

Return of Private Foundation

or Section 4947(a)(1) Trust Treated as Private Foundation

Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public

Information about Form 990-PF and its separate instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990pf.

2016

Open to Public Inspection

Form 990-PF

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

For calendar year 2016 or tax year beginning , and ending

Name of foundation
ARKANSANS FOR EDUCATION REFORM FOUNDATION

Number and street (or P O box number if mail is not delivered to street address)
PO BOX 1860

Room/suite

City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code
BENTONVILLE, AR 72712

A Employer identification number
20-1805180

B Telephone number
(479) 464-1522

C If exemption application is pending check here

D 1 Foreign organizations, check here

2 Foreign organizations meeting the 85% test, check here and attach computation

E If private foundation status was terminated under section 507(b)(1)(A), check here

F If the foundation is in a 60-month termination under section 507(b)(1)(B), check here

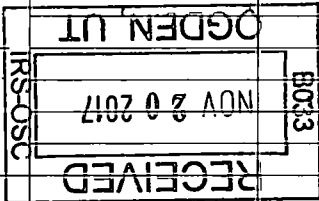
G Check all that apply
 Initial return
 Final return
 Address change
 Initial return of a former public charity
 Amended return
 Name change

H Check type of organization:
 Section 501(c)(3) exempt private foundation
 Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust
 Other taxable private foundation

I Fair market value of all assets at end of year (from Part II, col (c), line 16)
\$ 393,479. (Part I, column (d) must be on cash basis)

J Accounting method
 Cash
 Accrual
 Other (specify)

Part I Analysis of Revenue and Expenses (The total of amounts in columns (b), (c) and (d) may not necessarily equal the amounts in column (a).)		(a) Revenue and expenses per books	(b) Net investment income	(c) Adjusted net income	(d) Disbursements for charitable purposes (cash basis only)
Revenue	1 Contributions, gifts, grants, etc., received	428,989.			
	2 Check <input type="checkbox"/> if the foundation is not required to attach Sch B				
	3 Interest on savings and temporary cash investments				
	4 Dividends and interest from securities	22.	22.	22.	STATEMENT 1
	5a Gross rents				
	b Net rental income or (loss)				
	6a Net gain or (loss) from sale of assets not on line 10				
	b Gross sales price for all assets on line 6a				
	7 Capital gain net income (from Part IV, line 2)		0.		
	8 Net short-term capital gain			0.	
	9 Income modifications				
	10a Gross sales less returns and allowances				
b Less Cost of goods sold					
c Gross profit or (loss)					
11 Other income					
12 Total Add lines 1 through 11	429,011.	22.	22.		
Operating and Administrative Expenses	13 Compensation of officers, directors, trustees, etc	189,816.	0.	0.	189,816.
	14 Other employee salaries and wages				
	15 Pension plans, employee benefits	47,918.	0.	0.	47,918.
	16a Legal fees STMT 2	3,702.	0.	0.	3,702.
	b Accounting fees STMT 3	20,711.	0.	0.	20,711.
	c Other professional fees				
	17 Interest				
	18 Taxes STMT 4	10,088.	0.	0.	10,088.
	19 Depreciation and depletion	4,336.	0.	0.	
	20 Occupancy	9,662.	0.	0.	9,662.
	21 Travel, conferences, and meetings	3,548.	0.	0.	3,548.
	22 Printing and publications				
	23 Other expenses STMT 5	265,816.	0.	0.	265,816.
	24 Total operating and administrative expenses Add lines 13 through 23	555,597.	0.	0.	551,261.
	25 Contributions, gifts, grants paid	15,000.			15,000.
26 Total expenses and disbursements Add lines 24 and 25	570,597.	0.	0.	566,261.	
27 Subtract line 26 from line 12	-141,586.				
a Excess of revenue over expenses and disbursements					
b Net investment income (if negative, enter -0-)		22.			
c Adjusted net income (if negative, enter -0-)			22.		



