

REMOVAL FROM FISCAL DISTRESS STATUS

Arkansas Fiscal Assessment and Accountability Program
Ark. Code Ann. § 6-20-1901 *et seq.*

Under the Arkansas Fiscal Assessment and Accountability Program, the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education may “identify” a school district meeting certain criteria¹ as being in fiscal distress. A school district identified in fiscal distress status may appeal this designation to the State Board. Following any appeal, the State Board determines whether to “classify” the school district in fiscal distress.

Following a fiscal distress classification, the school district must submit to DESE a written fiscal distress improvement plan to address those areas in which DESE identified the school district as experiencing fiscal distress. Once DESE certifies that the school district has corrected all criteria for being classified in fiscal distress and that it has complied with all DESE recommendations and requirements for removal from fiscal distress, the school district may petition the State Board for removal from fiscal distress status.

¹ See Ark. Code Ann. § 6-20-1904(a)