

LEARNS Early

Learning Work Group

November 16, 2023

Work Group Scope and Sequence

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This group will meet monthly to address the requirements of LEARNS and to ensure there is sufficient progress to report between meetings.

Date	Anticipated Topics
September 14	Update on ADE Transition
September 28	Definition of K-readiness update
October 26	Local early childhood leads update
November 16	Licensing Review

LEARNS Early Learning Work Group Agenda

Purpose: During this call, we will discuss the LEARNS requirements regarding a licensing review and hear from consultant Ashley LiBetti on input needed to support the review.

- Review LEARNS requirements for licensing
- Introduce Ashley
- Q&A with Ashley
- Discussion and next steps



LEARNS Requirements

LEARNS Requirements on Licensing

[The LEARNS Act](#) required ADE to do a licensing review so the agency can:

- Reduce any burdensome, unnecessary rules for the licensing of childcare facilities, and report on the reduction of rules
- Operationalize an academic approval requirement for each early learning center approved for licensure by the Department of Education and receiving public funding



Pillars Research and Strategy

Pillars Research and Strategy



- Ashley LiBetti is the principal consultant at [Pillars](#). Prior to founding Pillars, Ashley led the early childhood practice area at Bellwether Education Partners. She started her work in early care and education at the U.S. Department of Education, supporting the design of what eventually became Preschool Development Grants.
- In Arkansas, Ashley is leading the review of licensing rules and regulations.

Discussion

- What's working with licensing right now?
- What is a pain point or challenge you have experienced while applying for or renewing your child care license?
- What do you wish to be true in the new unified early childhood system for licensing rules and regulations in Arkansas?

You can capture your notes at tinyurl.com/LEARNS23.



Next Steps

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- Fill out the survey sent by Ashley
- December Meeting Topic: TBD