

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR FILING PROPOSED RULES AND REGULATIONS
WITH THE ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND JOINT INTERIM COMMITTEE

DEPARTMENT/AGENCY Arkansas Department of Career Education
DIVISION Adult Education
DIVISION DIRECTOR Dr. Trenia Miles
CONTACT PERSON Dr. Trenia Miles or Janice Hanlon
ADDRESS #3 Capitol Mall, Little Rock, AR 72201
PHONE NO. (501)682-1970 **FAX NO.** (501)682-1706 **E-MAIL** trenia.miles@arkansas.gov
Janice.hanlon@arkansas.gov
NAME OF PRESENTER AT COMMITTEE MEETING Dr. Trenia Miles/Janice Hanlon
Trenia.miles@arkansas.gov or Janice.Hanlon@arkansas.gov
PRESENTER E-MAIL _____

INSTRUCTIONS

- A. Please make copies of this form for future use.
B. Please answer each question **completely** using layman terms. You may use additional sheets, if necessary.
C. If you have a method of indexing your rules, please give the proposed citation after "Short Title of this Rule" below.
D. Submit two (2) copies of this questionnaire and financial impact statement attached to the front of two (2) copies of the proposed rule and required documents. Mail or deliver to:

Donna K. Davis
Administrative Rules Review Section
Arkansas Legislative Council
Bureau of Legislative Research
One Capitol Mall, 5th Floor
Little Rock, AR 72201

1. What is the short title of this rule? GED Testing Scores Policy Update
2. What is the subject of the proposed rule? Giving decision of GED testing cut score requirements to Adult Education Division, Dept. of Career Education
3. Is this rule required to comply with a federal statute, rule, or regulation? Yes ☐ No ☒
4. Was this rule filed under the emergency provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act? Yes ☐ No ☒
If yes, what is the effective date of the emergency rule? _____
- When does the emergency rule expire? _____
- Will this emergency rule be promulgated under the permanent provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act? Yes ☐ No ☐
5. Is this a new rule? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, please provide a brief summary explaining the regulation. _____

Does this repeal an existing rule? Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, a copy of the repealed rule is to be included with your completed questionnaire. If it is being replaced with a new rule, please provide a summary of the rule giving an explanation of what the rule does.

Is this an amendment to an existing rule? Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, please attach a mark-up showing the changes in the existing rule and a summary of the substantive changes. **Note: The summary should explain what the amendment does, and the mark-up copy should be clearly labeled "mark-up."**

6. Cite the state law that grants the authority for this proposed rule? If codified, please give the Arkansas Code citation.

7. What is the purpose of this proposed rule? Why is it necessary? Cut scores of 150 on each of the four sections of the GED test are currently written in the Arkansas State Policies for GED Testing. The GED Testing Service is recommending that the cut scores be reduced from 150 to 145. The new rule would allow the Adult Education Division of the Department of Career Education to determine cut scores rather than having the precise numbers written in the policy. The Adult Education Division will follow the recommendations of the GED Testing Service which are based on data and research.

8. Please provide the address where this rule is publicly accessible in electronic form via the Internet as required by Arkansas Code § 25-19-108(b). <http://ace.arkansas.gov>

9. Will a public hearing be held on this proposed rule? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, please complete the following:

Date: _____

Time: _____

Place: _____

10. When does the public comment period expire for permanent promulgation? (Must provide a date.)

March 10, 2016

11. What is the proposed effective date of this proposed rule? (Must provide a date.)

May 1, 2016

12. Do you expect this rule to be controversial? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, please explain. _____

13. Please give the names of persons, groups, or organizations that you expect to comment on these rules? Please provide their position (for or against) if known.

Adult Education directors and GED test administrators

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

PLEASE ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS COMPLETELY

DEPARTMENT Arkansas Department of Career Education

DIVISION Adult Education

PERSON COMPLETING THIS STATEMENT Trenia Miles/Janice Hanlon

Trenia.miles@arkansas.gov
Janice.hanlon@arkansas.gov

TELEPHONE NO. (501)682-1970 **FAX NO.** (501)682-1706 **EMAIL:**

To comply with Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-204(e), please complete the following Financial Impact Statement and file two copies with the questionnaire and proposed rules.