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Part II	Balance Sheets	Attached schedules and amounts in the description column should be for end-of-year amounts only	Beginning of year	End of year	
			(a) Book Value	(b) Book Value	(c) Fair Market Value
Assets	1	Cash - non-interest-bearing	483,508.	366,194.	366,194.
	2	Savings and temporary cash investments			
	3	Accounts receivable ▶ 13,001.			
		Less: allowance for doubtful accounts ▶	12,901.	13,001.	13,001.
	4	Pledges receivable ▶			
		Less: allowance for doubtful accounts ▶			
	5	Grants receivable			
	6	Receivables due from officers, directors, trustees, and other disqualified persons			
	7	Other notes and loans receivable ▶			
		Less: allowance for doubtful accounts ▶			
	8	Inventories for sale or use			
	9	Prepaid expenses and deferred charges	1,520.	1,786.	1,786.
	10a	Investments - U.S. and state government obligations			
	b	Investments - corporate stock STMT 6	5,257.	5,015.	5,015.
	c	Investments - corporate bonds			
	11	Investments - land, buildings, and equipment basis ▶			
	Less accumulated depreciation ▶				
12	Investments - mortgage loans				
13	Investments - other				
14	Land, buildings, and equipment: basis ▶ 21,918.				
	Less accumulated depreciation ▶ 15,053.	11,201.	6,865.	6,865.	
15	Other assets (describe ▶ RENT DEPOSIT)	618.	618.	618.	
16	Total assets (to be completed by all filers - see the instructions. Also, see page 1, item I)	515,005.	393,479.	393,479.	
Liabilities	17	Accounts payable and accrued expenses	6,544.	26,846.	
	18	Grants payable			
	19	Deferred revenue			
	20	Loans from officers, directors, trustees, and other disqualified persons			
	21	Mortgages and other notes payable			
	22	Other liabilities (describe ▶)			
	23	Total liabilities (add lines 17 through 22)	6,544.	26,846.	
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Foundations that follow SFAS 117, check here ▶ <input type="checkbox"/>				
	and complete lines 24 through 26 and lines 30 and 31.				
	24	Unrestricted			
	25	Temporarily restricted			
	26	Permanently restricted			
	Foundations that do not follow SFAS 117, check here ▶ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
	and complete lines 27 through 31				
27	Capital stock, trust principal, or current funds	0.	0.		
28	Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, bldg., and equipment fund	0.	0.		
29	Retained earnings, accumulated income, endowment, or other funds	508,461.	366,633.		
30	Total net assets or fund balances	508,461.	366,633.		
31	Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances	515,005.	393,479.		

Part III Analysis of Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances

1	Total net assets or fund balances at beginning of year - Part II, column (a), line 30 (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)	508,461.
2	Enter amount from Part I, line 27a	-141,586.
3	Other increases not included in line 2 (itemize) ▶	0.
4	Add lines 1, 2, and 3	366,875.
5	Decreases not included in line 2 (itemize) ▶ UNREALIZED LOSS ON INVESTMENT	242.
6	Total net assets or fund balances at end of year (line 4 minus line 5) - Part II, column (b), line 30	366,633.

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Part IV Capital Gains and Losses for Tax on Investment Income

(a) List and describe the kind(s) of property sold (e.g., real estate, 2-story brick warehouse; or common stock, 200 shs. MLC Co.)	(b) How acquired P - Purchase D - Donation	(c) Date acquired (mo., day, yr.)	(d) Date sold (mo., day, yr.)
1a			
b	NONE		
c			
d			
e			

(e) Gross sales price	(f) Depreciation allowed (or allowable)	(g) Cost or other basis plus expense of sale	(h) Gain or (loss) (e) plus (f) minus (g)
a			
b			
c			
d			
e			

Complete only for assets showing gain in column (h) and owned by the foundation on 12/31/69			(l) Gains (Col. (h) gain minus col. (k), but not less than -0-) or Losses (from col. (h))
(i) F.M.V. as of 12/31/69	(j) Adjusted basis as of 12/31/69	(k) Excess of col. (i) over col. (j), if any	
a			
b			
c			
d			
e			

2 Capital gain net income or (net capital loss)	{ If gain, also enter in Part I, line 7 If (loss), enter -0- in Part I, line 7 }	2	
3 Net short-term capital gain or (loss) as defined in sections 1222(5) and (6): If gain, also enter in Part I, line 8, column (c). If (loss), enter -0- in Part I, line 8		3	

Part V Qualification Under Section 4940(e) for Reduced Tax on Net Investment Income

(For optional use by domestic private foundations subject to the section 4940(a) tax on net investment income.)

If section 4940(d)(2) applies, leave this part blank.

Was the foundation liable for the section 4942 tax on the distributable amount of any year in the base period? Yes No

If "Yes," the foundation does not qualify under section 4940(e). Do not complete this part.

1 Enter the appropriate amount in each column for each year; see the instructions before making any entries.

(a) Base period years Calendar year (or tax year beginning in)	(b) Adjusted qualifying distributions	(c) Net value of noncharitable-use assets	(d) Distribution ratio (col. (b) divided by col. (c))
2015	624,787.	565,967.	1.103928
2014	540,777.	809,407.	.668115
2013	686,204.	1,022,341.	.671209
2012	1,135,101.	721,121.	1.574078
2011	218,927.	26,797.	8.169832

2 Total of line 1, column (d)	2	12.187162
3 Average distribution ratio for the 5-year base period - divide the total on line 2 by 5, or by the number of years the foundation has been in existence if less than 5 years	3	2.437432
4 Enter the net value of noncharitable-use assets for 2016 from Part X, line 5	4	369,867.
5 Multiply line 4 by line 3	5	901,526.
6 Enter 1% of net investment income (1% of Part I, line 27b)	6	0.
7 Add lines 5 and 6	7	901,526.
8 Enter qualifying distributions from Part XII, line 4 If line 8 is equal to or greater than line 7, check the box in Part VI, line 1b, and complete that part using a 1% tax rate. See the Part VI instructions.	8	566,261.

