

# Arkansas Better Chance (ABC)

2025-2026 Provider Call



# Arkansas Better Chance (ABC) Agenda



- Introductions – Office of Early Childhood (OEC) Staff
- Upcoming Work Sampling and Ounce Training
- Local Leads – Coordinated Funding Request and Grant Application Renewal
- Parent Portal (COPA)
- Dual Enrollment – Home Visits
- FAQs

# Introductions – Office of Early Childhood (OEC) Staff



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# Upcoming Work Sampling/Ounce Training



- If you have not received the current training dates, please reach out to your Work Sampling/Ounce coach.
- Also, please remember that Work Sampling finalization is this Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup>.



## Work Sampling and Ounce Training Opportunities

2025

**FEB 25** Ounce Scale Introduction (Online Go To Webinar)  
8:20 a.m. - 3:30p.m. each day

Register Now:



**MAR 4** Work Sampling System Refresher  
12:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Register Now:



**MAR 6-7** Work Sampling System Introduction  
8:20 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. each day

Register Now:



**MAR 11** Work Sampling System Administrative Overview  
(Online Zoom)  
10 a.m.

Register Now:



**MAR 11** Ounce Scale Refresher (Online Go To Webinar)  
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.

Register Now:





# Coordinated Funding by Local Leads

- **Extension of Current ABC Application:** The 2025-2026 funding request process will be an extension of the existing ABC application and agreement, with additional components to cover the other funding streams (Federal Pre-K, Infant & Toddler Slots, Early Head Start Partnerships, and Home Visiting).
- **Local Lead Organizations (LLOs):** LLOs will be directly involved in gathering and submitting the necessary data and documentation to formally request their child care slots for the upcoming year. They will be reaching out to their respective partners to gather this information, ensuring that all requests are accurate and reflective of community needs.
- If you have **NOT** been contacted by your local lead to submit funding request, please reach out to Jennifer Douglas.
- This is where you will want to submit requested slots for 2025 – 2026, including any request that you currently do not serve. For example, request for infant/toddler or more information on School Readiness Assistance funding.

Please feel free to contact Jennifer Douglas at [Jennifer.Douglas@ade.arkansas.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Douglas@ade.arkansas.gov) (501-698-4336) for any questions or further clarification about this new process. You may also reach out to your local lead. Local lead information may be found at [ADE: DESE Local Leads](#).



# COPA Parent Portal

- Welcome to Public Recruitment
- The COPA Parent Portal can be used to recruit new families through an online application process.
- The system will allow families to apply online to your programs, upload documentation, input income, and other eligibility information.
- Once the application is submitted, programs may view submitted applications under the “Enrollment” tab.

A screenshot of the COPA Parent Portal login page. The page has a white background with a blue header bar. On the left, there is a logo for the Division of Elementary & Secondary Education, which is a circular emblem with a red apple in the center, surrounded by a blue border with yellow stars. To the right of the logo, the text "DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY EDUCATION" is displayed. The main content area is a light blue box with a white border. It contains the following text: "Welcome to the online application for the Arkansas Better Chance (ABC) Program!" followed by "Please create an account, or login to update your application information. All documentation must be uploaded at the time of submission for your application to be processed." Below this text are two input fields: "Username" and "Password". Below the input fields is a blue button labeled "Login". Below the "Login" button are two smaller blue buttons: "Forgot Password" and "Forgot Username". Below these buttons is the text "OR". Below "OR" is the text "If you do not have an account yet you can create one here." Below this text is a blue button labeled "Register". At the bottom of the box, there is a paragraph of text: "If you have any questions regarding the application process, please reach out to your local community lead agency. You can locate those on our website, [Division of Elementary and Secondary Education - Offices - Early Childhood - Local Leads.](#)"

# COPA Parent Portal



- The Family Recruitment List allows programs to view uploaded documents, review applications, and place applications on their waitlist for the next school year.
- Using the Parent Portal will speed up the enrollment process by reducing the amount of data you enter each year after rollover.
- There is a Parent Portal guide for families on the COPA website under Tutorials, and a video for programs.

