



Division of Higher Education

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Johnny Key
Secretary

Maria Markham, Ph.D.
Director

October 24, 2022

The Honorable David Wallace, Chair
The Honorable David Hillman, Chair
Arkansas Legislative Council – Personnel Subcommittee
State Capitol Building
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Senator Wallace and Representative Hillman:

Pursuant to Arkansas Code Annotated 21-5-1409 (c) (1) (B), I am requesting your review of a salary adjustment of more than two percent (2%) provided for some classified employees at Northwest Arkansas Community College (NWACC) for Fiscal Year 2022-23 due to a lump-sum payment of \$1,000 for all classified, non-classified and faculty employees. A letter from NWACC is attached to provide details and justification regarding this request. NWACC gave a 2% COLA increase in July as well for FY23.

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

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Maria Markham'.

Maria Markham, Ph. D.
Director



NWACC OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

NORTHWEST ARKANSAS
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Maximize Potential.
Exceed Expectations.

October 24, 2022

Dr. Maria Markham, Director
Arkansas Department of Higher Education
423 Main Street, Suite 400
Little Rock, AR 72201

Re: Cost of Living Adjustment

Dear Dr. Markham:

This letter is certifying NorthWest Arkansas Community College has the sufficient budget to support a \$1,000 one-time lump sum payment to all full-time employees. The NorthWest Arkansas Community College Board of Trustees supports and approves this lump sum payment.

NorthWest Arkansas Community College has an approved operating budget for FY23, reflecting a 5.3% budget increase or \$2,141,961 in the overall expenditure to create a one-time lump sum COLA adjustment payment for all full-time employees. The last COLA increase was given in FY23 of 2% in July 2022.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Dr. Dennis C. Rittle, President
NorthWest Arkansas Community College

NWACC COLA of Cost By Category

	Classified	Non-Classified	Faculty	Total Cost
Lump Sum	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 168,000.00	\$ 147,000.00	\$ 375,000.00