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Part VI Excise Tax Based on Investment Income (Section 4940(a), 4940(b), 4940(e), or 4948 - see instructions)

1a Exempt operating foundations described in section 4940(d)(2), check here <input type="checkbox"/> and enter "N/A" on line 1. Date of ruling or determination letter: _____ (attach copy of letter if necessary-see instructions)			
b Domestic foundations that meet the section 4940(e) requirements in Part V, check here <input type="checkbox"/> and enter 1% of Part I, line 27b		1	0.
c All other domestic foundations enter 2% of line 27b. Exempt foreign organizations enter 4% of Part I, line 12, col. (b).			
2 Tax under section 511 (domestic section 4947(a)(1) trusts and taxable foundations only. Others enter -0-)		2	0.
3 Add lines 1 and 2		3	0.
4 Subtitle A (income) tax (domestic section 4947(a)(1) trusts and taxable foundations only. Others enter -0-)		4	0.
5 Tax based on investment income. Subtract line 4 from line 3. If zero or less, enter -0-		5	0.
6 Credits/Payments:			
a 2016 estimated tax payments and 2015 overpayment credited to 2016	6a		
b Exempt foreign organizations - tax withheld at source	6b		
c Tax paid with application for extension of time to file (Form 8868)	6c		
d Backup withholding erroneously withheld	6d		
7 Total credits and payments. Add lines 6a through 6d	7		0.
8 Enter any penalty for underpayment of estimated tax. Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if Form 2220 is attached	8		
9 Tax due If the total of lines 5 and 8 is more than line 7, enter amount owed	9		0.
10 Overpayment If line 7 is more than the total of lines 5 and 8, enter the amount overpaid	10		
11 Enter the amount of line 10 to be: Credited to 2017 estimated tax <input type="checkbox"/> Refunded <input type="checkbox"/>	11		

Part VII-A Statements Regarding Activities

	Yes	No
1a During the tax year, did the foundation attempt to influence any national, state, or local legislation or did it participate or intervene in any political campaign?		X
b Did it spend more than \$100 during the year (either directly or indirectly) for political purposes (see instructions for the definition)? <i>If the answer is "Yes" to 1a or 1b, attach a detailed description of the activities and copies of any materials published or distributed by the foundation in connection with the activities</i>		X
c Did the foundation file Form 1120-POL for this year?		X
d Enter the amount (if any) of tax on political expenditures (section 4955) imposed during the year: (1) On the foundation. <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 0. (2) On foundation managers. <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 0.		
e Enter the reimbursement (if any) paid by the foundation during the year for political expenditure tax imposed on foundation managers. <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 0.		
2 Has the foundation engaged in any activities that have not previously been reported to the IRS? <i>If "Yes," attach a detailed description of the activities.</i>	2	X
3 Has the foundation made any changes, not previously reported to the IRS, in its governing instrument, articles of incorporation, or bylaws, or other similar instruments? <i>If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the changes</i>	3	X
4a Did the foundation have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year?	4a	X
b If "Yes," has it filed a tax return on Form 990-T for this year?	4b	
5 Was there a liquidation, termination, dissolution, or substantial contraction during the year? <i>If "Yes," attach the statement required by General Instruction T.</i>	5	X
6 Are the requirements of section 508(e) (relating to sections 4941 through 4945) satisfied either: • By language in the governing instrument, or • By state legislation that effectively amends the governing instrument so that no mandatory directions that conflict with the state law remain in the governing instrument?	6	X
7 Did the foundation have at least \$5,000 in assets at any time during the year? <i>If "Yes," complete Part II, col (c), and Part XV</i>	7	X
8a Enter the states to which the foundation reports or with which it is registered (see instructions) <input type="checkbox"/> <u>AR</u>		
b If the answer is "Yes" to line 7, has the foundation furnished a copy of Form 990-PF to the Attorney General (or designate) of each state as required by General Instruction G? <i>If "No," attach explanation</i>	8b	X
9 Is the foundation claiming status as a private operating foundation within the meaning of section 4942(j)(3) or 4942(j)(5) for calendar year 2016 or the taxable year beginning in 2016 (see instructions for Part XIV)? <i>If "Yes," complete Part XIV</i>	9	X
10 Did any persons become substantial contributors during the tax year? <i>If "Yes," attach a schedule listing their names and addresses</i>	10	X

