

Arkansas Better Chance (ABC)

Provider Call



Arkansas Better Chance (ABC) Agenda



- Welcome Back!
- Danita Pitts – Administrator for Early Childhood Special Education Birth – 5
- Required Information in COPA
- Modified Schedules/Dismissal for ABC Children
- Important Deadlines
- Professional Development Resources



Office of Early Childhood (OEC) Staff

Brandy Ishmon

Assistant Director

Email: Brandy.Ishmon@ade.arkansas.gov

Phone: 501-320-8930

Kayla Bodi

ABC Program Administrator

Email: Kayla.Bodi@ade.arkansas.gov

Phone: 501-644-4835

Bridgetti Mitchell

ABC Program Coordinator

Email: Bridgetti.Mitchell@ade.arkansas.gov

Phone: 501-396-6119

Miracle Lee

ABC Program Eligibility Specialist

Email: Miracle.Lee@ade.arkansas.gov

Phone: 501-371-1347

Letitia Connors

ABC Program Eligibility Specialist

Email: Letitia.Connors@ade.arkansas.gov

Phone: 501-910-6439

Michele Davis

ABC Program Coordinator

Email: Michele.davis@ade.arkansas.gov

Phone: 501-350-3880

Nancy Pearlstein

ABC Fiscal Support Analyst

Email: nancy.pearlstein@ade.arkansas.gov

Phone: 501-537-6767

Required Information – COPA Data System



All enrollment information should be completed in COPA at this time. Programs are required to enter child health data, developmental screenings, and staff information.

STAFF INFORMATION

- o Staff information shall be entered/uploaded into the data management system within 45 calendar days of the beginning of the program year.

DEVELOPMENTAL & HEALTH SCREENINGS

- o Completed screenings within 45 calendar days of first day of attendance.
- o Screenings shall be entered in the data management system within 60 calendar days of first day of attendance.

ABC Staff will begin audits in the coming weeks. If you have any questions or need assistance with entering COPA data, please submit a ticket to COPAsupport@mailaccount@ade.arkansas.gov. You can find the list of reporting deadlines under Appendix E of the ABC guide found [here](#).



ABC programs shall consult with OEC before dismissing a child from the program due to behavior or placing a child on a modified schedule.

Reminders!



- Billing must be completed by the 5th, each month.
- Work Sampling Finalization is due October 24, 2025.

**Staff Qualification Plans (SQP)
are due within 15 calendar days
of the date of hire.**



Communication

- The Office of Early Childhood offers a monthly provider call on the first Tuesday of every month. These calls are for all licensed programs throughout the state and hold important information from updates to Nutrition, CCDF School Readiness Assistance, Licensing, Better Beginnings, and upcoming events.
- Upcoming calls, and recorded past meetings can be found on our website here: [Division of Elementary and Secondary Education - Offices - Early Childhood - Informational Provider Calls](#)

Stay up to date with the Office of Early Childhood and subscribe to [The Buzz Newsletter](#) from Better Beginnings!



Stay up to date on upcoming training opportunities with A-State Childhood Services by subscribing to their [newsletter!](#)



Childhood Services



ABC Provider Call

The ABC provider call will meet the third Tuesday of every month.

The link for the monthly call will be sent via email, and posted to our website. You will also see reminders via the COPA data system.

Next Call November 18, 2025! 12:00 – 1:00

Please continue to use the survey link to add your input on topics of discussion going forward.

Contact Us! copasupport.mailaccount@ade.arkansas.gov

Topic Survey

Arkansas Better Chance (ABC)
Topics

