

**ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2025-2026
AND
BUDGET FOR 2026-2027**

Arkansas Code Annotated §6-20-2202 states:

a)(1) The board of directors of each school district, open-enrollment public charter school, and education service cooperative annually shall prepare a budget of expenditures and receipts that shall be filed with the Department of Education by September 30 of each year under this subchapter.

(2) Each budget shall be approved by the board of directors of each school district, open-enrollment public charter school, and education service cooperative at a legally held meeting and shall be signed by the president of the board of directors and the ex officio financial secretary of each school district, open-enrollment public charter school, and education service cooperative. The budget shall contain the information and be prepared in an electronic format prescribed by the Department of Education governing financial accounting for Arkansas school districts, open-enrollment public charter schools, and education service cooperatives.

(b)(1)(A) Warrants or checks of a school district, open-enrollment public charter school, or education service cooperative issued after the date required by subsection (a) of this section shall be invalid unless a budget has been filed as required by this subchapter and in compliance with appropriate rules.

(B) The ex officio financial secretary of a school district, open-enrollment public charter school, or education service cooperative and his or her surety shall be liable for any warrants or checks countersigned after the date required by subsection (a) of this section if a budget has not been filed.

(2) After the Department of Education has met all deadlines for providing information to school districts, open-enrollment public charter schools, or education service cooperatives, distribution of all grants and aids from the state for which the school district, open-enrollment public charter school, or education service cooperative may be eligible shall be suspended until the requirements of this subchapter are met by the school districts, open-enrollment public charter schools, or education service cooperatives.

The _____ School District, Open-enrollment Public Charter School, or Education Service Cooperative, in compliance with these requirements, approves the 2025-2026 Annual Financial Report due by August 31 in Cycle 9 and the 2026-2027 Budget due by September 30 in Cycle 1 on (date) _____, 2026. (Date Board approved)

President of the Board Signature

Ex Officio Financial Secretary Signature (Supt)

There is no requirement to submit a copy of the form; however, it should be retained for documentation purposes.