

1 State of Arkansas
2 94th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2023
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 89

5 By: Senator J. English
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS WORK PAYS PROGRAM; TO
9 AMEND THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ARKANSAS
10 WORK PAYS PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
11
12

Subtitle

14 TO AMEND THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR
15 THE ARKANSAS WORK PAYS PROGRAM.
16
17

18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
19

20 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 20-76-444(b)(1), concerning eligibility for
21 assistance under the Arkansas Work Pays Program, is amended to read as
22 follows:
23

24 (b)(1) Eligibility for assistance under the Arkansas Work Pays Program
is limited to applicants or participants who:

25 (A) Have care and custody of a related minor child;

26 (B) Reside in the State of Arkansas at the time of
27 application for assistance and during the period of assistance;

28 ~~(C) Apply for Arkansas Work Pays Program assistance within~~
29 ~~six (6) months of leaving the Transitional Employment Assistance Program~~
30 ~~after at least three (3) months of Transitional Employment Assistance Program~~
31 ~~assistance;~~

32 ~~(D)~~(C) Have not received more than twenty-four (24) months
33 of Arkansas Work Pays Program benefits;

34 ~~(E)~~(D) Were engaged:

35 (i) In paid work activities for a minimum of twenty-
36 four (24) hours per week or in a career and technical education Career



1 Pathways Initiative Program and met the federal work participation
2 requirement for the past month; or

3 (ii) In the case of continuing eligibility, in paid
4 work activities for a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours per week or in a
5 career and technical education Career Pathways Initiative Program and met the
6 federal work participation requirement for one (1) of the past three (3)
7 months and for at least three (3) of the past six (6) months;

8 ~~(F)~~(E) Are:

9 (i) Citizens of the United States;

10 (ii) Qualified aliens lawfully present in the United
11 States before August 22, 1996;

12 (iii) Qualified aliens who physically entered the
13 United States on or after August 22, 1996, and have been in qualified
14 immigrant status for at least five (5) years; or

15 (iv) Aliens to whom benefits under Temporary
16 Assistance for Needy Families must be provided under federal law;

17 ~~(G)~~(F) Have income below one hundred fifty percent (150%)
18 of the federal poverty level; and

19 ~~(H)~~(G) Sign and comply with a personal responsibility
20 agreement.