Approval of Agenda and Minutes

- Approve 2-20-20 agenda
- Approve 11-21-19 minutes

Georgia Dept of Early Care and Learning
BRIGHT FROM THE START

Inspiration

Cristina Washell, Ed.D.

Georgia Dept
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Board Member Updates

Board members report on recent activities in their districts.

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Commissioner's Update

Amy M. Jacobs
Commissioner

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Upcoming Events

- Summer Food Service Program Summit (February 25, 2020)

- Children's Day at the Capitol (March 17, 2020)

- Literacy Day at the Capitol (March 20, 2020)

Quality Rated Language and Literacy Endorsement Update

Phase One (2019): Expert Input
- Expert panel provided recommendations on data, supports, and evaluation for Endorsement
- Recommendations finalized

Phase Two (2020): Pilot and Professional Development Advisory Group
- Pilot begins
- Administrators and teachers in pilot programs receive professional development in language and literacy instruction
- Participants earn Endorsement and receive additional supports at end of pilot

Phase Three (2021 & beyond): Refinements
- Possible 2nd pilot
- Align Endorsement with other Quality Rated revisions

Professional Development *(PD)* Advisory Group

- Provide feedback related to the content, delivery, and resources for PD to support the Endorsement
- Support DECAL and research partners in unpacking the findings from the evaluation of the pilot

Pilot Overview

- Approximately 12 programs selected by geographic location, star rating, date of star rating, and demographics
- Endorsement at program level; includes infant – Pre-K classrooms
- Pilot conducted from January – December 2020
- Endorsement awarded at end of pilot based on growth plan
- Programs receive various supports and resources throughout the pilot
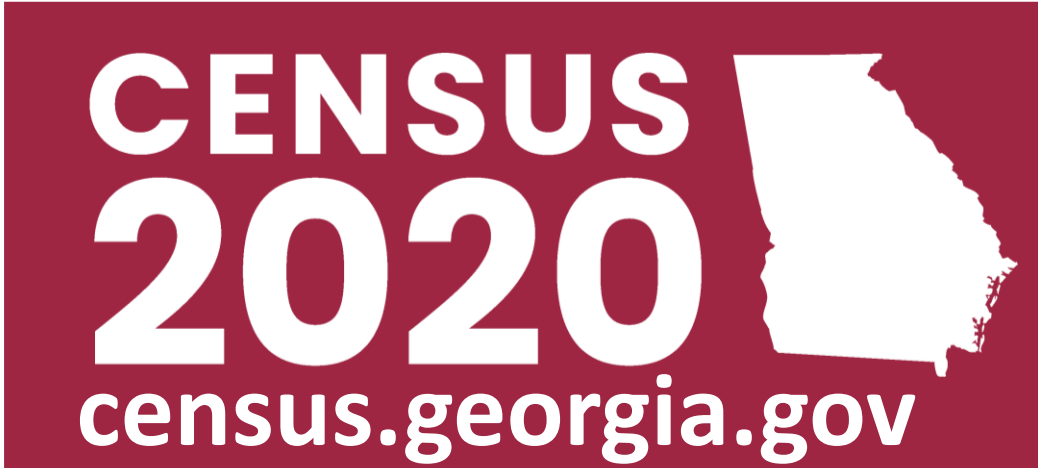
Questions?

Census 2020 – Resources for awareness, outreach and education in your communities

- www.Census.Georgia.gov
  Georgia's Complete Count Committee & the U.S. Census Bureau

- https://www.everyonecountsga.org/
  Voices for Georgia's Children

- https://www.faircount.org/
  Fair Count

The library is my happy place.

The Census can be filled out online at **your library** – and you can check out books too!

CENSUS 2020
census.Georgia.gov

GIRLS ARE: CONFIDENT COURAGEOUS STRONG

Every. One. Counts.

Pia
Conyers, GA

Georgia's Complete Count Committee
www.Census.Georgia.gov

- ❑ State has worked with The Networked Planet ad agency to develop campaign materials for radio, TV, and print.

- ❑ Resources available: census factsheets, coloring pages, bookmarks, t-shirts, stickers and more for purchase or download.

- ❑ Follow the campaign on all platforms (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn).

@EveryOneCountsGA

Funds her journey into this world and keeps her healthy throughout it.

