

RIVERSIDE VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL

Enabling Laws

Act 159 of 2014
A.C.A. §12-29-306 et seq.

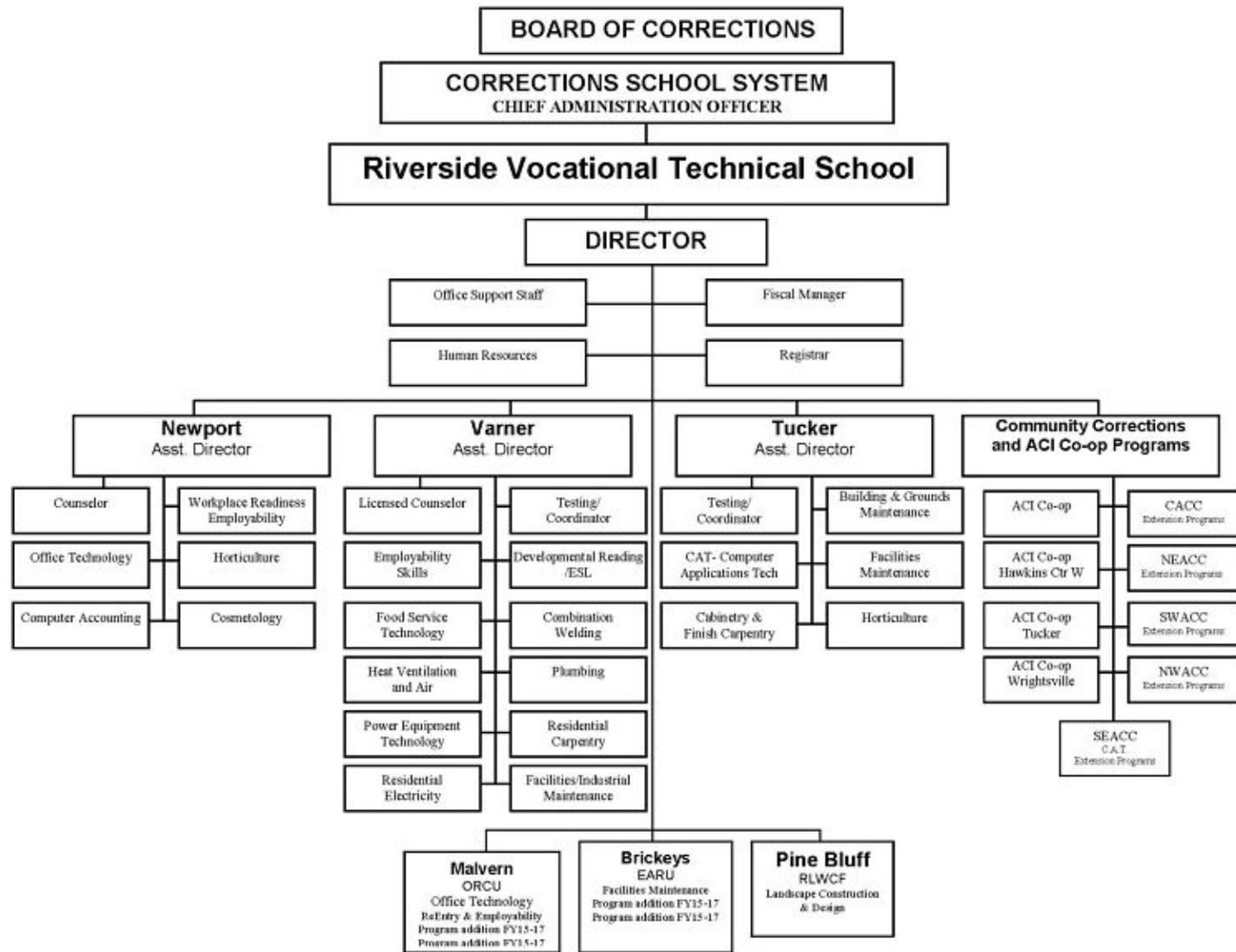
History and Organization

Vocational Education Programs began at the Tucker Unit, Arkansas Department of Correction in May, 1970 and at the Cummins Unit in August, 1970. Buildings were constructed utilizing funds from the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration. Funding for staff, equipment and supplies was provided by the Manpower Development Training Act. These funds were later supplanted by the Comprehensive Employment Training Act. The guidelines established by Congress for participation in the Job Training Partnership Act ended federal funding on October 1, 1984.

