2009 LEGISLATIVE ACTS
AFFECTING ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY AND
HIGHER EDUCATION IN GENERAL

1. ACT 141 – An act to provide Research Development Program Grants to institutions of higher education. $1.5 M funded.
2. ACT 193 – An act to clarify the duties and responsibilities of the Arkansas Building Authority; to amend the percentage of earned progress payments payable to contractors.
3. ACT 206 – An act to adjust the job order contracting bid award amounts in accordance with the increase in the cost of building materials and petroleum-based products.
4. ACT 211 – An act to allow taxpayers to divert all or part of their state income tax refund to an Arkansas tax-deferred tuition savings program account.
5. ACT 214 – An act to amend the Arkansas National Guard tuition incentive program.
6. ACT 245 – An act concerning the maximum number of new additional positions established for the biennium for institutions of higher education.
7. ACT 251 – An act to make various corrections to Title 19 of the Arkansas Code of 1987 annotated.
8. ACT 286 – An act to require a statement regarding compliance with ethical guidelines be included in a statutorily required audit of an educational institution.
9. ACT 295 – An act to allow members of state-supported retirement systems who are receiving federal military service retirement to purchase credited service for service rendered by the members in the armed forces.
10. ACT 321 – An act to increase salary transparency for administrators in state-supported institutions of higher education.
11. ACT 323 – An act to limit the amount of unrestricted educational and general tuition and fee income an institution of higher education can spend on academic and performance scholarships.
12. ACT 378 – An act to establish a “growth pool” of positions for state-supported four-year institutions of higher education. 200 non-classified and 200 classified.
13. ACT 396 – An act to allow the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee to receive a monthly report for commodities contracts that include services and that have a projected total cost of $250,000 or more.
14. ACT 416 - An act to create the comprehensive Arkansas Higher Education Annual Report.
15. ACT 425 – An act to clarify that lump-sum benefits paid to a member under the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System are intended to be exempt from income tax.
16. ACT 440 – An act concerning claims for attorney’s fees and litigation expenses against the state of Arkansas under the Freedom of Information Act of 1967.
17. ACT 532 – An act concerning design professional contracts under Arkansas Building Authority guidelines.
18. ACT 540 – To clarify language regarding insurance coverage for construction contracts.
19. ACT 571 – An act to allow private borrowing by state-supported Institutions of Higher Education in certain circumstances.
20. ACT 621 – An act to require employers to provide unpaid break time and reasonable locations for expressing breast milk.
22. ACT 657 – An act to increase the amount of time a member of the Arkansas Public Employees’ Retirement System must terminate employment in order to qualify for retirement benefits.
23. ACT 677 – An act to amend the protested solicitations and awards process for state contracts.
24. ACT 706 – An act to amend Arkansas Law to meet requirements and deadlines of the American recovery and reinvestment act of 2009.
25. ACT 730 – An act to create the Arkansas College and Career Readiness Planning Program Act.
27. ACT 735 – An act to require disclosures of contacts between state-supported institutions of higher education and employees having a financial interest.
28. ACT 743 – An act to adjust the amount of time a retired member of the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System shall remain retired before returning to covered employment.
29. ACT 745 – An act to allow the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System and the Arkansas Public Employees’ Retirement System to adopt rules to comply with federal law.
30. ACT 788 – An act to authorize the Department of Correction to expand educational opportunities for inmates qualified to enroll in college or university courses.
31. ACT 797 – An act to modify the funding formula model for universities.
32. ACT 813 – An act to amend Arkansas Law concerning the award procedure for public improvements by institutions of higher education.
33. ACT 858 – An act for Arkansas Tech University for the expansion, improvements and equipping Lake Point Conference Center general improvement appropriation.
34. ACT 863 – An act for Arkansas Tech University for construction and equipping the Academic/Advising Center general improvement appropriation.
35. ACT 866 – An act for Arkansas Tech University for the Ozark Campus Student Services Center general improvement appropriation.
36. ACT 870 – An act to provide that a state employee who previously worked for a school district or institution of higher learning is eligible for catastrophic leave.
37. ACT 1197 – An act to allow state-supported institutions of higher education that offer an associate of applied science degree to change the math requirement to “an applicable and appropriate non-remedial math course”.
38. ACT 1200 – An act to amend the calculations for benefits and for straight life annuity under the Arkansas Public Employees’ Retirement System.
39. ACT 1213 – An act to broaden the higher education opportunities grant program.
40. ACT 1218 – An act to provide flexibility for the Arkansas Department of higher Education in Governor’s Scholars Program Awards.
42. ACT 1280 – An act to amend Arkansas Code Title 24 to coordinate the state-supported retirement systems regarding concurrent employment to benefit the concurrent employee.
43. ACT 1302 – An act to require all state agencies to post notice of public meetings on the internet.
44. ACT 1313 – An act concerning death benefits for covered public employees killed in the line of duty.
45. ACT 1315 – An act to authorize a one-time ad hoc benefit increase for retirants, survivors, and beneficiaries of retirants in the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System.
46. ACT 1324 – An act to clarify and make consistent the survivor benefits under the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System.
47. ACT 1325 – An act to amend the definitions of salary and interest in the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System Act to exclude nonrecurring payments from the calculation of final average salary.
48. ACT 1372 – An act to create the sustainable building design program for state agencies.
49. ACT 1416 – An act for the Department of Higher Education Appropriation for the 2009-2010 fiscal year.
50. ACTS 1442/1443 – An act for the distribution of the Eighty-Seventh Session Projects Account of the general improvement fund to provide additional funds for the state budget.
51. ACT 1451 – An act to allow a two-year or four-year College or University to provide endorsed concurrent enrollment courses at a reduced tuition amount.
52. ACT 1494 – An act to promote the conservation of energy and natural resources in buildings owned by public agencies and Institutions of Higher Education.