

## SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS

### COMMISSION FOR ARKANSAS PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMIC FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION RULES GOVERNING THE FACILITIES MASTER PLAN

These rules were amended to incorporate the provision of Act 126 of 2021 that eliminated the requirements for school districts to consult with and submit preliminary master plans to the Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation, which constitute an inefficient use of time and resources by both the school district and Division. Most school districts are familiar with how to draft master plans and have many opportunities to discuss the plans or proposed projects with the Division. Although the Division would be happy to meet with any district that wants or needs assistance, this amendment would free up valuable time and resources to enable the Division to focus on the districts that need the most support.

The amended rules also provide that the Division will provide enrollment projections to be used in the suitability analysis. Because the Division obtains its projections from a demography consultant that uses statistical analysis to calculate projections for every school district in the state, the projections will be more accurate and realistic. Historically, projections offered by school districts often have proven to be based on unrealistic assumptions, resulting in an inaccurately high suitability need, which resulted in an imprudent use of tax dollars. Other amendments to the rules are technical and stylistic.

**COMMISSION FOR ARKANSAS PUBLIC SCHOOL  
ACADEMIC FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION  
RULES GOVERNING THE FACILITIES MASTER PLAN  
Effective: ~~December 30, 2019~~**

1.00 REGULATORY AUTHORITY

The Commission for Arkansas Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation ~~enacts~~ promulgates these Rules pursuant to ~~its authority set forth in~~ Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-21-114, ~~6-21-801 et seq.~~ 6-21-804, 25-15-201 *et seq.*, and Act ~~933 of 2019~~ 126 of 2021.

2.00 PURPOSE

The purpose of these Rules is to establish a program and process for establishing a format for districts to create facilities master plans in accordance with State legislation, in an ongoing effort to remediate deficiencies in academic facilities.

3.00 DEFINITIONS

~~For the purposes of these Rules, the following terms mean:~~

- 3.01 “Academic facility” — ~~A has the same meaning as in Ark. Code Ann. § 6-21-803(1). building or space, including related areas such as the physical plant and grounds, where public school students receive instruction that is an integral part of an adequate education as described in Ark. Code Ann. § 6-20-2302.~~
- 3.01.1 ~~— A public school building or space, including related areas such as the physical plant and grounds, used for an extracurricular activity or an organized physical activity course as defined in Ark. Code Ann. § 6-16-137 shall not be considered an academic facility for the purposes of these Rules to the extent that the building, space, or related area is used for extracurricular activities or organized physical activities courses, except for physical educational training and instruction under Ark. Code Ann. § 6-16-132;~~
- 3.01.2 ~~— The Division may determine the extent to which a building, space, or related area is used for extracurricular activities or organized physical activities courses based on information supplied by the school district and, if necessary, on-site inspection.~~
- 3.01.3 ~~— Buildings or spaces, including related areas such as the physical plant and grounds, used for pre-kindergarten education shall not be considered academic facilities for purposes of these Rules; and~~

- ~~3.01.4 — District administration buildings and spaces, including related areas such as the physical plant and grounds, shall not be considered academic facilities for the purpose of these Rules.~~
- 3.02 “Amended Facilities Master Plan” – A revised Facilities Master Plan, submitted at any time during the six-year cycle if a district has encountered one of the following conditions:
- 3.02.1 A major enrollment change; ~~or~~
  - 3.02.2 A major disaster; ~~or~~
  - 3.02.3 A major curriculum change; or
  - 3.02.4 An unforeseen occurrence.
  - 3.02.5 The format for submission of an Amended Facilities Master Plan will be as outlined is the same as the format for the Facilities Master Plan due on February 1 of every even year. This is contained in the most current Master Plan Guidelines located on the district landing page accessed when the district signs into the master planning tool.
- 3.03 “Annexation” – The joining of an affected school district or part of the school district with a receiving district under Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-13-1401 et seq.
- 3.04 “Appendix” – A shortened amendment to an approved Master Plan submitted if a district has begun or completed a self-funded project over which the Division has only review authority, but that was omitted from the Master Plan submittal. The format for submission will be as outlined in the most current Master Plan Guidelines.
- 3.05 “Building” – Any structure used or intended for supporting or sheltering any use or occupancy.
- 3.05.1 “Building” does not include a shed or other structure not capable of supporting occupancy.
- 3.06 “Building Value” – A percentage value reflecting the depreciated value of an academic facility with an assumed depreciation of two ~~per cent~~ percent (2%) per year. Building Value does not consider improvements that may have been made to the facility.
- 3.06.1 ~~Building value~~ Value is calculated by multiplying two (2) times the age of the academic facility, and subtracting that product from one hundred (100) (Building Value = 100 – (2 x Age age)). The output of this equation may be a positive or negative percentage.

