



# **Higher Education Grants Fund Financial Aid Programs**

Interim Study Proposal 2013-172  
Arkansas Legislative Council  
Higher Education Subcommittee

*Updated: December 2013*

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## Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship

### Establishment

Acts 352, 362 and 733 of 1991 established the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, followed by numerous changes through the years until Acts of 2009, Act 605, § 4, eff. March 25, 2009; Acts of 2009, Act 606, § 4, eff. March 25, 2009; Acts of 2013, Act 1173, § 14, eff. April 12, 2013; Acts of 2013, Act 1269, § 1, eff. Aug, established it as the scholarship to be funded by the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery.

### Purpose and Need

In approving Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 87, the citizens of this state provided an opportunity to increase the resources provided for higher education scholarships and grants through a state lottery. The purpose of this scholarship program is to increase student success, reduce student loans, and prepare more students for high wage and high demand jobs to benefit Arkansas's economy. Also to increase the percentage of adults in Arkansas that hold a college degree. There is a need to increase the resources provided for higher education scholarships and grants through a state lottery.

### Eligibility Requirements

Traditional: Graduated from an Arkansas public high school and has: Successfully completed the Smart Core curriculum established by the Department of Education; and Either Achieved a high school grade point average of at least 2.5; or a minimum composite score of nineteen (19) on the ACT or the equivalent score on an ACT equivalent or In the year in which the student would have been a junior or senior in high school, completed the requirements for high school graduation and obtained a General Educational Development certificate.

Non-Traditional: Non-traditional students are defined as students who are currently in college and did not receive Challenge when they graduated from high school or who received Challenge as a traditional student and subsequently lost it, as well as adults who have completed some college but do not have a degree, and those who have never attended college. Non-traditional students will qualify with a cumulative college GPA of at least 2.5. If the college GPA is below 2.5, or if they have never attended college, they can qualify with an ACT of 19. Adults with no college can qualify for the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship if they have an ACT of 19.

### Application Data

Academic Year	Number Funded	New Applications	New Awards	Funding
2008-2009	7,868	7,081	3,380	\$20,763,921
2009-2010	8,276	7,647	3,561	\$21,911,073
2010-2011	32,450	65,541	28,662	\$122,726,998
2011-2012	31,962	38,348	13,802	\$129,056,324
2012-2013	33,562	36,272	16,102	\$133,152,378

## Arkansas Geographical Critical Needs Minority Teacher Scholarship

*This program is administered by the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff*

### Establishment

Acts of 2001, Act 1731, § 2, eff. Aug. 13, 2001; Acts of 2003, Act 1746, § 1, eff. July 16, 2003

### Purpose and Need

The purpose of the program is to attract qualified minority teachers to the Delta and those geographical areas of the state where there exists a critical shortage of teachers by awarding scholarships to minorities declaring an intention to serve in the teaching field who actually render service to this state while possessing an appropriate teaching license.

### Eligibility Requirements

The scholarship is available to full-time or part-time undergraduate students who are Black-American, Hispanic-American, Asian-American or Native-American with at least a 2.5 in the core curriculum. Students must agree in writing, of an intention to teach in the Delta or a geographical area of the State in which there exists a critical shortage of teachers. Students must have scored nineteen (19) or above on the ACT composite or the equivalent. This program is administered by the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff. Full-time up to \$1,500.00 Part-time up to \$750.00

### Application and Funding Data

Academic Year	Number Funded	New Applications	New Awards	Funding
2008-2009	69	101	69	\$148,620
2009-2010	97	114	97	\$148,862
2010-2011	107	118	107	\$124,824
2011-2012	99	110	99	\$115,750
2012-2013	50	57	50	\$65,250

## Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program

### Establishment

Acts of 1983 (Ex. Sess.), Act 59, § 3; Acts of 1985, Act 176, § 1; Acts of 1997, Act 489, § 1; Acts of 1997, Act 1269, § 2, eff. April 9, 1997; Acts of 2001, Act 1761, § 2, eff. April 30, 2001; Acts of 2009, Act 1218, § 1, eff. April 7, 2009; Acts of 2013, Act 416, § 1, eff. Aug. 16, 2013.

### Purpose and Need

The Governor's Scholars Program is a scholarship program to promote academic excellence and to encourage the state's most talented graduates to enroll in Arkansas postsecondary educational institutions. The General Assembly recognizes that outstanding students are an essential ingredient for the economic and social benefit of the State of Arkansas. Benefits accrue to the state when a majority of National Merit Scholars, National Achievement Scholars, and superior students attend Arkansas institutions of higher learning and remain in the state.

### Eligibility Requirements

**Governor's Distinguished:** Up to 300 Governor's Distinguished Scholars are awarded \$10,000 per year. In order to qualify as a Governor's Distinguished Scholar, students must have a 32 ACT or 1410 SAT and a 3.5 GPA in academic courses, or National Merit and National Achievement Finalists.

