

**REPORT  
OF THE  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PERFORMANCE EVALUATION AND EXPENDITURE  
REVIEW (PEER)  
OF THE ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

**July 24, 2020**

Dear Co-Chairs:

Your Subcommittee on Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review (PEER) met on Tuesday, July 21, 2020, and after having reviewed the following items, reports that the Subcommittee's review and/or approval is complete unless otherwise noted. Subcommittee rules were suspended to take up items on supplemental agenda. Items from the supplemental agenda will be noted with an asterisk (\*).

**A. Cash Fund Appropriation Increase Requests – FY21**

Department of Health - \$1,300,000

**B. Items for Approval**

B.1. Various Temporary Appropriation Requests

Department of Agriculture - \$692,809

B.2. Cares Appropriation Requests

a. Department of Commerce-Arkansas Economic Development Commission - \$5,002,275 assistance to businesses

b. Department of Health - \$16,000,000 – **Deferred action to full Council**

c. Department of Commerce-Arkansas Economic Development Commission - \$7,844,021 provide forgivable loans to eligible provider of services

\*d. Department of Education-Educational Television Division – Arkansas PBS - \$5,180,000 - **Deferred action to full Council**

\*e. Department of Finance and Administration - \$4,000,000

B.3. Shared Services Appropriation Transfers

Department of Commerce - \$140,988

**C. Miscellaneous Federal Grants – FY21**

1. Department of Health - \$1,870,840

2. Department of Public Safety-Arkansas Crime Information Center - \$124,168

**D. Overtime Appropriation Transfer Requests**

1. Department of Public Safety-Division of Arkansas State Police - \$331,818

2. Department of Finance and Administration-Revenue Services Division - \$100,000

3. Department of Finance and Administration-Budget and Management Services - \$40,000

**E. UAMS National Cancer Institute Designation Trust Fund Report**

**F. Emergency Review Report (See Attachment 1)**

**G. Monthly Reports**

1. Rainy Day Fund Income and Distribution as of June 30, 2020
2. Budget Stabilization Trust Fund as of June 30, 2020
3. Tobacco Settlement Report as of June 30, 2020
4. State Central Services Fund Report as of June 30, 2020
5. COVID-19 Rainy Day Funding
6. CARES Act Report

Respectfully submitted by Subcommittee Co-Chairs, Senator Bruce Maloch and Representative DeAnn Vaught



STATE OF ARKANSAS  
**Department of Finance  
and Administration**

**Attachment 1**  
**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**  
1509 West Seventh Street, Suite 401  
Post Office Box 3278  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-3278  
Phone: (501) 682-2242  
Fax: (501) 682-1029  
[www.arkansas.gov/dfa](http://www.arkansas.gov/dfa)

July 9, 2020

Senator Bruce Maloch, Co-Chair  
Representative DeAnn Vaught, Co-Chair  
Performance Evaluation & Expenditure Review Committee  
Arkansas Legislative Council  
State Capitol Building  
Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: Items Approved on an Emergency Basis

Dear Co-Chairs:

I am forwarding for appropriate action as required by law, the attached items that have received my approval as Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Larry W. Walker'.

Larry W. Walker  
Cabinet Secretary

LWW

Attachment(s)



STATE OF ARKANSAS  
Department of Finance  
and Administration

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1509 West Seventh Street, Suite 401  
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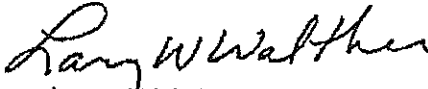
June 30, 2020

Mr. Paul Louthian, CPA  
Deputy Director and Controller  
Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration  
1509 West 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 403  
Little Rock, AR 72201-3818

Dear Mr. Louthian:

Pursuant to the provisions approved by Arkansas Legislative Council on Year End Adjustments for Fiscal Year 2020, the attached request for a Cash Fund Holding Account Appropriation transfer has received my approval as Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.