SHORT TITLE OF THIS RULE GED Testing Scores Policy Update

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1. Does this proposed, amended, or repealed rule have a financial impact? | Yes ☐ | No ☒ |
| 2. Is the rule based on the best reasonably obtainable scientific, technical, economic, or other evidence and information available concerning the need for, consequences of, and alternatives to the rule? | Yes ☒ | No ☐ |
| 3. In consideration of the alternatives to this rule, was this rule determined by the agency to be the least costly rule considered? | Yes ☒ | No ☐ |

If an agency is proposing a more costly rule, please state the following:

- (a) How the additional benefits of the more costly rule justify its additional cost;

- (b) The reason for adoption of the more costly rule;

- (c) Whether the more costly rule is based on the interests of public health, safety, or welfare, and if so, please explain; and;

- (d) Whether the reason is within the scope of the agency's statutory authority; and if so, please explain.

4. If the purpose of this rule is to implement a federal rule or regulation, please state the following:

- (a) What is the cost to implement the federal rule or regulation?

Current Fiscal Year

General Revenue	_____
Federal Funds	_____
Cash Funds	_____
Special Revenue	_____
Other (Identify)	_____

Next Fiscal Year

General Revenue	_____
Federal Funds	_____
Cash Funds	_____
Special Revenue	_____
Other (Identify)	_____

Total N/A

Total N/A

(b) What is the additional cost of the state rule?

Current Fiscal Year

General Revenue _____
Federal Funds _____
Cash Funds _____
Special Revenue _____
Other (Identify) _____

Total N/A

Next Fiscal Year

General Revenue _____
Federal Funds _____
Cash Funds _____
Special Revenue _____
Other (Identify) _____

Total N/A

5. What is the total estimated cost by fiscal year to any private individual, entity and business subject to the proposed, amended, or repealed rule? Identify the entity(ies) subject to the proposed rule and explain how they are affected.

Current Fiscal Year

\$ N/A

Next Fiscal Year

\$ N/A

6. What is the total estimated cost by fiscal year to state, county, and municipal government to implement this rule? Is this the cost of the program or grant? Please explain how the government is affected.

Current Fiscal Year

\$ N/A

Next Fiscal Year

\$ N/A

7. With respect to the agency's answers to Questions #5 and #6 above, is there a new or increased cost or obligation of at least one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) per year to a private individual, private entity, private business, state government, county government, municipal government, or to two (2) or more of those entities combined?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If YES, the agency is required by Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-204(e)(4) to file written findings at the time of filing the financial impact statement. The written findings shall be filed simultaneously with the financial impact statement and shall include, without limitation, the following:

- (1) a statement of the rule's basis and purpose;
- (2) the problem the agency seeks to address with the proposed rule, including a statement of whether a rule is required by statute;
- (3) a description of the factual evidence that:
 - (a) justifies the agency's need for the proposed rule; and
 - (b) describes how the benefits of the rule meet the relevant statutory objectives and justify the rule's costs;
- (4) a list of less costly alternatives to the proposed rule and the reasons why the alternatives do not adequately address the problem to be solved by the proposed rule;

- (5) a list of alternatives to the proposed rule that were suggested as a result of public comment and the reasons why the alternatives do not adequately address the problem to be solved by the proposed rule;
- (6) a statement of whether existing rules have created or contributed to the problem the agency seeks to address with the proposed rule and, if existing rules have created or contributed to the problem, an explanation of why amendment or repeal of the rule creating or contributing to the problem is not a sufficient response; and
- (7) an agency plan for review of the rule no less than every ten (10) years to determine whether, based upon the evidence, there remains a need for the rule including, without limitation, whether:
 - (a) the rule is achieving the statutory objectives;
 - (b) the benefits of the rule continue to justify its costs; and
 - (c) the rule can be amended or repealed to reduce costs while continuing to achieve the statutory objectives.

The Adult Education Division of the Arkansas Department of Career Education will set scoring requirements for GED® testing based on GED® data, policy and research analysis and shall report any changes to the board at the next scheduled board meeting.