**Governor's Scholars:** 75 Governor's Scholars (one from each Arkansas county) are awarded \$4,000 per year from those applicants that do not meet the Distinguished criteria, but have at least a 3.5 GPA or a 27 ACT.

### Application Data

<b>Academic Year</b>	<b>Number Funded</b>	<b>New Applications</b>	<b>New Awards</b>	<b>Funding</b>
2008-2009	1,199	1,498	347	\$9,971,759
2009-2010	1,128	1,748	382	\$10,745,855
2010-2011	1,321	6,160	373	\$10,933,196
2011-2012	1,364	6,215	375	\$11,790,966
2012-2013	1,430	5,433	407	\$12,177,425

## Arkansas Health Education Grant - Chiropractic Aid

### Establishment

Acts 51 and 243 of 1957, Acts of 1993, Act 1259, § 6, eff. July 1, 1993; Acts of 1997, Act 923, § 1, eff. July 1, 1997; Acts of 1999, Act 1218, § 7, eff. July 30, 1999.

### Purpose and Need

The Arkansas Health Education Grant (ARHEG) Program provides assistance for Arkansas residents attending certain out-of-state accredited health and medical professional schools for graduate or professional programs that are not available in Arkansas. This program serves Arkansas students seeking professional training in chiropractic medicine. The purpose is to give these students assistance at out of state institutions because this training is not offered in the state of Arkansas. Continued funding of this program should help to reduce the risk of a shortage in this area.

### Eligibility Requirements

Eligibility to participate in the ARHEG Program requires an applicant to be certified as a bona fide resident of Arkansas (AR) through the ARHEG Coordinator at the Arkansas Department of Higher Education (ADHE). Residency status is determined from information provided by the applicant, in the form of verifiable residency documentation that includes, but is not limited to, a copy of original birth certificate, a ten-year residency history, AR voter registration number and date of registration, AR driving license and automobile registration, and previous year's AR state tax return.

### Application and Funding Data

<b>Academic Year</b>	<b>Number Funded</b>	<b>New Applications</b>	<b>New Awards</b>	<b>Funding</b>
2008-2009	23	14	9	\$109,993
2009-2010	32	21	10	\$130,007
2010-2011	38	14	15	\$191,665
2011-2012	38	16	6	\$185,010
2012-2013	34	15	10	\$161,671

## **Arkansas Health Education Grant – Dental Aid**

### Establishment

Acts of 1993, Act 1259, § 6, eff. July 1, 1993; Acts of 1997, Act 923, § 1, eff. July 1, 1997; Acts of 1999, Act 1218, § 7, eff. July 30, 1999.

### Purpose and Need

The Arkansas Health Education Grant (ARHEG) Program provides assistance for Arkansas residents attending certain out-of-state accredited health and medical professional schools for graduate or professional programs that are not available in Arkansas. This program serves students seeking professional training in dentistry. The purpose is to give these students assistance at out of state institutions because this program is not offered in the state of Arkansas.

### Eligibility Requirements

Eligibility to participate in the ARHEG Program requires an applicant to be certified as a bona fide resident of Arkansas (AR) through the ARHEG Coordinator at the Arkansas Department of Higher Education (ADHE). Residency status is determined from information provided by the applicant, in the form of verifiable residency documentation that includes, but is not limited to, a copy of original birth certificate, a ten-year residency history, AR voter registration number and date of registration, AR driving license and automobile registration, and previous year's AR state tax return.

### Application and Funding Data

<b>Academic Year</b>	<b>Number Funded</b>	<b>New Applications</b>	<b>New Awards</b>	<b>Funding</b>
2008-2009	96	25	28	\$1,455,000
2009-2010	106	37	33	\$1,677,450
2010-2011	105	41	33	\$1,749,000
2011-2012	118	31	33	\$1,935,207
2012-2013	122	40	32	\$2,028,000

## Arkansas Health Education Grant – Dental Loans

### Establishment

Acts of 2003, Act 1715, § 1, eff. July 16, 2003.

### Purpose and Need

The Arkansas Health Education Grant (ARHEG) Program provides assistance for Arkansas residents attending certain out-of-state accredited health and medical professional schools for graduate or professional programs that are not available in Arkansas. The availability of a forgivable loan, in addition to the grant, serves ARHE grant recipients at those institutions deemed to exceed the sum of the resident tuition and the Regional Contract Program’s fee-for-service for dentistry, in order to offset the “gap” in difference. The availability of the forgivable dental loan is essential to the Program because it requires the recipient to return to the state of Arkansas to practice dentistry or repay the loan—further reducing the risk of a shortage of dentists in Arkansas.

