State of Arkansas

92nd General Assembly

Regular Session, 2019

By: Senator J. English

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING AN ECONOMIC SECURITY REPORT OF
EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS OUTCOMES; TO REQUIRE A STATE-
SUPPORTED TECHNICAL INSTITUTE TO PROVIDE AN ENROLLED
STUDENT WITH ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO THE ECONOMIC
SECURITY REPORT OF EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS OUTCOMES
PREPARED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE SERVICES; AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO REQUIRE A STATE-SUPPORTED TECHNICAL
INSTITUTE TO PROVIDE AN ENROLLED STUDENT
WITH ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO THE ECONOMIC
SECURITY REPORT OF EMPLOYMENT AND
EARNINGS OUTCOMES PREPARED BY THE
DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE SERVICES.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-60-105 is amended to read as follows:


(a)(1) Annually, beginning June 30, 2016, the Department of Workforce
Services shall prepare or contract with an entity to prepare an economic
security report of employment and earning outcomes for degrees, diplomas, and
certificates earned at state-supported institutions of higher education and
state-supported technical institutes.

(2) The report **required under subdivision (a)(1) of this section** shall be:
(A) Be made available online; and shall be
(B) Be easily accessible and readable by the public;

(3) The report shall:
(A) (C) Be broken down by educational sector;
(B) (D) Use data available to the Department of Higher
Education relating to the employment and earnings of graduates of degree,
diploma, or certificate programs from a state-supported institution of
higher education or a state-supported technical institute;
(C) (E) Use an integrated postsecondary education data
system for calculating the average student loan debt of a graduate of a
degree, diploma, or certificate program from a state-supported institution of
higher education or a state-supported technical institute;
(D) (F) Include data on the employment of graduates of a
degree, diploma, or certificate program from a state-supported institution of
higher education or a state-supported technical institute beginning the year
after the degree, diploma, or certificate is earned, including graduates
employed full-time, by:
(i) Number; and
(ii) Percentage; and
(E) (G) Include on an annual basis data on the earnings of
graduates of a degree, diploma, or certificate program at a state-supported
institution of higher education or a state-supported technical institute
beginning the year after the degree, diploma, or certificate is earned, on an
annual basis.

(b) (1) Annually, beginning July 1, 2016, a four-year state-supported
institution of higher education and a two-year state-supported institution of
higher education shall provide an enrolled student with electronic access to
the economic security report of employment and earnings outcomes prepared by
the Department of Workforce Services before the student registers for
classes.

(2) Annually, beginning July 1, 2020, a state-supported
technical institute shall provide an enrolled student with electronic access
to the economic security report of employment and earnings outcomes prepared
by the Department of Workforce Services before the student registers for
classes.

(c) Each four-year state-supported institution of higher education,
each state-supported technical institute, and each two-year state-supported institution of higher education shall provide each student electronic access to the following information annually before the student registers for classes:

(1) The top twenty-five percent (25%) of certificates and degrees reported by the four-year state-supported institution of higher education in terms of the highest full-time job placement and highest average annual earnings in the year after certificate or degree completion; and

(2) The bottom ten percent (10%) of certificates and degrees reported by the four-year state-supported institution of higher education in terms of the lowest full-time job placement and lowest average annual earnings in the year after certificate or degree completion.

(d) Annually, beginning August 1, 2016, a public school student in grade seven through grade twelve (7-12) or the student's parent or guardian shall receive a two-page summary of and electronic access to the Department of Workforce Service's economic security report of employment and earnings outcomes prepared by the Department of Workforce Services under this section.

APPROVED: 2/28/19