

## **MAKING THE RULES**

THE PROCESS FOR CREATING STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION RULES

The Arkansas State Board of Education creates rules to ensure that the state's educational system operates in a way that is fair, effective, and consistent. In most cases, board rules are usually mandated by law. The board works to ensure that ALL Arkansans have an opportunity to provide valuable and insightful input into the final rules. Throughout the entire process, rules are only finalized after careful consideration of the needs of students, parents, educators, and the community at large.

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When a bill concerning K-12 education becomes a law, the staff of the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) reviews the new law to determine whether State Board rules are needed.

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The proposed rules are placed on the board's agenda. The board will vote on whether to release the rules for public comment, pending Governor's Office review. Upon approval by the board and the Governor's Office, a 30-day public comment period will commence. During this time, a public comment hearing will be held.

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If approved by the board, the rules are then placed on the agenda of the Arkansas Administrative Rules Subcommittee. If approved, the rules then go to the full Arkansas Legislative Council for approval. If approved, the rules are filed with the Secretary of State's Office and the State Library.





If rules are needed, ADE's Office of Legal Services will work with the appropriate content-area specialists in drafting the proposed rules.





Any needed changes are made to the proposed rules based on the comments received during the public comment period. If any of the changes are substantive, the proposed rules must go through a second public comment period; however, if no substantive changes are needed, the proposed rules are presented to the State Board for final approval.





6

Unless another
"effective date" is
noted, the rules
become effective
10 days after filing
with the Secretary of
State's office. At that
time, the ADE will
issue a Commissioner's
Memo, along with the
final rule.