N/A

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Part VII-A Statements Regarding Activities (continued)

	Yes	No
11 At any time during the year, did the foundation, directly or indirectly, own a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," attach schedule (see instructions)		X
12 Did the foundation make a distribution to a donor advised fund over which the foundation or a disqualified person had advisory privileges? If "Yes," attach statement (see instructions)		X
13 Did the foundation comply with the public inspection requirements for its annual returns and exemption application? Website address ► <u>WWW.EDUCATEARKANSAS.COM</u>	X	
14 The books are in care of ► <u>KENDRA ANDREWS</u> Telephone no. ► <u>(479) 464-1500</u> Located at ► <u>PO BOX 1860, BENTONVILLE, AR</u> ZIP+4 ► <u>72712</u>		
15 Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-PF in lieu of Form 1041 - Check here and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year	15	N/A
16 At any time during calendar year 2016, did the foundation have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a bank, securities, or other financial account in a foreign country? See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for FinCEN Form 114. If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country ►	16	X

Part VII-B Statements Regarding Activities for Which Form 4720 May Be Required

File Form 4720 if any item is checked in the "Yes" column, unless an exception applies.

	Yes	No
1a During the year did the foundation (either directly or indirectly):		
(1) Engage in the sale or exchange, or leasing of property with a disqualified person? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
(2) Borrow money from, lend money to, or otherwise extend credit to (or accept it from) a disqualified person? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
(3) Furnish goods, services, or facilities to (or accept them from) a disqualified person? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
(4) Pay compensation to, or pay or reimburse the expenses of, a disqualified person? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
(5) Transfer any income or assets to a disqualified person (or make any of either available for the benefit or use of a disqualified person)? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
(6) Agree to pay money or property to a government official? (Exception Check "No" if the foundation agreed to make a grant to or to employ the official for a period after termination of government service, if terminating within 90 days.) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
b If any answer is "Yes" to 1a(1)-(6), did any of the acts fail to qualify under the exceptions described in Regulations section 53.4941(d)-3 or in a current notice regarding disaster assistance (see instructions)? Organizations relying on a current notice regarding disaster assistance check here	N/A	1b
c Did the foundation engage in a prior year in any of the acts described in 1a, other than excepted acts, that were not corrected before the first day of the tax year beginning in 2016?		X
2 Taxes on failure to distribute income (section 4942) (does not apply for years the foundation was a private operating foundation defined in section 4942(j)(3) or 4942(j)(5)):		
a At the end of tax year 2016, did the foundation have any undistributed income (lines 6d and 6e, Part XIII) for tax year(s) beginning before 2016? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If "Yes," list the years ►		
b Are there any years listed in 2a for which the foundation is not applying the provisions of section 4942(a)(2) (relating to incorrect valuation of assets) to the year's undistributed income? (If applying section 4942(a)(2) to all years listed, answer "No" and attach statement - see instructions.)	N/A	2b
c If the provisions of section 4942(a)(2) are being applied to any of the years listed in 2a, list the years here. ►		
3a Did the foundation hold more than a 2% direct or indirect interest in any business enterprise at any time during the year? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
b If "Yes," did it have excess business holdings in 2016 as a result of (1) any purchase by the foundation or disqualified persons after May 26, 1969; (2) the lapse of the 5-year period (or longer period approved by the Commissioner under section 4943(c)(7)) to dispose of holdings acquired by gift or bequest; or (3) the lapse of the 10-, 15-, or 20-year first phase holding period? (Use Schedule C, Form 4720, to determine if the foundation had excess business holdings in 2016)	N/A	3b
4a Did the foundation invest during the year any amount in a manner that would jeopardize its charitable purposes?		X
b Did the foundation make any investment in a prior year (but after December 31, 1969) that could jeopardize its charitable purpose that had not been removed from jeopardy before the first day of the tax year beginning in 2016?		X

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Part VIII Information About Officers, Directors, Trustees, Foundation Managers, Highly Paid Employees, and Contractors *(continued)*

3 Five highest-paid independent contractors for professional services. If none, enter "NONE."

(a) Name and address of each person paid more than \$50,000	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
TRACE STRATEGIES LLC 11104 WESTPOINT COURT, LITTLE ROCK, AR 72211	CONSULTING	205,756.

Total number of others receiving over \$50,000 for professional services ▶ 0

Part IX-A Summary of Direct Charitable Activities

List the foundation's four largest direct charitable activities during the tax year. Include relevant statistical information such as the number of organizations and other beneficiaries served, conferences convened, research papers produced, etc.	Expenses
1 ADVANCING SUBSTANTIVE REFORM TO IMPROVE THE EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES FOR ARKANSAS CHILDREN	551,261.
2	
3	
4	

Part IX-B Summary of Program-Related Investments

Describe the two largest program-related investments made by the foundation during the tax year on lines 1 and 2.	Amount
1 N/A	
2	
All other program-related investments. See instructions.	
3	

Total. Add lines 1 through 3 ▶ 0.

