96,834
	Senior Software Support Analyst		\$96,834
	Tech Support/Systems Admin.		\$95,330
	Tech Support/Applications Support		\$95,330
	Information Systems Business Mgr.		\$93,110

	Security Analyst		\$93,110
	Systems Analyst		\$93,110
	Information Technology Specialist		\$91,166
	Computer Support Coordinator		\$89,529
	Software Support Analyst		\$89,529
	Systems Applications Supervisor		\$89,529
	Computer Operations Coordinator		\$86,085
	Systems Coordination Analyst		\$86,085
	PC Support Specialist		\$84,480
	Computer Support Specialist		\$82,775
	Database Analyst		\$82,775
	Digital Broadcast Specialist		\$79,590
	Network Support Analyst		\$79,590
	Website Developer		\$79,590
	Information Systems Analyst		\$76,530
	Info Systems Security Analyst		\$76,530
	Computer Support Analyst		\$76,530
	Software Support Specialist		\$73,587
	Telecommunications Supervisor		\$73,587
	Media Specialist		\$72,215
	Computer Support Technician		\$70,756
	Help Desk Specialist		\$70,756
	Computer Operator		\$68,035
	Network Analyst		\$68,035
	Telecommunications Specialist		\$68,035
	Multimedia Specialist		\$64,199
	Information Technology Assistant		\$60,483
	Computer Lab Technician		\$58,156
	Multimedia Technician		\$52,766
	Audiovisual Laboratory Assistant		\$48,785
(8)	County Ext. Agent	210	
	County Ext. Agent IV		\$206,172
	County Ext. Agent III		\$199,299
	County Ext. Agent II		\$139,030
	County Ext. Agent I		\$128,870
(9)	Resident Director in Charge	6	\$162,387

(10)	Associate for Administration	4	\$109,536
(11)	Fiscal Support Pool	28	
	Fiscal Support Manager		\$95,029
	Fiscal Support Supervisor		\$78,106
	Accountant II		\$75,103
	Accountant I		\$72,215
	Fiscal Support Analyst		\$69,437
	Fiscal Support Specialist		\$61,729
	Accounting Technician		\$57,071
	Fiscal Support Technician		\$52,766
(12)	Procurement Coordinator	1	\$84,480
(13)	Research Technologist	9	\$84,480
(14)	Skilled Trades Pool	5	
	Skilled Trades Foreman		\$76,530
	Skilled Trades Supervisor		\$73,587
	Skilled Tradesman		\$70,756
	Skilled Trades Helper		\$53,769
	Apprentice Tradesman		\$47,801
(15)	Human Resources Analyst	1	\$75,103
(16)	Maintenance Coordinator	3	\$75,103
(17)	Assistant Director of Farming	1	\$72,215
(18)	Buyer	2	\$72,215
(19)	HEI Program Coordinator	3	\$72,215
(20)	Administrative Support Pool	143	
	Administrative Assistant		\$69,437
	Administrative Analyst		\$69,437
	Administrative Support Supervisor		\$64,199
	Administrative Specialist III		\$61,729
	Administration Support Specialist		\$61,729
	Administrative Specialist II		\$54,877
	Administrative Support Specialist		\$54,877
	Administrative Specialist I		\$48,785
	Extra Help Assistant		\$40,098
(21)	Benefits Analyst	1	\$69,437
(22)	Maintenance Supervisor	3	\$69,437
(23)	Payroll Services Specialist	2	\$69,437

(24)	Print Shop Supervisor	1	\$69,437
(25)	Institutional Printer	2	\$66,767
(26)	Inventory Control Manager	1	\$66,767
(27)	Human Resources Specialist	3	\$64,199
(28)	Farm Foreman - Inst.	6	\$61,729
(29)	Maintenance Specialist	8	\$61,729
(30)	Research Assistant	1	\$61,729
(31)	Special Events Coordinator	1	\$61,729
(32)	Coordinator of Housekeeping	1	\$59,355
(33)	Equipment Mechanic	2	\$57,071
(34)	Farm Maintenance Mechanic	2	\$57,071
(35)	Laboratory Technician	11	\$57,071
(36)	Landscape Specialist	1	\$57,071
(37)	Special Events Supervisor	1	\$57,071
(38)	Warehouse Specialist	1	\$57,071
(39)	Greenhouse Technician	1	\$54,877
(40)	Heavy Equipment Operator	1	\$54,877
(41)	Research Technician	10	\$54,877
(42)	CES Program Assistant	36	\$52,766
(43)	Maintenance Assistant	2	\$52,766
(44)	Research Field Technician	9	\$52,766
(45)	Agriculture Farm Technician	6	\$48,785
(46)	Agriculture Lab Technician	16	\$48,785
(47)	Institutional Services Supervisor	1	\$45,105
(48)	Institutional Services Assistant	6	\$43,370

