

# **TRANSITION OF CHILDREN FROM PART C TO PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS (FORMERLY: TRANSITION OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES FROM PART C TO PART B)**

## **I. STATE POLICY**

It is the policy of the Arkansas Department of Education that, for those individuals participating in the early intervention program under Part C of the Act who will participate in preschool programs assisted under Part B of the IDEA, procedures for a smooth transition are established and implemented, including a method of ensuring that when a child turns age three (3) an IEP has been developed and implemented by the child's third birthday. [34 CFR 300.132]

## **II. STATE PROCEDURES**

The Arkansas Department of Education, as the agency responsible for the preschool programs under Section 619 of the IDEA and Part B, and the Arkansas Department of Human Services, Developmental Disabilities Services (DDS), as the lead agency for Part C of the Act, developed and entered into an agreement setting forth the process and procedures for the transition of eligible children from Part C to preschool special education services. The agreement was originally entered into and implemented in 1990. It was revised, with changes effective January 20, 1993. These procedures provide that each LEA, or the ESA representing the LEA, will participate in transition planning conferences arranged in accordance with the agreed upon process and procedures.

Further, the Arkansas Department of Education, consistent with a U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Directive, informed all sub-grantees receiving funds for the administration of preschool programs that all special education and related services must be made available to any eligible child with a disability by the child's third birthday.