

Arkansas Data & Transparency Panel

FEBRUARY 20, 2025
10:00AM-12:00PM



Agenda

- New Member Welcome and Quick Introductions
 - Welcome Kristin Clark, Appointee for Chief Justice Karen Baker
- Arkansas LAUNCH and CiviForm
- Arkansas Forward Initiative
 - Courtney Traylor, Arkansas Forward Project Manager / TSS Chief of Staff
- Arkansas Data Hub
 - Review and Discussion of Data Hub Business Case Inventory Submissions
 - Discuss Data Governance Considerations as Needed
- Artificial Intelligence (AI) Center of Excellence
 - Overview of AI CoE Initial Report
 - DTP Input and Discussion on Next Steps for AI Governance
- Wrap Up

New Member Welcome and Introductions



Arkansas Forward

COURTNEY TRAYLOR
ARKANSAS FORWARD PROJECT MANAGER / TSS CHIEF OF STAFF



Arkansas LAUNCH and CiviForm



Arkansas LAUNCH and CiviForm

- Will be officially announced at a press event on Tuesday, February 25th
- The key resident and employer-facing user interfaces for implementation of the [Arkansas Workforce Strategy](#)
- Part of a “no wrong door” integrated service delivery strategy that provide personalized access to a broad range of services and opportunities
- Included in the WIOA State Plan, Maternal Health Recommendations, and “Pathway to Prosperity” Medicaid Waiver Request
- UI work search reporting and continued claims certification will move to LAUNCH on Sunday, March 2nd

Current Functions of LAUNCH

- Resident Experience and Skills Profiles
- Career Exploration and Recommendations
- Education and Training Catalog and Recommendations
- Employment Opportunities and Recommendations
- Work Search Reporting and Continued Benefits Certification
- Skills-Based Job Description Generator (Employers)
- Skills-Based Talent Search and Invitations (Employers)



Future Functions of LAUNCH

- Resident Interests and Goals; Resume Builder
- Appointment Scheduling and Management
- Career Pathway Planning and Navigation
- Success Plans
- Education and Training Funding Options
- Work-Based Learning and Volunteer Service Opportunities
- Trusted Navigator Role (Case Managers, CBOs, Parent/Guardian)
- Employer Profiles (Employers)

Current Functions of CiviForm

- Needs-Based Screening and Service Recommendations
- Common Intake with Data Reuse for Reduced Application Time
- Notification of Eligibility for Newly Added Programs
- Trusted Navigator Role
- Drag-and-Drop Form Creation and Management
- Document Upload per Intake Form
- Intake/Referral Access from Web Application or API



Future Functions of CiviForm

- Document Locker
- Income Verification
- Enhancements for More Robust Eligibility Criteria

Data Integrations

- Identity Management and Verification – Login.Gov
- Program Enrollment Status and Interaction Requirements (Tax21)
- Program Intakes/Referrals (AJL, LACES, AWARE)
- Longitudinal Administrative Data (Recommendations Engine) - SLDS
- National Labor Exchange (NLx)
- Arkansas Credential Registry – Credential Engine
- Digital Credentials – Velocity Network, Digital Credentials Consortium
- Address Validation – Arkansas Geographic Information Office



Arkansas Data Hub

Data Hub Refresher: Goals

- Facilitate deduplication of data and effort (Act 1282 of 2015)
- Develop an improved understanding of individual outcomes (Act 936 of 2019)
- Continuously align programs and resources to the evolving economy of this state (Act 936 of 2019)
- Make government information available subject to applicable security, privacy, compliance, governance, and confidentiality laws and best practices (Act 634 of 2023)



Data Hub Business Case Inventory



[Data Hub Business Case Inventory](#)

Business Case Submissions

Use Case Name	Effort	Effort Score	Feasibility	Feasibility Score	Priority	Priority Score	Total Score
Wages for Federal Reporting	Low	3	High	3	High	3	9
Court Hearing and Incarceration Coordination	Low	3	High	3	High	3	9
Summer EBT	Medium	2	High	3	High	3	8
Audit Findings Clearinghouse	Low	3	Medium	2	High	3	8
Labor Force Participation Factors	Medium	2	Medium	2	High	3	7
DWS Quarterly Data Update	Medium	2	Medium	2	High	3	7
Inbound Movers Tracking	Medium	2	Medium	2	High	3	7
Education Data for Title IV WIOA	Medium	2	High	3	Medium	2	7
OMIG Investigations Data Share	Medium	2	Medium	2	Medium	2	6
Courts Info for DHS youth and forensics assessments	Medium	2	Medium	2	Medium	2	6
Grants/Contracts	Medium	2	Medium	2	Medium	2	6

Wages for Federal Reporting

- Having automated reporting on wages for clients would reduce costs, increase efficiency, and improve accuracy of federal reporting as well as improving state performance measure results
- Data Sources: UI Quarterly Wages, Clients for Matching
- This is a very common design pattern already used for Perkins, WIOA, and other federal reporting that could be readily scaled to other services.