Sincerely,

  
Larry W. Walther  
Secretary



LWW:maw



STATE OF ARKANSAS  
Department of Finance  
and Administration

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June 30, 2020

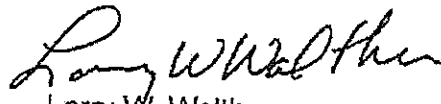
Mr. Carey Tucker  
Vice President for Finance and Administration  
South Arkansas Community College  
P.O.Box 7010  
El Dorado, AR 71731

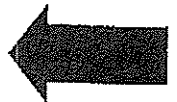
Dear Mr. Tucker:

This is to inform you that I have approved on an emergency basis a Cash Fund Holding Account Appropriation Transfer request in the amount of \$455,000. This item will be presented at the next scheduled meeting of Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review Committee for appropriate action as required by law.

The transfer document has been submitted to the Office of Accounting for processing and you will be notified when the transfer is completed.

Sincerely,

  
Larry W. Walther  
Secretary



LWW:maw

# South Arkansas Community College

P.O. Box 7010 El Dorado AR 71731 1-800-955-2289



Duncan Baird, Administrator  
Department of Finance and Administration  
Office of Budget  
1509 West 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 401  
Little Rock, AR 72203-3278

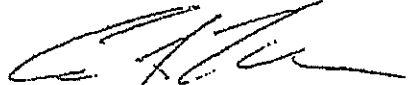
Reference: FY19 Cash Appropriation Request  
Business Area: 0193 (South Arkansas Community College)  
Fund: 2210000  
Fund Center: B78  
Commitment Item: (501:00:00) Regular Salaries  
Amount: \$415,000  
Commitment Item: (505:00:01) Extra Help  
Amount: \$40,000

Dear Mr. Baird,

South Arkansas Community College (SouthArk) respectfully requests additional cash appropriation for \$415,000 for regular salaries and \$40,000 in extra help with the establishment of a commitment line as referenced above. The appropriation will authorize SouthArk to complete the final salary payments for the fiscal year.

SouthArk requests additional appropriation for extra help funding; extra help expenses were higher than expected due to a full-time public safety officer being out for six weeks with medical issues, and we used extra help personnel to cover his regular shifts. Furthermore, additional custodians were hired during the coronavirus pandemic to handle increased cleaning procedures.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

 , 6-22-2020  
Carey F. Tucker  
Vice President for Finance and Administration



STATE OF ARKANSAS  
**Department of Finance  
and Administration**

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July 9, 2020

Senator Bruce Maloch, Co-Chair  
Representative DeAnn Vaught, Co-Chair  
Performance Evaluation & Expenditure Review Committee  
Arkansas Legislative Council  
State Capitol Building  
Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: FY20 Performance Fund/Pay Plan Holding Account Transfer  
Request(s)

Dear Co-Chairs:

I am forwarding for appropriate action as required by law, the attached  
Performance Fund/Pay Plan Holding Account Transfer Request(s) that  
have received my approval as Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.

Sincerely,

Larry W. Walther  
Cabinet Secretary

LWW

Attachment(s)

