



A FREE GUIDE FOR ARKANSAS TEACHERS

The Teacher's Guide to Students, AI and Academic Integrity

Four levels of AI use any Arkansas teacher can set for an assignment, with wording to copy, a student statement and a calm way to handle concerns, inside your board's policy for student use.

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THE WHOLE THING IN ONE SENTENCE

Put an AI level from zero to three at the top of every assignment, teach students to show their AI use, and start every concern with a conversation.

SECTION ONE

Why clear rules help students.

Students want to do the right thing, and most problems with AI begin when the rule for an assignment is unclear. When every assignment says plainly how AI may be used, students can focus on learning, and you can focus on teaching.

What clear rules give your classroom

- Students know what is expected before they start.
- Honest students are protected, because the line is the same for everyone.
- Conversations about misuse start from a written rule rather than a guess.
- Students learn when AI helps their thinking and when it gets in the way.

SCHOOL IS FOR LEARNING TO THINK

The goal of every rule in this guide is the same: students do the thinking, and AI supports that thinking only when the assignment allows it.

WHO THIS GUIDE IS FOR

It is written for Arkansas teachers, inside the AI policy your board has adopted for student use.

SECTION TWO

Four levels of AI use.

Choose one level for each assignment and write it at the top. The level tells students what is allowed.

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No AI

Students complete the work on their own, without any AI tool.

Example: An in-class essay that shows what each student can write on their own.

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AI for ideas only

Students may use an approved tool to brainstorm or ask questions, and all of the work they turn in is their own.

Example: A research project where students explore topics with AI and then write their own report.

2

AI with disclosure

Students may use an approved tool for parts of the work and must show what they used and how.

Example: A science lab report where students may use AI to check their grammar and list that use at the end.

3

AI as part of the lesson

Using an approved tool is part of the assignment, and students are graded on how well they use it and check its work.

Example: Students ask AI to explain a historical event, then find and correct its mistakes with primary sources.

Students use only tools the district has approved for student use. Students under thirteen use only tools approved for their age.

SECTION THREE

Writing the rule on the assignment.

A short, consistent rule at the top of every assignment removes the guesswork. Use the same wording all year so students learn it quickly.

A RULE YOU CAN COPY

AI level for this assignment: ____

On this assignment, you may _____.

You may not _____.

If you use AI, show it by _____.

Tips that save time

- Agree on the levels with your department or grade-level team, so students hear one message.
- Post the four levels in your classroom and in your online class page.
- Say the level out loud when you hand out the assignment.
- When in doubt, choose a lower level and raise it once students show they are ready.

SECTION FOUR

How students show their AI use.

When AI is allowed, a short statement at the end of the work shows what the student used and how. It teaches honesty, and it shows you how the student is thinking.

A STUDENT STATEMENT STUDENTS CAN COPY

I used _____ (the tool) to _____ (what it helped with).

I checked its work by _____.

The parts that are my own thinking are _____.

What to look for

- The statement matches the level you set.
- The student explains how they checked the tool's work.
- The student can explain their work in their own words when you ask.

SECTION FIVE

When you have a concern.

When work does not look like the student's own, start with a conversation, not a conclusion.

1. **Talk with the student.** Ask them to walk you through how they did the work and to explain a part of it in their own words.
2. **Look at the rule.** Check whether the AI level for the assignment was clear and written down.
3. **Use more than one piece of evidence.** AI detection tools can produce wrong results, so a detection score never decides alone.
4. **Follow your district's process.** Academic integrity and discipline decisions follow your board's policies, and a person makes every decision.
5. **Turn it into teaching.** Many students misuse AI because they do not yet know how to use it well. Show them the right way.

PROTECT STUDENT PRIVACY

Never paste a student's work with their name or other personal details into a tool the district has not approved, including to check for AI use.

SECTION SIX

A teacher's checklist.

STATEMENT	YES	NOT YET
Every assignment shows its AI level at the top.	☐	☐
My levels match the ones my department or grade-level team agreed on.	☐	☐
The four levels are posted in my classroom and on my class page.	☐	☐
Students know how to write their AI statement.	☐	☐
Students use only tools approved for their age.	☐	☐
I start with a conversation when I have a concern.	☐	☐
I decide every grade myself.	☐	☐

When you want help.

Every district program includes a hands-on session in each building where licensed staff practice with approved tools and work through rules for student use, plus classroom modules on students and academic integrity.

Growth Right Solutions trains the teachers, administrators and support staff of Arkansas school districts to use AI safely and well, with every session built around your board's policy, Arkansas law and federal student privacy rules. Ed Becker leads the sessions himself, with our team behind him.

START WITH A CONVERSATION ABOUT YOUR GOALS

It is free, there is no sales and no obligation, and your goals decide what every session covers.

GrowthRight.Solutions/arkansas-schools

More free resources for Arkansas school districts

The Arkansas School District AI Readiness Checklist, The School AI Tool Review Worksheet, Using AI at School, A Staff Quick Reference, and the leadership guides for superintendents, principals and department chairs are all free at GrowthRight.Solutions/resources.

Sources

Arkansas Act 848 of 2025, on the use of artificial intelligence by public entities. Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. § 1232g. Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), 15 U.S.C. §§ 6501 to 6506. Arkansas Student Online Personal Information Protection Act. Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Executive Order 14277, Advancing Artificial Intelligence Education for American Youth, April 23, 2025. U.S. Department of Education Dear Colleague Letter on the use of AI in schools, July 22, 2025. Arkansas Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, professional development requirements for licensed staff.

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About the author

Ed Becker is the founder of Growth Right Solutions, LLC. He spent more than twenty years in education, including as a school principal, before leading technology programs and running a managed services company, and he now leads AI adoption for owner-led companies and Arkansas school districts.

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