



DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY EDUCATION

2023-24 Teacher Shortage Areas

The LEARNS Act (Act 237 of the 2023 Regular Session) requires the creation of an [annual report](#) on Arkansas's educator workforce that includes teacher shortage areas. This report will be used to determine eligibility requirements for:

- The Merit Teacher Incentive Fund Program.
- The State Teacher Education Program (STEP), which provides loan repayment for federal loans.
- Arkansas Teacher Academies.

Each year the ADE Division of Elementary and Secondary Education produces a list of teacher shortage areas.

Statewide Subject Shortage Areas

The following subject areas had more than 1/3 of teachers fall into the total demand category (unlicensed, retired/in the T-DROP, eligible to retire, or deceased) statewide during the 21-22 school year. Special education is also included on the list as it is a high needs field as determined by the U.S. Department of Education.

- Foreign Language
- Secondary English Language Arts
- Secondary Mathematics
- Secondary Science
- Secondary Social Studies
- Special Education

Geographic Shortage Areas

The following districts have been identified as geographic shortage areas. The list was based on the percentage of teachers not certified for all courses taught during the 22-23 school year. A list of districts can be found [here](#).

