

RIVERSIDE VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL

Enabling Laws

Act 933 of 2003

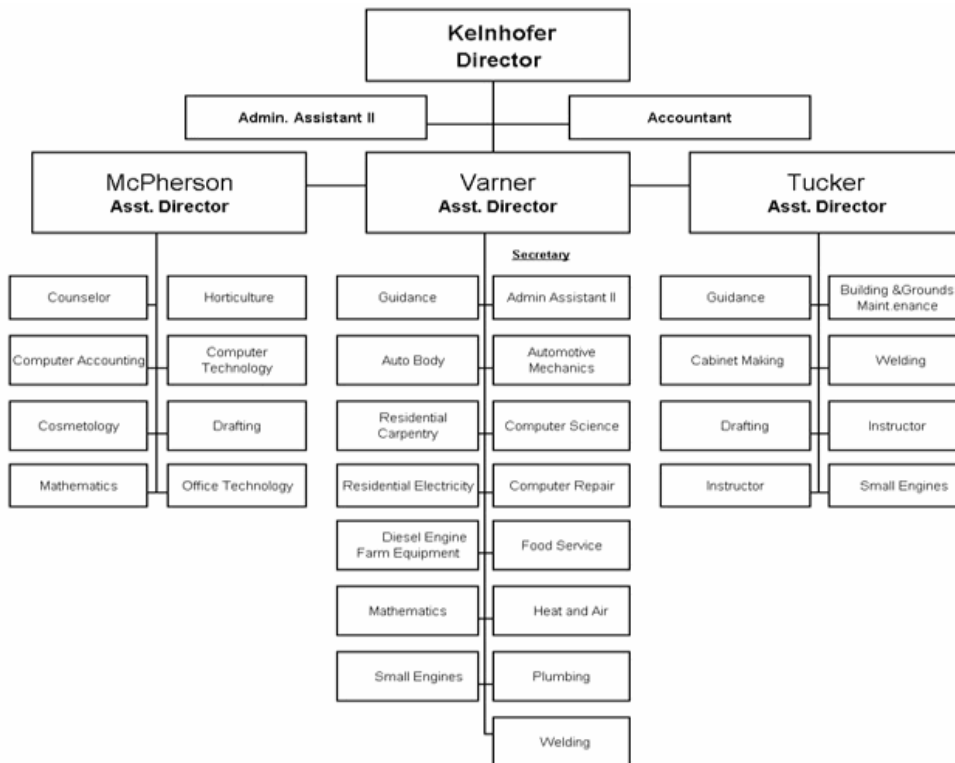
A.C.A. §§ 12-29-306--12-29-310

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 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.

Riverside Vocational Technical School is governed by the State Board of Workforce Education and Career Opportunities. Riverside Vocational Technical School is responsible for all Vocational Education Programs provided within the Arkansas Department of Correction.



Agency Commentary

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

Studies have shown that inmates that 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 markedly lower recidivism rate than those who receive a G.E.D. or Vocational Technical certificate only.

Programs are 1440 contact hours in length and participation is on a voluntary basis. Currently, 12 programs are offered at the Varner Unit, 6 programs at the Tucker Unit, 1 program at the Wrightsville Unit and 5 programs at the McPherson Unit for female offenders at Newport.

For FY06 and FY07, Riverside School requests the restoration of two vocational technical instructor positions currently authorized but not budgeted in FY05. Riverside is nearing capacity in enrollment and current growth trends in the correctional field are such that the positions will be necessary to maintain the program mission and integrity. These positions, when restored, will provide Riverside Vocational Technical School an enhanced ability to provide vocational education and training opportunities to the target population. The appropriation request reflects salaries at the line item maximum for these positions; the requested funding for salary and match is \$94,094 in FY06 and \$96,687 in FY07.

Audit Findings

DIVISION OF LEGISLATIVE AUDIT
AUDIT OF :
RIVERSIDE VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003

Findings	Recommendations
None	None

Employment Summary

	Male	Female	Total	%
White Employees	22	8	30	86 %
Black Employees	4	1	5	14 %
Other Racial Minorities	0	0	0	0 %
Total Minorities			5	14 %
Total Employees			35	100 %

Publications

A.C.A 25-1-204

Name	Statutory Authorization	Required for		# Of Copies	Reason (s) for Continued Publication and Distribution
		Governor	General Assembly		
None	N/A	N	N	0	N/A

