"Please allow me to introduce myself."
You enter high school as an Arkansas Scholar.

YOU CHOOSE IF YOU GRADUATE AS ONE!

Where will you be in 4 years?
Choices After High School

College
Technical training
Military
Entry-level job
Unemployment
YOU DETERMINE YOUR ROAD TO SUCCESS

Good Choices = MORE OPTIONS
Arkansas Scholar Requirements:

1. Take the Smart Core curriculum throughout high school.

2. Make a SEMESTER grade of “C” or better in all courses.

3. Maintain a 95% attendance rate throughout high school.

4. Complete high school in eight consecutive semesters.

Your transcript will be a record of all you do!
GOOD CHOICES have real life impact now!

Students need a “C” average (2.0 GPA) or above to take the Arkansas driving test.

Good grades can qualify students for BIG savings on auto insurance.

Social Media posts never go away. Employers can research you for years to come. Keep it clean. Keep it positive.
ARKANSAS SCHOLARS: WHAT’S IN IT FOR ME?
You choices will determine how ‘typical’ your life will be.

Critical Years
Ages 14-22

Working Years
Ages 22-70

Retire
Your choice!
Over 90% of the 30 fastest growing jobs will require education or training beyond high school.

U.S. Department of Labor (2010 - 2020)
YOUR future doesn’t have to be a mystery.
So you want to be a star?

Only 0.04% of the world population is “famous”

0.04% = 1 IN 2000 PEOPLE

SOURCE: WORK.CHRON.COM
Think sports will be your meal ticket?

- High School Athletes
- College Athletes
- Drafted Pro-Athletes

NCAA Athletic Clearinghouse (Eligibility Center) requires athletes to be a high school graduate with a minimum 2.3 GPA
Over 68% of the incarcerated population are high school dropouts. But what does that mean? It means that a large proportion of those who are imprisoned have not completed their education, which can have significant consequences. Usually illegal activity is a serious concern, as it can jeopardize your safety, reputation, rights, and future. It is important to consider the long-term implications of any decision you make, especially if it involves illegal activity. Make informed choices that will benefit you in the long run.
Entry Level Earnings
$22,880/Year
($11 - Minimum Wage 2021)
**Minimum Wage Household Budget**

**$1,900 per Month Earnings**
($22,880/ Year or $11.00/ Hour)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transaction Description</th>
<th>Payment Amount</th>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Deposit Amount</th>
<th>Balance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal Income Tax</td>
<td>$120.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1780.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Income Tax</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1730.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Security/Medicare</td>
<td>$145.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1585.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Woo-hoo- I got a job and a paycheck!! $1900.00
## Minimum Wage Household Budget

- **Federal Income Tax**: $120.00, **Balance**: $1780.00
- **State Income Tax**: $50.00, **Balance**: $1730.00
- **Social Security/Medicare**: $145.00, **Balance**: $1585.00
- **Rent (w/roommate)**: $450.00, **Balance**: $1135.00
- **Car Payment**: $300.00, **Balance**: $835.00
- **Car Insurance**: $100.00, **Balance**: $735.00
- **Gasoline**: $80.00, **Balance**: $655.00
- **Cell Phone**: $75.00, **Balance**: $580.00
- **Utilities**: $150.00, **Balance**: $430.00
- **Groceries**: $240.00, **Balance**: $190.00

**$1,900 per Month Earnings**

($22,880/ Year or $11.00/ Hour)

< $200 left for Food out, Fun, and Fashion

What? That won’t work??!!
Show Me the Money!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree Level</th>
<th>Median Annual Income (in U.S.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High School Graduate</td>
<td>$33,852</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate’s Degree</td>
<td>$40,404</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s Degree</td>
<td>$57,616</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master’s Degree</td>
<td>$69,108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Degree</td>
<td>$89,128</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


On average those who complete college earn almost **ONE MILLION DOLLARS** more than high school graduates over the course of a lifetime.
Arkansas Scholar Scholarship Benefits

U of A Pulaski Technical College

Offers up to $500 per qualifying semester for up to four qualifying semesters

Local employers look for the Arkansas Scholars seal on your transcript.

Requirements:
Take the SMART Core courses, make a semester grade of ‘C’ or better in all classes, finish high school in 8 consecutive semesters, and maintain a 95% attendance average over the 4 years.
Being an **ARKANSAS SCHOLAR** could help you earn other opportunities!

You may also qualify for the **Arkansas Challenge (Lottery) Scholarship**

Requirements: Graduate from an Arkansas high school and have a minimum GPA of 2.5 or better in Smart Core classes -or- a minimum ACT score of 19

(Be sure to check qualifying requirements annually.)
Take time now to plan for your future. If you don’t, who will?

Sometimes a great opportunity is right in front of us. Grab your AR Scholars brochure and enter sweepstakes for prizes!
1. Take the Smart Core curriculum during high school.

2. Make a semester grade of “C” or better in all courses.

3. Maintain a 95% attendance rate. Miss no more 5% total - in 4 years.

4. Complete high school in eight consecutive semesters.

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