- 3.06.2 For the purpose of this calculation, an academic facility's age is calculated as the difference between the master plan year and the year of the facility's construction.
- 3.06.3 When an academic facility has multiple additions constructed at different times, a building value may be computed for each addition.
- 3.06.4 Building value will be used to develop the Division's state-wide needs priority list per Ark. Code Ann. § 6-21-112(f)(18).
- 3.06.5 Districts are not required to replace an academic facility when the building value is at or below zero percent (0%).
- 3.07 "CMMS" (Computerized Maintenance Management System) – The computerized software system purchased by the Division at no cost to the districts ~~that school districts shall use to: track and document maintenance work and schedules, as well as schedule state-mandated inspections as required under Ark. Code Ann. § 6-21-813.~~
- 3.07.1 Enter and track all reactive and preventative maintenance work;
- 3.07.2 Enter all preventative maintenance schedules for academic and nonacademic facilities' systems;
- 3.07.3 Document all completed reactive and preventative maintenance work; and
- 3.07.4 Schedule all state-mandated inspections as required under Ark. Code Ann. § 6-21-813(e).
- 3.08 "Consolidation" – The joining of two (2) or more school districts or parts of the districts to create a new single school district under Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-13-1401 et seq.
- 3.09 "Conversion Project" – ~~(1)~~ A new construction project subject to the criteria and restrictions set forth in the Commission for Arkansas Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation Rules Governing the Academic Facilities Partnership Program that converts existing academic or non-academic space into:
- 3.09.1 a A missing academic core, special education, or student dining component of the Program of Requirements (POR), and the conversion project is part of an add-on addition project for which the district has applied for partnership assistance; or ~~(2)~~
- 3.09.2 A new construction project that converts existing academic or non-academic space into a A missing academic core space only and is in compliance with the POR space requirements. Conversion projects are

~~subject to the criteria and restrictions set forth in the Commission for Arkansas Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation Rules Governing the Academic Facilities Partnership Program.~~

- 3.10 “Custodial activities” – Routine and renovation cleaning activities related to daily operations and upkeep of a public school facility, including related supervisory and management activities.
- 3.11 “Division” – The Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation.
- 3.12 “Facility Condition Index” – The index obtained by dividing the existing condition costs (the cost to bring a public school academic facility up to current standards) by the facility’s replacement cost, using data ~~for such costs available in 2004 or later data if that~~ the Division has such data available.
- 3.13 “Facilities distress status” – A public school district ~~determined~~ classified by the Commission for Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation as being in academic facilities distress status.
- 3.14 “Facilities master plan” – A six (6) year plan developed by a school district that contains:
- 3.14.1 ~~Division-provided enrollment~~ Enrollment projections for ten (10) years from the date of the plan;
  - 3.14.2 The school district’s strategy for maintaining, repairing, renovating, and improving through new construction or otherwise the school district’s academic facilities and equipment; and
  - 3.14.3 Other information required by law.
- 3.15 “Foundation funding” – ~~Has~~ has the same meaning as in Ark. Code Ann. § 6-20-2303(7).
- 3.16 “Local resources” – Any monies generated by a school district for the purpose of funding the school district’s share of financial participation in any academic facilities project for which a school district is eligible to receive state financial participation under priorities established by the Division. Also referred to as “raised funds” for the purpose of self-funded projects.
- 3.17 “Maintenance, repair, and renovation” – Any activity or improvement to a public school facility and, if necessary, related areas, such as the physical plant and grounds, that maintains, conserves, or protects the state, condition or efficiency of the public school facility.
- 3.18 “Master Plan Guidelines” – Formatting and submission instructions published by the Division on its website for the purpose of submitting master plans.