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Part X Minimum Investment Return (All domestic foundations must complete this part. Foreign foundations, see instructions.)

1	Fair market value of assets not used (or held for use) directly in carrying out charitable, etc., purposes:		
a	Average monthly fair market value of securities	1a	5,533.
b	Average of monthly cash balances	1b	369,967.
c	Fair market value of all other assets	1c	
d	Total (add lines 1a, b, and c)	1d	375,500.
e	Reduction claimed for blockage or other factors reported on lines 1a and 1c (attach detailed explanation)	1e	0.
2	Acquisition indebtedness applicable to line 1 assets	2	0.
3	Subtract line 2 from line 1d	3	375,500.
4	Cash deemed held for charitable activities. Enter 1 1/2% of line 3 (for greater amount, see instructions)	4	5,633.
5	Net value of noncharitable-use assets Subtract line 4 from line 3. Enter here and on Part V, line 4	5	369,867.
6	Minimum investment return. Enter 5% of line 5	6	18,493.

Part XI Distributable Amount (see instructions) (Section 4942(j)(3) and (j)(5) private operating foundations and certain foreign organizations check here and do not complete this part.)

1	Minimum investment return from Part X, line 6	1	
2a	Tax on investment income for 2016 from Part VI, line 5	2a	
b	Income tax for 2016. (This does not include the tax from Part VI.)	2b	
c	Add lines 2a and 2b	2c	
3	Distributable amount before adjustments. Subtract line 2c from line 1	3	
4	Recoveries of amounts treated as qualifying distributions	4	
5	Add lines 3 and 4	5	
6	Deduction from distributable amount (see instructions)	6	
7	Distributable amount as adjusted. Subtract line 6 from line 5. Enter here and on Part XIII, line 1	7	

Part XII Qualifying Distributions (see instructions)

1	Amounts paid (including administrative expenses) to accomplish charitable, etc., purposes:		
a	Expenses, contributions, gifts, etc. - total from Part I, column (d), line 26	1a	566,261.
b	Program-related investments - total from Part IX-B	1b	0.
2	Amounts paid to acquire assets used (or held for use) directly in carrying out charitable, etc., purposes	2	
3	Amounts set aside for specific charitable projects that satisfy the:		
a	Suitability test (prior IRS approval required)	3a	
b	Cash distribution test (attach the required schedule)	3b	
4	Qualifying distributions. Add lines 1a through 3b. Enter here and on Part V, line 8, and Part XIII, line 4	4	566,261.
5	Foundations that qualify under section 4940(e) for the reduced rate of tax on net investment income. Enter 1% of Part I, line 27b	5	0.
6	Adjusted qualifying distributions Subtract line 5 from line 4	6	566,261.

Note: The amount on line 6 will be used in Part V, column (b), in subsequent years when calculating whether the foundation qualifies for the section 4940(e) reduction of tax in those years.

Part XIII Undistributed Income (see instructions)

N/A

	(a) Corpus	(b) Years prior to 2015	(c) 2015	(d) 2016
1 Distributable amount for 2016 from Part XI, line 7				
2 Undistributed income, if any, as of the end of 2016				
a Enter amount for 2015 only				
b Total for prior years:				
3 Excess distributions carryover, if any, to 2016:				
a From 2011				
b From 2012				
c From 2013				
d From 2014				
e From 2015				
f Total of lines 3a through e				
4 Qualifying distributions for 2016 from Part XII, line 4: ► \$				
a Applied to 2015, but not more than line 2a				
b Applied to undistributed income of prior years (Election required - see instructions)				
c Treated as distributions out of corpus (Election required - see instructions)				
d Applied to 2016 distributable amount				
e Remaining amount distributed out of corpus				
5 Excess distributions carryover applied to 2016 (If an amount appears in column (d), the same amount must be shown in column (a).)				
6 Enter the net total of each column as indicated below:				
a Corpus Add lines 3f, 4c, and 4e Subtract line 5				
b Prior years' undistributed income. Subtract line 4b from line 2b				
c Enter the amount of prior years' undistributed income for which a notice of deficiency has been issued, or on which the section 4942(a) tax has been previously assessed				
d Subtract line 6c from line 6b. Taxable amount - see instructions				
e Undistributed income for 2015. Subtract line 4a from line 2a. Taxable amount - see instr.				
f Undistributed income for 2016. Subtract lines 4d and 5 from line 1. This amount must be distributed in 2017				
7 Amounts treated as distributions out of corpus to satisfy requirements imposed by section 170(b)(1)(F) or 4942(g)(3) (Election may be required - see instructions)				
8 Excess distributions carryover from 2011 not applied on line 5 or line 7				
9 Excess distributions carryover to 2017. Subtract lines 7 and 8 from line 6a				
10 Analysis of line 9:				
a Excess from 2012				
b Excess from 2013				
c Excess from 2014				
d Excess from 2015				
e Excess from 2016				

