

2027 Arkansas/Southwest Regional Head Start Institute



Information Packet

October 19-22, 2027
Exploring New Possibilities
-Bridges to Purpose-

**Marriott Hotel &
State House Convention Center
3 State House Plaza
Little Rock, Arkansas**



CALL FOR PAPERS

Join us as a presenter for the **2027 Arkansas/Southwest Regional Head Start Annual Institute!** This year, our theme is *Exploring New Possibilities: Bridges to Purpose*. We invite you to share your expertise, innovative practices, and research to help our community build meaningful connections and discover new pathways to success. Each session will be **2 hours in length**. We are looking for comprehensive proposals that address our core educational tracks.

Possible Content Focus Areas:

1. Trauma Informed Care	11. Early Childhood Literacy
2. Building Systems and Services	12. Head Start Program Performance Standards-updates
3. Staff Mental Health	13. Lesson Planning
4. Health Services/Children with Disabilities	14. Collaboration/Inter-Agency Agreements
5. Quality Programs	15. Play-based Education
6. Curriculum Enhancement	16. Positive Behavior Management
7. Educational Technology	17. Research Development
8. Program Innovation	18. Zero to Three
9. Leadership Development	19. Self-Regulation Skills
10. Head Start Comprehensive Services	20. Sensory Soothers



To submit your proposal, please complete the online application via SurveyMonkey before **March 1, 2027**. Ensure your submission includes the following details: **session title, session description, presenter, name, co-presenter name (if applicable), position title, contact information, credentials, and a short bio**. The registration fee will be waived for no more than two presenters. Thank you!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YY9Q537>

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REGISTRATION

The Arkansas Head Start Association and Region VI Head Start Association cordially invite you to participate in the upcoming 2027 Arkansas/Southwest Regional Head Start Institute and School Readiness Summit. This premier regional event brings together educators, directors, staff, and advocates from across the Southwest to share innovative practices and build pathways toward meaningful student and family success. The event will be hosted at the **Marriott Hotel & State House Convention Center**, located at 3 State House Plaza, Little Rock, Arkansas, and will follow the schedule below:

October 19, 2027

School Readiness Summit

October 20-22, 2027

*Arkansas/Southwest Regional
Head Start Institute*

Registration Fees

Pre-Institute Registration	\$ 100.00
Institute Registration	
One Day	\$ 150.00
EBR (before 7/15/27)	\$ 500.00
Pre-Registration/ Onsite	\$ 600.00

Online registration:

<https://www.reg6hsa.org/index.php/conference/online-registration-and-exhibit-applications/institute-registration> . Once your online registration form is successfully submitted, you will receive an invoice via email containing complete payment instructions to finalize your attendance by mailing a check or processing a credit card payment.



We look forward to your valuable participation in Little Rock as we collaborate to explore new possibilities and build stronger foundations for early childhood education.

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HOTEL & PARKING INFORMATION

Hotel Reservations & Group Rates

We look forward to welcoming you to Little Rock! A dedicated block of rooms has been reserved at the host hotel with the following special group rates available for your stay:



Room Type	Start Date	End Date	Nightly Rate (Single/Double)
Executive Suite	10/18/2027	10/22/2027	\$189.00
Single / Double Room	10/18/2027	10/22/2027	\$189.00

How to Book Your Room:

- **Online:** Use the dedicated booking link provided by the hotel (*Coming Soon!*)
- **By Phone:** Call the reservations department toll-free at **877-759-6290**.

Key Policies & Deadlines:

- **Reservation Cut-off:** Rooms must be booked on or before **Friday, August 27, 2027**, to secure the discounted group rate.
- **Deposit:** A valid credit card or a one-night advance deposit is required at the time of booking.
- **Changes & Cancellations:** Any changes must be made directly with Group Reservations. Cancellations must be received at least 24 hours prior to arrival to avoid a penalty of one night's room and tax.
- **Taxes:** Room rates are subject to applicable state and local taxes, currently 14.62% at check-out.



Guest Parking Options

Attendees have both valet and self-parking choices during the event. Please note that individuals are responsible for paying any rate increases.

Little Rock Marriott (Valet Parking)

- **Overnight Valet:** \$32.00 per day (plus tax)
- **Day-Use Valet:** \$20.00 per day (plus tax)

Second & Main Parking Garage (Self-Parking) is located just two blocks from the hotel.