The screenshot displays the COPA Parent Portal interface. At the top, the COPA logo is on the left, and navigation links for Calendar, Notifications, myDashboard, Support, Tutorials, Admin, and Sign Out are on the right. Below these are links for Assessment, Grant Application, eDocs, Sign-in, Family, Child, Enrollment, Agency, and Reports. A secondary navigation bar includes links for Enrollment Page, Recruitment, Elig. Application, Eligibility Waiting List, Eligible/Accepted List, Inelig./Terminated List, Pre-enrolled List, and Assign Advocate. The main section is titled "Filtering" and contains various search criteria: Enrolling Agency (All Agencies), Enrolling Site (All Sites), Application Date (From/To), Service Category (Please Select), Applicant For (Next Year), and checkboxes for Display Duplicate Flag and Display All Families. It also includes input fields for Family Last Name, Family First Name, and Family ID, along with a Child Lookup link. A "Max Results/Page" dropdown is set to 50. Action buttons for Filter, View All, Convert Recruitment Forms to Regular Application, and Delete are present. A note states: "Note: Application Dates displayed in RED font are more than 90 days old. Children who are not applicants for the selected school year, are not clickable." Below this is a table titled "Family Recruitment List (1 records)" with the subtitle "Applicants for Next Year". The table has columns for More, Family Name, Family / Applicant ID, Application Date, Child Name, Child ID, Child Desired Agency, Child Desired Site, Elig. Points, and More. One record is shown for "Great, Alexander" with ID 9000146, application date 01-28-2025, child name Greater, Alexandria, child ID 9000113, agency 1ABC Test Preschool, and site 1ABC Test Center. The eligibility points are 0.


	More	Family Name	Family / Applicant ID	Application Date	Child Name	Child ID	Child Desired Agency	Child Desired Site	Elig. Points	More
<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">Great, Alexander</a>	9000146	01-28-2025	Greater, Alexandria	9000113	1ABC Test Preschool	1ABC Test Center	0	






# COPA Parent Portal



- Programs can view the uploaded documents, income, missing information, and make notes.
- Once programs are ready to convert to a regular application, this child will appear on the waitlist.
- Video and Guides are available on the COPA website under “Tutorials”

Note: Application Dates displayed in RED font are more than 90 days old

Family Recruitment Application					
<input type="checkbox"/>	More	Family Name	Family / Applicant ID	Application Date	Child Name
<input type="checkbox"/>				01-28-2025	Greater, Alexandria

 Notes  Missing Info  Income  Documents  Assessment





## Upcoming Training:

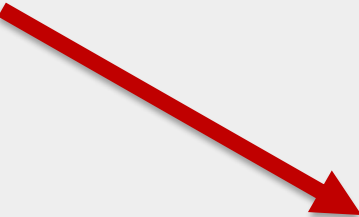
**February 20th 10:00 – 11:00**

**If you have not received emails from me of upcoming meetings, please email me so that I can add you to our distribution list.**

# Dual Enrollment – Home Visits



- We have put a ticket with KinderSystems (COPA) to review this. However, please be sure that center-based your children are showing in your billing account.
- When the center-based Educator inputs a home visit, be sure the provider type is **Inter-Agency** and the **Home Visiting agency** is selected.



**Child Visit Report (Edit)**

Upload Child Name: [Redacted] Child ID: [Redacted] DOB: [Redacted] Age: [Redacted]

**Visit Information**

Visit Date	01-27-2025	Visit Time Start	[Redacted]	Visit Location	Phone Contact
Visit Duration	Calculated upon submission	Packets	Please Select Packets	Provider Type	Inter-Agency
Required Visit	Please Select	Boston Mountain Education Cooper:	BMEC - WestFork HIPPY	Visit Types	Home visit

**Visit Types & Performance Standards**

Visit Activities Please Select

**Visit Purpose**

- 2025-2026 Grant Application?
  - We will send out guidance once the coordinated funding request have been received. We will send out an email and instructions for the grant renewal process.
- How will programs be funded if they go less than 178 days?
  - When your calendar and grant renewal is submitted, you should put the number of days you plan to attend. Your rate will be prorated based on those days.
  - For example, \$28.67 per day X 160 days, equals \$4,587. You would receive that prorated amount per child.
- Finance and Coordinator Training?
  - We plan to hold training this summer to review all portions of ABC, including the finance guidelines.

## Topic Survey

Arkansas Better Chance (ABC)  
Topics





Questions?