

**0520 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE - ARKANSAS REHABILITATION SERVICES  
(including State Services for the Blind)  
FISCAL YEAR 2024  
AS ENACTED BY ACT 283 OF 2023**

The Department of Commerce - Arkansas Rehabilitation Services' (DOC - ARS) mission is to provide opportunities for individuals with disabilities to work and lead productive and independent lives. ARS provides statewide vocational rehabilitation services to disabled persons so they can return to or enter employment. ARS carries out its responsibilities through a field program that reaches all 75 counties through 19 field offices, the Arkansas Career Development Center (formerly the Arkansas Training Institute - ACTI), Business Engagement services, Access and Accommodations Programs, Transition and Support Services, and the Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. In 2019 the State Services for the Blind, originally established to provide services to blind and severely visually impaired persons through a network of counselors and private service providers throughout the State, was transferred **from** the Department of Human Services **to** Rehabilitation Services.

**TOTAL APPROPRIATION**

Appropriation		2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
		Actual	Authorized	Legislative
128	Rehab Services - Operations	\$41,451,834	\$55,677,539	\$58,203,364
1VB	Increase Capabilities Access Network	\$596,692	\$634,946	\$814,379
374	Statewide Disability Telecomm	\$384,552	\$495,581	\$500,325
743	People w/Disabilities	\$12,500	\$30,000	\$30,000
902	Tech Equipment - Treasury	\$252,495	\$532,085	\$532,085
903	Rehab Services - Treasury Pay	\$152,752	\$356,542	\$356,542
E81	World Services Blind Adult Ed (NEW)	\$0	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000
Z84	Blind Services Operations	\$4,697,543	\$6,310,724	\$6,701,766
Z85	Blind Services Grants	\$3,748,746	\$4,646,768	\$4,646,768
<b>Total</b>		\$51,297,114	\$70,684,185	\$73,785,229

**FUNDING SOURCES**

Funding Sources		2021-2022 Actual	%
Fund Balance	4000005	\$2,913,768	5.07
General Revenue	4000010	\$13,493,937	23.46
Federal Revenue	4000020	\$36,364,598	63.21
Special Revenue	4000030	\$447,628	0.78
Cash Fund	4000045	\$179,623	0.31
Rainy Day Fund	4000267	\$292,000	0.51
Investments	4000315	\$128,238	0.22
Inter-agency Fund Transfer	4000316	\$3,387,039	5.89
Other	4000370	\$258,705	0.45
<b>Total Funds</b>		\$57,526,625	100.00
<b>Excess Appropriation/(Funding)</b>		(\$6,229,511)	
<b>Grand Total</b>		\$51,297,114	

## CHANGE LEVEL REQUESTS

### Rehab Services - Operations (Appropriation 128)

Commitment Item		2022-2023	2023-2024	
		Authorized	Legislative	Change Level
5010000	Regular Salaries	\$15,920,618	\$17,437,863	\$1,517,245
5010003	Personal Services Matching	\$5,662,355	\$6,670,935	\$1,008,580
<b>Total</b>		\$21,582,973	\$24,108,798	\$2,525,825

- Increase due to salary and matching rate adjustments during the 2021-2023 Biennium.

### Increase Capabilities Access Network (Appropriation 1VB)

Commitment Item		2022-2023	2023-2024	
		Authorized	Legislative	Change Level
5010000	Regular Salaries	\$172,960	\$226,603	\$53,643
5010003	Personal Services Matching	\$61,795	\$87,585	\$25,790
5120011	Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0	\$100,000
<b>Total</b>		\$234,755	\$314,188	\$179,433

- Increase due to salary and matching rate adjustments during the 2021-2023 Biennium.
- Increase in Capital Outlay to accommodate a Miscellaneous Federal Grant to purchase communication devices for individuals who rely on assistive and augmentative communication to make their voices heard.

### Statewide Disability Telecomm (Appropriation 374)

Commitment Item		2022-2023	2023-2024	
		Authorized	Legislative	Change Level
5010003	Personal Services Matching	\$45,877	\$50,621	\$4,744
<b>Total</b>		\$45,877	\$50,621	\$4,744

- Increase due to matching rate adjustments during the 2021-2023 Biennium.

### Blind Services Operations (Appropriation Z84)

Commitment Item		2022-2023	2023-2024	
		Authorized	Legislative	Change Level
5010000	Regular Salaries	\$3,302,072	\$3,545,494	\$243,422
5010003	Personal Services Matching	\$1,227,033	\$1,399,653	\$172,620
5120011	Capital Outlay	\$25,000	\$0	(\$25,000)
<b>Total</b>		\$4,554,105	\$4,945,147	\$391,042

- Increase due to salary and matching rate adjustments during the 2021-2023 Biennium.

### World Services for the Blind - Adult Ed (Appropriation E81)

Commitment Item		2022-2023	2023-2024	
		Authorized	Legislative	Change Level
5100004	Grants and Aid	\$0	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000
<b>Total</b>		\$0	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000

- New appropriation provides for a grant to World Services for the Blind for personal services, operating expenses, equipment, curriculum and adult education programming services for costs including, but not limited to, assistive hardware and technology, adaptive software and licenses, and retrofitting of classrooms.

**POSITIONS**

Total Authorized Positions FY2024: 455 (Rehabilitation Services – 377, State Services for the Blind – 78)

Total Authorized Positions FY2023: 445 (Rehabilitation Services – 367, State Services for the Blind – 78)

Increase / (Decrease): 0

Extra Help Positions FY2024: 49 (Rehabilitation Services -19, State Services for the Blind – 30)

**SPECIAL LANGUAGE REVISIONS**

None.