THE PERFORMANCE FUND/PAY PLAN HOLDING ACCOUNT TRANSFERS  
FOR FY20 - July PEER

BUSINESS AREA	AGENCY	FISCAL YEAR	FUND	PAY PLAN HOLDING ACCOUNT	DATE OF TRANSFER	AMOUNT OF APPROPRIATION		EMERGENCY APPROVED	PENDING JBC - PEER REVIEW
						FUND TRANSFER	TRANSFER		
Emergency (Report Only)									
0258	Arkansas Towing and Recovery Board	20		X		\$ 200.00		X	Additional Personal Service adjustments.
0305	Arkansas Manufactured Homes Commission	20		X		\$ 750.00		X	Additional Regular Salarie requested due to salary ac
0053	Attorney General	20		X		\$ 193.00		X	Additional Personal Service adjustments.
0385	Veteran Affairs	20		X		\$ 12,309.00		X	Additional Personal Service adjustments.
0450	Public Service Commission	20		X		\$ 2,400.00		X	Additional Personal Service adjustments.
0865	Division of Heritage	20		X		\$ 525.00		X	Additional Regular Salarie
0995	Emergency Management	20		X		\$ 8,000.00		X	Additional Regular Salarie
9914	Department of Transformation and Shared Services	20		X		\$ 6,187.00		X	Additional Regular Salarie.
Performance Pay (Report Only)									
0480	Department of Corrections - Div. of Corrections	20	\$ 3,517,570.00		6/9/20				Performance Funding req adjustments authorized by
0865	Department of Health - Health Services Permit Agency	20	\$ 4,468.00		6/9/20				Performance Funding req adjustments authorized by
0319	Departement of Health - Minority Health Commission	20	\$ 3,383.00		6/9/20				Performance Funding req adjustments authorized by
0975	Department of Military	20	\$ 219,059.00		6/9/20				Performance Funding req adjustments authorized by
0710	DHS - Division of Adult, Aging, & Behavioral Health	20	\$ 212,993.00		6/16/20				Performance Funding req adjustments authorized by

\$3,956,873.00

\$ 30,564.00



# ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

## Officers

Senator Cecile Bledsoe  
Senate Chair  
Representative Jeff Wardlaw  
House Chair  
Senator Terry Rice  
Senate Vice Chair  
Representative Jim Dotson  
House Vice Chair



Room 315, State Capitol Building  
Little Rock, AR 72201

Marty Garrity  
Executive Secretary

Tel: 501-682-1937  
Fax: 501-682-1936

June 24, 2020

Mr. Larry Walther, Secretary  
Department of Finance & Administration  
1509 West 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 401  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Dear Mr. Walther:

The Arkansas Legislative Council met on June 19, 2020 and passed a motion to approve the year-end adjustments for Budget Classification transfers, Miscellaneous Federal Grants, and Cash Fund Holding Account transfers, to close out Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

Please let me know if I may be of assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marty Garrity".

Marty Garrity  
Executive Secretary

MG:sla

cc: Mr. Jake Bleed, Director, DFA – Office of Budget  
Mr. Billy Parrish, Analyst, BLR  
(via electronic mail)



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June 5, 2020

Senator Bruce Maloch, Co-Chair  
Representative DeAnn Vaught, Co-Chair  
Performance Evaluation & Expenditure Review Committee  
Arkansas Legislative Council  
State Capitol Building  
Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: Prior Approval of Year-End Adjustments

Dear Co-Chairs:

I am requesting prior approval of year-end adjustments that may be required in order to close out Fiscal Year 2020. This will ensure that unanticipated items can be addressed by the Department of Finance and Administration at year-end without delay. Any item processed with this prior approval will be reported to the next regularly scheduled PEER meeting.

Without prior approval, unanticipated issues could potentially cause state payroll to be delayed, vendor payments to not be processed, the loading of Fiscal Year 2021 into the statewide accounting system (AASIS) to be interrupted, and state agency operations to be negatively impacted.

Prior review is requested for the following items:

- Budget Classification Transfers - Prior approval is requested to transfer appropriation between the General Maintenance and Operating commitment items in an agency appropriation, limited to the amount of existing appropriation available in these commitment items. This would allow a transfer to be made should unanticipated expenses arise at the end of the year. These requests do not increase the amount of appropriation available for an agency, but

simply allow an agency to move amounts from one commitment items to another.

- Miscellaneous Federal Grants - Prior approval is requested for up to \$1 million in total transfers. This will allow agencies the ability to utilize federal funding if unanticipated issues arise.
- Cash Fund Holding Account Transfers - Prior approval is requested for up to \$1 million in total transfers. This will ensure sufficient appropriation for Cash Funded agencies if unforeseen issues arise.

