C

STATE OF ARKANSAS
Department of Finance and Administration

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November 6, 2026

Senator Scott Flippo, Co-Chair
Representative Jeffrey Wardlaw, Co-Chair
Performance Evaluation & Expenditure Review Committee
Arkansas Legislative Council
State Capitol Building
Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: FY27 American Rescue Plan Act Request

Dear Co-Chairs:

Pursuant to Section 34 (01) of Act 168 of 2026, I am forwarding the attached American Rescue Plan Act request(s) that have received my approval as Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.

1. South Arkansas College – Arkansas Linking Industry to Grow Nurses (ALIGN) ARPA – realignment of previously approved appropriation $0

Pursuant to Section 34 (02) of Act 168 of 2026, I am forwarding the attached American Rescue Plan Act request(s) that have received my approval as Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.

2. Department of Shared Administrative Services – Office of State Technology – State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds - Workforce $261,240

Sincerely,

James L. Hudson
Secretary

Attachment(s)

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 PROGRAM APPROPRIATION AND PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATION REQUEST SECTION 34 OF ACT 168 OF 2026

C.1

Agency: South Arkansas College Business Area Code: 01930

Program Title: Arkansas Linking Industry to Grow Nurses (ALIGN) ARPA

Granting Organization: OSD-Office of Skills Development CFDA #: 21.0027.21.027

Effective Date of Authorization: Beginning: 11/14/2024 Ending: 12/31/2026
(Date should be no later than June 30 of the current fiscal year.)

Purpose of Grant / Reason for addition or change (include attachments as necessary to provide thorough information):
South Arkansas College is requesting to realign its prior approved ALIGN ARPA appropriation to allow the maximum use of the ARPA funds, while still carrying out the original purpose of these funds.
To provide a program of study in Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) by addressing budget deficit between the vocational center aid, based on LPN program enrollment and fixed costs of offering the LPN program during the period. This program was designed through Office of Skills Development and Arkansas institutions of higher education to design, develop and implement innovative programs to fill the ever increasing gap in the healthcare industry of nursing shortages across Arkansas and throughout the United States.

American Rescue Plan Act Program Funding

Func. Area: AD70000.00193 S4 Grant Code: 99999 Direct Funding: X
Fund Code: 221ARP2000 Internal Order/WBS Element: State:
Continuation:

	Program Funding Amount
Regular Salaries	25,290
Extra Help	
Personal Services Matching	5,946
Operating Expenses	(31,236)
Conference & Travel Expenses	-
Professional Fees	
Capital Outlay	
Data Processing	
Grants and Aid (BG04)	
Other:	
Other:	
Total	$ -

Anticipated Duration of Federal Funds: 12/31/2026

State Technology Plan Approval **Date**
Items requested for information technology must be in compliance with Technology Plans as submitted.

Positions to be established: (list each position separately) * unclassified positions only

Org Unit	Pers Area	Pers SubArea	Cost Center	Position Number	Cmnt Item	Position Title	Class Code	Grade	Line Item Maximum *

State funds will not be used to replace federal funds when such funds expire, unless appropriated by the General Assembly and authorized by the Governor.

Approved by: 10/22/26
Cabinet Secretary/Agency Director Date

Jessica Moore 11/06/26
Office of Budget Date

Office of Personnel Mgmt Date

MPK 10-23-26

Docusign Envelope ID: C81D51A7-6862-8339-837E-C3DB9C4B3660

Cody Waits
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
WORKFORCE CONNECTIONS

Stephanie Isaacs
DIRECTOR,
OFFICE OF SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

ARKANSAS OFFICE OF SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

AND

South Arkansas College Secondary Technical Center

MOU # ALIGN 252629

AS AMENDED

ASSURANCES AND COMPLIANCE: This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) shall be governed by and construed under the laws of the State of Arkansas. The parties agree to comply with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Executive Order 11246, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the related regulations to each. Each Party assures that it will not discriminate against any individual on the basis of race, religion, creed, color, sex, age, disability, veteran status, or national origin. Nothing in this MOU may be construed to waive the sovereign or statutory immunities of either Party.

PERIOD COVERED: This MOU shall take effect on July 1, 2024, or the date signed by both Parties. The MOU shall continue through December 31, 2026. All requests for reimbursement must be submitted by December 1, 2026.

