



Arkansas Career Coach Program

The Arkansas Career Coach Program began in the spring of the 2009-2010 school year. The pilot program started with 43 Career Coaches in 45 school districts and 21 economically disadvantage counties in partnership with 12 community colleges. The program helps to prepare middle and high school students for postsecondary education, employment, and/or military service. For the first five years of the program, the Career Coaches and program was evaluated on specified performance measures. During that period, the program met and exceeded targets and the overall state-level outcomes.

College Going Rate: (Goal: 10%)

- Increased by 22.16% (33.10% to 55.26%)
- State Rate Increased by 4.02% (46.9 to 50.92)

ACT Score: (Goal: .5 points)

- Increased by 1.58 points (19.53 to 21.11)
- State Score Increased by .79 points (19.61 to 20.4)

Remediation Rate: (Goal: -10%)

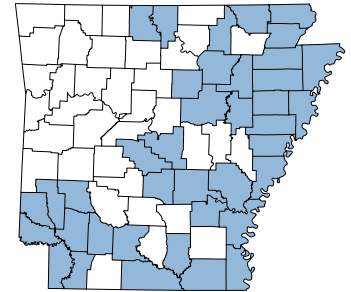
- Decreased by -15.7% (63.58% to 47.88%)
- State Rate Decreased by 3.94% (46.4 to 41.46)

Applications for Financial Aid: (Goal: 10%)

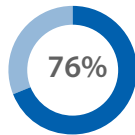
- Increased by 32.3% (40.2% to 72.5%)
- State Rate Increased by 16.8% (50.6% to 66.2%)

After the conclusion of the five-year pilot, the program was expanded and the performance measures were restructured to include College and Career Readiness measures. As of academic year 2018-2019, the Arkansas Career Coach Program has 59.5 Career Coaches, serving 33,482 students, 60 school districts, and 37 counties in partnership with 17 community colleges. The program continues to produce positive outcomes with the new measures.

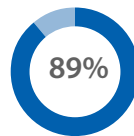
Graduating seniors working with a Career Coach were awarded **\$19,041,396 in institutional scholarships** and **\$28,091,041 non-institutional scholarships** for a total of **\$47,132,437**.



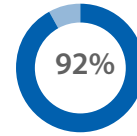
Counties with Active Career Coach Programs



76% of Freshman and Sophomores participated in a work-based learning experience



89% of Juniors received college planning services



92% of Seniors received assistance with applying for financial aid

The Arkansas Career Coach Program has demonstrated success over the past ten years. As we move the program forward, we plan to evaluate outcomes based on ESSA and Perkins-focused college and career readiness measures.

- Increase students grade 8 – 12 who complete a work-based learning experience by 2% annually
- Increase students grade 9 – 12 who earn an industry-recognized credential by 2% annually
- Increase students who enroll in postsecondary education the fall semester immediately following graduation by 2% annually
- Increase eligible seniors who submit and increase a financial aid application through YOUiversal by 2% annually
- Increase the state average ACT score by .01 annually
- Decrease first-time college students who enroll in a remedial course by 2% annually

The data shows the Arkansas Career Coach program produces positive outcomes for students. However, the Arkansas Career Coach Program is not available to all students in every county (see map above). The intervention of the program can assist schools, communities, and the state to meet desired goals for improving educational attainment and workforce development.