

**LEARNS**

Early Career Exposure

Work Group

Kick Off

# Meeting Norms

## Prior to Meeting

- Ross White will send out agenda and materials at least 3 business days in advance of each meeting.
- Members review all materials and come prepared to share feedback.

## During Meeting

- Mute yourself when not speaking.
- Keep feedback centered on topic at hand.
- Stay engaged (e.g., actively participate and use the chat function).
- Be mindful of how much “air time” each member receives.
- All ideas are valued.

***Materials (notes, slides) will be posted after the meeting for members who can not attend.***



# FOIA Made Simple

## Legislative Intent:

- To ensure that public business is performed in an open and public manner so that the electors shall be advised of the performance of public officials and of the decisions that are reached in public activity and in making public policy

# FOIA Made Simple

## Who is subject to FOIA?

- All government entities
- Private entities that receive public funds and are intertwined with government activities

# FOIA Made Simple: Public Records

## Definitions:

- **Writings, sounds, electronic info, or videos** that (a) are kept and (b) constitute a **record of performance or lack of performance** of official functions

# LEARNS Act

**LEARNS stands for Literacy, Empowerment, Accountability, Readiness, Networking, and Safety.** On Jan. 11, 2023, Gov. Sarah Huckabee Sanders signed the LEARNS Executive Order, which calls for the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) to conduct an analysis of key aspects of the state's education system and produce corresponding reports.

On March 8, 2023, the LEARNS Act was signed into law, signaling the start of the largest overhaul of education in the state's history.

After completing these analyses called for in the LEARNS Executive Order, **ADE is eager to engage stakeholders as implementation of the LEARNS commitments begins.**



# L E A R N S

Roughly six in 10 jobs in Arkansas require advanced credentials beyond a high school diploma, but less than half of the state's workers meet these requirements.

**Every Arkansas student deserves opportunities to graduate on a path toward prosperity.**

# READINESS

# Ensure students in Arkansas have a strong pathway to the workforce.

- Build career-ready pathways to a diploma:** Develop processes and requirements for career-ready pathways to ensure they lead to high-wage, high-growth careers for all graduates.
- Ensure Student Success Plans are aligned with career-ready pathways:** Create a template for Student Success Plans—a personalized education plan intended to assist students with achieving readiness for college, career, and community engagement—that aligns with career-ready pathways and provide guidance and support for districts on how to implement them.
- Conduct an annual audit of the state's career pathways:** Engage third-party experts to conduct an annual audit of the state's career pathways to ensure they reflect high skill, high wage, high demand jobs in Arkansas. The first of these audits is due July 10, 2023.



# Work Group Purpose

The Arkansas Department of Education is convening work groups around key areas of LEARNS for external stakeholders to **provide ideas, expertise, and feedback to ADE as they develop rules and policies.**

- School Safety
- Early Learning
- Parental Empowerment
- Teaching and Learning
- Educator Workforce
- Career Readiness



# Early Career Awareness

## Work Group Charge

This work group is focused on EARLY CAREER AWARENESS. LEARNS calls for new rules or policy on:

- Career Awareness and Exploration Activities (Grades 6-8)
- Minimum Number of Activities Required
- Early Career Awareness in Standards for Accreditation

Engagement from this group and other stakeholders is essential to ensure that the policy on early career awareness is representative of the perspectives of all part of the state's career readiness system.

# Early Career Exposure Timeline

	May	July	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Part 1: CTE Audit-Executive Order						
Work Group Meeting #1: launch & overview process for developing framework.	█					
Work Group Meeting #2: Review CTE Audit Executive Order completed by Third Party Stakeholder input in regards to early career exposure activities		█				
Part 2: ADE shares draft framework with Work Group.						
Work Group Meeting #3: Dig in to framework and provide recommendations			█			
<i>To Be Determined</i> – Conduct public survey (distributed through ADE, WorkGroup, and key stakeholders) to collect additional input on draft framework.				█		
Part 3: Work Group weighs in on framework & SBE approves framework.						
Work Group Meeting #4: review and weigh in on the framework for SBE.					█	
State Board of Education approval.						█
Throughout: ADE engages key stakeholders.	█	█	█	█	█	█

# Scope and Sequence

**To accomplish the timeline outlined in LEARNS, this group will meet 4 times and discuss the following topics.** Adjustments may be made at a later date based on the pace and timing of work group meetings.

Date	Anticipated Topics
May 19 (virtual)	Kick Off
July (face to face)	CTE Audit Review & Current Reality of Early Career Awareness
September (face to face)	Early Career Exposure Framework Review
November (face to face)	Early Career Exposure Framework Feedback & Final Review

# Next Steps

- Ross White will send draft materials in advance of next meeting
- Work group members review background materials
  - [LEARNS Act](#) (pg. 34-35)
  - [Standards for Accreditation](#) (pg. 10)
  - [Current Middle Level CTE Courses](#)
  - [EO Report \(Final Report July 10\)](#)