



## Division of Higher Education

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Jacob Oliva  
Secretary

Ken Warden, Ed.D.  
Commissioner

August 1, 2023

The Honorable Ronald Caldwell, Chair  
The Honorable Mindy McAlindon, Chair  
ALC - Lottery Oversight Committee  
State Capitol Building  
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Senator Caldwell and Representative McAlindon:

Pursuant to Arkansas Code Annotated 6-85-205 (g) (1) (A), I am submitting for your review the enclosed report on the status of Academic Challenge students for fiscal Year 2023. It should be noted that we can only report the current status of students as to whether they maintained their eligibility at the end of the spring 2023 semester. Students have until October 1, 2023 to provide documentation that they have completed summer coursework to maintain their eligibility. The Arkansas Division of Higher Education will provide the requested information on students who dropped out or lost their scholarship in our December report.

The attached report shows the current status of all students who received an Academic Challenge award in the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2023.

Should you require additional information, please let me know and we will be happy to provide.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ken Warden', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dr. Ken Warden, Ed.D.  
Commissioner

**Arkansas Division of Higher Education  
Academic Challenge Scholarship Program  
Student Statuses - All Cohorts  
Fiscal 2023**

**Traditional**

Current Status	Student Count	Average High School GPA	Average ACT	Average College GPA	Male	Female	Unknown Gender	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian/Pacific Islander	Black (Non-Hispanic)	Hispanic	White (Non-Hispanic)	2 or More Races	Unknown Race	Amount Paid	Average Attempted Hours	Average Earned Hours
Completed	4,563	3.77	24.2	3.51	1,645	2,897	21	30	120	337	306	3,507	149	114	\$ 18,765,617	30.4	30.2
Dropped	391	3.32	22.2	3.12	189	202	-	2	5	34	37	290	17	6	\$ 332,821	6.6	6.4
Eligible	13,678	3.85	24.7	3.56	5,327	8,271	80	58	426	775	1,146	10,466	472	335	\$ 36,689,554	17.2	17.1
Pending Renewal	4,804	3.56	22.6	3.23	2,144	2,640	20	39	99	479	446	3,406	227	108	\$ 10,047,287	14.0	13.8
Overall-Summary	23,436	3.76	24.2	3.49	9,305	14,010	121	129	650	1,625	1,935	17,669	865	563	\$ 65,835,279	18.9	18.8

**Non-Traditional**

Current Status	Student Count	Average High School GPA	Average ACT	Average College GPA	Male	Female	Unknown Gender	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian/Pacific Islander	Black (Non-Hispanic)	Hispanic	White (Non-Hispanic)	2 or More Races	Unknown Race	Amount Paid	Average Attempted Hours	Average Earned Hours
Completed	885	3.32	21.8	3.44	288	582	15	6	24	132	61	551	37	74	\$ 3,146,625	16.6	16.5
Dropped	40	3.25	22.6	3.28	15	22	3	-	-	6	3	27	-	4	\$ 58,375	5.5	5.2
Eligible	1,233	3.38	21.5	3.43	474	743	16	6	34	170	143	753	51	76	\$ 3,870,895	7.6	7.4
Pending Renewal	515	3.14	20.7	3.22	192	314	9	5	9	113	59	281	16	32	\$ 1,407,095	7.9	7.6
Overall-Summary	2,673	3.31	21.5	3.40	969	1,661	43	17	67	421	266	1,612	104	186	\$ 8,482,990	10.6	10.4

