

Shuls & Associates/OEP Follow-Up
September 30, 2019 Education Committees Meeting

Questions regarding the relationship of Office for Education Policy (OEP) and the University of Arkansas:

- Do OEP and the U of A system share the same Tax ID Number?

Response: OEP does share the same Tax ID with the UA.

- What is the funding source for OEP?

Response: OEP is not hard funded from the UA (does not receive general revenues). It is fully “soft funded” (grants, gifts, and contracts).

- Why OEP, as a part of the UA System, an institution of the State of Arkansas, would be able to charge a fee to the Bureau of Legislative Research for providing information and analysis to the Bureau. Please explain why OEP falls outside the requirements of Arkansas Code § 10-3-315, which requires that “Every state agency shall provide the Bureau of Legislative Research with information, records, and access to electronic databases and files when requested by the bureau, unless prohibited by federal or state law.”

Response: Concerning Arkansas Code § 10-3-315, OEP would be like every other agency, which has a duty to provide information about the organization and/or its operations upon request. However, providing analytical work for the Bureau, would fall outside the scope of providing administrative/logistical/operational information about the organization itself.