### Eligibility Requirements

Eligibility to participate in the ARHEG Program requires an applicant to be certified as a bona fide resident of Arkansas (AR) through the ARHEG Coordinator at the Arkansas Department of Higher Education (ADHE). Residency status is determined from information provided by the applicant, in the form of verifiable residency documentation that includes, but is not limited to, a copy of original birth certificate, a ten-year residency history, AR voter registration number and date of registration, AR driving license and automobile registration, and previous year’s AR state tax return.

### Application and Funding Data

<b>Academic Year</b>	<b>Number Funded</b>	<b>New Applications</b>	<b>New Awards</b>	<b>Funding</b>
2008-2009	72	18	18	\$365,000
2009-2010	79	23	23	\$975,118
2010-2011	81	22	22	\$987,363
2011-2012	90	29	29	\$987,363
2012-2013	89	23	23	\$969,451



## **Arkansas Health Education Grant – Optometry Aid**

### Establishment

Acts of 1993, Act 1259, § 6, eff. July 1, 1993; Acts of 1997, Act 923, § 1, eff. July 1, 1997; Acts of 1999, Act 1218, § 7, eff. July 30, 1999

### Purpose and Need

The Arkansas Health Education Grant (ARHEG) Program provides assistance for Arkansas residents attending certain out-of-state accredited health and medical professional schools for graduate or professional programs that are not available in Arkansas. This program serves students seeking professional training in optometry. The purpose is to give these students assistance at out of state institutions because this program is not offered in the state of Arkansas. This should help to reduce the risk of a shortage in this area.

### Eligibility Requirements

Eligibility to participate in the ARHEG Program requires an applicant to be certified as a bona fide resident of Arkansas (AR) through the ARHEG Coordinator at the Arkansas Department of Higher Education (ADHE). Residency status is determined from information provided by the applicant, in the form of verifiable residency documentation that includes, but is not limited to, a copy of original birth certificate, a ten-year residency history, AR voter registration number and date of registration, AR driving license and automobile registration, and previous year’s AR state tax return.

### Application and Funding Data

<b>Academic Year</b>	<b>Number Funded</b>	<b>New Applications</b>	<b>New Awards</b>	<b>Funding</b>
2008-2009	27	8	7	\$353,700
2009-2010	27	7	5	\$375,300
2010-2011	26	10	5	\$361,400
2011-2012	26	11	6	\$371,800
2012-2013	26	8	7	\$384,800

## Arkansas Health Education Grant – Optometry Loans

### Establishment

Acts of 2007, Act 488, § 1, eff. July 31, 2007.

### Purpose and Need

The Arkansas Health Education Grant (ARHEG) Program provides assistance for Arkansas residents attending certain out-of-state accredited health and medical professional schools for graduate or professional programs that are not available in Arkansas. The availability of a forgivable loan, in addition to the grant, serves ARHE grant recipients at those institutions deemed to exceed the sum of the resident tuition and the Regional Contract Program’s fee-for-service for optometry, in order to offset the “gap” in difference. The availability of the forgivable optometry loan is essential to the Program because it requires the recipient to return to the state of Arkansas to practice optometry or repay the loan—further reducing the risk of a shortage of optometrists in Arkansas.

### Eligibility Requirements

Eligibility to participate in the ARHEG Program requires an applicant to be certified as a bona fide resident of Arkansas (AR) through the ARHEG Coordinator at the Arkansas Department of Higher Education (ADHE). Residency status is determined from information provided by the applicant, in the form of verifiable residency documentation that includes, but is not limited to, a copy of original birth certificate, a ten-year residency history, AR voter registration number and date of registration, AR driving license and automobile registration, and previous year’s AR state tax return.

### Application and Funding Data

<b>Academic Year</b>	<b>Number Funded</b>	<b>New Applications</b>	<b>New Awards</b>	<b>Funding</b>
2008-2009	4	4	4	\$353,700
2009-2010	8	4	4	\$375,300
2010-2011	10	5	5	\$361,400
2011-2012	12	6	6	\$371,800
2012-2013	10	5	5	\$384,800

## Arkansas Health Education Grant – Osteopathy Aid

### Establishment

Acts of 1993, Act 1259, § 6, eff. July 1, 1993; Acts of 1997, Act 923, § 1, eff. July 1, 1997; Acts of 1999, Act 1218, § 7, eff. July 30, 1999.

### Purpose and Need

This program serves students seeking professional training in osteopathic medicine. The purpose is to give these students assistance at out of state institutions because this program is not offered in the state of Arkansas. This should help to reduce the risk of a shortage in this area.

### Eligibility Requirements

Eligibility to participate in the ARHEG Program requires an applicant to be certified as a bona fide resident of Arkansas (AR) through the ARHEG Coordinator at the Arkansas Department of Higher Education (ADHE). Residency status is determined from information provided by the applicant, in the form of verifiable residency documentation that includes, but is not limited to, a copy of original birth certificate, a ten-year residency history, AR voter registration number and date of registration, AR driving license and automobile registration, and previous year's AR state tax return.

