

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME - GREETINGS:

**WHEREAS:** One out of every six adults in the United States lack basic reading skills – that means 36 million people cannot read a job application, understand basic written instructions, or read the internet;

**WHEREAS:** Children of parents with low literacy skills have a 72 percent chance of being at the lowest reading levels themselves;

**WHEREAS:** Currently, there are approximately 300,000 Arkansans ages 18 and older without a high school diploma;

**WHEREAS:** Adult Education programs contribute to solving these challenges by helping Americans in their educational journey to achieve basic skills and become prepared for career and college;

**WHEREAS:** Adult Education has served close to two million Arkansans since 1965;

**WHEREAS:** More than 457,718 individuals have passed the GED® test and earned their Arkansas High School Diploma since 1966;

**WHEREAS:** Adult Education programs in community colleges, four-year colleges, and public schools offer low-cost, high-value education and training programs that can upgrade the skill set of our citizens, and increased participation in these programs has an impact on accelerating growth toward a healthier economy;

**WHEREAS:** The State of Arkansas celebrates Adult Education and Family Literacy Week and is a proud participant in the Move Ahead with AdultEd Campaign, which helps our citizens learn about their Adult Education options to reach their professional and personal goals.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, SARAH HUCKABEE SANDERS,** Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim September 16-20, 2024, as

**“ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY WEEK IN ARKANSAS”**

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 22nd day of August, in the year of our Lord 2024.



Attest:

*John Thurston*  
John Thurston, Secretary of State

*Sarah Sanders*  
Sarah Huckabee Sanders, Governor