

Arkansas Better Chance (ABC)

Provider Call





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Arkansas Better Chance (ABC) Agenda

- ABCSS Changes – Act 504 – Eligibility
- Act 504 – Home Visiting ABC Programs
- Grant Renewal (COPA) Due Now
- Ounce Training – Infant/Toddler – Early 3 Year Olds
- Pre-Rollover Due – 19th (Yesterday)
- ABC Summer
- ABC Program Training – June 9 & 10
- Questions & Answers



ABCSS Changes – Act 504

House Bill 1733 has been signed into law, creating **Act 504**.

What does this mean?

Programs that receive ABCSS funding, will now follow the same eligibility criteria as original ABC funding.

- **You may serve children Birth – 5.**
- **You may use the eligibility criteria found under Section 6 in the ABC Program Guide.**

Eligible children for the ABC program shall have at least one of the following qualifications:

- Family with gross income not exceeding two hundred percent (200%) of FPL;
- Parents without a high school diploma or GED;
- Low birth weight (below 5 pounds, 9 ounces);
- Parent is under eighteen (18) years of age at child's birth;
- Immediate family member has a history of substance abuse and or addiction;
- Has a demonstrable developmental delay as identified through screening;
- Eligible for services under IDEA;
- Income eligible for Title I programs;
- Limited English Proficiency; or
- Parent has history of abuse of neglect or is a victim of abuse or neglect.

Additional Qualifiers



Income exceptions may still be used.

- Foster child (at the time of enrollment)
- Child has an incarcerated parent (during the child's lifetime)
- Child is in the custody of or living with someone other than father or mother (at the time of enrollment)
- Child has an immediate family member arrested for or convicted of drug-related offenses (within the lifetime of the child)
- Child has a parent deployed away from their home base for a minimum of 30 days duration (at the time of enrollment)

Act 504 – Home Visiting ABC Programs



- There is no additional change in Home Visiting programs (HIPPIY or PAT) eligibility requirements in relation to Act 504.
- Home visiting programs that wish to utilize Parents as Teachers (PAT), may do so. Please reach out to the Arkansas Home Visiting Network team if you are interested in utilizing PAT.



Grant Renewal (COPA)

You will receive the following: After the call today, we will be sending you an email with instructions on updating the COPA grant application. **The COPA grant application will be due May 16, 2025.**

- ✓ **Instructions on completing the application update.** *Please pay close attention as several steps have changed from previous years.*
- ✓ **Notice of Award**
- ✓ **Grant Agreement**
- ✓ **Finance Budget Templates**

Please be sure to change it from Pending to Submitted on your Grant Renewal Application.

Work Sampling / Ounce



If you plan to enroll Infants and Toddlers, or “young” three-year-olds, you will need Ounce training.

Please contact Angela Franks with Arkansas State University, Childhood Services.

(870) 972-3055

afranks@astate.edu

Pre-Rollover in COPA



As a reminder, you may begin your pre-rollover in COPA at any point in time! This will save you time so that you are not rushed to complete the task in COPA.

- To perform pre-rollover, you will need ***Admin*** access.
- The OEC team will send out additional pre-rollover instructions by email. Please email us if you do not currently have Admin access.
- copasupport.mailaccount@ade.arkansas.gov

School Year End & Rollover

Pre-Rollover Activity

1. Child Next Year Preparation

a. Assign Enrolled Children to Eligible, Waitlist or Archive list, after rollover

b. Review Returning Children List (Back to Eligible List after rollover)

c. Review Recertify Children List (Back to Waiting List after rollover)

d. Review Scheduled For Archive List

e. Optional: Pre-Enroll Children Coming Back (Class Assignment for Next Year)

2. Family Next Year Preparation

a. Review List of All Active Families

b. Review List of Returning or To Be Archived Families



Summer ABC Change Process

All changes should be accompanied by an updated roster.




When adding/dropping children from the program, the following must be submitted:

- ❖ A Change Report Form adding or dropping a child
 - ❖ The current child's drop date shall not overlap the new child's start date.
 - ❖ When adding a child all supporting documentation must be uploaded into COPA
- ❖ **All changes must be reported within ten (10) calendar days of the change.**
- ❖ All change forms must be submitted to OEC.SummerPreKProgram@ade.arkansas.gov for processing.

ABC Program Training

You can now register on PDR for the ABC program training this summer! This training is for new coordinator, seasoned staff, teachers, administrators, and finance teams!

Both training days will be recorded!






Arkansas Better Chance (ABC)

2025–2026 Program Training

JUNE 9 - 10

REGISTER ON PDR COURSE #76382





Questions?