



Monthly TCC Updates

NOVEMBER 2024

(Yellow highlight indicates New Information)

(Red Font Indicates Action required)

[August 2024](#)

[September 2024](#)

[October 2024](#)

- **IMPORTANT ITEMS FOR NOVEMBER:**

- **PLC Grants from DESE:** DESE is awarding districts grants based on ADM to support PLC work in four areas for the 24-25 school year. [Each district's amount is listed here.](#) Districts may choose to work with pre-approved vendors, found here, or can pool resources and form a consortium with their ESC or other districts. Arch Ford will be offering a PLC Consortium to meet the following four areas, as required by the grant:
 - Foundational Literacy/Science of Reading
 - Strengthening Quality of Instruction
 - Strengthening Career Pathways
 - Multi-tiered Systems of Support for Behavioral and Mental Health Services
 - Interested districts can reach out to Dr. Mark Taylor or Dr. Julie Workman for assistance.
 - **Applications are due to DESE by January 31, 2025.**
- **HQIM Sessions:** As part of the Communities of Practice grant, we will be providing multiple sessions this year at Arch Ford for both leaders and teachers in the skillful use of those HQIM most commonly used in our areas.
 - [Click here to view dates, descriptions, and register](#)

- **[LEARNS](#)**

- **Math Screener Guidance for K-2:** The purpose of the Beginning-of- Year (BOY) K-2 ATLAS math screener is to assess basic foundational skills in math, guide instructional decisions, and provide support for students who do not meet grade-level foundational skills. The screener shall determine students who demonstrate readiness or potential risk in basic foundational math skills. This assessment focuses on a subset of Arkansas math standards to help teachers determine if a student may struggle with basic foundational math skills, including counting, place value, comparison, and addition/subtraction across the following math strands: Number & Place Value and Computation & Algebraic Reasoning. **Remember, math intervention plans are NOT required for K-2, only students in grades 3-8.**
 - [K-2_Math_BOY_Screener_Guidance_2024_150720.pdf](#)
 - [Math_Testlet_Progression_150741.pdf](#)

- **STANDARDS & ASSESSMENT - [Final Testing Calendar for 24-25](#)**

- **ATLAS K-2:**

- **Interims:**

- **Rostering**-Don't forget to roster students to teachers so they can view reports. SEE more rostering information in the TIDE User Guide on pages 22 and 64.
 - **ORF**: If you are using other HQIM passages for ORF, use [this chart](#) to determine if an IRP is needed. Students need to score at the 50th percentile (light green WCPM) and 90% accuracy in order to not have an IRP.
 - [ELA K-3 Blueprints](#)
 - [BOY Testlet Guidance for IRP](#)

- [Range PLDs used in Standard Setting for Screener and Summative](#) - very informative for teachers! This will tell you standard-by-standard what students scoring at Level 1, 2, 3, and 4 are doing in relation to the standard.

- [The Beginning-of- Year \(BOY\) ATLAS Math Screener](#) results and testlets for kindergarten through second grade are now available to school districts.

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- **ATLAS Interims:**

- **Interim tests for grades 3-10 are optional. Interim 1:** October 21–December 6, 2024; **Interim 2:** February 3–March 14, 2025
 - **New: K-2 Interims:** DESE has decided to postpone the window for the K-2 interims that was scheduled to open on November 18. The new window will be **January 13 through February 21**. We hope this will give everyone a chance to continue working on IRPs and test administration. Guidance around interim data as it pertains to IRPs and testlets will be released soon, as will the next round of tests.

- **READING/ELA**

- **Rapid Automatized Naming (RAN) guidance grades K-3:**

- Kindergarten & First Grade-RAN is on the blueprint
 - Second Grade-Give RAN testlet to students that flagged in fluency
 - Third Grade-RAN will be included in Level II dyslexia screening

- **MATH**

- [ALGEBRA 1 and GEOMETRY SUPPORT](#) - On Nov 21, 2024 We will host a support day for Algebra 1 and Geometry teachers where we will look at data, grade expectations, and work on content alignment. Follow the link above to register.

- **Arkansas Association of Math Leaders Pre Conference and Arkansas Council of Teachers of Mathematics [“Reaching for Excellence”](#) Conference** November 14 and 15 @ Arch Ford Cooperative.

○ **SCIENCE**

- **Biology ATLAS Training, Thursday Dec 12th.** This session is for Biology teachers to come and do a deep dive into the standards, their HQIM, and alignment with the ATLAS Biology EOC.
- **3-8 Science ATLAS Training, Wednesday Jan 22nd.** This session is for 3-8 Science teachers to come and do a deep dive into the standards, their HQIM, and alignment with the ATLAS science test.
- **Curriculum Evaluation & Adoption:** Science Specialist is available to help provide science walk through training and help leadership evaluate science instruction and alignment to standards, implementation of HQIM, or evaluating current curriculum to improve instructional practice or select new science curriculum.
- **ATLAS Interim Data:** Anecdotal accounts have shown that ATLAS Interim data for science is not as helpful as anticipated for Tier 2 & 3 intervention. Instead, it seems to be a gauge of class and grade level Tier 1 instruction and standards alignment.
- If you need anything science, please email: corey.adaire@archford.org

