

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3
2023-2027
COOPERATIVE PROGRAM UNIFIED BUDGET FORMULA
of the
ARKANSAS BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION

I. Budget

In accordance with Article VIII., Section 1, of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention Articles of Incorporation, each board, agency, and institution of this Convention shall submit to the Executive Board at its annual budget planning meeting, which is to be held prior to the annual meeting of the Convention, a detailed statement of its sources of income, and a budget of proposed expenditures for the ensuing year. When received and adopted by the Convention, these budgets shall become the basis for ensuing year.

II. Southern Baptist Convention Causes

- A) The percentage increase for Southern Baptist Convention causes shall be 0.68% for the five-year budget formula period.
- B) This increase results in 49% of Cooperative Program receipts funding out-of-state causes by the end of the five-year formula, when including SBC/CP “Shared Ministries” expenses that the Executive Board bears on behalf of the SBC. (These expenses include Cooperative Program promotion, administration, and missions partnerships.)

III. State Causes

- A) The percentage decrease for Arkansas Baptist State Convention causes shall be 0.68% for the five-year budget formula period, resulting in 49% of Cooperative Program receipts funding out-of-state causes by the end of the five-year formula.
- B) The percentage decreases to the budget allocation shall take immediate effect in the 2023 budget:
 - Executive Board shall decrease by 0.38%.
 - Arkansas Baptist Children’s Homes and Family Ministries shall decrease by 0.04%.
 - Camp Siloam shall decrease by 0.02%.
- C) The percentage decrease for Christian Higher Education shall be 1.1% over five years. Funding for Christian Higher Education shall be distributed to Ouachita Baptist University and Williams Baptist University as follows:
 - Each university shall receive an annual base allocation:
 - Ouachita Baptist University - \$1,500,000
 - Williams Baptist University - \$500,000
 - The balance of Christian Higher Education budget funds shall be pooled and distributed on a Full Time Equivalency (FTE) basis.
- D) The percentage increase to the budget allocation is as follows and shall take immediate effect in the 2023 budget:
 - Arkansas Baptist Foundation (0.86%)

IV. Overages

All Cooperative Program funds received that exceed the annual budget shall be divided equally, with fifty percent to Southern Baptist Convention causes and fifty percent to the Arkansas Baptist State Convention at the end of the state convention's fiscal year. The amount allocated to the state convention shall be distributed to each state entity according to the current year budget formula.

V. New Agencies or Institutions

In keeping with the Unified Budget concept, the creation and funding of a new Arkansas Baptist State Convention agency or institution approved by the Convention in annual session shall be accomplished by subtracting the Cooperative Program allocation of the new agency or institution from the total of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention budget for the year the new agency or institution begins. The remainder of the budget in that year will be distributed by the current budget formula. This results in all Arkansas Baptist State Convention agencies, institutions, the Executive Board, and the Southern Baptist Convention sharing proportionately in the cost of the new agency or institution. The amount for the new agency or institutions shall be added to the budget in the succeeding year.

VI. Motions to Alter this Financial Plan

Motions made by messengers at the annual state Convention dealing with financial support or changes in allocations of funds must be referred to the Executive Board of the Convention. The Executive Board shall submit a report to the next Convention in annual session.

VII. Budget Formula Period

This formula will be operative beginning in the budget year 2023 through the budget year 2027.

VIII. Cooperative Program Promotion in Arkansas

During the budget formula period (2023 through 2027) the Arkansas Baptist State Convention will conduct a comprehensive, statewide promotion of the Cooperative Program, seeking to engage and challenge every church to increase their giving to missions through the Cooperative Program.

Executive Board--Adopted 1964 - Amended, 1972, 1975, 1980

Convention Approved-- 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996, 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, proposed 2021