Court Hearing and Incarceration Coordination

- Improved sharing of court orders and hearing dates can help reduce missed deadlines, no-shows, and failure to appear warrants resulting in recidivism upon release.
- Data Sources: Court Connect, eOMIS, CHRIS, JJIS, DNET, Eflex
- Funding is currently available under the Justice Reinvestment Initiative
- This was identified by the Legislative Recidivism Reduction Task Force



Summer EBT

- Streamlined sharing of student data including enrollment, Free or Reduced-Price Lunch eligibility, and household contact information could assist DHS in verifying eligibility, preventing duplicate benefits, and issuing EBT cards. The objective is to get assistance to recipients in May instead of July/August.
- Data Sources: National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), school enrollment, student household contact information, SNAP participation, TANF direct certification, WIC
- This aligns with EO 24-18 concerning food insecurity



Audit Findings Clearinghouse

- Provide historical information regarding audit findings that will assist Secretaries in assessing risks within their respective departments. Assist department management with oversight responsibility of their department and associated programs.
- Data Sources: Audit findings from Arkansas Legislative Audit, Department of Inspector General, Departmental Internal Audit Functions, Federal Auditors



Labor Force Participation Factors

- Enable various analyses for investigating factors affecting LFPR, such as (but not limited to) county level data for wages/income, benefits receipt across government programs, disability, justice involvement, migration, and commuting patterns.
- Data Sources: Drivers License, Eligibility status and benefits amount across multiple programs, Vital Records, Veteran Status, Employment and Wages

Discussion

- What data sharing or data governance barriers might exist for these business cases and how might we address them?
- What common patterns are we seeing?
- Do other departments and programs have similar needs?

AI & Analytics Center of Excellence (AI CoE)

AI CoE Initial Report Recommendations

- 1. Protect Sensitive Data:** Require the Data and Transparency Panel to establish clear policies for data classification, risk management, and use in government AI applications to safeguard sensitive data.
- 2. Safeguard Against Criminal or Harmful AI Uses:** Enact legal protections against misuse of AI and develop protocols to detect and mitigate AI-driven threats to public safety and cybersecurity.
- 3. Establish AI Governance:** Formally include AI governance within the responsibilities of the Data and Transparency Panel (DTP) and establish a Chief AI Officer (CAIO) position reporting to the Chief Data Officer and serving on the Data and Transparency Panel to coordinate AI strategy and governance.
- 4. Establish Secure AI Infrastructure:** Deploy a secure, shared-service AI infrastructure and update state procurement policies to ensure that AI systems align with governance frameworks and safeguard citizen data.
- 5. Develop an AI-Ready State Government Workforce:** Develop AI literacy and training resources for state employees to support evolving skill needs for effective use of AI in government service delivery.
- 6. Build Employer-Aligned AI Talent Pipelines:** Leverage the Arkansas Workforce Strategy to develop education and workforce AI talent pipelines aligned with evolving employer needs.



AI CoE Next Steps

- Providing **AI briefings** as beneficial to inform and support AI policy development
- Developing an integrated **data and AI governance framework** in partnership with the DTP
- Creating an **inventory of current and planned AI usage** across state government
- Launching **pilot projects** in fraud prevention and recidivism reduction
- Establishing **AI governance** as needed for LAUNCH and the Government Services Portal
- Leveraging the Arkansas Workforce Strategy to support **employer-aligned AI talent pipelines**
- Planning broader **AI solution evaluation and procurement processes**
- Delivering a **comprehensive report** in September 2025



Inventory of Current and Planned AI Usage

- Collect information relevant to informing risk assessment and governance
- What information should be collected?
 - Agency, project, purpose, value
 - AI type, scope of deployment, level of supervision, intended users, environment
 - Data sensitivity, data quality, potential impact, explainability, applicable compliance
- Should cover a broad range of low to high risk/impact uses to inform governance processes that balance security, governance, privacy, and compliance with efficiency, effectiveness, and innovation.

Initial AI Governance Framework

- What baseline AI governance should be in place for safe AI pilots?
 - AI Inventory
 - AI Governance Committee (DTP)
 - AI Governance Policy (define AI oversight, roles, responsibilities)
 - Risk assessment framework (leverage NIST AI RMF)
 - Data governance (quality, privacy, compliance)
 - Technical safeguards (testing and validation, security)
 - Pilot guidelines



Wrap Up and Adjournment

Wrap-Up and Action Items

- Next Meeting Thursday, January 30th, 10:00AM-12:00PM
- Adjournment