### Application and Funding Data

<b>Academic Year</b>	<b>Number Funded</b>	<b>New Applications</b>	<b>New Awards</b>	<b>Funding</b>
2008-2009	17	6	5	\$159,800
2009-2010	18	8	4	\$158,000
2010-2011	17	4	4	\$153,000
2011-2012	11	4	-	\$87,200
2012-2013	8	5	2	\$64,200

## Arkansas Health Education Grant – Podiatry Aid

### Establishment

Acts of 1993, Act 1259, § 6, eff. July 1, 1993; Acts of 1997, Act 923, § 1, eff. July 1, 1997; Acts of 1999, Act 1218, § 7, eff. July 30, 1999.

### Purpose and Need

This program serves students seeking professional training in podiatric medicine. The purpose is to give these students assistance at out of state institutions because this program is not offered in the state of Arkansas. This should help to reduce the risk of a shortage in this area.

### Eligibility Requirements

Eligibility to participate in the ARHEG Program requires an applicant to be certified as a bona fide resident of Arkansas (AR) through the ARHEG Coordinator at the Arkansas Department of Higher Education (ADHE). Residency status is determined from information provided by the applicant, in the form of verifiable residency documentation that includes, but is not limited to, a copy of original birth certificate, a ten-year residency history, AR voter registration number and date of registration, AR driving license and automobile registration, and previous year's AR state tax return.

### Application and Funding Data

<b>Academic Year</b>	<b>Number Funded</b>	<b>New Applications</b>	<b>New Awards</b>	<b>Funding</b>
2008-2009	1	-	-	\$8,900
2009-2010	2	2	2	\$18,400
2010-2011	4	3	2	\$18,400
2011-2012	4	3	1	\$34,400
2012-2013	6	2	2	\$55,500

## Arkansas Health Education Grant – Veterinary Aid

### Establishment

Acts of 1993, Act 1259, § 6, eff. July 1, 1993; Acts of 1997, Act 923, § 1, eff. July 1, 1997; Acts of 1999, Act 1218, § 7, eff. July 30, 1999.

### Purpose and Need

This program serves students seeking professional training in veterinary medicine. The purpose is to give these students assistance at out of state institutions because this program is not offered in the state of Arkansas. This should help to reduce the risk of a shortage in this area.

### Eligibility Requirements

Eligibility to participate in the ARHEG Program requires an applicant to be certified as a bona fide resident of Arkansas (AR) through the ARHEG Coordinator at the Arkansas Department of Higher Education (ADHE). Residency status is determined from information provided by the applicant, in the form of verifiable residency documentation that includes, but is not limited to, a copy of original birth certificate, a ten-year residency history, AR voter registration number and date of registration, AR driving license and automobile registration, and previous year's AR state tax return.

### Application and Funding Data

Academic Year	Number Funded	New Applications	New Awards	Funding
2008-2009	46	20	12	\$984,461
2009-2010	45	16	11	\$1,039,287
2010-2011	43	21	11	\$1,022,420
2011-2012	43	23	11	\$1,044,638
2012-2013	40	24	12	\$981,680

## **Arkansas Health Education Grant – Veterinary Loans**

### Establishment

Acts of 2007, Act 488, § 1, eff. July 31, 2007.

### Purpose and Need

The Arkansas Health Education Grant (ARHEG) Program provides assistance for Arkansas residents attending certain out-of-state accredited health and medical professional schools for graduate or professional programs that are not available in Arkansas. The availability of a forgivable loan, in addition to the grant, serves ARHE grant recipients at those institutions deemed to exceed the sum of the resident tuition and the Regional Contract Program’s fee-for-service for veterinary medicine, in order to offset the “gap” in difference. The availability of the forgivable veterinary loan is essential to the Program because it requires the recipient to return to the state of Arkansas to practice veterinary medicine (at least 30% must be large animal practice) or repay the loan, —further reducing the risk of a shortage of veterinarians in Arkansas.

### Eligibility Requirements

Eligibility to participate in the ARHEG Program requires an applicant to be certified as a bona fide resident of Arkansas (AR) through the ARHEG Coordinator at the Arkansas Department of Higher Education (ADHE). Residency status is determined from information provided by the applicant, in the form of verifiable residency documentation that includes, but is not limited to, a copy of original birth certificate, a ten-year residency history, AR voter registration number and date of registration, AR driving license and automobile registration, and previous year’s AR state tax return.

### Application and Funding Data

*No Veterinary Loans have been funded at this time.*

## Arkansas National Guard Tuition Incentive Program

### Establishment

Acts of 1995, Act 186, § 1, eff. Feb. 7, 1995; Acts of 1995, Act 346, § 1, eff. Feb. 16, 1995.

