

James L. Dennis Developmental Center



Additional Resources

Due to the high number of referrals to the DDC, there could be a wait before a patient can be seen. The resources below may be utilized in the meantime.

When there is concern about a young child's development, additional evaluation is often needed to determine whether direct intervention is indicated. Fortunately, the state of Arkansas has programs to help, The Arkansas First Connections Infant and Toddler Program, and the Early Childhood Special Education Cooperatives Program.

The Arkansas First Connections Infant and Toddler Program is for children from birth to 3 years old. The following web site has details of the state-wide program:

<https://dhs.arkansas.gov/dds/firstconnectionsweb/#fc-home>

This is the main web site for the Arkansas First Connections Program. Following the "Who Do I Call?" link opens a page giving a Toll-Free Help Line number, 1 (800) 643-8258, and additional links to the list of State EI Service Coordinators by county, and the Early Intervention Provider Map of names and locations of facilities.

Parents and primary care providers can contact the program directly to make a referral. It is not necessary for the child to be seen at the Dennis Developmental Center BEFORE making this referral. The child can still be seen at DDC should additional diagnostic consultation be needed after services have started.

The Arkansas Early Childhood Special Education Program is part of the Arkansas Department of Education state-wide school district cooperatives, The Early Childhood Special Education Coordination (ECSpEC). This program is for children ages 3 to 5 years and targets those with physical and developmental problems having an adverse impact on educational potential. The following web site is the Direct Services Support page, with information about the program, and links to direct service providers and other key resources.

<http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/learning-services/special-education/early-childhood>

Specific information about early childhood services can be found by going to The Early Childhood Special Education Coordination (ECSpEC), Arkansas Early Childhood Special Education, and Arkansas Special Education Child Find links.

The online 'request for services' form for Early Childhood Special Education can be found at the following link (<http://arksped.k12.ar.us/applications/ecspec/>).

Anyone can submit a request for services. It is not necessary for the child to be seen at the Dennis Developmental Center BEFORE making this referral. The child can still be seen at DDC should additional diagnostic consultation be needed after services have started.