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Part XIV Private Operating Foundations (see instructions and Part VII-A, question 9)

1 a If the foundation has received a ruling or determination letter that it is a private operating foundation, and the ruling is effective for 2016, enter the date of the ruling ▶ 01/18/08
 b Check box to indicate whether the foundation is a private operating foundation described in section 4942(j)(3) or 4942(j)(5)

	Tax year				(e) Total
	(a) 2016	(b) 2015	(c) 2014	(d) 2013	
2 a Enter the lesser of the adjusted net income from Part I or the minimum investment return from Part X for each year listed	22.	15.	21,063.	0.	21,100.
b 85% of line 2a	19.	13.	17,904.	0.	17,935.
c Qualifying distributions from Part XII, line 4 for each year listed	566,261.	624,787.	540,777.	686,204.	2,418,029.
d Amounts included in line 2c not used directly for active conduct of exempt activities	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.
e Qualifying distributions made directly for active conduct of exempt activities. Subtract line 2d from line 2c	566,261.	624,787.	540,777.	686,204.	2,418,029.
3 Complete 3a, b, or c for the alternative test relied upon:					
a "Assets" alternative test - enter:					
(1) Value of all assets					0.
(2) Value of assets qualifying under section 4942(j)(3)(B)(i)					0.
b "Endowment" alternative test - enter 2/3 of minimum investment return shown in Part X, line 6 for each year listed	12,329.	18,865.	26,980.	34,078.	92,252.
c "Support" alternative test - enter:					
(1) Total support other than gross investment income (interest, dividends, rents, payments on securities loans (section 512(a)(5)), or royalties)					0.
(2) Support from general public and 5 or more exempt organizations as provided in section 4942(j)(3)(B)(iii)					0.
(3) Largest amount of support from an exempt organization					0.
(4) Gross investment income					0.

Part XV Supplementary Information (Complete this part only if the foundation had \$5,000 or more in assets at any time during the year-see instructions.)

1 **Information Regarding Foundation Managers:**
 a List any managers of the foundation who have contributed more than 2% of the total contributions received by the foundation before the close of any tax year (but only if they have contributed more than \$5,000). (See section 507(d)(2).)

SEE STATEMENT 8

b List any managers of the foundation who own 10% or more of the stock of a corporation (or an equally large portion of the ownership of a partnership or other entity) of which the foundation has a 10% or greater interest.

NONE

2 **Information Regarding Contribution, Grant, Gift, Loan, Scholarship, etc., Programs:**
 Check here if the foundation only makes contributions to preselected charitable organizations and does not accept unsolicited requests for funds. If the foundation makes gifts, grants, etc. (see instructions) to individuals or organizations under other conditions, complete items 2a, b, c, and d.

- a The name, address, and telephone number or e-mail address of the person to whom applications should be addressed:

- b The form in which applications should be submitted and information and materials they should include:

- c Any submission deadlines:

- d Any restrictions or limitations on awards, such as by geographical areas, charitable fields, kinds of institutions, or other factors:

ARKANSANS FOR EDUCATION

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Part XV Supplementary Information (continued)

3 Grants and Contributions Paid During the Year or Approved for Future Payment

Recipient Name and address (home or business)	If recipient is an individual, show any relationship to any foundation manager or substantial contributor	Foundation status of recipient	Purpose of grant or contribution * *	Amount
<p><i>a Paid during the year</i></p> <p>ARKANSAS LEARNS 400 WEST CAPITOL AVENUE LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201-3438</p>	N/A	NC	<p>TO ASSIST ARKANSAS LEARNS IN ACCOMPLISHING ITS MISSION OF PROVIDING EXCELLENT EDUCATION</p>	15,000.
Total			▶ 3a	15,000.
<p><i>b Approved for future payment</i></p> <p>NONE</p>				
Total			▶ 3b	0.