### Purpose and Need

The purpose of this program is to provide an incentive in the form of a tuition payment to encourage and assist in the pursuit of postsecondary education while making enlistment in the Arkansas National Guard. The program brings Arkansas' incentives for enlistment more in parity with surrounding states. States surrounding Arkansas have increased incentives to National Guard members, including tuition exemptions and waivers of out-of-state tuition for qualified active National Guard members, in part because these states have lost National Guard units. The combined effect of these factors has caused assigned personnel strength in the Arkansas National Guard to decline steadily since early 1994. As educational requirements increase, there are fewer enlistees who can qualify for critical specialties and as officer candidates.

### Eligibility Requirements

The Arkansas National Guard Tuition Incentive Program shall consist of an annual tuition incentive award of up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per eligible service member, payable at two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) per semester for two (2) semesters with payments made directly to the approved institution. The number of tuition incentive awards shall be limited to the fiscal year appropriation for the program. Tuition incentive awards must be used at an approved institution. Tuition incentive awards are available only for payment toward undergraduate studies at an approved institution. Eligible service members shall complete military training and be awarded a military occupation specialty or Air Force skill code before payment of a tuition incentive award is made. In order to be eligible for a second semester or subsequent semester tuition incentive award, an eligible service member shall continue as a student in good standing at an approved institution and shall continue as a satisfactory participant in the Arkansas National Guard, meeting Good Soldier or Good Airman requirements as certified by his or her unit commander.

### Application and Funding Data

Academic Year	Number Funded	New Applications	New Awards	Funding
2008-2009	295	-	295	-
2009-2010	301	-	318	\$1,499,999
2010-2011	314	-	316	\$1,500,000
2011-2012	332	-	368	\$1,460,863
2012-2013	286	-	339	\$1,497,500

## Arkansas Single Parent Scholarship

### Establishment

Acts of 2009, Act 11416

### Purpose and Need

This program has been created for applicants that are single parents living in Arkansas who are considered economically disadvantaged and who have custodial care of one or more children under the age of eighteen.

### Eligibility Requirements

Guidelines vary from county to county and may include only approved programs of study, approved schools, income level, marital status, grade point average, and eligibility for federal financial aid.

### Application and Funding Data

<b>Academic Year</b>	<b>Number Funded</b>	<b>New Applications</b>	<b>New Awards</b>	<b>Funding</b>
2008-2009	-	-	-	-
2009-2010	56	-	56	\$175,000
2010-2011	302	-	302	\$175,000
2011-2012	318	-	318	\$175,000
2012-2013	328	-	328	\$175,000



## Higher Education Opportunities Grant (GO! Grant)

### Establishment

Acts of 2007, Act 1030, § 1, eff. April 4, 2007; Acts of 2009, Act 1213, § 2, eff. April 7, 2009..

### Purpose and Need

The purpose of the Higher Education Opportunities Grant Program is to increase the ability of low-income students to pursue higher education opportunities.

### Eligibility Requirements

Student must be a full-time or part-time college student and meet income requirements. Students must complete the YOUiversal Scholarship Application and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) application. Eligibility is based on the family's adjusted gross income as reported on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). For a family with one member in the household, the maximum adjusted gross income is \$25,000. For each additional household member the maximum income increases by \$5000, up to a maximum of \$75,000. Award up to \$1,000.

### Application and Funding Data

<b>Academic Year</b>	<b>Number Funded</b>	<b>New Applications</b>	<b>New Awards</b>	<b>Funding</b>
2008-2009	1,866	2,408	883	\$1,354,449
2009-2010	8,318	11,465	5,261	\$5,629,223
2010-2011	12,380	44,338	8,727	\$8,668,089
2011-2012	8,229	29,928	1,328	\$5,552,672
2012-2013	8,928	38,187	1,328	\$6,022,324

## Law Enforcement Officers' Dependents Scholarship (LEO)

### Establishment

Acts of 1973, Act 521, §§ 1, 2; Acts of 1989, Act 190, § 1; Acts of 1993, Act 153, § 2; Acts of 1997, Act 547, § 10; Acts of 1999, Act 56, § 2, eff. July 30, 1999; Acts of 1999, Act 1034, § 2, eff. July 30, 1999; Acts of 2001, Act 113, § 2, eff. Aug. 13, 2001; Acts of 2001, Act 158, § 1, eff. Aug. 13, 2001; Acts of 2007, Act 172, § 1, eff. Feb. 28, 2007; Acts of 2007, Act 806, § 3, eff. July 31, 2007.

### Purpose and Need

If any Arkansas law enforcement officer, full-time or volunteer fire fighter, emergency medical technician, state highway employee, state correction employee, Department of Community Correction employee, state parks employee, teacher, or state forestry employee suffers fatal injuries or wounds or becomes permanently and totally disabled as a result of injuries or wounds that occurred in the performance of a hazardous duty within the scope of his or her employment or that occurred en route to or returning from a location where a hazardous situation existed, his or her children and spouse shall be entitled to a total of eight (8) semesters, or the equivalent thereof, of scholarship awards without cost, exclusive of books, food, school supplies, materials, and dues or fees for extracurricular activities, at any state-supported college, university, or technical institute of his or her choice within this state. Up to four (4) semesters, or the equivalent thereof, may be taken at a technical institute.

