

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION-SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF (0513)

FISCAL YEAR 2018

AS ENACTED BY ACT 677 OF 2017

I) AGENCY SUMMARY & REVENUE SOURCES

MISSION

The school operates as a day school with residential facilities and provides educational services and opportunities for students Birth through the age of 21. Programming includes academic, vocational, social-emotional, transition, residential, extra-curricular, family training, audiological services, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech-language therapy, psychological services, health services, and nutritional meals. The School also functions as a Resource Center on Deafness, coordinating programs that identify and provide services to students who are deaf and hard of hearing throughout the State through partnerships with agencies such as the Department of Career Education, Department of Education, Arkansas Rehabilitation Services, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, and the Little Rock Adult Education Center.

TOTAL APPROPRIATION

The total appropriation is \$11,289,244 in FY2018.

FUNDING SOURCES

The appropriations for the School for the Deaf are funded by general revenue, federal funds, cash funds, day care lease payments and fund balances.

II) CHANGE LEVEL REQUESTS

No Change Level Requests

III) ADDITIONAL POSITIONS (Total FY2017 Authorized Positions: 161)

Total Positions FY2018: 161

Total Base Level Positions: 161

Increase / (Decrease) over Base Level: 0

Extra Help Positions FY2018: 55 (Total FY2017 Authorized Extra Help: 55)

IV) SPECIAL LANGUAGE

SUMMER SCHOOL EMPLOYEES: Authorizes additional compensation not to exceed 1/12 of their annual salary each month or part thereof worked, to selected classifications of employees who work during the summer months in addition to working during the regular school term.

SPECIAL ALLOWANCE: Allows the School to provide up to \$3,500 per school term/per fiscal year in special allowances to employees who complete any of the following in addition to their regular duties:

- Teach adult education classes, parent training, or student tutorial services on weekends or evenings
- Coach one or more sports

- Sponsor a club or organization outside of normal working day
- Provide interpretative services

ADDITIONAL SALARY/COMPENSATION PROVISION: Prohibits employees from receiving an additional salary from the School or other state agency without written certification from the Superintendent and approval by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State that the additional position does not interfere with their primary duties and that the combined salaries do not exceed the maximum salary for the highest salary of the two positions. Provides for termination upon knowingly violating this provision, and the employee is barred from employment for three (3) years or until the salary in violation of this provision has been repaid including 10% interest.

SHIFT DIFFERENTIAL: Establishes the hours for shift work must begin not earlier than 2:00 p.m. and end no later than 8:00 a.m. the following day.

***LANGUAGE REVISED* CERTIFIED MASTERS OR BACHELOR TEACHERS ENTERING STATE SERVICE**
 - Allows teachers entering state service to teach sensory impaired individuals to be paid not less than what they would have received from their previous employer effective on their employment with the Arkansas School for the Deaf, upon certification of the prior service by the Superintendent to the Office of Personnel Management. Language is added to require approval by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.

TRANSFER PROVISION: Authorizes transfer of appropriation from the Miscellaneous Activities special line item to Personal Salaries and Matching and Maintenance & General Operating Expenses line items to compensate staff who work during the summer months, for other summer project expenses, to pay for interpreting services, and shift differential pay, upon Chief Fiscal Officer approval.

***LANGUAGE REVISED* TEACHER SALARY INCREASE:** Provides that if an act is passed to provide funds to the public schools to raise salaries of teachers, the School for the Blind and the School for the Deaf are also included. This language is revised to require approval of the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State for this pay adjustment to occur.

SPECIAL RATES OF PAY: Authorizes the School to adjust specified classifications of new or current employees to at least the minimum level of compensation for public school employees, up to the maximum for the assigned grade, upon Office of Personnel Management and Arkansas Legislative Council Personnel Committee review and Chief Fiscal Officer Approval of the plan for the adjustments. Authorizes the use of Merit Adjustment funding for these increases, but also requires the School to use salary savings.