Department Appropriation / Program Summary

Historical Data						Agency Request and Executive Recommendation								
Appropriation / Program	2003-2004		2004-2005		2004-2005		2005-2006				2006-2007			
	Actual	Pos	Budget	Pos	Authorized	Pos	Agency	Pos	Executive	Pos	Agency	Pos	Executive	Pos
732 Riverside VT-State Operations	1,794,968	35	1,892,665	35	2,011,995	37	2,658,561	37	2,651,561	37	2,726,361	37	2,719,361	37
750 Plumbing Apprenticeship Program	52,618	1	59,521	1	59,399	1	71,208	1	71,208	1	73,156	1	73,156	1
Total	1,847,586	36	1,952,186	36	2,071,394	38	2,729,769	38	2,722,769	38	2,799,517	38	2,792,517	38

Funding Sources			%		%		%		%		%		%		
General Revenue	4000010	1,847,586	100.0	1,952,186	100.0			2,127,518	100.0	2,026,424	100.0	2,181,773	100.0	2,078,086	100.0
Total Funds		1,847,586	100.0	1,952,186	100.0			2,127,518	100.0	2,026,424	100.0	2,181,773	100.0	2,078,086	100.0
Excess Appropriation/(Funding)		0		0				602,251		696,345		617,744		714,431	
Grand Total		1,847,586		1,952,186				2,729,769		2,722,769		2,799,517		2,792,517	

Analysis of Budget Request

Appropriation / Program: 732 - Riverside VT-State Operations

Funding Sources: ETR - Riverside Vocational Technical School

Riverside Vocational Technical School operates four campuses within the Department of Correction. These are the Varner Unit, Tucker Unit, Wrightsville Unit and the McPherson Unit for female offenders. Emphasis is placed on education and skill development which will result in lower recidivism rate and employment upon release.

Base Level for this appropriation includes graduated salary increases of 3% to 1.5% each year over FY05 salary levels, along with related Personal Services Matching costs for 35 Base Level positions. This includes a \$600 minimum increase for employees earning \$20,000 or below. Included in Personal Services Matching is a \$40 increase in the monthly contribution for State employee's health insurance for a total State match of \$320 per month.

The Base Level request for Riverside is \$2,516,145 for FY06 and \$2,580,049 for FY07. The Base Level appropriation for regular salaries and matching reflects the line item maximum for salary of instructional staff. The agency budgets these positions at an average salary much less than the maximum salary. This difference in budgeted salaries and the appropriation for regular salaries and match is reflected in the recommended funding level.

The Agency is requesting Change Level appropriation and general revenue funding for two instructional positions. The requests includes the reclassification of a position to Administrative Assistant II to reflect the duties of the position (with no budgetary impact).

The Executive Recommendation provides for the restoration of the two instructional positions with no additional general revenue recommended. Further, the Executive Recommendation provides for a reduction in Travel and Conference Fees from \$11,000 to \$4,000 each year, and a reduction in general revenue funding of \$7,000 respectively.

Appropriation / Program Summary

Appropriation / Program: 732 Riverside VT-State Operations
Funding Sources: ETR - Riverside Vocational Technical School

Commitment Item	Historical Data			Agency Request and Executive Recommendation					
	2003-2004 Actual	2004-2005 Budget	2004-2005 Authorized	2005-2006			2006-2007		
				Base Level	Agency	Executive	Base Level	Agency	Executive
Regular Salaries 5010000	1,276,997	1,327,564	1,414,059	1,814,680	1,925,382	1,925,382	1,867,185	1,981,089	1,981,089
#Positions	35	35	37	35	37	37	35	37	37
Personal Services Matching 5010003	354,875	392,005	424,840	528,369	560,083	560,083	539,768	572,176	572,176
Operating Expenses 5020002	157,726	159,896	158,166	159,896	159,896	159,896	159,896	159,896	159,896
Travel-Conference Fees 5050009	3,000	11,000	11,000	11,000	11,000	4,000	11,000	11,000	4,000
Professional Fees and Services 5060010	2,370	2,200	3,930	2,200	2,200	2,200	2,200	2,200	2,200
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	1,794,968	1,892,665	2,011,995	2,516,145	2,658,561	2,651,561	2,580,049	2,726,361	2,719,361
Funding Sources									
General Revenue 4000010	1,794,968	1,892,665		1,971,610	2,065,704	1,964,610	2,021,526	2,118,213	2,014,526
Total Funding	1,794,968	1,892,665		1,971,610	2,065,704	1,964,610	2,021,526	2,118,213	2,014,526
Excess Appropriation/(Funding)	0	0		544,535	592,857	686,951	558,523	608,148	704,835
Grand Total	1,794,968	1,892,665		2,516,145	2,658,561	2,651,561	2,580,049	2,726,361	2,719,361

Budget exceeds Authorized Appropriation in Operating Expenses by authority of Budget Classification Transfer.

