

1 State of Arkansas
2 88th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2011
4

As Engrossed: H3/16/11

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2011

5 By: Representative Hubbard
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO PROVIDE ONE-HALF OF PER-STUDENT FUNDING TO
9 A RESIDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR A STUDENT WHO IS A
10 HOME-SCHOOLED STUDENT OR IS ENROLLED IN A PRIVATE
11 ELEMENTARY OR SECONDARY SCHOOL AND ONE-HALF TO THE
12 STUDENT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
13

Subtitle

14
15
16 TO PROVIDE ONE-HALF OF PER-STUDENT
17 FUNDING TO A RESIDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR
18 A STUDENT WHO IS A HOME-SCHOOLED STUDENT
19 OR IS ENROLLED IN A PRIVATE ELEMENTARY OR
20 SECONDARY SCHOOL AND ONE-HALF TO THE
21 STUDENT.
22

23
24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
25

26 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 20 is amended to add an
27 additional subchapter to read as follows:

28 Subchapter 27 -- State Funding for Home-schooled and Private School
29 Elementary and Secondary Students

30 6-20-2701. Definitions.

31 As used in this subchapter:

32 (1) "Eligible student" means a child who:

33 (A) Is within the legal age requirements for enrollment in
34 a public school in this state;

35 (B) Has been an Arkansas resident or whose parent has been
36 an Arkansas resident for at least the twelve (12) months before the date of



1 an application for *funding* under this subchapter;

2 (C) Successfully completed an entire school year as a
3 home-schooled or private school student; and

4 (D) Meets other requirements for eligibility under this
5 subchapter;

6 (2) "Parent" means the parent, legal guardian, or person having
7 custody or care of a student; and

8 (3) "State-mandated benchmark exam" means a statewide assessment
9 of elementary and secondary student achievement required by state law and
10 administered through the Department of Education.

11
12 6-20-2702. Application.

13 (a)(1) Beginning July 1, 2012, the parent of an eligible student may
14 apply for *funding* under this subchapter.

15 (2) The application form and process shall be prescribed by
16 rules of the State Board of Education.

17 (b) The parent shall submit with the application evidence satisfactory
18 to the Department of Education of the eligible student's successful
19 completion of the school year immediately preceding the date of the
20 application, including without limitation that:

21 (1) With respect to a home-schooled student:

22 (A)(i) The student was home-schooled for the entire school
23 year.

24 (ii) The department may request evidence of
25 educational expenditures the parent incurred in the immediately preceding
26 school year for home-schooling the student;

27 (B) The parent met all requirements for home-schooling
28 under § 6-15-501 et seq.; and

29 (C) If the student was required to take a state-mandated
30 benchmark exam, the student scored proficient or above on the state-mandated
31 benchmark exam; or

32 (2) With respect to a private school student, the student
33 completed the school year at the private school at grade level.

34
35 6-20-2703. Funding.

36 (a) Subject to subsection (c) of this section, the Department of

1 Education shall pay to the parent of an eligible student an amount equal to
 2 one-half (1/2) of the foundation funding amount set by the General Assembly
 3 in § 6-20-2305 for the school year upon which the parent's application is
 4 based.

5 (b) A parent shall only use *the funding provided* under this subchapter
 6 for:

7 (1) Academic expenditures for home-schooling of the student; or

8 (2) Private school tuition and books.

9 (c)(1) The department shall *provide the funding* under this section
 10 from the Department of Education Public School Fund under § 19-5-305 subject
 11 to the:

12 (1) Appropriation of funds from general revenues of the state to
 13 the department for this purpose; and

14 (2) Availability of funding.

15
 16 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2303(3)(C), concerning the definition
 17 of average daily membership as used in the Public School Funding Act of 2003,
 18 is amended add an additional subdivision to read as follows:

19 (C) As applied to this subchapter, students who may be
 20 counted for average daily membership are:

21 (i) Students who:

22 (a) Reside within the boundaries of the school
 23 district;

24 (b) Are enrolled in a public school operated
 25 by the school district; and

26 (c) Are enrolled in a curriculum that fulfills
 27 the requirements established by the state board under the Standards for
 28 Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts;

29 (ii) Legally transferred students living outside the
 30 school district but are:

31 (a) Attending a public school in the school
 32 district under a provision of the Arkansas Code; and

33 (b) ~~Are enrolled~~ Enrolled in a curriculum that
 34 fulfills the requirements established by the state board under the Standards
 35 for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts;

36 (iii) Open-enrollment public charter school students

1 who are enrolled in a curriculum that fulfills the requirements established
2 by the state board under the Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public
3 Schools and School Districts; ~~or~~

4 (iv) Students who are eligible to attend and who
5 reside within the boundaries of a school district and are enrolled in the
6 Arkansas National Guard Youth Challenge Program, so long as the students are
7 participants in the program; or

8 (v)(a) Beginning with the 2012-2013 school year,
9 students who receive *funding* under § 6-5-901 et seq.

10 (b) A student under this subdivision (1)(C)(v)
11 is counted as one-half (1/2) of a student.

12
13 /s/Hubbard
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36