

Arkansas Better Chance (ABC)

Provider Call



Arkansas Better Chance (ABC) Agenda



- Financial Guidelines
- Enrollment
- Billing/CCDF
- Professional Development Resources
- BehaviorHelp
- Questions



Office of Early Childhood (OEC) Staff

Brandy Ishmon

Early Childhood Program Administrator

Email: Brandy.Ishmon@ade.arkansas.gov

Phone: 501-320-8930

Kayla Bodi

Early Childhood Program Supervisor/Expert

Email: Kayla.Bodi@ade.arkansas.gov

Phone: 501-644-4835

Bridgetti Mitchell

Early Childhood Program Coordinator

Email: Bridgetti.Mitchell@ade.arkansas.gov

Phone: 501-396-6119

Miracle Lee

Early Childhood Program Specialist

Email: Miracle.Lee@ade.arkansas.gov

Phone: 501-371-1347

Letitia Connors

Early Childhood Program Specialist

Email: Letitia.Connors@ade.arkansas.gov

Phone: 501-910-6439

Michele Davis

Early Childhood 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

Financial Guidelines



The ABC Financial Guide can be found on our [website](#).

- **As a reminder, Mid-Year expenditure reports will be due January 31.**
- Mid-Year expenditure reports should include all ABC and Match expenses from July 1- December 31. An acceptable expenditure range is 40% - 50% of the approved ABC and Match budget.
- ABC programs are NOT permitted to carry over funds. For programs that are required to submit to eFinance, your end balance should be zero. Any programs with an ending balance will be required to pay that money back to OEC. Each state fiscal year, the Agency will obligate all ABC funds by June 30 and liquidate by July 31.
- Non-LEA agencies must complete a final disclosure audit if you are awarded more than \$750,000 in grants.
- Non-LEA agencies that are awarded less than \$750,000 will be required to submit financial reports annually upon request.



Enrollment

Enrollment



- If your program is not at full, 100% enrollment you may receive a letter or notice of action this month. Please ensure all children and families are enrolled in COPA immediately.
- If you have any questions about enrollment, or you need assistance please put in a ticket at copasupport@mailaccount@ade.arkansas.gov.

ABC and CCDF Billing



Programs receiving both ABC and CCDF (School Readiness Assistance) funding should ensure that billing is conducted on a one-time basis per child. Specifically, children receiving ABC funds should not be billed as full-time through the SRA portal. The only exception to this policy is when providing part-time SRA services for wrap-around care.

If you have any questions, please reach out to our team for assistance.

BehaviorHelp Requests

Office of Early Childhood (OEC) has a system called BehaviorHelp to assist programs with behavioral challenges in young children. To submit a request for support, visit. <https://www.behaviorhelponline.org>. Please complete one request per child. Once the request is submitted, the OEC BehaviorHelp team will contact you as quickly as possible. If you have not been contacted within three business days, please email behaviorhelp@ade.arkansas.gov.



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



Questions?



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 December 16, 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](mailto:copasupport.mailaccount@ade.arkansas.gov)

Topic Survey

Arkansas Better Chance (ABC)
Topics