Schedule B

(Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service**Schedule of Contributors**

▶ Attach to Form 990, Form 990-EZ, or Form 990-PF.
▶ Information about Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF) and
its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

OMB No 1545-0047

2016

Name of the organization

ARKANSANS FOR EDUCATION
REFORM FOUNDATION

Employer identification number

20-1805180

Organization type (check one)

Filers of:

Section:

Form 990 or 990-EZ

 501(c)() (enter number) organization 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust **not** treated as a private foundation 527 political organization

Form 990-PF

 501(c)(3) exempt private foundation 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust treated as a private foundation 501(c)(3) taxable private foundationCheck if your organization is covered by the **General Rule** or a **Special Rule**.**Note:** Only a section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) organization can check boxes for both the General Rule and a Special Rule. See instructions.**General Rule**

- For an organization filing Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF that received, during the year, contributions totaling \$5,000 or more (in money or property) from any one contributor. Complete Parts I and II. See instructions for determining a contributor's total contributions.

Special Rules

- For an organization described in section 501(c)(3) filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that met the 33 1/3% support test of the regulations under sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi), that checked Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ), Part II, line 13, 16a, or 16b, and that received from any one contributor, during the year, total contributions of the greater of (1) \$5,000 or (2) 2% of the amount on (i) Form 990, Part VIII, line 1h, or (ii) Form 990-EZ, line 1. Complete Parts I and II.
- For an organization described in section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that received from any one contributor, during the year, total contributions of more than \$1,000 *exclusively* for religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes, or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals. Complete Parts I, II, and III.
- For an organization described in section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that received from any one contributor, during the year, contributions *exclusively* for religious, charitable, etc., purposes, but no such contributions totaled more than \$1,000. If this box is checked, enter here the total contributions that were received during the year for an *exclusively* religious, charitable, etc., purpose. Don't complete any of the parts unless the **General Rule** applies to this organization because it received *nonexclusively* religious, charitable, etc., contributions totaling \$5,000 or more during the year. ▶ \$ _____

Caution: An organization that isn't covered by the General Rule and/or the Special Rules doesn't file Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF), but it **must** answer "No" on Part IV, line 2, of its Form 990, or check the box on line H of its Form 990-EZ or on its Form 990-PF, Part I, line 2, to certify that it doesn't meet the filing requirements of Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF).

LHA For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF. Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF) (2016)

Name of organization

ARKANSANS FOR EDUCATION
REFORM FOUNDATION

Employer identification number

20-1805180

Part I Contributors (See instructions) Use duplicate copies of Part I if additional space is needed

(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
1	CLAIBORNE DEMING PO BOX 1009 EL DORADO, AR 71731	\$ 60,000.	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions)
2	THE WALTON FAMILY FOUNDATION PO BOX 2030 BENTONVILLE, AR 72712	\$ 325,769.	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions)
3	WILLIAM DILLARD, III 1600 CANTRELL ROAD LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201	\$ 10,000.	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions)
4	NATIONAL CHRISTIAN FOUNDATION 11625 RAINWATER DRIVE, SUITE 500 ALPHARETTA, GA 30009	\$ 15,000.	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions)
5	JIM C. WALTON PO BOX 1860 BENTONVILLE, AR 72712	\$ 17,667.	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions)
		\$	Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions)

Name of organization ARKANSANS FOR EDUCATION REFORM FOUNDATION	Employer identification number 20-1805180
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Part II Noncash Property (See instructions) Use duplicate copies of Part II if additional space is needed

(a) No. from Part I	(b) Description of noncash property given	(c) FMV (or estimate) (See instructions)	(d) Date received
	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	\$ _____	_____
	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	\$ _____	_____
	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	\$ _____	_____
	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	\$ _____	_____
	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	\$ _____	_____
	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	\$ _____	_____
	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	\$ _____	_____

Name of organization ARKANSANS FOR EDUCATION REFORM FOUNDATION	Employer identification number 20-1805180
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Part III Exclusively religious, charitable, etc., contributions to organizations described in section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) that total more than \$1,000 for the year from any one contributor. Complete columns (a) through (e) and the following line entry. For organizations completing Part III, enter the total of exclusively religious, charitable, etc., contributions of \$1,000 or less for the year (Enter this info once) ▶ \$ _____
Use duplicate copies of Part III if additional space is needed

(a) No. from Part I	(b) Purpose of gift	(c) Use of gift	(d) Description of how gift is held
(e) Transfer of gift			
Transferee's name, address, and ZIP + 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee	
(a) No. from Part I	(b) Purpose of gift	(c) Use of gift	(d) Description of how gift is held
(e) Transfer of gift			
Transferee's name, address, and ZIP + 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee	
(a) No. from Part I	(b) Purpose of gift	(c) Use of gift	(d) Description of how gift is held
(e) Transfer of gift			
Transferee's name, address, and ZIP + 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee	
(a) No. from Part I	(b) Purpose of gift	(c) Use of gift	(d) Description of how gift is held
(e) Transfer of gift			
Transferee's name, address, and ZIP + 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee	

FORM 990-PF	DIVIDENDS AND INTEREST FROM SECURITIES				STATEMENT	1
SOURCE	GROSS AMOUNT	CAPITAL GAINS DIVIDENDS	(A) REVENUE PER BOOKS	(B) NET INVEST-MENT INCOME	(C) ADJUSTED NET INCOME	
DILLARD'S INC.	22.	0.	22.	22.	22.	
TO PART I, LINE 4	22.	0.	22.	22.	22.	