### Eligibility Requirements

Scholarship eligibility is determined by the Arkansas State Claims Commission in coordination with other eligibility requirements set forth by the Arkansas Department of Higher Education as follows: dependent child (and/or stepchild) must be under the age of 23 years at the start of beginning semester after award. Spouse may not be remarried. Student must complete the YOUniversal Scholarship Application online and submit supporting documentation no later than June 1. Supporting documentation includes, but is not limited to, a copy of the "Order of Finding of Facts" from the Arkansas State Claims Commission, a copy of the dependent child's original birth certificate; for spouse, a copy of marriage license. Students must complete the YOUniversal Scholarship Application. Application deadline is June 1.

### Application and Funding Data

Academic Year	Number Funded	New Applications	New Awards	Funding
2008-2009	33	2	2	\$146,927
2009-2010	35	2	2	\$174,574
2010-2011	34	2	2	\$198,666
2011-2012	35	10	10	\$258,104
2012-2013	36	9	9	\$276,187

## **Military Dependents Scholarship Program (MDS)**

### Establishment

Acts of 1973, Act 188, §§ 1 to 3; Acts of 1987, Act 72, §§ 1, 2; Acts of 1989, Act 759, § 1; Acts of 2005, Act 2127, § 1, eff. Aug. 12, 2005; Acts of 2007, Act 717, § 1, eff. July 31, 2007; Acts of 2009, Act 1216, § 1, eff. July 31, 2009.

### Purpose and Need

The purpose of this program is to provide a waiver of in-state tuition, on-campus room/board and mandatory fees at an Arkansas institution of higher education. It is necessary to assist full-time undergraduate students who are dependent children or spouses of persons who were declared killed in action, missing in action or service-connected 100% permanently & totally disabled.

### Eligibility Requirements

Scholarship enables students to pursue an undergraduate degree. All applicants of the Military Dependents' Scholarship (MDS) must also apply and show acceptance or denial of the federal program, Dependents' Educational Assistance Program. The MDS Program award will cover any unpaid portion of tuition, fees, room and board not covered by the federal program. Maintain a minimum of a 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scholastic grading scale, and complete 24 hours per year.

### Application and Funding Data

<b>Academic Year</b>	<b>Number Funded</b>	<b>New Applications</b>	<b>New Awards</b>	<b>Funding</b>
2008-2009	46	52	18	\$276,363
2009-2010	32	55	12	\$351,063
2010-2011	43	45	-	\$225,350
2011-2012	61	31	4	\$160,382
2012-2013	46	91	23	\$208,511

## Minority Masters Fellows

### Establishment

Minority Masters Fellows Program was repealed by Act 1215 of 2009

### Purpose and Need

This program has been discontinued.

### Eligibility Requirements

Minority Masters Fellows Program was repealed by Act 1215 of 2009 and consolidated with the new State Teacher Education Program (STEP). The funding for this program was completed in FY2011.

### Application and Funding Data

Academic Year	Number Funded	New Applications	New Awards	Funding
2008-2009	73	35	35	\$427,500
2009-2010	43	-	-	\$220,864
2010-2011	16	-	-	\$35,000

## Minority Teacher Scholars Program

### Establishment

Minority Teacher Scholars Program was repealed by Act 1215 of 2009

### Purpose and Need

This program has been discontinued

### Eligibility Requirements

Minority Teacher Scholars Program was repealed by Act 1215 of 2009 and consolidated with the new State Teacher Education Program (STEP). The funding for this program will be completed in FY2011.

### Application and Funding Data

Academic Year	Number Funded	New Applications	New Awards	Funding
2008-2009	61	29	29	\$268,793
2009-2010	47	-	-	\$174,544
2010-2011	26	-	-	\$50,000

## Second Effort Scholarship

### Establishment

Acts of 2007, Act 488, § 1, eff. July 31, 2007.

### Purpose and Need

This purpose of this program is to provide assistance to students who did not earn a high school diploma, but have since earned a G.E.D.

### Eligibility Requirements

Students must be at least 18 years of age or a former member of a high school class which has graduated; and not have graduated from high school. Recipient must maintain a minimum college grade point average of 2.50 on a 4.00 scale each academic year. Students do not apply for this award. Those scholars who achieved one of the ten highest scores on the Arkansas GED test during the previous calendar year are contacted directly by the Arkansas Department of Higher Education. Ten scholarships per year are awarded valued at \$1,000 or the cost of tuition, whichever is less.

