



Arkansas Department of Education

Division of Elementary and Secondary Education

Jacob Oliva, Secretary

November 18, 2024

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ADE Launches New School Readiness Assistance System

LITTLE ROCK — The Arkansas Department of Education’s Office of Early Childhood is excited to launch the new School Readiness Assistance system. This updated system replaces the KidCare system, which helped eligible families access federal child care assistance for more than 17 years.

This innovative SRA system replaces outdated technology with a more user-friendly option for families to apply and receive support. This change also aligns with the state’s commitment through Arkansas LEARNS to modernize and strengthen early childhood education and support systems, ensuring quality child care is more accessible and affordable to families across Arkansas.

“The new School Readiness Assistance system is a crucial step forward to ensuring families in Arkansas have streamlined access to the early child care supports they need,” ADE Secretary Jacob Oliva said. “We are dedicated to ensuring high-quality early learning programs are available, and we are thrilled that this easier-to-use system assists parents with accessing those services.”

The new SRA system includes a web-based portal for citizens, providers, and OEC staff. This web-based portal will assist families with applying online for school readiness assistance. Families who meet eligibility guidelines for early childhood assistance can easily create profiles and submit applications through this streamlined platform.

The provider and OEC staff portal, which will be available in early December, will allow Child Care Development Fund program participants to manage billing for services provided to eligible families and create a communication pathway for providers, OEC staff, and families.

Please use the following link to learn more: <https://sra.ade.arkansas.gov/>.

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