PARTIES: Parties to this MOU are the Arkansas Office of Skills Development (OSD) and South Arkansas College Secondary Technical Center (SouthArk TC). OSD is a state agency authorized to award strategic grants to public and private organizations for the development and implementation of Arkansas workforce training programs. SouthArk TC serves to advance nursing profession by preparing graduates to meet ever-changing client needs for health care.

BACKGROUND: The State of Arkansas has recognized the challenge that the healthcare industry faces due to the nursing shortage that exists across the United States. OSD and Arkansas institutions of higher education have been empowered to design, develop, and implement innovative programs to fill this ever-increasing gap through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 for the *Arkansas Linking Industry to Grow Nurses (ALIGN) Program.* This grant program is aimed at upskilling lower-level professionals, expanding nursing apprenticeships, increasing nurse educator recruitment and retention, expanding clinical rotations, increasing nursing program capacity where relevant, reimbursing tuition, purchasing equipment, implementing simulation centers, and expanding labs.

PURPOSE OF MOU: To provide funding through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 for the *ALIGN Program* at SouthArk TC, which will deliver a program of study in Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN). SouthArk TC is a multi-district vocational center located on the South Arkansas College El Dorado campus. This MOU addresses the budget deficit between the vocational center aid, based on LPN program enrollment, allocated to SouthArk TC for state fiscal years 2025, 2026, and Fall 2027, and the fixed costs of offering the LPN program during that period.

Docusign Envelope ID: C81D51A7-6862-8339-837E-C3DB9C4B3660

FUNDING: The funding available under this MOU shall not exceed $412,821.23. This amount shall cover actual expenditures incurred by SouthArk TC during state fiscal years 2025, 2026, and Fall 2027. The funding deficit covered by this MOU involves expenditures for instructor salaries, classroom equipment and textbooks, student supplies, and other fees necessitated by the LPN program offered through SouthArk TC.

Itemized descriptions of covered expenses are detailed in the document titled "South Arkansas College Secondary Technical Center Approved Budget for ALIGN Funding," which is attached to and incorporated with this MOU.

OSD will reimburse SouthArk TC upon receipt of documentation, expenses consistent with the "South Arkansas College Secondary Technical Center Approved Budget for ALIGN Funding" that have been incurred.

Invoices and supporting documents shall be submitted to OSD, Lesia Edwards at lesia.edwards@arkansas.gov.

PROGRAM REPORTING:

SouthArk TC will provide reports to OSD as requested. These reports shall contain:

- Verified enrollment data
- Certifications/credentials earned
- Expenditures
- Concurrent credit hours earned
- Employment outcomes

INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND CONFIDENTIALITY: The Parties agree to abide by the privacy and nondisclosure provisions of the Family Educational Rights Privacy Act, its associated federal regulations, and Arkansas privacy laws to the extent they apply.

MODIFICATION: This MOU may be modified only by written agreement signed by both Parties.

MOU NOT VALID UNLESS SIGNED BY ALL PARTIES AND ALL INFORMATION FILLED OUT:

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE:

Signed by: Stephanie R Tully-Dartez 96C394FA963B486... Dr. Stephanie Tully-Dartez, President	8/18/2026 Date	
South Arkansas College	(870) 864-7155	stully-dartez@southark.edu

STATE STAFF:

Stephanie Isaacs, Director, Office of Skills Development Arkansas Department of Commerce	Date

Docusign Envelope ID: C81D51A7-6862-8339-837E-C3DB9C4B3660

Cody Waits, Executive Director, Arkansas Workforce Connections Arkansas Department of Commerce	Date

FUND ACCOUNT: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

MOU Expiration Date	APPROPRIATION CODE	APPROPRIATION FUND	APPROPRIATION CHARACTER	SOURCE OF FUNDS	REVENUE CODE	Office of Skills Dev. Cost Ctr
12/31/2026	BX7	FRP9020	04	FEDERAL	N/A	B902102000
Total MOU Funding	$ 412,821.23					

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South Arkansas College Secondary Technical Center

