

Crowley's Ridge

Educational Service Cooperative

February 2021

Upcoming Deadlines

February 1st

- State Aid Notice II

February 10th

- Child Nutrition Claim for January Reimbursement

February 15th

- Annual Statistical Report

March 21st

- ALE Program Description Submission

April 15th

- 2021-2022 School-Based Health Center Grant Application ([LS-21-048](#))

May 1st

- 2021-22 Affirmation of Consultation with Private Schools Officials ([COM-21-072](#))
- Digital Learning Plans ([COM-21-073](#))

ADE Summit (Hybrid)

June 22-24, 2021

Hot Springs, AR

*Details to come

Teachers of Excellence Nominations

This summer we would like to focus on Teachers of Excellence who have been successful with digital or hybrid instruction. If you know of a colleague who has experienced success in the world of virtual teaching, please go to our [CRESC website](#) and nominate him or her to be a presenter this summer.

Deadline for nominations is **MARCH 1st**. Nominated teachers will be notified by March 15th.

Digital Learning Plans

([COM-21-073](#))

The State Board of Education has approved a streamlined Act 1240 waiver process for the 2021-2022 school year for districts that wish to offer a digital learning option. This will be different from last fall's process, as each district that chooses to continue a digital learning instructional option for students will need to complete an application and submit it to DESE. To ensure that the district participates in the expedited process, applications should be submitted by **May 1, 2021**. The applications will be reviewed by DESE staff and submitted to the State Board with recommendations for approval if the plan meets requirements that include involvement of staff in the application development and approval of the local school board. The online application can be accessed on the [Digital Learning webpage](#).

Crowley's Ridge ESC is offering a virtual Professional Development ([Session 436157](#)) on Tuesday, February 16th from 9:00-12:00. Dawn Bessee, Teacher Center Coordinator, and Sherry Kennedy, Team Digital Specialist, will use that time to provide an overview of the [Guidebook for Digital Learning](#) and facilitate discussions regarding districts' best options for their plans.

There will be two follow-up sessions and work time on **March 3rd** (an a.m. session and a p.m. session). On **March 31st** and **April 14th**, CRESC will facilitate peer-review sessions for any districts who are interested in having their digital learning plan reviewed and given feedback prior to submitting it to DESE for review (NOTE—DESE does not approve the plans; they review the plans before sending them to the State Board of Education for approval).

*This process and application is not for schools that wish to create (or already have) a [district conversion charter school](#) with a separate LEA.

Districts that wish to submit an **AMI application** for the 2021-2022 school year must use the AMI component of the online application found on the Digital Learning webpage.

Book Talk Tuesdays

Visit our [Facebook page](#) each Tuesday as we offer a book talk on current YA novels, children books, and professional texts. If you are interested in contributing to this series of book talks, please see the criteria and directions for submissions [here](#).

ABC-CLIO Database

<https://youtu.be/Q83RFxhjRKw>

PD Sessions from DESE will be available this summer.

Standards and Assessment Updates



Assessment: ACT/ACT Aspire/DLM/K-2

Testing Calendar 2020-2021 ([Link](#))

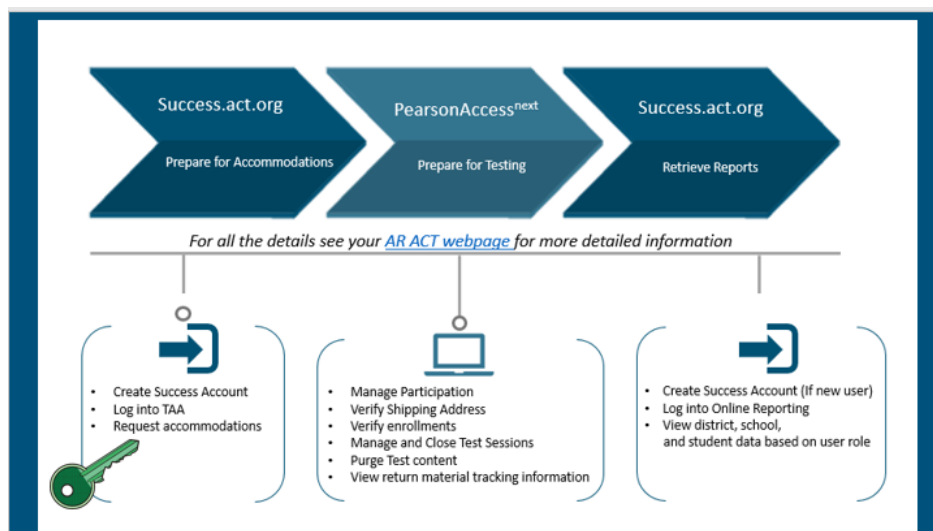
ACT Test Window 1	(Begins February 23 rd)
ACT Test Window 2	(Begins March 9 th)
ACT Test Window 3	(Make-ups ONLY—Begins April 13 th)
ELPA21 Summative	(Jan 25 - Mar 5)
ACT Aspire	(Apr 5 - May 7)
DLM Spring	(Feb 1 – May 7)
ISIP, iReady, MAP, Star	(Winter: Jan 4 – Jan 29)

DESE will facilitate **District Testing Coordinators Work Days** on February 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, and 25. This is to prepare PANext for the ACT Aspire Assessments. DTCs will have to work virtually from their school site. Each day is replicated, so everyone can choose the date that is most convenient. Use [this link](#) to our ESC Works Calendar to select and register for your chosen date.

