



# ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

*Johnny Key, Commissioner*

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## **Sarkar Named Chief Information Officer**

**LITTLE ROCK** — Arijit Sarkar, the Arkansas Department of Education’s director of information systems, was recently named chief information officer as well.

Sarkar, who has been serving as the director of information systems since 2012, assumed his additional role in November 2015. As part of the agency’s Research and Technology division, Sarkar currently leads a team of network and system administrators, programmers, developers, and business analysts and manages the operations, development, and maintenance of ADE’s education information systems. These systems include the Statewide Information System and System of Accountability, including the Assessment Correction System, School Performance Report Card and the Accountability Reports Center.

With his additional role, Sarkar will manage the agency’s information assurance program, develop policy for the protection and control of information, sustain business continuity for the agency’s information technology operations and lead the agency’s IT planning process. He also will work with the assistant commissioner of Research and Technology on IT procurement and statements of work, memorandums of understanding and budgets.

“Mr. Sarkar is a valuable asset to the department, state and schools across the state,” Dr. Eric Saunders, assistant commissioner for Research and Technology, said. “Arijit has all the skills and applies them to make the department more efficient and serve the schools.”

Sarkar has worked for ADE since 2008 and was an information systems business analyst from 2008 to 2010 and an information systems coordinator from 2010 to 2012. Prior to joining the department, Sarkar was a graduate research assistant at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock from 2006 to 2008 and an assistant manager for Everest Industries Ltd., an ACC Group Company in Calcutta, India, from 2003 to 2006.

He has received numerous Microsoft and IBM certifications, including certifications in database management systems, information quality tools, development platforms, server applications and software. Sarkar received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering from the University of Pune in India

and a Master of Science in Information Quality from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

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