3.19 “New construction” – Any improvement to an academic facility and, if necessary, related areas, such as the physical plant and grounds, that brings the state of condition or efficiency of the academic facility to a state of condition or efficiency better than the academic facility’s current condition of completeness or efficiency. New construction includes a new addition to an existing academic facility and construction of a new academic facility.

3.19.1 No state financial participation will be provided for improvements that could be classified as maintenance, repair, and renovation, other than a total renovation project. That portion of a new construction project that consists of maintenance, repair, or renovation will not be considered in calculating state financial participation in a new construction project, nor in prioritization of a new construction project.

3.20 “Project” – An undertaking in which a school district engages in:

3.20.1 Maintenance, repair, and renovation activities with regard to an academic facility;

3.20.2 New construction of an academic facility;

3.20.3 Any combination of maintenance, repair, and renovation activities with regard to an academic facility and new construction activities with regard to an academic facility; or

3.20.4 Installation of any temporary door barricade designed to be deployed during an intruder emergency or school lockdown.

3.21 “Public School Facility” has the same meaning as in Ark. Code Ann. § 6-21-803(13). ~~—Any public school building or space, including related areas such as the physical plant and grounds, that is used for any purpose, including, without limitation:~~

~~3.21.1 — An extracurricular activity;~~

~~3.21.2 — An organized physical activity course defined in Ark. Code Ann. § 6-16-137;~~

~~3.21.3 — Pre-kindergarten education;~~

~~3.21.4 — District administration; or~~

~~3.21.5 — Delivery of instruction to public school students that is an integral part of an adequate education as described in Ark. Code Ann. § 6-20-2302.~~

- 3.22 “Public School Facilities Custodial, Maintenance, Repair and Renovation Manual” – A document that contains uniform standards to direct custodial, maintenance, repair, and renovation activities in public school facilities.
- 3.23 Public School Academic Facilities Facility Manual – A document that contains uniform standards and guidelines for the planning, design, and construction of new academic facilities and additions to existing academic facilities.
- 3.23.1 Variances to the Arkansas Public School Academic ~~Facilities~~ Facility Manual standards may be granted by the Division upon the presentation of evidence of:
- 3.23.1.1 Existing conditions that makes compliance with applicable standards impractical or unreasonably burdensome; or
- 3.23.1.2 Other conditions determined by the Division as warranting a variance from applicable public school academic facility standards.
- 3.24 “Reconstitution” has the same meaning as in Ark. Code Ann. § 6-21-803(14). ~~—The reorganization of the administrative unit or the governing school board of a school district, including, but not limited to, the replacement or removal of a current superintendent, the removal or replacement of a current school board, or both.~~
- 3.25 “School district” has the same meaning as in Ark. Code Ann. § 6-21-803(15). ~~—A geographic area with an elected board of directors that qualifies as a taxing unit for purposes of ad valorem property taxes under Title 26 of the Arkansas Code and which board conducts the daily affairs of public schools under the supervisory authority vested in it by the General Assembly and Title 6 of the Arkansas Code.~~
- 3.26 “Self-Funded Project” – A project that is one hundred percent (100%) funded by ~~the school District~~ a school district, that shall be submitted to and approved by the Division upon compliance with state codes and standards. It will be submitted as an Appendix to the most current school district Master Plan.
- 3.27 “Temporary Door Barricade” – A device or system designed to be deployed during an intruder emergency or school lockdown to preclude intruders from entering any classroom or learning space.
- 3.28 “Unused or Underutilized Public School Facility” ~~—Has~~ has the same meaning as in the Commission for Arkansas Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation Rules Governing Right of Access to Unused or Underutilized Public School Facilities and the Sale or Lease of Public School Facilities.

- 3.29 “Work Order” – An approved work request that will be tracked using the CMMS.
- 3.30 “Work Request” – The initial identification of a perceived maintenance need to the maintenance department of a public school. A work request may or may not be identified by a designated official to be a work order.