- **Hourly Rate:** \$2.00 per hour (per vehicle)
- **Daily Rate:** \$20.00 per consecutive 24-hour period (per vehicle)
- **Lost Ticket Fee:** \$24.00

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EXHIBITOR APPLICATION INFORMATION

The Arkansas Head Start Association and Region VI Head Start Association cordially invite your organization to participate as an exhibitor at the 2027 Arkansas/Southwest Regional Head Start Institute. We anticipate over 300 participants, including representatives from Early Head Start, Head Start, EHS-Child Care Partnerships, Migrant-Seasonal Head Start grantees, and national/state partners. This event offers an exceptional opportunity to showcase your products and services directly to key decision-makers and advocates in the early childhood education field.

Application & Booth Details

- **Exhibit Fee: \$350.00 per booth.**
- **What is Included:** Each designated space comes equipped with **one 6-foot draped table and two chairs.**
- **Availability:** Booth space is strictly limited. Applications and payments must be finalized by **July 1, 2027.**
- **How to Apply:** <https://www.reg6hsa.org/index.php/conference/online-registration-and-exhibit-applications/exhibit-application/2027-arkansas-southwest-regional-institute-exhibitor-application> . Upon completing your digital application, an invoice will be emailed to you with instructions for credit card processing or mailing a check payable to the **Arkansas Head Start Association.**
- **Location Assignment:** Specific exhibit locations within the venue will be announced in your official confirmation email.



Schedule: Setup, Show Hours, & Breakdown

Exhibitors must strictly adhere to the designated timetable. No part of an exhibit may be dismantled or packed early.

- **Exhibitor Setup:**
 - Monday, October 18, 2027 | 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
 - Tuesday, October 19, 2027 | 7:30 AM – 10:00 AM
- **Exhibitor Breakdown:**
 - Friday, October 22, 2027 | 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM (*All booths must be fully broken down by 12:30 PM.*)

Important Policies & Logistics

- **Cancellations & Deadlines:** Written cancellation requests received on or before **August 1, 2027**, will receive a **50% refund**. No refunds will be issued after this date. Any space left unclaimed or unoccupied by **9:00 AM on Tuesday, October 19, 2027**, may be reassigned by the Exhibits Committee Chairperson without a refund.
- **Liability:** Exhibitors assume full responsibility for any losses, damages, or injury claims related to their displays or personal property brought onto the premises. Exhibitors agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Arkansas Head Start Association, the host facility/university, and any authorized representatives or employees.
- **Security:** The dedicated exhibit area will be locked during non-show hours for security purposes.
- **Storage & Drayage:** Exhibitors are solely responsible for arranging and paying for all drayage, shipping, and crate storage costs. Shipping crates and boxes cannot be stored within the active exhibit area during public show hours.



CORPORATE SPONSOR INFORMATION

September 30, 2026

**Subject: Partnering for Corporate Sponsorship for October 19-22, 2027
Arkansas/Southwest Regional Head Start Institute**

To: Potential Corporate Sponsors

Every day, early childhood educators and staff across our region shape the future of 10 states by empowering low-income children and families. To support these dedicated professionals, the Arkansas Head Start Association and Region VI Head Start Association will host its Regional Institute on **October 19- 22, 2027 in Little Rock, Arkansas**. On behalf of our regional head start community, I would like to extend an invitation for companies and organizations to invest in this critical workforce as a prominent corporate sponsor.

The Arkansas/Southwest Regional Head Start Institute is the premier professional development event for early childhood educators, staff, directors, parents, and friends of Head Start across the 10-state region. The October 2027 institute focuses on expanding high-quality early childhood education using the theme, **"Exploring New Possibilities: Bridges to Purpose"**. Using this dynamic theme, programs will be able to enhance their work in pediatric health and nutrition, mental wellness, comprehensive family services, and so much more. This event provides an unparalleled collaborative space for hundreds of professionals who directly influence the purchasing power and health choices of 10 states: **Arkansas, Alabama, Arizona, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee, Oklahoma, Louisiana, New Mexico, and Texas** households.

