

1 State of Arkansas  
2 93rd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2021  
4

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 126

5 By: Senator J. Sturch  
6 By: Representative L. Johnson  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CODE  
10 CONCERNING THE APPLICABILITY AND ADDITIONAL  
11 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS OF THE ARKANSAS ACADEMIC  
12 CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM - PART 2; AND FOR OTHER  
13 PURPOSES.  
14  
15

## Subtitle

16 TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CODE  
17 CONCERNING THE APPLICABILITY AND  
18 ADDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS OF  
19 THE ARKANSAS ACADEMIC CHALLENGE  
20 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM - PART 2.  
21  
22  
23

24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
25

26 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-85-203(c), concerning the applicability  
27 of the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program – Part 2, is amended  
28 to read as follows:

29 (c)(1) Recipients of Arkansas Governor’s Distinguished Scholarships  
30 ~~are prohibited from receiving Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarships~~ may  
31 receive an Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship under this subchapter.

32 (2) The amount of an Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship  
33 awarded to a recipient of an Arkansas Governor’s Distinguished Scholarship  
34 shall not be more than the maximum scholarship amount provided to a recipient  
35 of an Arkansas Governor’s Distinguished Scholarship under § 6-82-312.  
36



1 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-85-208(1), concerning additional  
 2 eligibility requirements for a nontraditional student under the Arkansas  
 3 Academic Challenge Scholarship Program Part – 2, is amended to read as  
 4 follows:

5 (1)(A) If the applicant has not been enrolled in an approved  
 6 institution of higher education, has ~~either:~~

7 ~~(A) Graduated from an Arkansas public high school and~~  
 8 ~~achieved a 2.5 high school grade point average; or~~

9 ~~(B)(i) Graduated~~ graduated from an Arkansas public high  
 10 school, a private high school, an out-of-state high school, a home school  
 11 high school, or obtained a high school equivalency diploma approved by the  
 12 Adult Education Section and had a superscore of nineteen (19) on the ACT or  
 13 the equivalent score on an ACT equivalent.

14 ~~(ii)(B)~~ (B) The Division of Higher Education shall  
 15 promulgate rules in consultation with ACT, Inc. to determine the mechanism  
 16 for calculating and disseminating an applicant's superscore on the ACT; or  
 17

18 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-85-216(a)(1) and (2), concerning reports  
 19 submitted to the Division of Higher Education by institutions of higher  
 20 education, are amended to read as follows:

21 (a)(1)(A) An approved institution of higher education that enrolls  
 22 students receiving scholarships under this subchapter annually shall provide  
 23 information and semiannually shall provide updated information to the  
 24 Division of Higher Education regarding all state-supported student financial  
 25 assistance, whether or not the state-supported student financial assistance  
 26 is awarded under this subchapter.

27 (B) An approved institution of higher education is not  
 28 required to provide the information described in subdivision (a)(1)(A) of  
 29 this section to the division if the information has previously been reported  
 30 to the division through the Arkansas Higher Education Information System or  
 31 the state financial aid information system.

32 (2) The information described in subdivision (a)(1)(A) of this  
 33 section shall be provided in the form of individual student records and shall  
 34 include without limitation information regarding:

35 ~~(A) State-supported student financial assistance~~ The  
 36 criteria for determining eligibility for scholarships under this subchapter;

- (B) Demographic student data; and
- (C) Disaggregated data on remedial courses.

SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 6-85-219(c), concerning reports that are required to be submitted to legislative committees by the Division of Higher Education, is amended to read as follows:

(c) Annually by December 31, the division shall report to the Legislative Council ~~the following information~~ summary-level data, in accordance with § 6-85-216, on recipients of ~~the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program — Part 2~~ scholarships under this subchapter ~~who applied as of June 1.~~

- ~~(1) Race;~~
- ~~(2) Grade point average;~~
- ~~(3) Composite score on the ACT or the equivalent score on an ACT equivalent; and~~
- ~~(4) Family or individual income as reported on the student's Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).~~