Census data is used to fund programs for **prenatal care**.

CENSUS 2020
census.Georgia.gov

Every. One. Counts.

Matthew & Violet
Athens, GA

It's me and mommy and daddy. That makes 3, but I can count to 100.

The Census shapes funding levels for **pre-K**, **free lunch programs** and **Head Start**.

CENSUS 2020
census.Georgia.gov

Every. One. Counts.

Charlize
Macon, GA

An official website of the State of Georgia government. Here's how you know

Language: English   Agency A-Z

CENSUS 2020

Search

| Census 101 | Safety and Security | Complete Count Committees | Census Data | FAQs | Contact us |

Census Quick Facts   Knowledge for Planning

Federal Aid   Hard-to-Count Populations

Political Representation   Other Census Programs

Census Quick Facts

Where will it happen?

The Census will be taken all across the United States. All 50 states in the U.S.A., Washington D.C., Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will count everyone alive on April 1, 2020.

When did it start?

When the United States Constitution was written in 1787, it mandated that a Census be taken every ten years under **Article 1, Section 2**:

> 66 *"Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States..., according to their respective Numbers, ...The actual Enumeration shall be made within three Years after the first Meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent Term of ten Years."* 99

The first enumeration was taken in 1790. The most recent Census was done in 2010. On

OMB No. 0607-1006. Approval Expires 11/30/2021

United States   U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

An official website of the State of Georgia government. Here's how you know ∨

Language: English   Agency A-Z

CENSUS 2020

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Is it Safe?

Committed to Your Privacy

🏠 > Safety and Se...

Safety and Security

Is it Safe?

Committed to Your Privacy

Is it Safe?

| Online Responses

The Census Bureau's secure servers use "HTTPS" or Hypertext Transfer Protocol over Secure Socket Layer. This ensures the encrypted transmission of data between your browser and the U.S. Census Bureau.

Your 2020 Census information is encrypted at all times.

How do you know if you are on a secure website?

You can tell you're connected to a website with an HTTPS connection if the address in your web browser's address bar starts with "https://". **You will also see a lock icon**, which you can click for more information about the website's security.

Why do you care about 'HTTPS?'

When you send sensitive information over an HTTPS connection, no one can eavesdrop on it. This means that instead of sending readable text over the Internet, **both your browser and**

An official website of the State of Georgia government. Here's how you know ∨

Language: English   Agency A-Z

CENSUS 2020

Search

∨ Census 101   ∨ Safety and Security   ∨ Complete Count Committees   ∨ Census Data   FAQs   Contact us

Local Complete Count Committees

Local Complete Count Committee Toolkit

Governor's Complete Count Committee

Census Resources

Local Comp
Committee

Ensure a Complete Count

Download the Local Complete Count Committee Toolkit

You can find our first version of the Local Complete Count Committee Toolkit below. The toolkit should be utilized to encourage participation in the 2020 Census to ensure a complete count of everyone living in Georgia.