By sponsoring the October 2027 Arkansas/Southwest Regional Head Start Institute, your organization will directly support our region's early childhood ecosystem while enjoying significant brand visibility. We offer customizable activation tiers tailored to your company marketing and corporate social responsibility goals including:

- **Keynote Sponsorship:** Exclusively present a general session, introducing your brand directly to all attendees.
- **Exhibitor Space and Signage:** Showcase your services or products in our high traffic exhibition hall throughout the multi-day institute.
- **Digital Integration:** Gain continuous visibility via logo placements on the Region VI Head Start Association and Arkansas Head Start Association's Websites, mobile app, pre-event flyers, and more sent out region wide to all networks.

2027 Arkansas/Southwest Regional Head Start Institute

Your sponsorship guarantees that our directors, staff, parents, and Head Start friends return to their local communities with advanced tools, educational techniques, and health resources required to foster a stronger 10 state region.

The four-tier corporate sponsorship matrix matched with this high-conversion cover letter shows a framework with benefit driven impact-first structure that clearly pairs marketing perks with tangible social outcomes.

Tier Level	Investment	Key Marketing & Visibility Benefits
	\$10,000+	• Speaking Slot (5-10 minutes) • Premium top logo placement • Registration cost waived • Full Page Ad
	\$5,000	• Prominent logo placement • Verbal recognition • Half Page Ad • VIP tickets to General Sessions
	\$3,000	• Standard logo placement on digital • Social media shot out • Quarter Page Ad
	\$1,500	• Text listing or small logo on website and program booklet

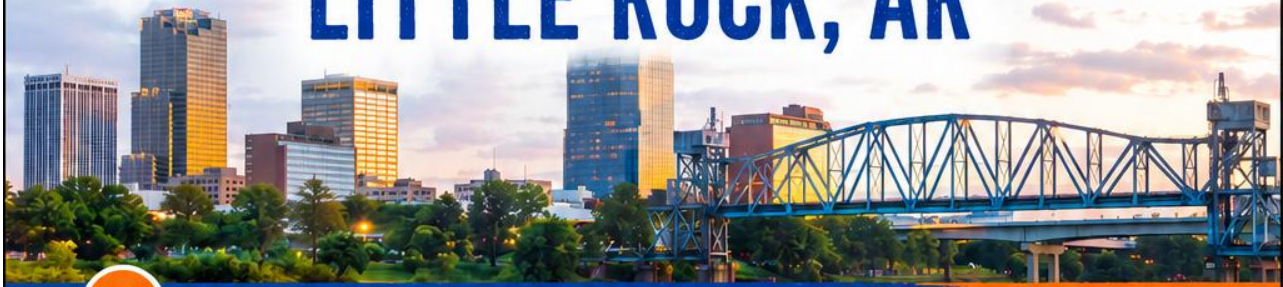
I would welcome the opportunity to coordinate a brief call with you to discuss how we can align our sponsorship tiers with your company's core goals. My contact information is listed below.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and continuous commitment to “doing your part for early childhood education” which includes a commitment to the working families and children of the Southwest Region.

Sincerely,
Jacqualine Govan, Institute Coordinator
Arkansas/Southwest Regional Head Start Institute
jackie.govan@arheadstart.org/501-831-1153

FUN THINGS TO DO in DOWNTOWN LITTLE ROCK, AR

Big City Vibes.
Southern Charm.



EAT. EXPLORE. PLAY. REPEAT.

1



RIVER MARKET DISTRICT

Shop local, grab a bite, and enjoy live music in this vibrant open-air market by the river.



5



MUSEUMS & CULTURE

Explore the Clinton Presidential Center, Historic Arkansas Museum, and more!



2



ARKANSAS RIVER TRAIL

Walk, run, or bike along the scenic trail with beautiful views of the river and city.



6



ROOFTOP VIEWS

Sip and unwind at one of our rooftop bars with stunning views of the skyline.



3



PERFORMING ARTS

Catch a show at the Robinson Center, Simmons Bank Arena, or Victory Theater.



7



PUBLIC ART & HISTORY

Discover murals, statues, and historic landmarks that tell the story of Little Rock.



4



DELICIOUS EATS

From Southern comfort food to global flavors, Downtown is packed with tasty options.



Plan Your Visit!

Scan the QR code to explore events, attractions, places to stay, and more from the **LITTLE ROCK CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU.**



Don't Miss!

Downtown Little Rock is always buzzing with festivals, live music, farmers markets, and special events.

Check the calendar and plan your visit!



Plan Your Day!

PARK ONCE & WALK EVERYWHERE!
Easy access, scenic streets, and unforgettable experiences.



Downtown is
Better Together!

#DowntownLittleRock