

Arkansas Department of Higher Education

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Asa Hutchinson Governor Dr. Brett Powell
Director

December 1, 2015

The Honorable Chris Richey, Chair The Honorable Jimmy Hickey, Chair Arkansas Lottery Legislative Oversight Committee State Capitol Building Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Senator Hickey and Representative Richey:

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

I propose an evaluation and analysis of the scholarship eligibility requirements with three principles in mind:

- The eligibility requirements should be based on data analysis of success rates for past scholarship recipients.
- The scholarship program design should allow for flexibility in amount of awards in response to fluctuations in lottery proceeds.
- The scholarship program should be reviewed in conjunction with other state financial aid programs to ensure that college affordability combined with student performance is a priority.

Should you require additional information, please let me know and I will be happy to provide details to you or to the committee.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Brett A. Powell, Ed.D.

Brett A Fowell

Director