

ARKANSAS REGISTER

Proposed Rule Cover Sheet



Secretary of State
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Name of Department Department of Finance and Administration

Agency or Division Name Office of Accounting

Other Subdivision or Department, If Applicable n/a

Previous Agency Name, If Applicable n/a

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Name of Rule Proposed Permanent Rule 006.09.4 METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS FOR COVID-19 TESTING

Newspaper Name Arkansas Democrat-Gazette

Date of Publishing February 3, 4, and 5, 2022

Final Date for Public Comment March 14, 2022 at 4:30 p.m.

Location and Time of Public Meeting 1515 West 7th St., 5th Flr Boardroom, Little Rock, AR 72201; 3-11-22 at 2 pm.

Legal Notice of Rule Making, Public Hearing, and Comment Period

The Department of Finance and Administration (“Department”) is promulgating proposed permanent rule 006.09.4 to administer the COVID-19 Testing Program which the Department created to comply with Act 1115 of the 2021 Regular Session. The proposed permanent rule provides a method of distribution of coronavirus 2019 (“COVID-19”) relief funds, if made available, from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Pub. L. No 117-2, to employees and employers to cover the cost of testing not covered by an employee’s health benefit plan, to include the: 1) timely distribution of funds to recipients within thirty (30) days; 2) establishment of an option for distribution to an employer that chooses to receive funds for disbursement to employees; and 3) verification and method of authentication of receipts that shall meet legislative auditing requirements, including the development of forms. The Department has authority to promulgate rules for this program pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. §§ 25-8-102(a) and 11-5-118(g) (Act 1115 of the 2021 Regular Session).

The Department by this notice solicits comments of any interested party to the proposed permanent rule. Full and complete copies of the proposed permanent rule are available for inspection and review on the Department’s website at: https://www.dfa.arkansas.gov/images/uploads/administrativeServicesOffice/ProposedPermanentRule_006.09.4.pdf or may be obtained by contacting the Department at (501) 682-2272. Written comments will be accepted through March 14, 2022 at 4:30 p.m via email to ProposedRuleComment@dfa.arkansas.gov or by mailing to the Department of Finance and Administration, Office of Accounting, 1509 West 7th Street, 2nd Floor, Little Rock, AR 72201.

A public meeting for the proposed rule will be held on March 11, 2022, beginning at 2:00 p.m., Central Time, to accept comments on the proposed permanent rule. The meeting will be held in the 5th floor board room at 1515 West 7th Street, Little Rock, AR 72201.