



**ARKANSAS
DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION**

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

INFORMATION AND STATEMENT OF ASSURANCE

LEA Number:

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LEA Name: _____

As part of its agreement with the United States Department of Education to receive funds through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), Arkansas must assure that it will implement strategies to:

- Increase teacher effectiveness and address inequities in the distribution of highly qualified teachers;
- Establish and use a pre-K-through-college-and-career data system to track progress and foster continuous improvement;
- Make progress towards rigorous college- and career-ready standards and high-quality assessments that are valid and reliable for all students, including limited English proficient students and students with disabilities; and
- Provide targeted, intensive support and effective interventions to turn around schools identified for corrective action and restructuring.

In support of the four federal goals listed above, and as a prerequisite to receiving funds through the Arkansas Department of Education from the ARRA, each superintendent, cooperative director, or charter school director and each general business manager must sign the Statement of Assurance attached.

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

ARKANSAS LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCY STATEMENT OF ASSURANCE

We, _____, Superintendent of the _____ School District / Director of the _____, Open Enrollment Public Charter School / Director of the _____ Education Service Cooperative (**circle one**) and _____, General Business Manager of the _____ School District / _____, Open Enrollment Public Charter School / _____, Education Service Cooperative (**circle one**), do hereby certify by our signatures below on behalf of and for the _____ School District / _____, Open Enrollment Public Charter School / _____, Education Service Cooperative (**circle one**), that our school district / open enrollment public charter school / education service cooperative shall:

1. Implement strategies to help Arkansas achieve the following goals of the ARRA:
 - Increase teacher effectiveness and address inequities in the distribution of highly qualified teachers;
 - Establish and use a local pre-K-through-college-and-career data system to track progress and foster continuous improvement;
 - As appropriate, use assessments and curriculum aligned to the state's rigorous college- and career-ready standards and high-quality assessments that are valid and reliable for all students, including limited English proficient students and students with disabilities; and
 - Provide targeted, intensive support and effective interventions to turn around schools identified for corrective action and restructuring.
2. Submit reports and updates as required to the Arkansas Department of Education in regard to the use of the ARRA funds.
3. Ensure all construction projects receive a full review and vetting to meet federal laws and regulations and state law.
4. Ensure all construction projects are entered and certified into the Computerized Maintenance Management System ("School Dude").
5. Ensure expenditures are coded correctly and recovery funds are tracked separately from regular local, state or other federal funds.
6. Cooperate fully with any Comptroller General, Inspector General, State Auditor and/or Monitor in the evaluation of the uses of the ARRA.
7. Comply with all applicable assurances in OMB Standard Forms 424B and D (Assurances for Non-Construction and Construction Programs), including the assurances relating to the legal authority to apply for assistance; access to records; conflict of interest; merit systems; nondiscrimination; Hatch Act provisions; labor standards; flood hazards; historic preservation; protection of human subjects; animal welfare; lead-based paint; Single Audit Act; and the general agreement to comply with all applicable Federal laws, executive orders and regulations.
8. Ensure that ARRA funds received are not used to pay any person to influence or attempt to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the making or renewal of Federal grants under this program.

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9. Comply with all of the operational and administrative provisions in Title XV and XIV of the Recovery Act, including Buy American Requirements (ARRA Division A, Section 1605), Wage Rate Requirements (ARRA Division A, Section 1606), and any applicable environmental impact requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1970 (NEPA), as amended, (42 U.S.C. 4371 et seq.) (ARRA Division A, Section 1609).
10. As applicable, provide descriptions required by section 427 of General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) (20 U.S.C. 1228a) relating to information on the steps the LEA proposes to take to permit students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries to overcome barriers (including barriers based on gender, race, color, national origin, disability, and age) that impede access to, or participation in, the program.
11. Comply with applicable United States Department of Education General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR), 34 CFR Part 76 – State-Administered Programs, including the construction requirements in section 75.600 through 75.617 that are incorporated by reference in section 76.600; 34 CFR Part 77 -- Definitions that Apply to Department Regulations; 34 CFR Part 80 -- Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments, including the procurement provisions; 34 CFR Part 82 -- New Restrictions on Lobbying; and 34 CFR Part 85 – Government-wide Debarment and Suspension (Non-procurement).
12. Comply with any and all other state or federal laws and /or regulations and guidance from the United States Department of Education and Arkansas Department of Education, both in our possession now or subsequently received by us concerning the regulation and requirements for our LEA's receipt of funds under the ARRA program.
13. Report any credible evidence to the Arkansas Department of Education that a principal, employee, agent, contractor, sub-grantee, subcontractor, or other person has submitted a false claim under the False Claims Act or has committed a criminal or civil violation of laws pertaining to fraud, conflict of interest, bribery, gratuity, or similar misconduct involving the ARRA funds.

LEA Superintendent, Cooperative Director or Charter School Director and General Business Manager Certification: *I hereby certify that the above-named local education agency will adhere to all laws and regulations regarding the expenditure of funds associated with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.*

LEA Superintendent / Cooperative Director / Charter School Director (**Print Name**)

LEA Superintendent / Cooperative Director / Charter School Director (**Signature**)

Date

LEA General Business Manager (**Print Name**)

LEA General Business Manager (**Signature**)

Date

Contact Person

Telephone Number

Please submit this Statement of Assurance form to:

**Bill Goff, Assistant Commissioner
Fiscal and Administrative Services
Arkansas Department of Education
Four Capitol Mall, Room 103-B
Little Rock, AR 72201**

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