

## Who We Are

We are the **Adult Education Division** of the **Arkansas Department of Career Education (ACE)**.



## What We Do

Our mission is to provide adult learners with the mechanisms to improve and refine their academic skills, attain the **GED® credential** and the life skills that prepare citizens for self-sufficiency and improve their quality of life.

Since **1965**, we have served more than one million adults across the state of Arkansas. Other accomplishments of the Adult Education Division of ACE include:

- ▶ Operating **39 full-time Adult Education Centers**
- ▶ Graduating approximately **7,000 GED® students each year**
- ▶ Ranking in the **top ten states nationally** for the percentage of test-takers **passing the GED® assessment**
- ▶ Serving over **30,000 students each program year**
- ▶ Participating in the **National Accelerating Opportunity Initiative**, in which Adult Basic Education students co-enroll in integrated occupational/technical training career pathways



# FACT SHEET

[aalrc.org](http://aalrc.org)

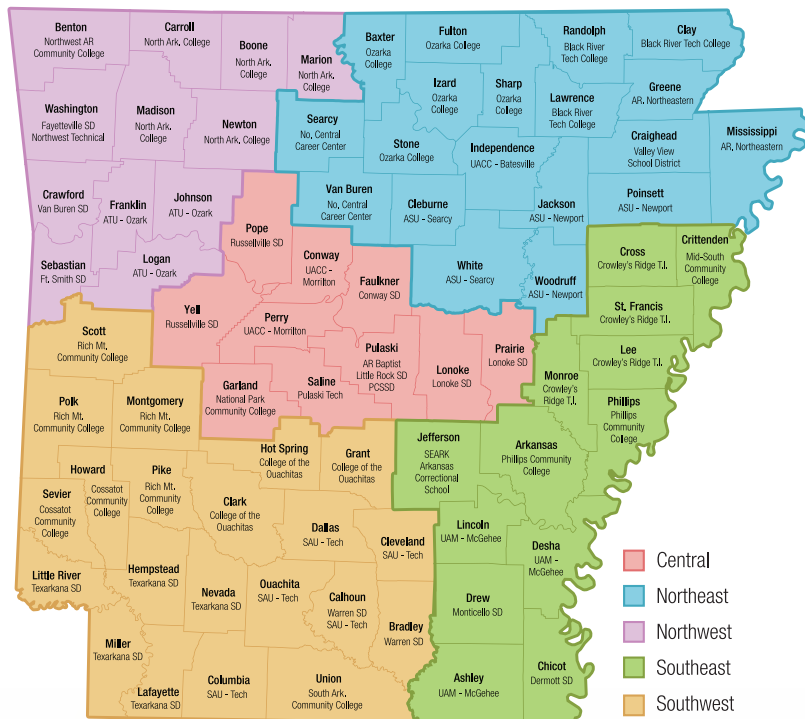
## Why We Exist

There are thousands of Arkansas adults who lack a high school diploma and the skills and knowledge to succeed in the twenty-first century workforce. This economically impacts every community in Arkansas. It's devastating to the adults who want to fulfill the American dream of a better life for themselves and their families.

### There is a continuous need for Adult Education in Arkansas.

- ▶ There are **39 million** adults, **16 and older**, who lack a high school credential and are not enrolled in any educational program (2010 U.S. Census).
- ▶ Each year, more than **15,000** Arkansans drop out of high school (Arkansas Department of Education Data Center).

Arkansas Adult Education Centers by Counties



## Benefits Of Earning A GED® Credential

- ▶ The GED® test is designed to ensure that students are college and/or career ready.
- ▶ A student earning a high school diploma or GED® credential earns more than **\$8,000** annually than those without the credential. By completing at least one year of postsecondary education, a student will earn **\$17,000** more annually than a high school dropout.
- ▶ On average, **85 percent** of Arkansas GED® test-takers pass the test and earn their Arkansas High School Diploma.

For more information about Arkansas Adult Education's GED® program and other services, contact:

How to Contact Us ▶