TWELVE MONTH EDUCATIONAL AND GENERAL

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

(49)	Faculty	190	
	Distinguished Professor		\$282,450
	University Professor		\$261,661
	Professor		\$241,688
	Associate Professor		\$206,172
	Assistant Professor		\$195,073
	Curator		\$164,641
	Instructor		\$139,030
(50)	Department Chairperson	11	\$246,873

(51)	Research Scientist	10	\$179,858
(52)	Program Associate	165	\$164,641
(53)	Senior Graduate Assistant	60	\$130,370
(54)	Post Doctoral Fellow	45	\$130,080
(55)	Program Technician	120	\$109,532
(56)	Program Assistant	8	\$104,137
(57)	Graduate Assistant	77	\$71,864
<u>NINE MONTH EDUCATIONAL AND GENERAL</u>			
<u>ACADEMIC POSITIONS</u>			
(58)	Faculty	25	
	Distinguished Professor		\$243,172
	University Professor		\$237,622
	Professor		\$228,368
	Associate Professor		\$195,073
	Assistant Professor		\$189,097
	Instructor		\$125,703
	MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	1,471	

SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP - OPERATIONS. There is hereby authorized, for the University of Arkansas - Division of Agriculture for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of part-time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from funds appropriated herein for such purposes: seven hundred (700) temporary or part-time employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act for the appropriate classification.

SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - STATE OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the University of Arkansas, to be payable from the University of Arkansas Fund, for personal services and operating expenses of the University of Arkansas - Division of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$50,177,071

(02)	EXTRA HELP	350,000
(03)	OVERTIME	5,000
(04)	PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	14,069,994
(05)	MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	18,433,330
	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
	(C) PROF. FEES	0
	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	250,000
	(E) DATA PROC.	0
	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$83,285,395</u>

SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - CASH FUNDS. There is hereby appropriated, to the University of Arkansas, to be payable from cash funds as defined by Arkansas Code 19-4-801, for personal services and operating expenses of the University of Arkansas - Division of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR	
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>	
(01)	REGULAR SALARIES	\$21,145,000
(02)	EXTRA HELP	4,425,000
(03)	OVERTIME	60,000
(04)	PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	6,220,000
(05)	MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	27,250,000
	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	2,150,000
	(C) PROF. FEES	2,150,000
	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	10,000,000
	(E) DATA PROC.	0
(06)	CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	76,000,000
(07)	DEBT SERVICE	60,000
(08)	FUND TRANSFERS, REFUNDS AND INVESTMENTS	15,000
(09)	PROMOTIONAL ITEMS	<u>65,000</u>
	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$149,540,000</u>

SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - CASH FUNDS - SOIL TESTING AND RESEARCH.

There is hereby appropriated, to the University of Arkansas, to be payable from cash funds as defined by Arkansas Code 19-4-801, for personal services and operating expenses of the University of Arkansas - Soil Testing and Research Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$991,000
(02) EXTRA HELP	90,000
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	280,000
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	675,000
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	25,000
(C) PROF. FEES	17,000
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	495,000
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(05) CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	<u>540,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$3,113,000</u></u>

SECTION 6. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. PINE TREE RESEARCH STATION.

(a) The Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas shall not sell the property commonly known as the Pine Tree Research Station, located in St. Francis County, Arkansas, which was acquired by the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas from the United States of America acting through the Forest Service in 1978, to a private entity or individual.

(b) The Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas may sell the property commonly known as the Pine Tree Research Station, located in St. Francis County, Arkansas, which was acquired by the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas from the United States of America acting through the Forest Service in 1978, to:

- (1) A non-profit corporation organized with the primary mission to keep the land open to the public and available for public use; and
- (2) Organized and operated for a minimum of five (5) years.

(c) The property commonly known as the Pine Tree Research Station, located in St. Francis County, Arkansas, which was acquired by the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas from the United States of America acting through the Forest Service in 1978, shall remain open to the public for public use, including without limitation:

- (1) Public fishing;
- (2) Public hunting;
- (3) Biking;
- (4) Bird watching; and
- (5) Hiking.

(d) All property commonly known as the Pine Tree Research Station, located in St. Francis County, Arkansas, which was acquired by the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas from the United States of America acting through the Forest Service in 1978, in row crop cultivation in the year 2020 is exempt from subsection (c) of this section.

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

SECTION 7. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary Procedures and Restrictions Act, the Higher Education Expenditure Restriction Act, or their successors, and other fiscal control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.

SECTION 8. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative

Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.

SECTION 9. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits the appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2026 is essential to the operation of the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2026 could work irreparable harm upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2026.