# Arkansas Department of Education

## Johnny Key, Commissioner

*Transforming Arkansas to lead the nation in student-focused education*

December 9, 2019

CONTACT: Kimberly Mundell
PHONE: (501) 683-4788
kimberly.mundell@arkansas.gov

## ADE Announces Cyber Security Course Pathway

**LITTLE ROCK —** The Arkansas Department of Education's Office of Computer Science is pleased to announce that ADE is partnering with the Arch Ford Education Service Cooperative's Virtual Arkansas division, the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, and the University of Central Arkansas at Conway to develop a three-year cyber security curriculum and course pathway that will be available to Arkansas public school students at the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year.

This curriculum will better prepare more Arkansas students for industry-recognized certifications and to enter post-secondary cyber security programs. To support this partnership, ADE is providing a one-time grant in the amount of $94,500 to be used to develop the curriculum and provide resources.

"I commend Arkansas' educational institutions for demonstrating their commitment to providing students with high-quality computer science opportunities that will prepare them for college, career, and community engagement," ADE Secretary Johnny Key said. "With the steady increase in cyberattacks, the need for qualified individuals to develop cyber security programs is essential. This new pathway will give Arkansas students the opportunity to learn and be a part of the solution to combat unwanted attacks. This is yet another way we are preparing our students for the future while leading the nation in computer science education."

This pathway will be comprised of at least three courses that will provide students instruction in fundamental computer science; introductory through advanced cyber security concepts; online cyber security CyberGym modules using the power of Google's cloud computing services; cyber security analyst and specialist tools; and relevant industry-identified skills and knowledge expected in the next generation of cybersecurity professionals.

These courses will be aligned to the ADE Information Security, ADE Advanced Information Security, and National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education standards and will support more students in being better prepared to pass at least one industry-recognized higher-level cyber security certification and other interim certifications.

**Computer Science Education Week**

Computer Science Education Week is from December 9-15, 2019. Arkansas is releasing computer science announcements throughout the week. To see the announcements that are made, visit the ADE computer science webpage at http://bit.ly/ARCSedWeek.

Follow us on Twitter @ArkansasEd.
Like us on Facebook at Arkansas Department of Education.
Follow us on Instagram at arkansas_ed.

**ArkansasEd.gov**

Arkansas Department of Education • Four Capitol Mall • Little Rock, AR 72201 • 501-682-4475

**Share this email:**

**Manage** your preferences | **Opt out** using **TrueRemove®**
Got this as a forward? **Sign up** to receive our future emails.
View this email **online**.

Four Capitol Mall
Little Rock, AR | 72201 US

This email was sent to kimberly.mundell@arkansas.gov.
*To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.*

emma