Change Level by Appropriation

Appropriation / Program: 732-Riverside VT-State Operations
Funding Sources: ETR - Riverside Vocational Technical School

Agency Request

Change Level		2005-2006	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL	2006-2007	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL
BL	Base Level	2,516,145	35	2,516,145	100.0	2,580,049	35	2,580,049	100.0
C01	Existing Program	142,416	2	2,658,561	105.6	146,312	2	2,726,361	105.6
C10	Reclass	0	0	2,658,561	105.6	0	0	2,726,361	105.6

Executive Recommendation

Change Level		2005-2006	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL	2006-2007	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL
BL	Base Level	2,516,145	35	2,516,145	100.0	2,580,049	35	2,580,049	100.0
C01	Existing Program	142,416	2	2,658,561	105.6	146,312	2	2,726,361	105.6
C10	Reclass	0	0	2,658,561	105.6	0	0	2,726,361	105.6
C19	Executive Changes	(7,000)	0	2,651,561	105.3	(7,000)	0	2,719,361	105.4

Justification

C01	Riverside School requests the restoration of two previously authorized vocational technical instructor positions. Riverside is nearing capacity in enrollment and current growth trends in the correctional field are such that the positions will be necessary to maintain the program mission and integrity. These positions, when restored, will provide Riverside Vocational Technical School an enhanced ability to provide vocational education and training opportunities to the target population. Funding is requested in the amount of \$94,094 in FY06 and \$96,687 in FY07.
C19	The Executive Recommendation provides for a reduction in the line item for Travel and Conference Fees from \$11,000 to \$4,000, and the Base Level appropriation and General Revenue funding has been reduced by \$7,000 for each fiscal year.

Analysis of Budget Request

Appropriation / Program: 750 - Plumbing Apprenticeship Program

Funding Sources: ETR - Riverside Vocational Technical School

This appropriation for the Plumbing Apprenticeship Program provides the Salary and Personal Services Matching for one faculty member of the Riverside Vocational Technical School. Riverside operates four campuses within the Department of Correction - emphasis is placed on education and skill development, such as the Plumbing Apprenticeship, which is provided at the Varner Unit. Students trained by the Riverside Vocational Technical School will have lower recidivism rate and higher employment rates upon their release from the correctional facilities.

Base Level for this appropriation includes graduated salary increases of 3% to 1.5% each year over FY05 salary levels, along with related Personal Services Matching costs for the one (1) Base Level position. This includes a \$600 minimum increase for employees earning \$20,000 or below. Included in Personal Services Matching is a \$40 increase in the monthly contribution for State employee's health insurance for a total State match of \$320 per month.

Riverside Vocational Technical School is asking for Base Level of \$71,208 for FY06 and \$73,156 for FY07.

The Executive Recommendation provides for the Agency Request.

Appropriation / Program Summary

Appropriation / Program: 750 Plumbing Apprenticeship Program
Funding Sources: ETR - Riverside Vocational Technical School

Commitment Item	Historical Data			Agency Request and Executive Recommendation					
	2003-2004 Actual	2004-2005 Budget	2004-2005 Authorized	2005-2006			2006-2007		
				Base Level	Agency	Executive	Base Level	Agency	Executive
Regular Salaries 5010000	43,666	46,134	46,134	55,351	55,351	55,351	56,952	56,952	56,952
#Positions	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Personal Services Matching 5010003	8,952	13,387	13,265	15,857	15,857	15,857	16,204	16,204	16,204
Total	52,618	59,521	59,399	71,208	71,208	71,208	73,156	73,156	73,156
Funding Sources									
General Revenue 4000010	52,618	59,521		61,814	61,814	61,814	63,560	63,560	63,560
Total Funding	52,618	59,521		61,814	61,814	61,814	63,560	63,560	63,560
Excess Appropriation/(Funding)	0	0		9,394	9,394	9,394	9,596	9,596	9,596
Grand Total	52,618	59,521		71,208	71,208	71,208	73,156	73,156	73,156

The FY05 Budgeted amount in Personal Services Matching exceeds the authorized amount due to matching rate adjustments during the 2003-05 biennium.