

# Arkansas Career Coach Program

A Program of the Division of Career and Technical Education  
Arkansas Department of Career Education  
ARCareerEd.org

## MISSION

Ensures students are exposed to job training and educational opportunities beyond high school through career exploration, development, and planning to prepare for 21<sup>st</sup> century jobs.

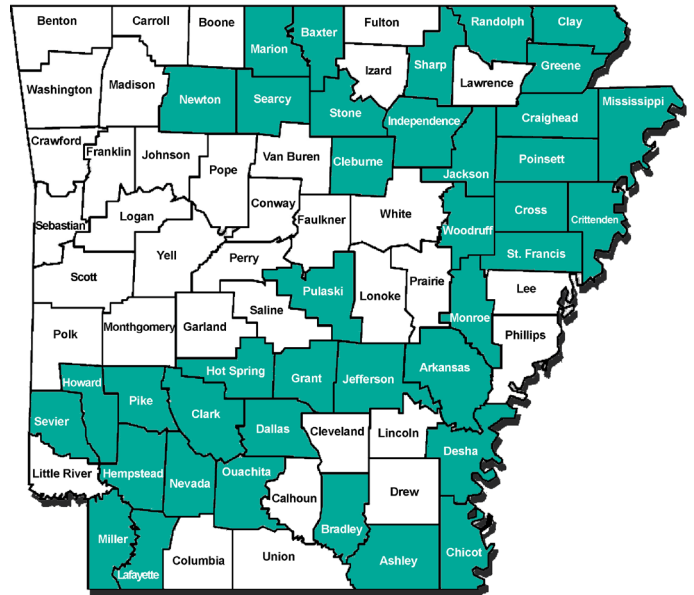
## PROGRAM COMPONENTS

- ▶ College and Career Coaches
- ▶ ACT Academies
- ▶ Career Cluster Camps and College visits
- ▶ Arkansas College Application Campaign

## OVERVIEW

### College and Career Coaches (formerly known as Arkansas Works)

- ▶ Piloted in January 2010
- ▶ Work in partnership with Career Orientation teachers and School Counselors
- ▶ Serves all students, but targets “middle majority” students
- ▶ Employees of Two-Year Colleges and Education Cooperatives serving students in local middle and high schools
- ▶ Serves as career pathway specialists in the high schools
- ▶ Act 1285 of the 2013 General Legislative Session allowed for expansion of their services beyond pilot area



College and career coaches are co-located through:

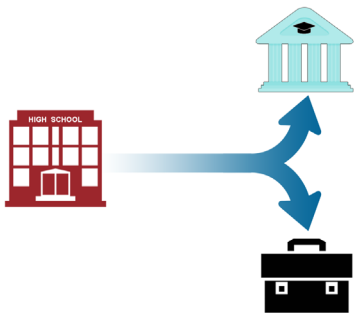
- ▶ 54 School Districts
- ▶ 18 Two-Year Colleges
- ▶ 1 Educational Service Cooperative

## PARTNERSHIPS

The Arkansas Career Coach Program is a partnership between state agencies, school districts, and two year colleges.



# Program Components & Results



**College and career coaches provide services and assistance in these areas:**

- ▶ Developing and revising college and career plans
- ▶ Preparing for postsecondary education
- ▶ Applying for financial aid
- ▶ Making connections between education and careers
- ▶ Transitioning to postsecondary education

## ACADEMIC YEAR ACT ACADEMY

- ▶ Began in June 2010
- ▶ Designed to increase ACT scores and reduce remediation rates
- ▶ Students may qualify, if they score less than a 19 on the English, Math, and/or reading sections of the ACT exam
- ▶ Pre- and Post-assessments with 20 hours (10 hours English/Reading and 10 hours Math/Science) of instruction
- ▶ Instruction based on Sylvan Learning ACT Instructional Model
- ▶ Reinforces Soft Skill
- ▶ Average increase of 3 points on the Composite score

## CAREER CLUSTER CAMPS

- ▶ Began in 2013
- ▶ Offered to Middle and High School students
- ▶ Based on most popular Career Clusters, as determined by career assessments
- ▶ Provides Hands-on, interactive career exploration activities
- ▶ Fosters mentoring opportunities

## ARKANSAS COLLEGE APPLICATION CAMPAIGN

- ▶ Piloted in 2014
- ▶ Nation-wide Initiative from the American Council on Education
- ▶ Encourage more students from low-income, first generation families, minority groups, and rural communities to apply to college

## FINAL PERFORMANCE MEASURES Prior to Career Coach Program (2015)

### College Going Rate:

(Goal to Date: 10%)

Increased by

**22.15%**

(33.10% to 55.26%)

State Rate Increased by 4.02% (46.9 to 50.92)

### ACT Score:

(Goal to Date: .5 points)

Increased by

**1.58 points**

(19.53 to 21.11)

State Rate Increased by .79 points (21.31 to 22.1)

### Remediation Rate:

(Goal to Date: -10%)

Decreased by

**-15.7%**

(68.58% to 47.88%)

State Rate Decreased by 3.94% (46.4 to 42.46)

### Applications for Financial Aid:

(Goal to Date: 10%)

Increased by

**32.3%**

(40.2% to 72.5%)

State Rate Increased by 16.8% (50.6% to 66.2%)

