



## Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education

P.O. Box 1437, Slot S140 · Little Rock, AR 72203-1437  
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June 23, 2016

Dear Arkansas Child Care Provider:

The Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education (DCCECE) would like to take a moment to thank each of you for the countless hours of service you have provided to the children and families in Arkansas. Your commitment is both appreciated and valued.

In 2014, as part of President Obama's Early Learning Initiative, \$500 million was set aside for the new Early Head Start-Child Care (EHS-CC) Partnerships. These grants allowed new or existing Early Head Start programs to partner with local Child Care centers and Family Child Care providers serving infants and toddlers from low-income families. Three Grantees were awarded in Arkansas.

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) has recently (May 2016) released a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) for Early Head Start Expansion and Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership Grants. In the announcement, ACF has named June 30, 2016 as the estimated release date for the grant application. The Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education (DCCECE) is tentatively planning to write for this funding to support goals of the Arkansas Early Childhood Commission.

Even though the state is applying for the Early Head Start Expansion and Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership Grants, this **does not** limit any other early childhood programs from applying.

We will keep you updated as information becomes available at: <http://hs.arkansas.gov/dccece>.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at [Brandy.Ishmon@dhs.arkansas.gov](mailto:Brandy.Ishmon@dhs.arkansas.gov) or (501)-320-8930.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brandy Ishmon".

Brandy Ishmon  
Infant Toddler Coordinator