**All Categories**

Current Status	Student Count	Average High School GPA	Average ACT	Average College GPA	Male	Female	Unknown Gender	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian/Pacific Islander	Black (Non-Hispanic)	Hispanic	White (Non-Hispanic)	2 or More Races	Unknown Race	Amount Paid	Average Attempted Hours	Average Earned Hours
Completed	5,448	3.71	23.9	3.50	1,933	3,479	36	36	144	469	367	4,058	186	188	\$ 21,912,242	28.2	28.0
Dropped	431	3.32	22.2	3.14	204	224	3	2	5	40	40	317	17	10	\$ 391,196	6.5	6.3
Eligible	14,911	3.82	24.5	3.55	5,801	9,014	96	64	460	945	1,289	11,219	523	411	\$ 40,560,449	16.4	16.3
Pending Renewal	5,319	3.53	22.5	3.23	2,336	2,954	29	44	108	592	505	3,687	243	140	\$ 11,454,382	13.4	13.2
Overall-Summary	26,109	3.73	24.0	3.48	10,274	15,671	164	146	717	2,046	2,201	19,281	969	749	\$ 74,318,269	18.1	18.0

**Arkansas Division of Higher Education  
Academic Challenge Scholarship Program  
Student Statuses - 2023 Cohort  
Fiscal 2023**

**Traditional**

Current Status	Student Count	Average High School GPA	Average ACT	Average College GPA	Male	Female	Unknown Gender	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian/Pacific Islander	Black (Non-Hispanic)	Hispanic	White (Non-Hispanic)	2 or More Races	Unknown Race	Amount Paid	Average Attempted Hours	Average Earned Hours
Completed	51	3.57	22.1	0.00	13	38	-	-	1	1	8	40	-	1	\$ 60,500	0.0	0.0
Dropped	296	3.22	21.8	-	156	140	-	2	3	25	25	219	16	6	\$ 152,946	0.0	0.0
Eligible	5,981	3.82	24.2	2.01	2,340	3,616	25	29	185	353	550	4,526	215	123	\$ 6,543,517	0.1	0.1
Pending Renewal	2,523	3.44	21.7	1.25	1,181	1,335	7	24	49	252	248	1,784	118	48	\$ 2,255,849	0.0	0.0
Overall-Summary	8,851	3.69	23.4	1.75	3,690	5,129	32	55	238	631	831	6,569	349	178	\$ 9,012,812	0.1	0.1

**Non-Traditional**

Current Status	Student Count	Average High School GPA	Average ACT	Average College GPA	Male	Female	Unknown Gender	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian/Pacific Islander	Black (Non-Hispanic)	Hispanic	White (Non-Hispanic)	2 or More Races	Unknown Race	Amount Paid	Average Attempted Hours	Average Earned Hours
Completed	214	3.23	21.1	-	70	142	2	-	10	31	15	126	11	21	\$ 688,875	0.0	0.0
Dropped	18	2.91	20.0	-	6	10	2	-	-	4	2	9	-	3	\$ 23,625	0.0	0.0
Eligible	707	3.39	21.4	2.89	270	430	7	3	21	106	78	420	32	47	\$ 2,068,645	0.0	0.0
Pending Renewal	258	3.15	20.1	-	99	154	5	3	5	48	34	146	6	16	\$ 628,470	0.0	0.0
Overall-Summary	1,197	3.30	21.01	2.89	445	736	16	6	36	189	129	701	49	87	\$ 3,409,615	0.0	0.0

**All Categories**

Current Status	Student Count	Average High School GPA	Average ACT	Average College GPA	Male	Female	Unknown Gender	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian/Pacific Islander	Black (Non-Hispanic)	Hispanic	White (Non-Hispanic)	2 or More Races	Unknown Race	Amount Paid	Average Attempted Hours	Average Earned Hours
Completed	265	3.32	21.4	0.00	83	180	2	-	11	32	23	166	11	22	\$ 749,375	0.0	0.0
Dropped	314	3.21	21.7	-	162	150	2	2	3	29	27	228	16	9	\$ 176,571	0.0	0.0
Eligible	6,688	3.78	24.0	2.12	2,610	4,046	32	32	206	459	628	4,946	247	170	\$ 8,612,162	0.1	0.1
Pending Renewal	2,781	3.42	21.6	1.25	1,280	1,489	12	27	54	300	282	1,930	124	64	\$ 2,884,319	0.0	0.0
Overall-Summary	10,048	3.65	23.20	1.85	4,135	5,865	48	61	274	820	960	7,270	398	265	\$12,422,427	0.0	0.0