

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS (Repeal)

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION RULES GOVERNING PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENT SERVICES

This proposed rules repeal is the result of Act 190 of 2019, which repealed the Public School Services Act and wholly replaced it with the School Counseling Improvement Act of 2019. The student services plan under the Public School Services Act had become an outdated document focused on compliance. The new law requires districts to have a comprehensive school counseling program, as well as a plan to ensure that comprehensive supports are provided to students. The new law also outlines the role of counselors and requires that 90% of a counselor's time during student contact days is spent providing services to students.

The School Counseling Improvement Act does not provide specific rulemaking authority to the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education. DESE's Division of Learning Services issued a guidance to assist school districts with the implementation of the new law.

POST PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments concerning the repeal of these rules. There was an inquiry, however, as to the location of the DESE guidance referred to above. Guidance can be found on DESE's website at <http://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/divisions/learning-services/guidance-and-school-counseling/professional-school-counseling-resources>. Guidance documents are under the header **Act 190 Guidance Documents**. Additional comprehensive school counseling supports can be found at <http://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/divisions/learning-services/guidance-and-school-counseling>.