Approved Budget for ALIGN Funding

Amended July 2026

	Year 1	Year 2	Total	Line #		Remaining Funds July 2026	Estimated Expenditures Fall FY27	Total Reimbursable Amount by 12/1/26
Salaries/Benefits				*Year 1*	*Year 2*			
Program Coordinator/Instructor	$ 74,800.00	$ 76,296.00	$ 151,096.00	*1*	*25*			
Program Instructor	$ 73,576.00	$ 75,047.52	$ 148,623.52	*2*	*26*			
Prerequisite Instructors	$ 6,732.00	$ 6,732.00	$ 13,464.00	*3*	*27*			
Total Salaries/Benefits	**$ 155,108.00**	**$ 158,075.52**	**$ 313,183.52**					
Classroom Equipment/Supplies								
16 laptops and charging cart	$ 16,000.00		$ 16,000.00	*4*				
Screen	$ 1,201.75		$ 1,201.75	*5*				
Instructor Station and projector for classroom	$ 1,867.75		$ 1,867.75	*6*				
Computer	$ 2,038.66		$ 2,038.66	*7*				
Other simulation supplies $150 x 16	$ 2,400.00	$ 2,400.00	$ 4,800.00	*8*	*28*			
Nursing Kelly with SimPad	$ 12,142.00		$ 12,142.00	*9*				
Total Classroom Expenses	**$ 35,650.16**	**$ 2,400.00**	**$ 38,050.16**					
Professional Development for Instructors								
Nursing Educator Institute 2025	**$ 3,200.00**	**$ 3,700.00**	**$ 6,900.00**	*10*	*29*			
Student Supplies/Expenses								
Book bundle $600 x 16	$ 9,600.00	$ 9,600.00	$ 19,200.00	*11*	*30*			
Other books $245x 16	$ 3,920.00	$ 3,920.00	$ 7,840.00	*12*	*31*			
BP Cuffs $30 x 16	$ 480.00	$ 480.00	$ 960.00	*13*	*32*			
Stethoscopes $75 x 16	$ 1,200.00	$ 1,200.00	$ 2,400.00	*14*	*33*			
Student Insurance Fee $25 x 16	$ 400.00	$ 400.00	$ 800.00	*15*	*34*			
Drug Screen Fee $48 x 16	$768.00	$ 768.00	$ 1,536.00	*16*	*35*			
Background Check Fee $70 x 16	$ 1,120.00	$ 1,120.00	$ 2,240.00	*17*	*36*			
Assessment/Testing Fee $413 x 16 students x 3 semesters	$ 11,520.00	$ 11,520.00	$ 23,040.00	*18*	*37*			
NCLEX PN cost $200 x 16	$ 400.00	$ 400.00	$ 800.00	*19*	*38*			
ARSBN License application cost $155 x 16	$ 2,480.00	$ 2,480.00	$ 4,960.00	*20*	*39*			
Uniforms $250 x 16	$ 4,000.00	$ 4,000.00	$ 8,000.00	*21*	*40*			
Official Functions (Pinning)	$ 500.00	$ 500.00	$ 1,000.00	*22*	*41*			
RQI (CPR) $70 x 16	$ 1,120.00	$ 1,120.00	$ 2,240.00	*23*	*42*			
TEAS Test Entry $70 x 16	$ 1,120.00	$ 1,120.00	$ 2,240.00	*24*	*43*			
	$ 38,628.00	**$ 38,628.00**	**$ 77,256.00**					
Total Adjusted Request	$ 232,586.16	$ 202,803.52	$ 435,389.68					
Total Adjusted Award (91.132% of Total)	**$ 211,960.42**	**$ 184,818.90**	**$ 396,779.32**			**$ 86,271.69**	**$ 102,313.60**	**$ 412,821.23**

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 PROGRAM APPROPRIATION AND PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATION REQUEST SECTION 34 OF ACT 168 OF 2026

C.2

Agency: SAS Office of State Technology Business Area Code: 0470

Program Title: State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds - Workforce

Granting Organization: DFA CFDA #: 21.027

Effective Date of Authorization: Beginning 7/1/2026 Ending: 6/30/2027
(Date should be no later than June 30 of the current fiscal yea

Purpose of Grant / Reason for addition or change (include attachments as necessary to provide thorough information):
The initiatives proposed by this funding will develop and maintain a statewide shared services data infrastructure that will streamline workforce development, improve service delivery, and enhance Arkansas' economic growth through integrated data systems. These efforts are directly aligned with the Arkansas Workforce Strategy. Specifically, the project will:

