

We thank the reviewer for the helpful and constructive comments. We have addressed each of the reviewer's comments below and hope the manuscript will be acceptable for publication.

Comment 1: Wording is not clear, did they mean "where each had" rather than which?

Response 1: We have reworded this section to "where each state" to enhance clarity.

Comment 2: Could you expand on this a little more and give a comparison rather than generally.

Response 2: As suggested, we have expanded to provide comparisons of the Arkansas income eligibility standard with the federal poverty level and the Arkansas minimum wage.

Comment 3: Could you add how these factors are looked at in other states.

Response 3: We have expanded on income eligibility standard and income disregards as applied by Mississippi to provide an appropriate comparison to Arkansas. We have also provided a broader illustration of national financial eligibility standards.

Comment 4: What is the reading level now?

Response 4: We have elaborated on the current reading level of the Arkansas TEA application.

Comment 5: Is there any state that makes this connection and what is this success?

Response 5: We have added an addendum in this section addressing this inquiry. As of publication date, there is no information regarding whether or not any other individual states connect application information/eligibility across state welfare programming.