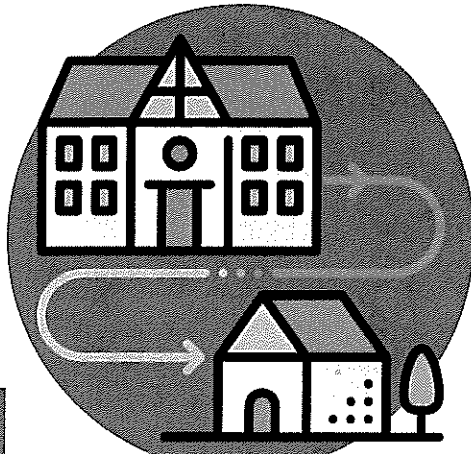
Appropriation will only be provided in the amounts needed by a state agency. All items processed on an emergency basis with this prior approval will be reported to the next regularly scheduled ALC-PEER meeting.

Sincerely,



Larry W. Walther  
Cabinet Secretary

LWW:jb



Arkansas  PBS 

# Arkansas AMI

March 30-May 22

"I loved how quickly and creatively AR PBS came to the rescue in our unique educational situation."

*AMI viewer*

## Daily and Essential.

**Today, more than ever, Arkansas PBS** is providing daily and essential services to Arkansas students, teachers and families during an unprecedented time.

Arkansas PBS, in partnership with the Arkansas Department of Education's Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), is working to keep students learning from home with Arkansas AMI (Alternative Methods of Instruction.)

Since March 17, we have dedicated the majority of our resources toward this critical goal: broadcast streamlined, curriculum-based programming for the state's pre-K through 8th grade students weekdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and make that broadcast available on all the platforms where students learn.

**20**

**Hours of Original  
Educator Content**

**400**

**Hours of Total AMI Content**

**400+**

**Original Clips**

*\*total for the full 8-week program*

"Thank you and Arkansas PBS for this awesome educational service to our children and grandchildren. At times like these we need you now more than ever. We have always been strong supporters of Arkansas PBS and will continue with our support."

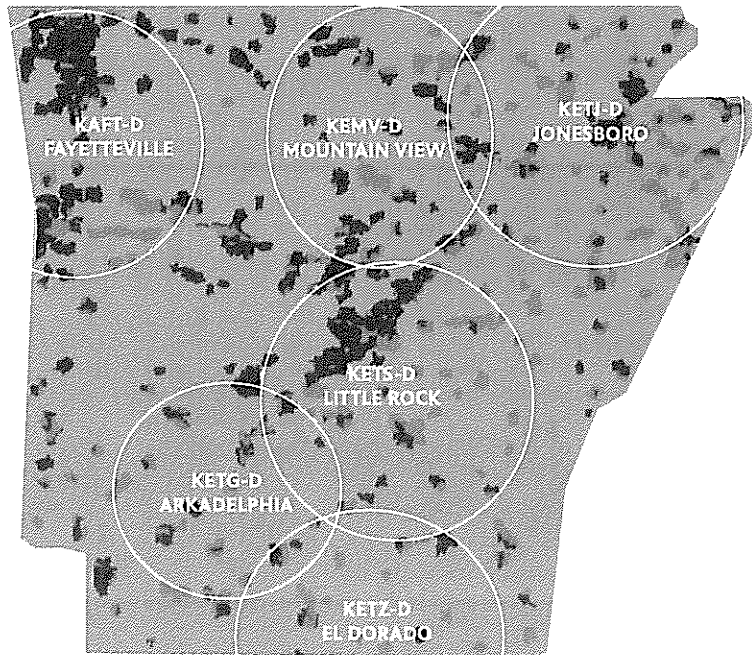
*Bill and Joanne R., Little Rock*

# Meeting A Need

For more than 15 years, Arkansas PBS and ADE have worked together to provide professional development for all Arkansas licensed educators through ArkansasIDEAS. "Arkansas AMI" furthers our partnership to provide statewide access to free educational resources to students learning at home.

"This partnership between Arkansas PBS and the Arkansas Department of Education demonstrates the type of creative solutions we need during this crisis," Gov. Asa Hutchinson said. "Our ability to meet the needs of our citizens and provide our children with educational instruction regardless of the circumstances is important. Our goal is to limit the amount of lost instruction time, and to limit the impact on our children as much as possible. This coordination helps us accomplish that goal."