#### 4.00 ACADEMIC FACILITIES MASTER PLAN PROGRAM – PURPOSE

- 4.01 The purpose of the Academic Facilities Master Plan Program is to:
  - 4.01.1 Establish a mechanism for state supervision of school district activities impacting academic facilities and equipment;
  - 4.01.2 Develop and continually update information critical to identifying academic facilities needs at the local level across the state; and
  - 4.01.3 Allow the state to manage state financial participation in eligible local academic facilities projects.
- 4.02 The Academic Facilities Master Plan Program shall require each school district to:
  - 4.02.1 Develop a six (6) year district-wide facilities master plan that shall be approved by the school district’s board of directors for submission to and approval by the Division; and
  - 4.02.2 Base its facilities master plan on:
    - 4.02.2.1 Provisions of the Arkansas Public School Academic Facility Manual as adopted by the Commission for Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation;
    - 4.02.2.2 Priorities indicated by statewide assessment;
    - 4.02.2.3 Priorities established by the Division’s statewide facility needs priority list; and
    - 4.02.2.4 Other pertinent data specific to the needs of the school district with regard to academic facilities and equipment.
- 4.03 The district-wide facilities master plan shall include, at a minimum, the following:
  - 4.03.1 A schedule of custodial activities for each public school facility used by a school district;



4.03.2 A schedule of maintenance, repair, and renovation for each academic public school facility used by a school district. The schedule shall distinguish between work associated with academic facilities and work associated with nonacademic public school facilities;

4.03.2.1 School districts shall participate in the state-level CMMS to track maintenance, repair, and renovation work orders.

4.03.2.2 School districts are encouraged to implement a work-request system that allows certified staff and classified staff working primarily in a public school facility to utilize the CMMS to inform a public school's maintenance department of needs and to allow the responsible person to prioritize responses and establish work orders.

4.03.2.3 A school district's maintenance work orders should reflect the designated work categories and should be documented upon completion.

4.03.3 Documentation that describes preventive maintenance work for each public school facility and identifies the completion date of the work. The documentation shall distinguish between preventative maintenance work associated with academic facilities and preventative maintenance work associated with nonacademic public facilities;

4.03.3.1 School districts shall utilize CMMS to track reactive and preventative maintenance work.

4.03.3.2 School districts shall enter preventative maintenance schedules and reactive maintenance work into the CMMS for the systems existing in all academic and non-academic facilities.

4.03.3.3 School districts shall document completed preventative and reactive maintenance work orders in the CMMS.

4.03.3.4 School districts should schedule state-mandated inspections required in Ark. Code Ann. § 6-21-813(e) in the CMMS. Only one schedule per system per district is required.

*NOTE: It is ~~strongly~~ recommended that school districts ensure that at least one (1) district employee has completed, or completes within three (3) years, the Certified Facility Director certification program offered by the Arkansas School Plan Management Association or a similar certification program.*

- 4.03.4 Annual expenditures of the school district for all custodial, maintenance, repair, and renovation activities in the school district. The section of the facilities master plan pertaining to annual expenditures shall distinguish between expenditures associated with academic facilities and expenditures associated with non-academic public school facilities;
- 4.03.5 A projected replacement schedule for major building systems in each public school facility;
- 4.03.6 Identification of issues with regard to public school facility and program access to individuals with disabilities and, if necessary, proposed methods for improving access;
- 4.03.7 Identification of committed projects within the district that includes, as applicable, a breakdown of the portion of each project between maintenance, repair, and renovation activities and new construction activities;
  - 4.03.7.1 The portion of a committed project pertaining to maintenance, repair, and renovation activities shall identify, as applicable, activities associated with academic facilities and activities associated with nonacademic public school facilities.
  - 4.03.7.2 Districts are required to enter any project involving installation of temporary door barricades, regardless of cost. Project entry shall include a complete and detailed description of the barricade system to be installed, and the upload of a brochure or specification sheet of the system to be installed. The Division does not approve or disapprove these systems, and project entry is for informational purposes only.
- 4.03.8 Annual expenditures of the school district for capital outlay;
- 4.03.9 Description of planned new construction projects with cost estimates for each public school facility, and needs prioritized as set forth in Section 4.04 below;
- 4.03.10 Narrative analysis of facility needs and response plans to address the overall district strategy of providing suitable, adequate, and maintained public school facilities, to include:
  - 4.03.10.1 An accounting of any changes to building or campus use, size, utilization, status, or condition; and