ACT

The regional ACT Collaborative Team held its first meeting to begin the discussions concerning current ACT data and how stakeholders can support students moving forward. The team consists of area high school counselors, district personnel, Education Cooperative Teacher Center Coordinators, our ERZ (Jill Clogston), DESE personnel, and representatives from our higher education institutes. The next meeting has been scheduled for **March 4th**.

ACT has gone green. The ACT Success Portal (<https://success.act.org/s/>) will be used to enter accommodations and view reports. Testing Accommodations and Accessibility (TAA) must be accessed through this portal. A user must have the “Trusted Agent” role in order to access the platform. Superintendents and DTCs have this information. Please contact Alex Pritchett by email (alex.pritchett@arkansas.gov) or phone (501.682.5161) for questions or concerns regarding the portal.



The My ACT platform (my.act.org) has replaced ACT Academy. Students will create an account and use this platform to complete non-test portions of ACT (replaces the previous ACT registration system). Test-prep resources can be found on this new platform.

For general ACT-related questions or concerns, please contact Julie Sanders by email (Julie.sanders@act.org) or phone (501.844.9404).

***NAEP Testing has been postponed until 2021-2022 school year**



Literacy

K-2 RISE Professional Development

Feb 12 Day 5 Session [433220](#) *DESE Presenting @ Marvell Elementary
 Feb 19 Day 6 Session [433221](#) *DESE Presenting @ Marvell Elementary

3-6 RISE Professional Development

Feb 23	Day 2 Session 433004	Apr 29	Day 5 Session 433007
Mar 4	Day 3 Session 433005	May 20	Day 6 Session 433008
Apr 1	Day 4 Session 433006		

Dyslexia

Feb 16	Dyslexia Coordinators Meeting	[Virtual 437281]
Feb 19	Dyslexia Coordinators Meeting	[Virtual 437282]



Mathematics

Tier I Math Curriculum Grants have been awarded to approximately 38 districts across the state. Our math specialists will be available to support awarded schools in our region as they utilize this grant to implement high-quality, rigorous math curriculum.

MathQuest will be offered to Arkansas K-12 math teachers, coaches, IF's beginning in the summer of 2021. The 2 year long professional development consists of 2 days during the summer, 2 days in the fall, 2 days during the spring each year. The group of teachers that started the 2 year process in the summer of 2019 will continue into year 2 beginning in the summer of 2021. A new cohort will start with year 1 during the summer of 2021. There will be a limited number of slots available. This training requires a signed MOU by your Superintendent. Interested teachers should contact their CRESC Math Specialist.

K-5 teachers contact: James Lee (jlee@crmail.k12.ar.us)

6-12 teachers contact: Merry Allen (mallen@crmail.k12.ar.us)

New Webpages have been created to support **Quantitative Literacy** ([link](#)) and **Technical Math for College and Career** ([link](#)) courses. PD for these courses will be offered July 2021.



Science

Science Resources

CRESC Science Department

<https://sites.google.com/crmail.k12.ar.us/cresc-science-department/home>

CRESC Elementary (grades K-6) Tammy Winslow

<https://sites.google.com/view/crescelemscience/home>

CRESC Secondary (grades 7-12) Adele Barnett

<https://sites.google.com/view/cresc-secondary-science/home>

AR Science Matters

<https://sites.google.com/view/arsciencematters>



Computer Science

Jan 23, 30, Feb 6, 13, & 20 HS Computer Science and Certification Preparation 8:30-3:30 [VIRTUAL [433162](#)]



FEBRUARY IS NATIONAL CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION MONTH®

Career and Technical Education (CTE) helps students acquire skills needed to begin the path to their occupational goals through occupational program areas. These occupational program areas are Agriculture Science and Technology; Business and Marketing Technology; Family and Consumer Sciences; Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM); and Trade and Industry. Upon completion of the program area courses, students will possess marketable job skills as well as college and career readiness skills needed to be successful in their chosen career path.

Each occupational program area has an accompanying Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO). According to the National Coordinating Council for Career and Technical Student Organizations (NCC-CTSO), CTSOs "enhance student learning through contextual instruction, leadership, and personal development, applied learning and real-world application." Students who are members of a CTSO have the opportunity to further develop the skills necessary to be successful in his or her chosen career path through CTSO activities, programs, and competitive events. Students also have the opportunity to hold leadership positions at the local, state, and national level and attend development conferences to network with other students and business/industry partners.