In 1985, Act 288 of the legislature (A.C.A. § 12-29-306) created Riverside Vocational Technical School effective July 1, 1985. Funding from October 1, 1984 to July 1, 1985 was provided on an interim basis by the Vocational Education Division, the Arkansas Department of Correction and the Employment Security Division.

Legislative action, Act 496 of 2005 was passed placing Riverside Vocational Technical School and the Arkansas Department of Correction School District under the same umbrella, resulting in what is now known as the Arkansas Correctional School System.

Riverside Vocational Technical School is regulated by the State Board of Career Education and is governed by the Corrections Board of Education. Riverside Vocational Technical School is responsible for all Vocational Education Programs provided within the Arkansas Department of Correction and the Department of Community Corrections. Programs are also provided in Career Technical Facilities at correctional institutions in Newport, Varner, Tucker, Pine Bluff, Malvern, Brickeys, and Grimes. Extension courses are also offered at ACC institutions in Little Rock, Osceola, Fayetteville, Pine Bluff and Texarkana.



Agency Commentary

The mission of Riverside Vocational Technical School is to provide quality vocational training to all qualified inmates incarcerated within the Arkansas Departments of Correction and Community Corrections. Successful completion of a program will allow the inmate to re-enter society with a marketable skill upon release from prison.

Studies have shown that inmates who participate in Vocational Technical programs have a lower recidivism rate than those who do not. Those who receive a G.E.D. and complete a technical program have a lower recidivism rate than those who receive only a G.E.D. or Vocational Technical certificate.

Programs at the Arkansas Department Correction are 1440 contact hours in length and enrollment is open entry open exit to better utilize training slots. Currently, there are 8 programs offered at the Varner Unit, 5 programs at the Tucker Unit, 4 programs at the McPherson unit for female offenders at Newport, 1 program at the Ouachita River Unit at Malvern, 1 program at the East Arkansas Regional Unit at Brickeys, 1 program at SEAACC in Pine Bluff and 1 program at Randle Williams Unit in Pine Bluff. Riverside also participates in Co-Operative programs with Arkansas Correctional Industries. Currently, there are 2 Co-Op programs at the Tucker Unit and 2 Co-Op programs at the Wrightsville Unit. Related study programs are available at Tucker and Varner. Short term programs are available at Pine Bluff for women and Texarkana.

Riverside has requested new positions to include 1 Education Program Manager, 1 Administrative Specialist I and 3 Career and Technical Faculty positions for three new career technical programs being started at the newly constructed facilities located at the Ouachita River Correctional Unit at Malvern and the East Arkansas Regional Unit at Brickeys. This growth will allow access to programs at units where populations were severely restricted to program access.

The Education Program Manager position will be used to oversee a small professional staff of career technical faculty and support staff. This position will coordinate an extension site of four programs and maintain the curriculum and day to day operations. The addition of two extension locations precipitate the need for an additional supervisory position.

The Administrative Specialist I is needed due to the increase in student enrollment and the need to reassign duties allowing other staff to maintain the requesting, enrolling, certification roles caused by the addition of two extension facilities in the Arkansas Department of Correction and the expansion of programming in Arkansas Community Corrections.

These positions will provide for greater training and workforce opportunities for our clients. Studies have indicated that education and workforce training through technical program significantly reduces the recidivism rate and provide for a smoother reentry.

In addition, the associated cost in Operating Expenses has been requested.

Audit Findings

DIVISION OF LEGISLATIVE AUDIT
AUDIT OF :
RIVERSIDE VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2013

Findings

Recommendations

None

None

State Contracts Over \$50,000 Awarded To Minority Owned Businesses Fiscal Year 2014

None

Employment Summary

	Male	Female	Total	%
White Employees	15	13	28	78 %
Black Employees	6	2	8	22 %
Other Racial Minorities	0	0	0	0 %
Total Minorities			8	22 %
Total Employees			36	100 %

Publications

A.C.A. 25-1-201 et seq.