- 4.03.10.2 A statement containing the district's building fund balance as of the fiscal year end date prior to the master plan submission deadline and how building fund balances are planned to be used and managed;
- 4.03.11 Accurate campus and building information including, but not limited to, campus grades, system condition assessment, building size, and other required information; and
- 4.03.12 A listing of all buildings constructed since the last master plan, to include but not be limited to room size and type, in a format prescribed by the Division.
- 4.04 Districts shall submit a master plan to identify prioritized needs of the district to include the following:
  - 4.04.1 The district's master plan shall be submitted to the Division by February 1 of each even numbered year with the following needs to be addressed:
    - 4.04.1.1 Immediate needs that the school district intends to address within three (3) years following the submission of the facilities master plan; and
    - 4.04.1.2 Long term needs that the school district intends to address within the four (4) to six (6) years following the submission of the facilities master plan.
  - 4.04.2 The district's master plan shall address all academic facilities with a building value of zero percent (0%) or less.
    - 4.04.2.1 Each academic facility with a building value of zero percent (0%) or less shall be discussed in the narrative analysis per Section 4.03.10 of these Rules.
    - 4.04.2.2 Planned new construction projects to replace or totally renovate academic facilities with a building value of zero percent (0%) or less should be described per Section 4.03.9 of these Rules.
    - 4.04.2.3 Districts are not required to replace an academic facility when the building value is at or below zero percent (0%).
  - 4.04.3 The district's Master Plan shall identify:
    - 4.04.3.1 All unused or underutilized public school facilities in the school district in a format prescribed by the Division; and

4.04.3.2 The unused or underutilized public school facilities, if any, that are designated to be reused, renovated, or demolished as part of a specific committed project or planned new construction project.

4.05 In addition, as part of and at the same time as the submission of the facilities master plan, the school district shall provide evidence of the following:

4.05.1 Public comments from public hearings regarding the district's facilities master plan; which must be held in the same locality as the school district; and

4.05.2 ~~Evidence of current~~ Division provided student enrollment projections for a period of ten (10) years, beginning with the first year of the master plan submission.

## 5.00 SUBMISSION PROCESS

Each school district in the state shall, in accordance with applicable state law, these Rules, and the guidelines published by the Division:

5.01 Submit the district's facilities master plan, with a summary of comments made at public hearing, to the Division by February 1 of each even numbered year.

5.02 Submit a report to the Division by February 1 of each odd-numbered year that includes:

5.02.1 An update of all completed projects since the most recent submission;

5.02.2 Current enrollment projections;

5.02.3 New or continuing needs of the district with regard to academic facilities; and

5.02.4 An accounting of any changes to the district's insurance coverage from the most recent submission.

5.03 Submit evidence of the school district's insurance coverage, including coverage amounts, types of coverage, identification of buildings covered, policy renewal dates, and all riders, to the Division no later than February 1 of each even numbered year.

5.04 Submit a report to the Division by February 1 of each year that includes the information required in Section 4.04.3 of these rules.

5.05 A school district that has encountered one of the conditions listed in Section 3.02 of these Rules may submit an amended master plan to the Division out of the regular even-numbered year cycle.

## 6.00 DIVISION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMIC FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION RESPONSIBILITIES

The Division shall:

6.01 Establish procedures (guidelines) and timelines for submittals of ~~preliminary master plans, master plan updates, and master plans~~ preliminary master plans and master plan updates;

6.02 Upon request of a school district, hold ~~Hold~~ consultation meetings with districts regarding ~~preliminary master plans, and master plan updates, and master plans~~ in order to:

6.02.1 Assure understanding of the general goals of the master plans and reports, and the criteria by which projects will be evaluated;

6.02.2 Discuss ways the master plan may be structured to meet said goals;

6.02.3 Assist districts in preparing accurate budgets and reasonable projects schedules; and

6.02.4 Provide efficiency and productivity in the approval process as to both local academic facilities projects and state financial participation in local projects.

## 7.00 APPROVAL PROCESS

The Division shall:

7.01 Review, and upon all requirements being met, approve master plans no later than September 1 of each even numbered year; and

7.02 Notify a district no later than May 1 of each odd-numbered year whether the district's application for state financial participation for the upcoming biennium has been approved.

## 8.00 APPEAL PROCESS

~~8.01~~ Appeals of Division determinations are governed by the Commission For Arkansas Public School Academic Facilities And Transportation Rules Governing Appeals From Determinations Of The Arkansas Division Of Public School Academic Facilities And Transportation.