

Responsibilities	Shall be accomplished by:
<p>(1) Assess, evaluate, and monitor the entire spectrum of public education across the State of Arkansas to determine whether equal educational opportunity for an adequate education is being substantially afforded to the school children of the State of Arkansas and recommend any necessary changes;</p> <p>(2) Review and continue to evaluate what constitutes an adequate education in the State of Arkansas and recommend any necessary changes;</p> <p>(3) Review and continue to evaluate the method of providing equality of educational opportunity of the State of Arkansas and recommend any necessary changes;</p> <p>(4) Evaluate the effectiveness of any program implemented by a school, a school district, an education service cooperative, the Department of Education, or the State Board of Education and recommend necessary changes;</p>	<p>Reviewing a report prepared by the Division of Legislative Audit compiling all funding received by public schools for each program</p> <p>Reviewing the curriculum frameworks developed by the Department of Education</p> <p>Reviewing the Arkansas Comprehensive Testing, Assessment, and Accountability Program</p> <p>Reviewing fiscal, academic, and facilities distress programs</p> <p>Reviewing the state's standing under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001</p> <p>Reviewing the Arkansas Comprehensive School Improvement Plan process</p>
<p>(5) Review the average teacher salary in the State of Arkansas in comparison to average teacher salaries in surrounding states and member states of the Southern Regional Education Board and make recommendations for any necessary changes to teacher salaries in the State of Arkansas established by law;</p>	<p>Comparing the average teacher salary in Arkansas with surrounding states and Southern Regional Education Board member states, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comparing teacher salaries as adjusted by a cost-of-living index or a comparative wage index • Reviewing the minimum teacher compensation salary schedule <p>Reviewing expenditures from isolated school funding</p> <p>Reviewing expenditures from National School Lunch state funding</p> <p>Reviewing expenditures from declining enrollment funding</p> <p>Reviewing expenditures from student growth funding</p> <p>Reviewing expenditures from special education funding</p> <p>Reviewing disparities in teacher salaries</p>
<p>(6) Review and continue to evaluate the costs of an adequate education for all students in the State of Arkansas, taking into account cost-of-living variances, diseconomies of scale, transportation variability, demographics, school districts with a disproportionate number of students who are economically disadvantaged or have educational disabilities, and other factors as deemed relevant, and recommend any necessary changes;</p>	<p>Completing an expenditure analysis</p> <p>Completing a resource allocation review</p>
<p>(7) Review and continue to evaluate the amount of per-student expenditure necessary to provide an equal educational opportunity and the amount of state funds to be provided to school districts, based upon the cost of an adequate education and monitor the expenditures and distribution of state funds and recommend any necessary changes;</p>	<p>Using evidence-based research as the basis for recalibrating as necessary the state's system of funding public education</p> <p>Adjusting for the inflation or deflation of any appropriate component of the system of funding public education</p> <p>Reviewing legislation enacted or rules promulgated during the biennium covered by the study to determine the impact of the legislation and rules on educational adequacy-related public school costs</p>
<p>(8) Review and monitor the amount of funding provided by the State of Arkansas for an education system based on need and the amount necessary to provide an adequate educational system, not on the amount of funding available, and make recommendations for funding for each biennium.</p>	