FORM 990-PF	LEGAL FEES				STATEMENT	2
DESCRIPTION	(A) EXPENSES PER BOOKS	(B) NET INVEST-MENT INCOME	(C) ADJUSTED NET INCOME	(D) CHARITABLE PURPOSES		
LEGAL FEES	3,702.	0.	0.	3,702.		
TO FM 990-PF, PG 1, LN 16A	3,702.	0.	0.	3,702.		

FORM 990-PF	ACCOUNTING FEES				STATEMENT	3
DESCRIPTION	(A) EXPENSES PER BOOKS	(B) NET INVEST-MENT INCOME	(C) ADJUSTED NET INCOME	(D) CHARITABLE PURPOSES		
PROFESSIONAL FEES	20,711.	0.	0.	20,711.		
TO FORM 990-PF, PG 1, LN 16B	20,711.	0.	0.	20,711.		

FORM 990-PF	TAXES				STATEMENT	4
DESCRIPTION	(A) EXPENSES PER BOOKS	(B) NET INVEST-MENT INCOME	(C) ADJUSTED NET INCOME	(D) CHARITABLE PURPOSES		
PAYROLL TAXES	10,088.	0.	0.	10,088.		
TO FORM 990-PF, PG 1, LN 18	10,088.	0.	0.	10,088.		

FORM 990-PF	OTHER EXPENSES			STATEMENT	5
DESCRIPTION	(A) EXPENSES PER BOOKS	(B) NET INVEST- MENT INCOME	(C) ADJUSTED NET INCOME	(D) CHARITABLE PURPOSES	
AUTO EXPENSE	2,555.	0.	0.	2,555.	
OFFICE EXPENSE	738.	0.	0.	738.	
TELEPHONE	1,663.	0.	0.	1,663.	
INSURANCE	2,125.	0.	0.	2,125.	
DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS	636.	0.	0.	636.	
POSTAGE	186.	0.	0.	186.	
ARKANSAS PARENT NETWORK	16,875.	0.	0.	16,875.	
EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT CAMPAIGN	239,921.	0.	0.	239,921.	
MISCELLANEOUS	102.	0.	0.	102.	
RETIREMENT ADMINISTRATION FEE	1,000.	0.	0.	1,000.	
PRINT MATERIALS	15.	0.	0.	15.	
TOTAL TO FORM 990-PF, PG 1, LN 23	265,816.	0.	0.	265,816.	

FORM 990-PF	CORPORATE STOCK		STATEMENT	6
DESCRIPTION	BOOK VALUE	FAIR MARKET VALUE		
80 SHARES OF DILLIARD'S STOCK	5,015.	5,015.		
TOTAL TO FORM 990-PF, PART II, LINE 10B	5,015.	5,015.		

ARKANSANS FOR EDUCATION
REFORM FOUNDATION

20-1805180

Form 990-PF, Part VII-B, Line 5c - Expenditure Responsibility Statement

Recipient's Name and Address	NO. 1	Grant Amount	Date of Grant	Amount Expended	Verification Date
ARKANSAS LEARNS 400 WEST CAPITOL AVENUE, SUITE 1756 LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201		15,000.	07/28/16	15,000.	11/07/17
Purpose of Grant TO MOBILIZE A NONPARTISAN, PRIVATE SECTOR ALLIANCE OF EMPLOYERS, PARENTS AND CITIZENS DEDICATED TO EXCELLENT EDUCATION FOR ALL STUDENTS TO ENSURE THE TALENT AND WORKFORCE NECESSARY FOR ARKANSAS TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPETE IN A GLOBAL ECONOMY.					
Date of Reports by Grantee		Diversions by Grantee			
NOVEMBER 7, 2017		TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE FOUNDATION THERE HAS BEEN NO DIVERSION.			
Results of Verification THE GRANTEE HAS PROVIDED THE FOUNDATION A LETTER STATING THAT IT HAS COMPLIED WITH THE TERMS OF THE FOUNDATION'S GRANT THROUGH THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016. IN ADDITION, THE GRANTEE HAS PROVIDED THE FOUNDATION WITH A COPY OF ITS FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016. THE FOUNDATION HAS NO REASON TO DOUBT THE ACCURACY OR RELIABILITY OF THE ABOVE REPORT; THEREFORE, FURTHER VERIFICATION BY THE FOUNDATION WAS DEEMED UNNECESSARY.					