Name	Statutory Authorization	Required for		# of Copies	Reason(s) for Continued Publication and Distribution	Unbound Black & White Copies Produced During the Last Two Years	Cost of Unbound Copies Produced During the Last Two Years
		Governor	General Assembly				
N/A	N/A	N	N	0	N/A	0	0.00

Department Appropriation Summary

Historical Data

Agency Request and Executive Recommendation

Appropriation	2013-2014		2014-2015		2014-2015		2015-2016					2016-2017						
	Actual	Pos	Budget	Pos	Authorized	Pos	Base Level	Pos	Agency	Pos	Executive	Pos	Base Level	Pos	Agency	Pos	Executive	Pos
732 Riverside VT-State Operations	2,037,667	34	2,238,044	35	2,238,044	35	2,247,883	35	2,520,715	40	2,247,883	35	2,249,183	35	2,522,015	40	2,249,183	35
750 Plumbing Apprenticeship Program	75,772	1	76,971	1	76,971	1	77,006	1	77,006	1	77,006	1	77,006	1	77,006	1	77,006	1
Total	2,113,439	35	2,315,015	36	2,315,015	36	2,324,889	36	2,597,721	41	2,324,889	36	2,326,189	36	2,599,021	41	2,326,189	36

Funding Sources		%		%		%		%		%		%		%		%		
General Revenue 4000010	2,113,439	100.0	2,315,015	100.0			2,324,889	100.0	2,597,721	100.0	2,324,889	100.0	2,326,189	100.0	2,599,021	100.0	2,326,189	100.0
Total Funds	2,113,439	100.0	2,315,015	100.0			2,324,889	100.0	2,597,721	100.0	2,324,889	100.0	2,326,189	100.0	2,599,021	100.0	2,326,189	100.0
Excess Appropriation/(Funding)	0		0				0		0		0		0		0		0	
Grand Total	2,113,439		2,315,015				2,324,889		2,597,721		2,324,889		2,326,189		2,599,021		2,326,189	

Agency Position Usage Report

FY2012 - 2013						FY2013 - 2014						FY2014 - 2015					
Authorized in Act	Budgeted			Unbudgeted	% of Authorized Unused	Authorized in Act	Budgeted			Unbudgeted	% of Authorized Unused	Authorized in Act	Budgeted			Unbudgeted	% of Authorized Unused
	Filled	Unfilled	Total	Total			Filled	Unfilled	Total	Total			Filled	Unfilled	Total	Total	
36	34	2	36	0	5.56 %	36	35	1	36	0	2.78 %	36	35	1	36	0	2.78 %

Analysis of Budget Request

Appropriation: 732 - Riverside VT-State Operations

Funding Sources: ETR - General Revenue - Riverside Voc-Tech School

Riverside Vocational Technical School operates five (5) campuses within the Department of Community Correction. These are the Varner Unit, Tucker Unit, Wrightsville Unit, Grimes Unit, and the McPherson Unit for female offenders. Short term or part-time programs are available at the Little Rock, Pine Bluff, Osceola, Malvern, and Brickeys facilities of the Department of Community Corrections. Emphasis is placed on education and skill development which will result in lower recidivism rate and employment upon release. This appropriation is funded by general revenue.

Base Level Regular Salaries and Personal Services Matching include continuation of the previously authorized 2015 1% Cost of Living Adjustment and Career Service Payments for eligible employees. Personal Services Matching also includes a \$10 increase in the monthly contribution for State employee's health insurance for a total State match per budgeted employee of \$420 per month. Base Level salaries and matching do not include appropriation for Merit Pay Increases.

Base Level Request is \$2,247,883 in FY16 and \$2,249,183 in FY17.

The Agency's Change Level Requests total \$272,832 each year of the biennium to provide training and workforce opportunities for our clients and reflect the following:

- Regular Salaries and Personal Services Matching of \$240,832 each year for five (5) new positions: three (3) Career & Technical Faculty (C120); one (1) Education Program Manager (C124); one (1) Administrative Specialist I (C106).
- Operating Expenses of \$32,000 each year to cover the operating expenses associated with the requested positions.

The Executive Recommendation provides for Base Level.