Feel free to reach out if there is anything in the toolkit that needs further

te-count-committee-toolkit

Hard to Count areas of Georgia – Based on population of young children

Voices
for Georgia's Children

Home   About   FAQs   Resources   Videos   Contact

GEORGIA
family connection
PARTNERSHIP

English
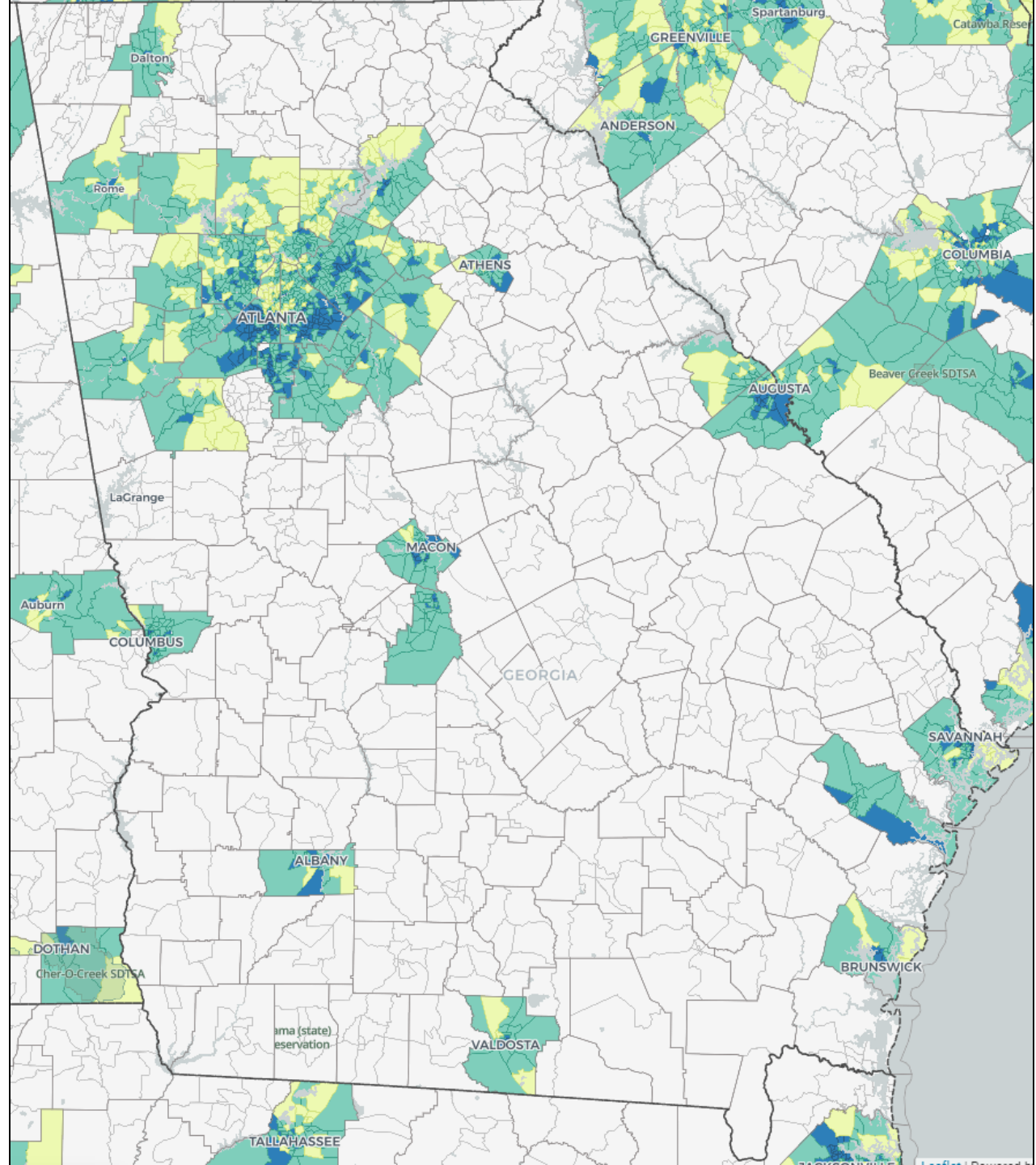
Videos - Hard to Count Groups

Count all members of your household.

CENSUS 2020
census.georgia.gov

00:26

Trent North - Every. One. Counts. Counting Young Kids Census 2020 (30 sec)

People of color, immigrants, children under 5, and people living in poverty.

CENSUS 2020
census.georgia.gov

00:20

TJ Williams - Every. One. Counts. Hard to Count Groups Census 2020 (30 sec)

The Census determines how billions of federal dollars are directed to every state

CENSUS 2020
census.georgia.gov

00:30

Felicia Franklin Warner - Every. One. Counts. HTC Census 2020 (30 sec)

for programs like ESL, special education, and Head Start.

CENSUS 2020
census.georgia.gov

00:30

Yehymmy Mora - Every. One. Counts. Counting Young Kids Census 2020 (30 sec)

People of color, children, and immigrants were significantly undercounted.

CENSUS 2020
census.georgia.gov

00:15

Valerie Fuller - Every. One. Counts. HTC Groups Census 2020 (15 sec)

Census counts determine

CENSUS 2020
census.georgia.gov

00:52

Alif Institute - Every. One. Counts. Hard to Count Groups Census 2020 (1 min)

In Georgia there are nearly 170,000 children under age 5

CENSUS 2020
census.georgia.gov

00:30

Blythe Keeler Robinson - Every. One. Counts. Hard to Count Groups Census 2020 (30 sec)

CENSUS 2020
census.georgia.gov

00:25

Felicia Moore - Every. One. Counts. Hard to Count Groups Census 2020 (30 sec)

Every. One. Counts.