- Support Workforce Initiatives: Expand and sustain efforts like LAUNCH to drive economic growth, align the educational pipeline with job creation, and move toward a citizen-centric service delivery experience.
- Achieve Cost Avoidance and Efficiency Gains: Reduce costs through the de-duplication of data and systems, increase process efficiencies, and enhance fraud reduction and program integrity.
- Provide Robust Data Services: Offer comprehensive services such as data cataloging, secure data sharing, data quality management, and artificial intelligence, creating a flexible foundation for responding to emerging state needs.

This request is to add additional appropriation of 261,240 needed to finish out this project.

American Rescue Plan Act Program Funding

Func. Area: ACE1000.0470 S4 Grant Code: Direct Funding:
Fund Code: FRP470B000 Internal Order/WBS Element: F0470XASLFRF State: X
Continuation:

	Program Funding Amount
Regular Salaries	
Extra Help	
Personal Services Matching	
Operating Expenses	
Conference & Travel Expenses	
Professional Fees	
Capital Outlay	
Data Processing	
Grants and Aid (BG04)	
Other: CI BX46	261,240
Other:	
Total	$ 261,240

Anticipated Duration of Federal Funds: 07/01/2024 - 12/31/2026

10/14/26
State Technology Plan Approval Date
Items requested for information technology must be in compliance with Technology Plans as submitted.

Positions to be established: (list each position separately) * unclassified positions only

Org Unit	Pers Area	Pers SubArea	Cost Center	Position Number	Cmnt Item	Position Title	Class Code	Grade	Line Item Maximum *

State funds will not be used to replace federal funds when such funds expire, unless appropriated by the General Assembly and authorized by the Governor.

Approved by:

Cabinet Secretary/Agency Director 10/8/26 Date

Jessica Moore 11/06/26
Office of Budget Date

Office of Personnel Mgmt Date

CTM
10/12/2026

0470 – TSS Division of Information Systems – Workforce Integrated Data System

Total Amount to be Funded - $ 11,999,148

The State of Arkansas Department of Transformation and Shared Services (TSS), Division of Information Systems (DIS) is requesting the availability of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding of $11,999,148 for implementation and support of strategic initiatives under the Arkansas Workforce Strategy.

This funding will be used to develop and maintain a statewide shared services data infrastructure and enterprise digital services for learners, jobseekers, and employers that will streamline workforce development, improve service delivery, and enhance Arkansas' economic growth. The initiatives supported by this funding are directly aligned with the Arkansas Workforce Strategy and are designed to significantly enhance our state's workforce development and integrated service delivery capacity.

Funding will be used to implement, expand, and sustain a skills-based learning, employment, and advancement platform, integrated service delivery infrastructure, interoperable digital credentials, and other key aspects of the Arkansas Workforce Strategy to drive economic growth, educational pipeline alignment, job creation, and economic self-sufficiency and mobility.

These capabilities are not only pivotal for the advancement of our current workforce initiatives but will also support goals of the PROTECT Arkansas and LEARNS Acts and other current and emerging state priorities by providing a robust and agile foundation for responding to emerging state needs.

The funding covers non-personnel capital and operating expenditures for fiscal years 2025 through 2027, including purchase of perpetual assets with a useful life beyond FY 2027. Long term sustainability is expected to be achieved through efficiency gains and cost avoidance through the deduplication of data, systems, and effort, increased process efficiencies, improved program integrity, and more effective service delivery.

We believe that the proposed data infrastructure is well-aligned with the key ARPA goals of economic recovery, support for vulnerable populations, investing in infrastructure, and promoting a resilient workforce to ensure long-term recovery and growth. This approach also aligns with recent changes in OMB Uniform Guidance for federal funding expanding allowable costs for state integrated data system capacity, streamlining processes, and improving program design and administration. The integrated data system approach aligns with the recommendations of the ALC Data-Sharing and Data-Driven Subcommittee and Task Force and the responsibilities of the Chief Data Officer (A.C.A. § 25-4-126) and the Arkansas Data and Transparency Panel (A.C.A. § 25-4-127).