

ARKANSAS SENATE
95th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2025
Amendment Form

JBC 04/02/25 (2.f.)

Subtitle of Senate Bill 362

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY AND
SECONDARY EDUCATION YOUTH ORGANIZATION GRANTS APPROPRIATION FOR
THE 2025-2026 FISCAL YEAR.

Amendment No. 1 to Senate Bill 362

Amend Senate Bill 362 as originally introduced:

Pages 1-2, delete SECTIONS 1 - 2 in their entirety and substitute the following:

" SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION - YOUTH ORGANIZATION GRANTS. There is hereby appropriated to the Department of Education, to be payable from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for grants to youth organizations by the Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026
(01) YOUTH ORGANIZATION GRANTS	<u>\$4,000,000</u>

SECTION 2. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. YOUTH ORGANIZATION GRANT REQUIREMENTS.

(a) A grant authorized by this act shall be awarded to a youth organization that does not compel or require a person to adopt, affirm, or profess an idea in violation of Title IV and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Pub. L. No. 88-352 in accordance with any local or national



organization requirement that:

(1) Compels a person to adopt, affirm, or profess an idea in violation of Title IV and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Pub. L. No. 88-352, as it existed on January 1, 2025, including that:

(A) People of one color, creed, race, ethnicity, sex, age, marital status, familial status, disability status, religion, national origin, or any other characteristic protected by federal or state law are inherently superior or inferior to people of another color, creed, race, ethnicity, sex, age, marital status, familial status, disability status, religion, national origin, or any other characteristic protected by federal or state law; or

(B) An individual should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment solely or partly because of the individual's color, creed, race, ethnicity, sex, age, marital status, familial status, disability status, religion, national origin, or any other characteristic protected by federal or state law; or

(2) Requires a person or youth organization to adopt, affirm, or profess an idea based on a diversity, equity, and inclusion initiative, which includes:

(A) An office, division, department, administrator, or person associated with a youth organization that has the purpose of:

(i) Influencing administrative, hiring, or employment practices at a youth organization;

(ii) Promoting:

(a) Preferences based on race, color, sex, ethnicity, or national origin;

(b) Differential treatment on the basis of race, color, sex, ethnicity, or national origin; or

(c) Political or social activism to consider race, color, sex, ethnicity, or national origin as factors in decision-making, except when required by federal or state law; or

(iii) Any promotion described under subdivision (a)(2)(A)(ii) of this section that conflicts with state and federal antidiscrimination laws;

(B) Any program, activity, applicant statement, or training that promotes an activity described in subdivision (a)(2)(A)(ii) of

this section;

(C) The distribution of literature, materials, or other information that promotes an activity described in subdivision (a)(2)(A)(ii) of this section;

(D) The exposure to or distribution of materials through a virtual platform that promote an activity described in subdivision (a)(2)(A)(ii) of this section or that violate Title IV or Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Pub. L. No. 88-352; or

(E) Soliciting an individual, either in person or through a virtual platform, to subscribe to or otherwise adhere to an activity described in subdivision (a)(2)(A)(ii) of this section or that violates Title IV or Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Pub. L. No. 88-352.

(b) To be eligible for a grant authorized by this act, a youth organization that is affiliated with a national organization shall submit an official memorandum of understanding between the youth organization and national organization that acknowledges the youth organization's intent to comply with this act.

(c) A grant authorized by this act shall be provided to a youth organization that aligns with the educational goals of the Governor and General Assembly.

(d) A youth organization eligible for a grant under this act shall promote the fundamental values of a healthy home environment and engage youth to become role models in their homes, hometowns, schools, state, nation, and the world.

(e) Funding shall be made available only to eligible entities for comprehensive out-of-school time programs for school-aged children.

(f) To be eligible for a grant under this act, a youth organization shall:

(1) Provide out-of-school time programs during the school year to school-aged children;

(2) Provide regular activities designed for evidence-based academic enhancement that aligns with and supports state curriculum standards and includes at least two (2) of the following five (5) activity areas:

(A) STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math);

(B) Academic support;

(C) Goal setting and leadership activities;

(D) Career exposure and workforce readiness; and

(E) Community service opportunities.

(3) Provide activities under subdivision (f)(2) as part of a comprehensive out-of-school program;

(4) Operate for a minimum of the following, which shall not include designated school breaks:

(A) Twelve (12) hours each week during the school year;
and

(B) Four (4) days each week during the school year;

(5) Collect data on participants' demographics, attendance, and program participation, and compile statewide aggregated data;

(6) Implement rigorous safety standards, including without limitation employee background checks and maintaining compliance with mandated reporting laws; and

(7)(A) Be a qualified 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) organization that has been in operation for more than five (5) years and has a record of fiscal accountability.

(B) A youth organization shall provide a sustainability model demonstrating a minimum of fifty percent (50%) of funding derived from non-state resources.

(C) If a youth organization has operated for five (5) years or less, the youth organization may provide a financial plan and have a Certificate of Good Standing from the Secretary of State to be approved by the Department of Education.

(g) Youth Organizations holding a charter of five years or less shall be eligible for a matching grant share of seventy-five (75%) using the funds appropriated in this Act once certification that a twenty-five (25%) local investment is made for the program.

(h) Youth Organizations holding a charter of greater than 5 years shall be eligible for a matching grant share of fifty (50%) using the funds appropriated in this Act once certification that a fifty (50%) local investment is made for the program.

(i) If at any time it is determined by the department that a youth organization has not followed requirements established by this section, the youth organization shall not be eligible for any future grants.

(j) The Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall promulgate rules for the determination of eligible youth organizations, the disbursement of funds, and the ongoing administration of this program in accordance with the requirements of this section.

(k) The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026."

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and _____

By: Senator K. Hammer

KMW/KMW - 04-02-2025 11:22:29

KMW045

Secretary