Count.
Our.
Kids.

2020 Census
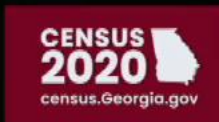
How you respond...

- ✓ By April 1, every home will receive invitation by mail.

- ✓ Three options to respond: online or mobile device, by phone, by mail.

- ✓ Can respond online or by phone in 13 languages.

How you can help...

Inform your friends, family and networks of why the census is important, when it's happening and how the information is used.

Check out the Complete Count Committee Toolkit
https://census.georgia.gov/local-complete-count-committee-toolkit

Census Day is April 1!

Every. One. Counts.

2019-2020 Pre-K Teacher of the Year, Public School

Johnathon Hines

Barack H. Obama Elementary

DeKalb County

Johnathon Hines

GEORGIA PRE-K TEACHER OF THE YEAR

About Mr. Hines

Johnathon Hines is a product of the DeKalb County School District. He is a 2006 graduate of Towers High School. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Health and Physical Education from Albany State University and a Master's degree in Elementary Education from Grand Canyon University. The opportunity to serve as the first African-American Public School Pre-K Teacher of the Year for the entire State of Georgia and give back to the community that has given so much to him, is profoundly rewarding. Johnathon is in his fifth year of teaching at Barack H. Obama Elementary Magnet School of Technology

Favorite Part About Being a Pre-K Teacher

My favorite part of teaching Pre-K is that I get to ensure that a child's first encounter with a teacher is positive, nurturing, and exhilarating. I love seeing my students matriculate from August to May by becoming independent, building self confident, and performing at their highest potential. Teaching four year olds has given me the opportunity to make their first impression of school- a lasting impression!

Biggest Highlight This Year

► The biggest highlight for me this year was being able to spotlight my students, school, co- Teacher, DeKalb County and Georgia's Pre-K on a national stage.

In Honor of Georgia's Pre-K Program's
Teacher of the Year in a Public School Setting 2019-2020

Special Presentation by
Board of Early Care and Learning
Chairperson
Susan Harper

2019-2020 Pre-K Teacher of the Year, Child Care Center

Heather Williams
Central Georgia Tech
Houston County

Georgia Dept of Early Care and Learning
BRIGHT FROM THE START

HEATHER WILLIAMS

*Central Georgia Technical College
Child Development Center*

Warner Robins, GA

~11 years

My favorite part
of teaching Pre-K
is the children.

Congratulations
Heather Williams
2020 Georgia Pre-K
Teacher of the Year

W.R.F.D.

The best part of being Teacher of the Year has been meeting and forming relationships with other educators who serve as excellent mentors.

In Honor of Georgia's Pre-K Program's
Teacher of the Year in a Child Care Setting 2019-2020

Special Presentation by
Board of Early Care and Learning
Chairperson
Susan Harper

Finance, Legislative, & Administrative Update

Rian Ringsrud

Deputy Commissioner, Finance and Administration

Georgia Dept of Early Care and Learning
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Data as of Dec. 31st	Budget	Expenditures*	Remaining Balance	% Remaining
BY PROGRAMS				
Child Care Services	$353,787,348	$191,765,892	$162,021,456	46%
Pre-K + (HS)	$378,878,805	$187,911,639	$190,967,166	50%
Quality Initiatives	$53,272,393	$35,918,333	$17,354,060	33%
Nutrition	$148,000,000	$83,396,313	$64,603,687	44%
Total Expenses	$933,938,546	$498,992,177	$434,946,369	47%

	Budget	Expenditures*	Remaining Balance	% Remaining
BY FUNDING SOURCE				
State General	$61,841,364	$11,361,776	$50,479,588	82%
State Lottery	$378,703,805	$188,206,685	$190,497,120	50%
Federal	$492,291,377	$299,031,077	$193,260,300	39%
Other	$1,102,000	$392,638	$709,362	64%
Total Funds	$933,938,546	$498,992,177	$434,946,369	47%

* Includes encumbrances.

