

Division of Higher Education

423 Main Street, Suite 400 • Little Rock, Arkansas • 72201-3818 • (501) 371-2000 • Fax (501) 371-2001

Johnny Key Secretary Maria Markham, Ph.D. Director

December 2, 2022

The Honorable Ronald Caldwell, Chair The Honorable Gary Deffenbaugh, Chair Arkansas Lottery Legislative Oversight Committee State Capitol Building Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Senator Caldwell and Representative Deffenbaugh:

In accordance with Arkansas Code Annotated 6-85-219(b), I am submitting for your review the Arkansas Division of Higher Education (ADHE) recommendations for the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program.

I propose the creation of a scholarship appeals process to consider exceptions for students failing to meet continuing eligibility requirements for programs including, but not limited to the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program.

Also, I propose the addition of a needs-based component to the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program in order to address the unmet needs of eligible low income students within the State.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Maria Markham, Ph.D.

Director