## Arkansas PBS's coverage area & Arkansas's broadband access



- Areas of the state with no broadband
- Areas of the state with slow-speed broadband
- Areas of the state with high-speed broadband

**42% of Arkansans** live in rural communities and may not have internet access.

Utilizing wide-ranging media tools, Arkansas PBS is uniquely positioned to reach Arkansas families with learning resources through the power of television and a variety of digital platforms.

## Reaching Statewide.

Currently, 76% of Arkansans receive our free, over-the-air broadcast signal. Rising to the challenge of providing accessibility for the remaining 24% of families, we have made these broadcast instruction resources available to communities in areas where broadcast gaps exist through streaming and digital content. And, we are continuing to work with cable and satellite providers to further extend our reach.

### Ways to watch

- Broadcast
- Cable and Satellite
- Live streaming
- On-demand and archived online
- Engage Arkansas app
- PBS app on mobile and streaming devices
- YouTube TV

Two additional locations – Texarkana and West Memphis – now have access to Arkansas PBS TV programs.

"I want to thank you for what PBS is doing for Arkansas students, parents, and teachers. I am with Des Arc School District. ... We are 70% rural with no or limited internet access. Thank you for all your help!"

*Jaime E., Des Arc School District*

# Dashboard

myarkansaspbs.org

Engage Arkansas PBS App

**1,633,403**  
webpage views

**300,300**  
video views

**20,200**  
unique visitors

**732,261**  
page views

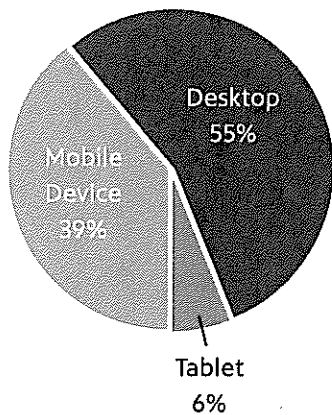
**301,958**  
unique visitors

**1,671,200**  
video digital impressions

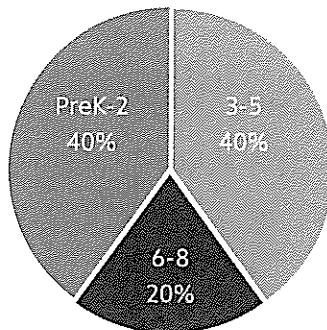
**20,200**  
downloads

**299,306**  
video plays

PLATFORMS VISITORS ARE USING



VIDEO VIEWS BY GRADE BAND



## Social Media Engagement

FACEBOOK

**▲ 53%**  
post engagement peak

**786,247**  
total reach

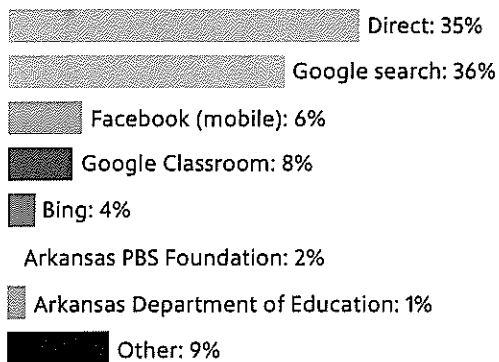
TWITTER

**442,027**  
total impressions

INSTAGRAM

**146,000**  
total impressions

## HOW VISITORS ARE FINDING US



## “Schoolhouse Daily” Learning Resources email

**3,304**  
peak total subscribers

**31.61%**  
average open rate since inception

**7.14%**  
average click rate since inception

## Arkansas IDEAS AMI email (April 14, 2020)

**49.9%**  
open rate

**8.3%**  
click rate

User Inquiries

**1,010**

Media Exposure

**6.24M**

“As an educator and parent, I salute each of you for the incredible work you all do and the tireless efforts you put into everything that you do!”