### Application and Funding Data

<b>Academic Year</b>	<b>Number Funded</b>	<b>New Applications</b>	<b>New Awards</b>	<b>Funding</b>
2008-2009	17	17	17	\$13,958
2009-2010	18	18	18	\$14,960
2010-2011	13	13	13	\$11,250
2011-2012	11	11	11	\$9,375
2012-2013	-	-	-	-

## Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) Minority Doctoral Scholars

### Establishment

The State Board established Doctoral Scholars Program on October 21, 1994, by agreeing to join the SREB Compact for Faculty Diversity,

### Purpose and Need

The purpose of this program is to encourage minority students to pursue a Ph.D. SREB and its 16 member states recognize that there is an under-representation of minority scholars in doctoral programs and on the faculties of colleges and universities in the region. To address this problem, SREB and its member states have developed a program to increase opportunities for qualified minority students to participate in selected graduate programs leading to a doctoral degree, thereby expanding the pool of persons available to teach at the collegiate level.

### Eligibility Requirements

A candidate must be applying to or enrolled in a Ph.D. program. Scholars in all other doctoral degree programs, including D.B.A., D.D.S., D.N.P., D.P.T., D.V.M., Ed.D., J.D., M.D., Pharm.D., etc. are ineligible to apply. Must be expecting admission into a Ph.D. program before the academic year begins or are within a first year of a Ph.D. program. Must have completed all course work and comprehensive/preliminary exams and have defended the prospectus successfully before the academic year begins. Must be accepted into or enrolled in a full-time, campus-based Ph.D. program (not online or distance learning) at a participating institution in a participating state by August, the start of the academic year. Candidates must hold or be scheduled to receive a bachelor's or master's degree from a regionally accredited college or university by the beginning of the fall semester. Must be a U.S. citizen or have legal permanent resident status. Must be a member of a racial or ethnic minority (including African-American, Asian American, Hispanic/Latin American, Native American or others). They must not be employed outside his or her department or discipline. Candidates must plan to become a full-time college or university faculty member after earning their Ph.D.

### Application and Funding Data

<b>Academic Year</b>	<b>Number Funded</b>	<b>New Applications</b>	<b>New Awards</b>	<b>Funding</b>
2008-2009	16	20	6	\$200,000
2009-2010	18	17	5	\$200,000
2010-2011	12	10	3	\$200,000
2011-2012	9	7	3	\$200,000
2012-2013	7	10	4	\$200,000

## State Teacher Assistance Resource Program (STAR)

### Establishment

State Teacher Assistance Program was repealed by Act 1215 of 2009.

### Purpose and Need

This program has been discontinued.

### Eligibility Requirements

State Teacher Assistance Program was repealed Act 1215 of 2009 and consolidated with the new State Teacher Education Program (STEP). The funding for this program was completed in FY2011.

### Application and Funding Data

<b>Academic Year</b>	<b>Number Funded</b>	<b>New Applications</b>	<b>New Awards</b>	<b>Funding</b>
2008-2009	394	-	-	\$2,770,406
2009-2010	239	-	-	\$969,000
2010-2011	175	-	-	\$328,500
2011-2012	-	-	-	-
2012-2013	-	-	-	-

## State Teacher Education Program (STEP)

### Establishment

Acts of 2007, Act 488, § 1, eff. July 31, 2007.

### Purpose and Need

The State Teacher Education Program is a loan reduction program created to help teachers who are currently teaching in a geographic or subject shortage area in the state of Arkansas to reduce the burden of their student loans.

### Eligibility Requirements

In order to qualify, an applicant must be a teacher with an education degree earned after 4/1/2004, who are teaching in a public school in a geographic and/or subject shortage area, and who have outstanding federal student loans. Recipients will receive a grant worth up to \$4,000 paid to their federal student lender. Teachers must complete the YOUiversal Scholarship Application. Application deadline is June 1 each academic year.

### Application and Funding Data

<b>Academic Year</b>	<b>Number Funded</b>	<b>New Applications</b>	<b>New Awards</b>	<b>Funding</b>
2008-2009	-	-	-	-
2009-2010	508	878	508	\$1,474,551
2010-2011	484	734	484	\$1,520,207
2011-2012	431	770	431	\$1,430,383
2012-2013	466	783	466	\$1,580,860



## Student Undergraduate Research Fund (SURF)

### Establishment

Act 2124 of 2005, Section 32

### Purpose and Need

Program is designed to allow undergraduate students to conduct in-depth research projects in their specific fields of study with the assistance of faculty mentors. The focus of the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship is the continued development of undergraduate academic research efforts at Arkansas's public and private institutions of higher education and to provide funding to encourage students to conduct in-depth research projects in specific fields of study under the tutelage of tenured or full-time faculty member. The program is designed to assist all students throughout the state.

