



Division of Child Care  
and Early Childhood Education  
Office of the Director



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MEMORANDUM

**Date:** July 22, 2008  
**To:** All Classroom-based/Family Home ABC Programs  
**From:** Paul Lazenby, Assistant Director, DCC-ECE *plazenby*  
**Subject:** 2008-2009 Environmental Rating Scale—  
Procedures and Training

This **UPDATED** memo describes procedures which will be used for program reviews in 2008-2009 utilizing the Environmental Rating Scale (ERS), as well as provides available dates for mandatory training on ERS.

PROCEDURES FOR PROGRAM REVIEWS

Please review these procedures carefully as there are significant changes from the previous program year.

1. ABC classrooms will be required to achieve a minimum overall score of 5.0 or above to meet ABC requirements. Non-ABC classrooms wanting to meet Quality Approval Accreditation must score a minimum of 4.5 overall.
2. In order to ensure quality at each site, classroom and/or staff changes will not eliminate the second and third review requirement. Moving teachers from a site will not return the site to first review status.
3. Unless a specific classroom requires a follow-up review, classrooms to be reviewed shall be selected randomly by the consultant or review team upon arrival at a site.
4. Program review days shall be unannounced. Each site shall be given a **3-month** (90 day) window of time during which the review might occur.
5. When contacted by a consultant, a site director will be asked to confirm by e-mail any days that children will not be in attendance or other days that are not a "regular" day (for example, field trips or other activities that would prevent observation of the typical operation of the classroom). With the exception of holiday breaks, programs may exempt a maximum of 5 days per month from reviews.

6. Due to time constraints and cost, directors and coordinators may not request an additional review for any classroom that has met the minimum required score.
7. Programs not meeting the required minimum score will be given technical assistance before the next review. A TA form must be submitted by the program.
8. A minimum of ninety (90) days must pass between reviews of the same classroom.

<b>TRAININGS</b>
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### 1. Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scale (ECERS-R) – New Staff

This required full-day is reserved for teachers and paraprofessionals who are new to ABC or quality pre-K.

<b>City</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>
Little Rock	July 25	8:30 am – 3:30 pm
Little Rock	August 27	8:30 am – 3:30 pm

### 2. Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scale (ECERS-R) – Refresher Course

This half-day course is for teachers and paraprofessionals who have previously worked in a quality pre-K classroom. Participants should already have a basic understanding of ECERS.

<b>City</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>
Little Rock	July 28	9:00 am -12:00 pm
Little Rock	July 28	1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Little Rock	July 29	9:00 am -12:00 pm
Little Rock	July 30	9:00 am -12:00 pm
Little Rock	July 30	1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Little Rock	July 31	9:00 am -12:00 pm
Fort Smith	August 6	9:00 am -12:00 pm
Fort Smith	August 6	1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Harrison	August 12	1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Batesville	August 13	9:00 am -12:00 pm
Conway	August 14	1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Monticello	August 14	9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Rogers	August 14	12:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Springdale	August 15	8:30 am – 11:30 pm
Texarkana	August 18	9:00 am -12:00 pm
Texarkana	August 18	1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Pine Bluff	August 19	9:00 am -12:00 pm
Arkadelphia	August 19	9:00 am -12:00 pm

### 3. Infant-Toddler Environmental Rating Scale (ITERS) – Refresher Course

This half-day course is designed for caregivers in original ABC programs or other quality approved programs operating infant-toddler classrooms.

City	Date	Time
Little Rock	July 29	1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Blytheville	August 12	9:00 am -12:00 pm
Springdale	August 19	1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

### 4. Family Child Care Environmental Rating Scale (FCCERS) – Refresher Course

City	Date	Time
Little Rock	July 31	1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Batesville	August 11	9:00 am -12:00 pm
Springdale	August 19	9:00 am -12:00 pm

## TRAINING REGISTRATION

For actual locations and register for a session, go to the Early Childhood Professional Development (TAPP) Registry website at <http://professionalregistry.astate.edu>.

cc: Jamie Morrison, Administrator, Arkansas Better Chance Program  
Vicki Mathews, Quality Approval Coordinator  
Janice Carter, ASU Childhood Services  
David Griffin, Administrator, Child Care Licensing /Accreditation  
ABC Program Specialists