*Stacey McAdoo, 2019 Arkansas Teacher of the Year*

# PBS KIDS is #1

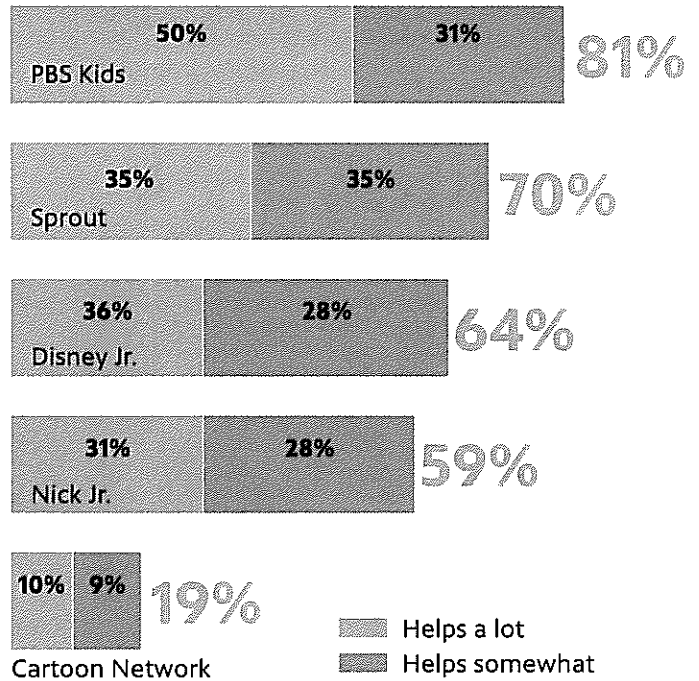


Arkansas PBS was established more than 50 years ago as an essential educational resource for Arkansans statewide.

For more than 15 years, PBS KIDS is the #1 Children's Educational Media Brand. (M&RR 2020 survey)

PBS KIDS is #1 in school readiness. (M/M survey, 2016)

How well did/does each of these networks prepare your child for school?



Arkansas PBS is #2 in PBS LearningMedia engagement (March 2020)



Arkansas PBS provides free national and local content to classrooms through Arkansas PBS LearningMedia, as well as teacher training and professional development through the ArkansasIDEAS professional development portal, which currently serves 60,000 users throughout the state.

"Thank you! This program helps us 'homeschool teachers' so much! I love the structure. And, my kids crave it! Thanks for all your hard work. This means the world to our family. Keep up the awesome work! My son with anxiety really misses his teachers and the structure of school. Having a schedule for his day and the shows to watch has eased his anxiety so much!"

*Parent message on social media*



## OPINION

## EDITORIAL: Teach your children well

And feed them on your dreams ...

Today at 4:06 a.m.



Follow

Thomas More: Why not be a teacher? You'd be a fine teacher. Perhaps even a great one.

Rich: And if I was, who would know it?

More: You, your pupils, your friends, God. Not a bad public, that.

--"A Man for All Seasons"

This past spring, many Americans found out just how important teachers are. As if anybody really needed a reminder. But for those of us who did, yow. Ninth-grade math and seventh-grade science grows more distant as the years pass. There is a reason why so many experts--in education, economics and politics--want schools to reopen. The kids can't go another year relying on Mom and Dad to explain how to multiply fractions.

This past semester, most teachers taught classes using computers, cameras and educational "distance learning" programs. Some of them, in certain classes and subjects, got an assist from Arkansas PBS.

While the television or iPad screen can't replace learning with a teacher, it's a good supplemental resource. Elmo, Big Bird, Arthur and others can help teach some kids in the earlier grades while they're away from the classroom. Not only that, but during this past semester, Arkansas PBS worked closely with the state Department of Education to make alternative means of instruction for students learning at home.

And Arkansas PBS wants to reach more students. Fortunately, thanks to approval from the CARES Act steering committee, the educational broadcast network is one step closer. Apparently, the broadcast signal covers around 76 percent of the population. That's a free signal over the air any parent with a set of rabbit ears can access, so long as they're in range.

