

Arkansas Department of Education
Rules Governing Arkansas Alternative Pay Programs
Proposed August 2007

1.0 Regulatory Authority

- 1.01 These rules shall be known as the Department of Education (Department) Rules Governing Arkansas Alternative Pay Program.
- 1.02 These rules are enacted under the State Board of Education's (State Board) authority pursuant to Act 847 of 2007.

2.0 Purpose

- 2.01 The purpose of these rules is allow an Alternative Pay Program to be created for both Licensed and Classified employees in Arkansas's public schools.

3.0 Definitions

For the purposes of these rules, the following terms shall mean:

- 3.01 "Alternative Pay" means a salary amount that is part of the licensed or classified employee's total compensation for additional responsibilities, mastery of new knowledge and skills, advanced career opportunities, increase student achievement, attracting highly qualified teachers or professional development exceeding state minimums.
- 3.02 "Classified Employee" means a persons employed by a public school district under a written annual contract who is not required to hold a teaching license issued by the Arkansas Department of Education as a condition of employment.
- 3.03 "Licensed Employee" means a persons employed by a public school district who is required to hold a teaching license issued by the Arkansas Department of Education.
- 3.04 "Teacher" means any person who: 1) is required to hold a teaching license from the Arkansas Department of Education and 2) is engaged directly in instruction with students in a classroom setting for more than seventy percent (70%) of the individual's contracted time, including a guidance counselor or school librarian.

4.0 Selection Process and Requirements for the Arkansas Alternative Pay Program

- 4.01 Public School Districts desiring to participate in the Arkansas Alternative Pay Program must submit an application to the State Board of Education.
- 4.02 The program may be for licensed employees, classified employees or both employee groups and all eligible employees may participate in the program.

- 4.03 A program may be implemented on a district-wide or on a school-by-school basis.
- 4.04 Alternative Plan Committee and Collaborative efforts are required for consideration
 - 4.04.1 Evidence of Collaborative efforts among the participating school board, administrators, teachers, classified employees, association representatives and parents of children attending the school district.
 - 4.04.2 A committee shall be established from the groups in 4.04.1 with fifty percent (50%) of the committee being composed of teachers.
 - 4.04.3 The committee members shall be selected by the respective groups which they represent.
 - 4.04.4 The program is a personnel policy and shall be promulgated in accordance with § 6-17-201, et. seq. and § 6-17-2301, et. seq. except to the extent that those personnel policies are negotiated in any school district that recognizes an organization representing a majority of teachers.
 - 4.04.5 Show of interest resolution which states at least seventy percent (70%) of the employees are interested. (Another percentage may be established with approval by a majority vote of the teachers and the local school board.)
 - 4.04.6 The role of the committee shall be charged with the design, implementation and evaluation of the program.
- 4.05 Objective Criteria which shall be considered in all plans are:
 - 4.05.1 Measurable Indicators of student achievement.
 - 4.05.2 Percent of alternative pay which is related to the annual increases in student test scores. (No more than fifty percent (50%) is allowed.)
 - 4.05.3 There is a clear system of payment which is not arbitrary.
 - 4.05.4 At least ten percent (10%) of the salary shall be alternative pay and received in one year.
 - 4.05.5 There is an established and ongoing support system for the participants with both financial and administrative resources to implement the program.
 - 4.05.6 The program is aligned to the school's/district's Arkansas Comprehensive School Improvement Plan. (ASCIP).
 - 4.05.7 The plan is a part of a larger set of reforms.
 - 4.05.8 At least fifty –one percent (51%) of each employee group listed in 4.04.1 must elect to participate to implement any plan. This is with the understanding that individual employees have the right to choose not to participate.

5.00 Arkansas Alternative Pay Programs Timeline and Schedules

- 5.01 Quarterly written updates are to be provided to ADE on the implementation of an alternative pay plan yearly. Those reports are due on the following dates:
 - a. October 1st
 - b. January 1st
 - c. April 1st
 - d. July 1st

5.02 Arkansas Alternative Pay Programs should be ready for implementation by July 1st of the initial school year.

5.03 These dates shall be subject to modification or alteration as determined in the best interest of the Arkansas Alternative Pay Programs program by the ADE.

6.00 Funding for the Arkansas Alternative Pay Programs

6.01 Funding will be from existing school and/or district revenue. No additional state funds have been appropriated at this time.