

THE STATE OF WORKPLACE EDUCATION IN THE STATES

ARKANSAS

Funding

- 25% of the funding from federal resources
- Employers contribute through targeted funding, paid release time, and the use of facilities for classes.

Current Initiatives

- Arkansas Workforce Alliance for Growth in the Economy (WAGE)
 - WAGE is a workbased education program designed to ensure that unemployed and underemployed Arkansans have the basic academic skills to become employed and stay successful in the workplace.

Barriers to Workplace Education

- Scheduling release time for employees.
- Financial burdens: Arkansas provides workplace programs at no cost to employers.
- Staff development for both administrators and teachers is difficult.

Location of programs

- 80% of the programs are offered at the worksite.
- Programs are also offered on campuses.

Responsibility for implementation at the local level

- LEA's
- Community Colleges
- Learning Centers

Support Services

- Training
- Curriculum development
- Marketing
- Partnership building (i.e. brokering with state associations)
- Policies and support for one-stops
- State staff coordinator

One-Stop Connections

- Most of Arkansas workplace education programs are connected to One-Stops. However, there are other Adult Education programs that have been created separately, without any connection to the One-Stops.

Workplace Education Program Qualities

States	State Partners	Student Enrollment	State Staff	State Led Effort
Arkansas	One-Stops, Employment Security Agencies, Department of Human Services, Employment and Training Agencies, Economic Development Agencies	3-5%	Full-time	Yes

Additional Information Available: A packet containing detailed information regarding the WAGE program is available.