PBS can be a great addition for folks who may not have high-speed Internet in rural areas (something Arkansas struggles with). And Arkansas PBS has asked for \$6.4 million to expand its broadcast coverage.

So where would that expansion go? Long-time state government reporter Michael Wickline has more:

"These areas include the northern valley region of Harrison and Mountain Home extending from the Ozark National Forest north to the Missouri state line; the Arkansas River Valley extending west through the Ouachita National Forest to the Oklahoma state line, the plains extending from Forrest City east through to West Memphis and the Tennessee state line; and the southwest corner of Arkansas extending from Mena through Hope to Magnolia and including Texarkana."

That would help a lot of students who may yet have distance learning or some kind of in-person and online hybrid schedule when they return to school next month.

Arkansas PBS said it needs to establish four new broadcast transmitter sites to fill in four areas of poor reception and increase its coverage up to about 97 percent of the state's students. Our considered editorial opinion? Let's make it happen. Stamp the forms. Appropriate the funding.

Who else is so dedicated to providing free supplemental education to Arkansas students without regard to finances or living situation? Arkansas PBS has proven time and time again to be a responsible steward of the tax dollars it's given. The group should be rewarded with what it needs to keep teaching our kids.

A president of little note once said the best education is Mark Hopkins on one end of a log and a student on the other. Mr. Garfield knew the importance of face-to-face education with a great teacher. But on those occasions when it's impossible, the best systems adapt. And Arkansas' public broadcasting team has filled in nicely where it could. Thanks, all.

## Topics

[PBS](#), [Arkansas](#), [Mountain Home](#), [National Forest](#), [Forrest city](#), [Arkansas River valley](#), [CARES Act](#), [Michael Wickline](#)



# Arkansas AMI Testimonials

"Yes! My son used these videos. Our internet is my mobile phone as a hotspot, and our signal where we live is terribly weak and slow. I teach college classes, so I have to get up at 2 or 3 a.m. to use the internet because that's when it's fastest (very few people in the area using it at that time). I have spent many, many days parked outside the college working in my car so I could use WiFi, and that situation is cumbersome, and it means I can't be home with my son. These AMI videos broadcast via local PBS stations were wonderful, and the whole family watched them!"

— *Rae Summers Thompson*

"I'm a kindergarten teacher at Hillcrest Elementary and I want to say thanks for all that you are doing for our kids!! During this crazy and difficult time I have felt better about my students' education by what they are receiving from you. Thank you!

Also, I'm begging that you continue broadcasting until the end of the school year. Our students need some type of stability during this time. To flip flop back and forth between your broadcasting and AMI packets, developed by the teachers, is not what our students need. We need to give them some type of routine and balance during this trying time. So once again I ask that you take this into consideration for OUR KIDS! Thanks."

— *Michelle Doyle*

"The AMI PBS is a stroke of genius. Dr. Markham is my former 4th grade student. THANKS DESE!"

— *Dolores Chambers-Cowart*

"PBS, you have done an absolutely phenomenal job during this COVID-19 crisis of facilitating education and resources out to families and educators. I cannot congratulate you enough. I see an award coming out of this. An incredible job you are doing for the children of the great state of Arkansas."

— *Sincera Wellness*

# Arkansas AMI Testimonials

"Thank you! This program helps us 'homeschool teachers' so much! I love the structure, and my kids crave it!"

— *State Representative Julie Mayberry*

"MY life just got a whole lot easier! I learned my own children's school is using #ArkansasAMI from @ArkansasPBS & @ArkansasEd!!!"

— *Courtney Cochran, 2017 Arkansas Teacher of the Year*

"I appreciate all you are doing to keep Arkansas citizens informed during this time. Arkansas PBS has proven to be very nimble – just what we need."

— *State Senator Jane English*

"Big structural challenges remain, but I'm proud of how Arkansas PBS has stepped up to the challenge! Way to be a national leader!"