Jonesboro Mayor, Harold Copenhaver, recently met with FCCLA members from Valley View High School and subsequently signed a proclamation that designates February 8-12, 2021 as national FFCLA week in Jonesboro.

Student Support Services and Special Programs

Pre-AP

The Board changes to Pre-AP take effect in Fall 2022. An AR Pre-AP Proposal is being prepared by College Board. When details are available, they will be shared. If you have questions or would like someone to speak with your leaders about this, reach out to Krystal.Nail@arkansas.gov.

G.U.I.D.E. for Life/SEL Resources

[G.U.I.D.E. for Life Curriculum Website](#) - Units/Lessons are housed under each grade band at the top of the page. The curriculum can be accessed through the G.U.I.D.E. for Life page on the DESE website as well. Additional units/lessons can be found on the G.U.I.D.E. for Life page of the [State Academic Playbook](#) (scroll to the bottom). If you have questions or need support, please reach out to Susan Jobe - susan.jobe@arkansas.gov.

Special Education Unit

Behavior Support Specialists have created free [online training modules](#) for educators interested in learning more about behavior concepts, targeted behavioral interventions, and antecedent behavioral interventions.

Arkansas Transition Services

In an effort to assist teachers in developing meaningful, compliant transition plans, Arkansas Transition Services has developed a series of short (15 to 20 minutes) video modules on transition assessments. These are free to all districts state-wide and are easy to access on our website. Also, ATS offers assistance in examining a district's special education transition program through the use of the Predictor Implementation School/District Self-Assessment (PISA). The PISA tool helps districts identify the degree to which they are implementing evidence and research based practices that are likely to produce positive post-school outcomes. The results are then used to formulate an action plan to improve and implement those practices. If you are interested or would like to know more about other services we can provide, please contact Jennifer Williams (jwilliams@crmail.k12.ar.us). Also, visit our website (www.arkansastransition.com) for other available opportunities and resources.

Educator Effectiveness and Licensure





National Board Certified Teachers

Districts are reminded to update their NBCT information in eFinance. The final pull for the 2020-21 year will be from Cycle 5 (Feb 1-15). This cycle will be used to submit payments to districts.

Beginning Administrators

Maribel Childress will present ELL requirements and learning strategies this month. For more information, contact Lenett Thrasher (l.thrasher@theaaea.org).

Additional Upcoming Professional Development Offerings

	Feb 18	Navigating Systems of Support for School Administrators	(Link)
	Feb 23	2021 ArkASPA Digital Drive-In Conference	(Registration Link)
	Mar 4	2021 AASBO Digital Conference	(Registration Link)
	Apr 8-9	CASBO Classes	*registration is not open at this time
	Apr 16	AACTEA Digital Conference	*registration is not open at this time
	May 4	ASBA/AAEA Joint Conference	*registration is not open at this time
	May 5-7	2021 AAFC Spring Conference @ Hot Springs	*registration is not open at this time
	Jun 7-8	AASEA Special Ed Conference @ Rogers	*registration is not open at this time



DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY
& SECONDARY EDUCATION

DESE Professional Development Offerings

Feb 11	The Next Step in PLCs Session #3 Transforming Virtual Instruction	[Virtual 422543]
	Zoom Tips and Techniques	[Virtual 435119]
Feb 12	School-Wide Model of Instruction—Development & Implementation	[Virtual 434280]
	*Phil Warrick, Presenter	
	GPS: Unit Development (series continues each Friday until Mar 19)	[Virtual 432024]
Feb 16	The Next Step in PLCs Session #4 Transforming Teacher Development	[Virtual 422545]
Feb 17	A Leader's Guide to Excellence in Every Classroom	[Virtual 433565]
Feb 18	Learn more about Educators Rising	[Virtual 437247]
	The Next Step in PLCs Session #5 Transforming Leadership	[Virtual 422547]
Feb 23	Identifying Priority Standards	[Virtual 434284]
	*Presenter, Phil Warrick	
Feb 24	Youth Mental Health First Aid (requires pre-work by Feb 18 th)	[Virtual 436465]



Clarification of On-Site Learning document

Response Levels for On-Site Learning (Updated 8.20.2020)

Related documents

- [Screening Questions](#) (Updated 8.26.20)
- [School Hotline Reporting Resource Form](#) (Updated 9.01.2020)
- [District POC FAQs](#) (Updated 1.4.21—new link)
- [Quarantine Guidance](#) (Updated 12.3.2020)



Guidance from the Arkansas Department of Health

- [Directive for Community- and School-Sponsored Music and Theatre](#) (Updated 10.5.2020)
- [Directive for Community- and School-Sponsored Team Sports](#) (Updated 8.21.2020)
- [Large Outdoor Venue & Large Indoor Venue Plans for School-Sponsored Team Sports](#)

Website: [ACHI COVID-19 Local Data](#) (filter by county, zip code, and school district boundaries)