

 **ABOUT OUR SCHOOL****OUR HISTORY**

Arkansas Connections Academy (ARCA) is an accredited, public school serving students in grades K-12 from across the state. Our students come from urban, suburban, and rural communities across the entire state of Arkansas, creating a diverse student population. The school was founded during the 2016-17 school year as a K-9 school through the Arkansas Department of Education.

OUR MISSION

Arkansas Connections Academy (ARCA) will offer families throughout the state access to a quality education by providing the personalized learning inherent in a high-quality online school. ARCA will provide a complete public-school experience for students in grades K-12, focusing on the students' academic growth, social and emotional needs, and post-secondary goals.

The school will embody multiple hallmarks of excellence: a rigorous curriculum aligned to the Arkansas Curriculum Frameworks; licensed teachers actively engaged with students and families; and an educational management system designed to provide accountability through data collection, analysis, and reporting.

OUR PROGRAM

Arkansas Connections Academy currently has a high school program consisting of grades 9-12. The school currently has an enrollment of 3000 K-12 students. Arkansas Connections Academy is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges & Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI), an accrediting division of Cognia, formerly AdvancED. The school has 96 licensed professional staff.

College representatives are invited to connect with our students through web conferencing technology. Two weeks' notice is greatly appreciated so that we have time to notify students. For more information about setting up a web conference session, please contact Kim Favero at kfavero@arca.connectionsacademy.org

**ADVANCED COURSE OPTIONS**

AP course expected offerings include: Biology, Calculus, Computer Science, English Language, English Literature, Psychology, U.S. Government and Politics, and U.S. History.

Honors course expected offerings include: Algebra I and II, Biology, Chemistry, English 9-12, Geometry, Physics, Pre-Calculus, U.S. History, and World History.

Please find our course list here: <https://www.connectionsacademy.com/arkansas-virtual-school/curriculum/high-school/courses>

CONTACT INFORMATION

<https://www.connectionsacademy.com/arkansas-virtual-school>

1009 Beau Terre Drive,
Bentonville, AR 72712

Fax: 479-319-6384

Phone: 501-386-3419

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION**PRINCIPAL:**

DARLA GARDNER

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL:

PAIGE HURD (K-5)
ASHLEY PETERSON (6-8)
CHRIS GARNER (9-10)
NICOLE STEPHENS (11-12)

MANAGER OF COUNSELING:

JEREMY HOBACK

DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES:

BETH LEE

ACCREDITATIONS

**Arkansas Connections
Academy followed state
guidance relating to
COVID-19.**



GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Arkansas Connections Academy's core curriculum is geared toward preparing students for college and beyond. Students have access to AP, Honors, College Preparatory, and Basic programs. Students also can participate in the Post-Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) program, in which they can earn dual high school and college credit by attending post-secondary institutions.

Arkansas Connections Academy operates on a semester system utilizing Carnegie units. One semester class equals one-half of a high school credit.

Students who have taken high school level courses while in middle school may have been granted high school credit.

The typical course load is six classes per semester.

22 Carnegie units of credit are required for graduation. Specific requirements include:

Area/Subjects	#Units for Graduation
Language Arts	4
Math	4
Science	3
Social Studies	3
Health	.5
Physical Education	.5
Oral Communications	.5
Fine Arts	.5
Other Elective	6.0
Total	22



GRADE SCALE

Student transcripts reflect weighted grades if the student took Advanced Placement courses. The numerical grading scale is as follows:

Grade	Grade %	Passing?	Non-Weighted	Weighted (AP)
A	90–100	Yes	4	5
B	80–89	Yes	3	4
C	70–79	Yes	2	3
D	60–69	Yes	1	2
F	0–59	No	0	0



TESTING

ARCA adheres to all state and national testing requirements and additionally encourages students to take the appropriate college entrance and preparatory exams necessary for reaching their personal and academic goals.

Required State Testing:

Grade 1-2	IStation	Spring 2021
Grades 3-10	ACT Aspire	Spring 2021
Grade 11	ACT	Spring 2021