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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-1-602 is amended to read as follows:

6-1-602. Creation — Program participation.
   (a)(1) The College and Career Coaches Program is established to assist students in preparing for postsecondary education or careers.
   (2) Coaches shall be accessible to students who attend middle schools and high schools located in Tier 3 and Tier 4 counties.
   (b)(1) School districts located in Tier 3 and Tier 4 counties shall receive priority to participate in the College and Career Coaches Program.
   (2) School districts located outside of Tier 3 and Tier 4 counties who do not have access to a College and Career Coaches Program may apply jointly with an institution of higher education, an education service cooperative, or a nonprofit organization to the Department of Career Education for participation in the College and Career Coaches Program.
   (c) A school district participating in the College and Career Coaches Program is eligible for administrative support and supplemental grants if funding is available.
   (d) A school district may use national school lunch state
categorical funds to support the school district’s participation in the
College and Career Coaches Program.

  (e)(d) Participation in the College and Career Coaches Program is
contingent on the availability of funding.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-1-603(b)(1), concerning program
administration, is amended to read as follows:

  (b) The Department of Career Education, the division manager for
Arkansas Works, an administrative analyst, and at least two (2) managers
program advisors shall manage the College and Career Coaches Program and:
  (1) Provide guidelines and procedures for implementing the
College and Career Coaches Program;

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-1-604(a)(2), concerning college and
career coaches, is amended to read as follows:

  (2) Complete Hold a career development facilitator certification
or be eligible to complete the required career development facilitator
training within one (1) year of hiring.

SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 6-1-604(b)(1), concerning college and
career coaches, is amended to read as follows:

  (b) The college and career coaches shall be stationed at an institution
of higher education, an education service cooperative, or a nonprofit
organization and shall provide services and support to students in middle
schools and high schools in Tier 3 and Tier 4 counties, including without
limitation:
  (1) Assisting the career orientation instructor with the
development of college and career plans for students, beginning in grade
seven (7);

SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 6-1-605(a)(2)(A), concerning program
effectiveness and measurement, is amended to read as follows:

  (2)(A) The Department of Education and the Department of Higher
Education shall collect and report prepare performance data reports to
determine the effectiveness of the program.

APPROVED: 04/02/2015