— *Dr. Chris Jones, Executive Director, Arkansas Regional Innovation Hub*

"@ArkansasPBS was there for me as a kid, and it's here now for my own."

— *State Senator Greg Leding*

"As an educator and parent, I salute each of you for the incredible work you all do and the tireless efforts you put into everything that you do!"

— *Stacey McAdoo, 2019 Arkansas Teacher of the Year*

"Thank you and Arkansas PBS for this awesome educational service to our children and grandchildren. At times like these we need you now more than ever."

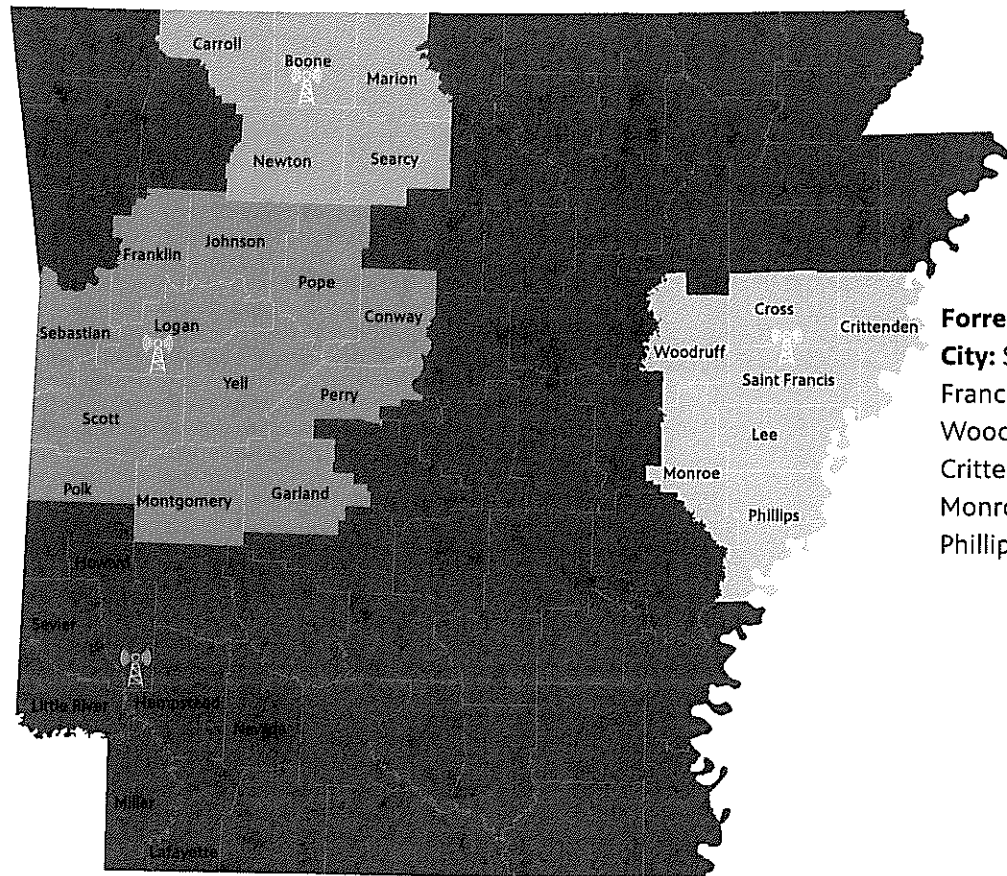
— *Bill and Joanne Rausch*

# Counties Covered By Proposed Towers

**Gaither:** Carroll, Boone,  
Marion, Newton, Searcy.

**White Oak Ridge:**  
Sebastian, Franklin,  
Johnson, Pope, Logan,  
Scott, Yell, Conway,  
Perry, north Polk,  
north Montgomery,  
north Garland.

**Yanci:** Little River,  
Sevier, Howard,  
Hempstead, Miller,  
Lafayette, south Polk,  
north Lafayette,  
west Nevada.



**Forrest City:** Saint Francis, Cross, Woodruff, Crittenden, Monroe, Lee, Phillips.