### Eligibility Requirements

In order to be eligible, undergraduate students must have a minimum GPA of 3.25, 30 or more hours of credit toward his/her degree at the time of funding, and the support of a faculty mentor. The amount of the fellowship awarded to each recipient shall be as follows:

\$1,250 maximum award Student Stipend\*

\$ 750 maximum award Student Travel

\$ 750 maximum award Mentor Award \$1,250

\$4,000 Max SURF Award maximum award Institution Match

All types of undergraduate research are eligible for support, and all academic disciplines are encouraged to apply.

### Application and Funding Data

Academic Year	Number Funded	New Applications	New Awards	Funding
2008-2009	66	238	66	\$150,000
2009-2010	135	266	135	\$311,655
2010-2011	132	286	132	\$312,859
2011-2012	76	239	76	\$179,911
2012-2013	103	234	103	\$251,471

## Teacher Opportunity Program (TOP)

### Establishment

Acts of 1987, Act 331, § 3; Acts of 2005, Act 2196, § 5, eff. Aug. 12, 2005; Acts of 2009, Act 1214, § 1, eff. July 31, 2009.

### Purpose and Need

This program is a reimbursement grant for those who are studying to become teachers. The purpose is to reduce the financial burden of those who wish to become Arkansas teachers.

### Eligibility Requirements

Applicants complete courses and are reimbursed for allowable expenses. Teachers and administrators must complete the YOUniversal Scholarship Application. Application deadline is June 1 each academic year. The program pays tuition and fees for up to 6 hours per fiscal year. Not to exceed the maximum charged by a public institution.

### Application and Funding Data

<b>Academic Year</b>	<b>Number Funded</b>	<b>New Applications</b>	<b>New Awards</b>	<b>Funding</b>
2008-2009	709	808	709	\$1,100,924
2009-2010	754	1,721	754	\$1,014,157
2010-2011	779	1,456	779	\$1,067,087
2011-2012	655	1,181	55	\$1,044,246
2012-2013	641	1,099	641	\$1,998,870

## Washington Center Scholarship

### Establishment

Acts of 2007, Act 1046, § 2, eff. April 4, 2007.

### Purpose and Need

The purpose of this scholarship is to allow a student the opportunity to participate in the Washington Center internship program. The Washington Center Scholarship Program serves Arkansas students and society as a whole by encouraging participants to be informed, public-spirited and civically engaged for life.

### Eligibility Requirements

Students must be enrolled in an accredited college or university as a second semester sophomore or above; maintain a grade point average of at least 2.75 on a 4.0 scale; receive academic credit from the student's college or university for participation in the internship program; and, receive the endorsement of the student's campus liaison or faculty sponsor. Additionally students must be enrolled in an eligible Arkansas institution that will grant academic credit for participation in The Washington Center Internship Program located in Washington D.C.; meet The Washington Center admission requirements; and, be enrolled in a program of study, which leads to or is creditable towards a baccalaureate degree. The award pays up to \$6,000 for one-time participation in The Washington Center internship program.

### Application and Funding Data

<b>Academic Year</b>	<b>Number Funded</b>	<b>New Applications</b>	<b>New Awards</b>	<b>Funding</b>
2008-2009	17	23	18	\$102,000
2009-2010	16	25	18	\$118,000
2010-2011	16	26	19	\$90,000
2011-2012	0	13	9	-
2012-2013	20	31	21	\$120,000

## Workforce Improvement Grant (WIG)

### Establishment

Acts of 2003, Act 1796, § 1, eff. July 16, 2003; Acts of 2005, Act 2129, § 3, eff. Aug. 12, 2005; Acts of 2013, Act 1416, § 1, eff. Aug. 16, 2013.

### Purpose and Need

It is the intent of this legislation to provide financial support to adult students who are unlikely to receive meaningful financial aid from traditional state or federal financial aid programs and to enhance the education of the current work force in Arkansas. There is a need to assist Arkansans who desire to pursue educational enrichment and to improve present skills but who may be unable to attend postsecondary educational institutions in the traditional manner are commended for their initiative and persistence.

### Eligibility Requirements

Based on financial need. Funds are allocated to institutions who make awards to their students. Deadlines are set by each school. Student must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). To be eligible, a student must have unmet need after consideration of any Pell Grant awarded and must meet the general eligibility requirements for federal financial aid programs. The annual award is a maximum of \$2000 for a student enrolled full time (12 semester hours), but may be less in order to prevent an over award as defined by federal regulations. Students enrolled part time will have their grants prorated based on the number of hours enrolled. Because the grants are not renewable, students must apply each year.

### Application and Funding Data

<b>Academic Year</b>	<b>Number Funded</b>	<b>New Applications</b>	<b>New Awards</b>	<b>Funding</b>
2008-2009	3,506	-	3,506	\$3,801,443
2009-2010	1,584	-	1,584	\$4,534,288
2010-2011	2,835	-	2,835	\$4,086,867
2011-2012	2,440	-	2,440	\$3,461,625
2012-2013	2,368	-	2,368	\$3,567,900