Appropriation Summary

Appropriation: 732 - Riverside VT-State Operations

Funding Sources: ETR - General Revenue - Riverside Voc-Tech School

Historical Data

Agency Request and Executive Recommendation

Commitment Item		Historical Data			Agency Request and Executive Recommendation			Agency Request and Executive Recommendation		
		2013-2014 Actual	2014-2015 Budget	2014-2015 Authorized	2015-2016			2016-2017		
					Base Level	Agency	Executive	Base Level	Agency	Executive
Regular Salaries	5010000	1,401,417	1,517,047	1,517,047	1,526,886	1,703,114	1,526,886	1,528,186	1,704,414	1,528,186
#Positions		34	35	35	35	40	35	35	40	35
Personal Services Matching	5010003	448,646	531,893	531,893	531,893	596,497	531,893	531,893	596,497	531,893
Operating Expenses	5020002	183,604	183,604	183,604	183,604	215,604	183,604	183,604	215,604	183,604
Conference & Travel Expenses	5050009	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
Professional Fees	5060010	0	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Data Processing	5090012	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Outlay	5120011	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		2,037,667	2,238,044	2,238,044	2,247,883	2,520,715	2,247,883	2,249,183	2,522,015	2,249,183
Funding Sources										
General Revenue	4000010	2,037,667	2,238,044		2,247,883	2,520,715	2,247,883	2,249,183	2,522,015	2,249,183
Total Funding		2,037,667	2,238,044		2,247,883	2,520,715	2,247,883	2,249,183	2,522,015	2,249,183
Excess Appropriation/(Funding)		0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total		2,037,667	2,238,044		2,247,883	2,520,715	2,247,883	2,249,183	2,522,015	2,249,183

Change Level by Appropriation

Appropriation: 732 - Riverside VT-State Operations
Funding Sources: ETR - General Revenue - Riverside Voc-Tech School

Agency Request

Change Level		2015-2016	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL	2016-2017	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL
BL	Base Level	2,247,883	35	2,247,883	100.0	2,249,183	35	2,249,183	100.0
C02	New Program	272,832	5	2,520,715	112.1	272,832	5	2,522,015	112.1

Executive Recommendation

Change Level		2015-2016	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL	2016-2017	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL
BL	Base Level	2,247,883	35	2,247,883	100.0	2,249,183	35	2,249,183	100.0
C02	New Program	0	0	2,247,883	100.0	0	0	2,249,183	100.0

Justification

C02	Agency requests appropriation and general revenue funding for five positions, related matching, and operating. These positions and the Operating request will provide for greater training and workforce opportunities for our clients. Studies have indicated that education and workforce training through technical programs significantly reduce the recidivism rate and provide for a smoother reentry.
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Analysis of Budget Request

Appropriation: 750 - Plumbing Apprenticeship Program

Funding Sources: ETR - General Revenue - Riverside Voc-Tech School

The Plumbing Apprenticeship Program is administered by Riverside Vocational Technical School. Program costs consists of personal services for one (1) faculty member and provides technical training in the area of plumbing to qualified persons incarcerated in facilities of the Department of Community Correction. The goal is to provide individuals with marketable skills to re-enter the workplace upon release from prison. This appropriation is funded by general revenue.

Base Level Regular Salaries and Personal Services Matching include continuation of the previously authorized 2015 1% Cost of Living Adjustment and Career Service Payments for eligible employees. Personal Services Matching also includes a \$10 increase in the monthly contribution for State employee's health insurance for a total State match per budgeted employee of \$420 per month. Base Level salaries and matching do not include appropriation for Merit Pay Increases.

Base Level and total Agency Request is \$77,006 each year of the 2015-2017 Biennium.

The Executive Recommendation provides for the Agency Request.

Appropriation Summary

Appropriation: 750 - Plumbing Apprenticeship Program

Funding Sources: ETR - General Revenue - Riverside Voc-Tech School

Historical Data

Agency Request and Executive Recommendation

Commitment Item		Historical Data			2015-2016			2016-2017		
		2013-2014 Actual	2014-2015 Budget	2014-2015 Authorized	Base Level	Agency	Executive	Base Level	Agency	Executive
Regular Salaries	5010000	58,243	58,242	58,242	58,815	58,815	58,815	58,815	58,815	58,815
#Positions		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Personal Services Matching	5010003	17,529	18,729	18,729	18,191	18,191	18,191	18,191	18,191	18,191
Total		75,772	76,971	76,971	77,006	77,006	77,006	77,006	77,006	77,006
Funding Sources										
General Revenue	4000010	75,772	76,971		77,006	77,006	77,006	77,006	77,006	77,006
Total Funding		75,772	76,971		77,006	77,006	77,006	77,006	77,006	77,006
Excess Appropriation/(Funding)		0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total		75,772	76,971		77,006	77,006	77,006	77,006	77,006	77,006