○ **GT/AP**

- **Governor's School Nominations:** Student nominations are now being accepted for the [2025 Arkansas Governor's School \(AGS\)](#) to be held at Arkansas Tech University in Russellville, Arkansas from Sunday, July 6 - Saturday, August 2, 2025. Arkansas Governor's School is a four-week summer residential program for rising high school seniors. Detailed instructions on the nomination process for the 2025 Arkansas Governor's School can be found at www.atu.edu/ags/apply.php.
 - Student application materials due Monday, February 10, 2025
 - School recommendation materials due Friday, February 14, 2025

○ **SOCIAL STUDIES**

○ **FINE ARTS**

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○ **COMPUTER SCIENCE**

○ **CAREER & TECH**

- **Success Ready Pathways Guide** (Changes to this) Angie has addressed them with your counselors.
- **Success Ready Pathways Guide Webinar Dec. 11 @ 10:00**
- Girl Power Goes State-Event at Arch Ford on Jan. 24, 2025. Female students will compete with manufacturing products they created to advance to a state competition. Arch Ford CTE received a \$50,000.00 Innovation Grant for equipment

for schools who participate in Girl Power Goes State.

- Bigelow
- Clinton
- Morrilton
- Quitman
- Shirley
- Two Rivers

- **SPECIAL ED - [DESE Inclusive Practices website](#)**

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- **TECHNOLOGY**

- [K-12 Data Privacy & Cybersecurity Conference](#) (Virtual) - January 28, 2025, Cost \$40
- [2025 AAEA TEL-AR Conference](#)

- **COUNSELORS**

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- **ESOL**

- **HEALTH**

- **SCHOOL SAFETY**

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- ***ESSA & ACCOUNTABILITY***

- [Standards for Accountability](#)
 - [SFA Index with checklists](#) - Website checklist is on the third tab

- ***TESS/LEADS/LICENSURE/MENTORING***

- [TESS/LEADS](#)

- **LICENSURE**

- **Administrator License Change:** As of 11/15, educators who meet the following requirements are no longer required to take the Praxis test for building- or district-level leadership:
 - You must complete a leadership program of study from an Arkansas university that consists of at least 18 hours (if your program is longer than 18,

you have to complete it). A master's degree is required. Those who already have a master's degree and then complete a program of study are eligible.

- Must maintain at least a 3.0 GPA in the program
- If you meet the requirements, go to AELS and apply for [licensure here](#). Your university will verify that you meet the requirements once you submit your application.

○ **RECRUITMENT & RETENTION - [Teach Arkansas Site](#)**

- **Teachers for Hire List for Arch Ford** - [click here](#).

○ **PRAXIS/TEST SUPPORT**

- **Praxis/FORT Support:** If you have a teacher needing help with passing a test, please contact Jennifer McMahan at jennifer.mcmahan@archford.org. We have free subscriptions for 240 Tutoring, study.com, and support for the Foundations of Reading test.
- **Foundations of Reading Review Session** is on Saturday, December 14th from 8:30 - 3:30. [Register here](#).

○ **NOVICE TEACHER MENTORING**

- **Master/Lead Designation for Experienced Mentor** (Yearlong Residency, Registered Apprenticeship and Aspiring Teacher Permit). To be qualified for merit pay through mentoring, the teacher must have designation.
 - [Lead Designation](#) - The DESE Lead Designation page provides information on several pathways. Please note that ALA has a pathway to lead designation, but completing the program does not guarantee designation. In order to receive lead designation, you have to complete the portfolio and receive a passing score and also complete the coaching training.
 - 2026-2027 school year implementation both Alternative and Traditional
 - Credentials
 - 3 years of experience
 - Effective or higher on a current Summative Rating
 - Coaching Training
 - Master or Lead Designation (on license)
 - [DESE recommended coaching training](#)
- **[Building Principal Novice Deadlines/Updates](#)**
- **[Arkansas Novice Teacher State Mentoring Manual](#)**
- Novice teachers are individuals with less than 3 years of total student-facing teaching experience as determined by the following criteria:
 - Assigned to specific 6-digit course codes in eSchool or job codes in eFinance requiring a license or involving a class taught for concurrent credit
 - Reported by district in eFinance as having 0, 1, or 2 years of total teaching experience
 - The "Years in Total" field does not affect the years of service toward retirement as collected by the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System.
- **ALL novice teachers** in years 1-3 MUST be assigned a support person by the

principal. The district's point of contact will share a spreadsheet for principals to enter this information and to verify their novice teachers. (p.7 in the Arkansas Novice Teacher State Mentoring Manual)

- [Novice Teacher Support Person Guidelines](#)

- **Novice Teacher PD:** Learning opportunities for all novice teachers in the 2024-2025 school year are found [HERE](#). These days will be held on-site at Arch Ford, and are optional. Principals can use this document to discuss learning options to help novice teachers with PGP goals.
- **Novice Mid- Year Survey (Required):** All novice teachers will receive an Arch Ford Mentoring Survey via email on December 2, 2024. This survey is a requirement for novice teachers in years 1, 2, and 3. The survey window will close on December 20, 2024.

- **PRINCIPALS**

- [Graduation Rate Corrections System:](#) (ACGRS) **will be open from November 6 to November 20, 2024.** Authorized district staff can use ACGRS to validate student graduation status, remove on-time transfers, and add unreported graduates from Cycle 9.
 - All corrections with proper documentation must be uploaded to ACGRS **by 5 PM on November 20, 2024.** Failure to do so will result in automatic denial.

- **OTHER INFORMATION**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Save the Dates:

- **DESE Summit** - July 15-17, 2025 Hot Springs Convention Center