Finance Update
Q2 SFY 2020

Child Care Services Program Reductions

DECAL Submission		Governor's Recommendation	
AFY 2020	FY 2021	AFY 2020	FY 2021
$438,826	$658,239	$743,176	$981,649

DECAL Submission

- Eliminate one vacant position ($72,839)
- Redistribute funding for Salaries & Benefits ($66,987/$285,400)
- Limit the implementation of additional FY 2020 CAPS funding from Legislature ($300,000)

Governor's Recommendation

- Eliminate one vacant position ($72,839)
- Redistribute funding for Salaries & Benefits ($170,337/$408,810)
- Limit the implementation of additional FY 2020 CAPS funding from Legislature ($500,000)

Proposed Budget Reductions for AFY 2020 and FY 2021

Pre-K Program Reductions

DECAL Submission		Governor's Recommendation	
AFY 2020	FY 2021	AFY 2020	FY 2021
$476,920	$715,379	$1,030,759	$860,000

DECAL Submission

- Reduce temporary staff positions allocated to Pre-K ($150,000)
- Reduce spending for computer equipment ($100,000)
- Reduce and reprioritize contractual obligations ($260,000/$530,000)

Governor's Recommendation

- Reduce temporary staff positions allocated to Pre-K ($150,000)
- Reduce spending for computer equipment ($100,000)
- Reduce and reprioritize contractual obligations ($704,058/$530,000)
- Eliminate one vacant position ($77,767/$81,149)

Proposed Budget Reductions for AFY 2020 and FY 2021

DECAL Legislative Update

HB 793
- $2,000 raises for Pre-K Lead Teachers
- 5% raises for Pre-K Assistant Teachers
- $1,000 raises for state employees < $40,000
- $1.7 million for Pre-K teacher supplement

SB 354
- Would require CAPS to allow the pursuit of a four-year college degree as an approved activity

HR 421
- Created a Study Committee on Infant and Toddler Social and Emotional Health which recommended creating an infant and childhood mental health coordinator position at DECAL

Decal IT Vision & Strategy

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Meeting Topics

- **IT Vision & Strategy**
  - ✓ Growing Landscape & Complexity
  - ✓ Future State Strategy
  - ✓ IT Services
  - ✓ 3-Year Roadmap
- **Our Journey**
  - ✓ Cyber Security Mandate
  - ✓ Cloud Migration
  - ✓ Accomplishments to-date

Georgia Dept of Early Care and Learning
BRIGHT FROM THE START

DECAL's Growing IT Landscape & Complexity

Growing Department Needs

- Enterprise-level scale as DECAL staff surpass ~650 staff, 100 contractors
- Growing amount of private, stored information
- Multiple data connections with State and external entities
- Desire to consolidate or in-source external applications

1

Increasing Technology Complexity

- 10 funded programs and 17 mid-to-large applications
- Heavy usage of desktop virtualization to enable CAPS
- 22 virtual servers with approximately 52TB of storage
- 48 Infrastructure Services Servers
- Multiple databases with single points of hardware failure

2

3

Changing Operating Environment

- Increasing security threats in terms of sophistication and number
- Evolving technology platform and service options available
- Unpredictable regulatory and policy demands

Future Vision and Business Objectives

Vision

DECAL Digital Transformation journey will pave the way to simplify and secure agency's IT services and provide path for innovation, new solutions. Our goal is to modernize and secure IT, provide transparency, and improve quality of services.

Business Objectives

- ✓ *Simplify and modernize DECAL IT infrastructure*

- ✓ *Secure DECAL IT infrastructure*

- ✓ *Setup DECAL IT for future growth and innovation*

- ✓ *Provide transparency and visibility into IT services*

Aspects of Future Strategy

SECURE CLOUD FIRST

REDUCE ON-PREMISE FOOTPRINT, CLOSE ON-PREM SERVER ROOM

ESTABLISH IT PROCESS, PROCEDURES, AND STANDARDS

IMPROVE IT SERVICES EFFICIENCIES

CYBER SECURITY MATURITY

IMPROVE USER EXPERIENCE
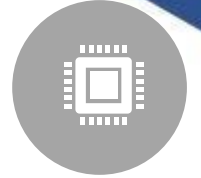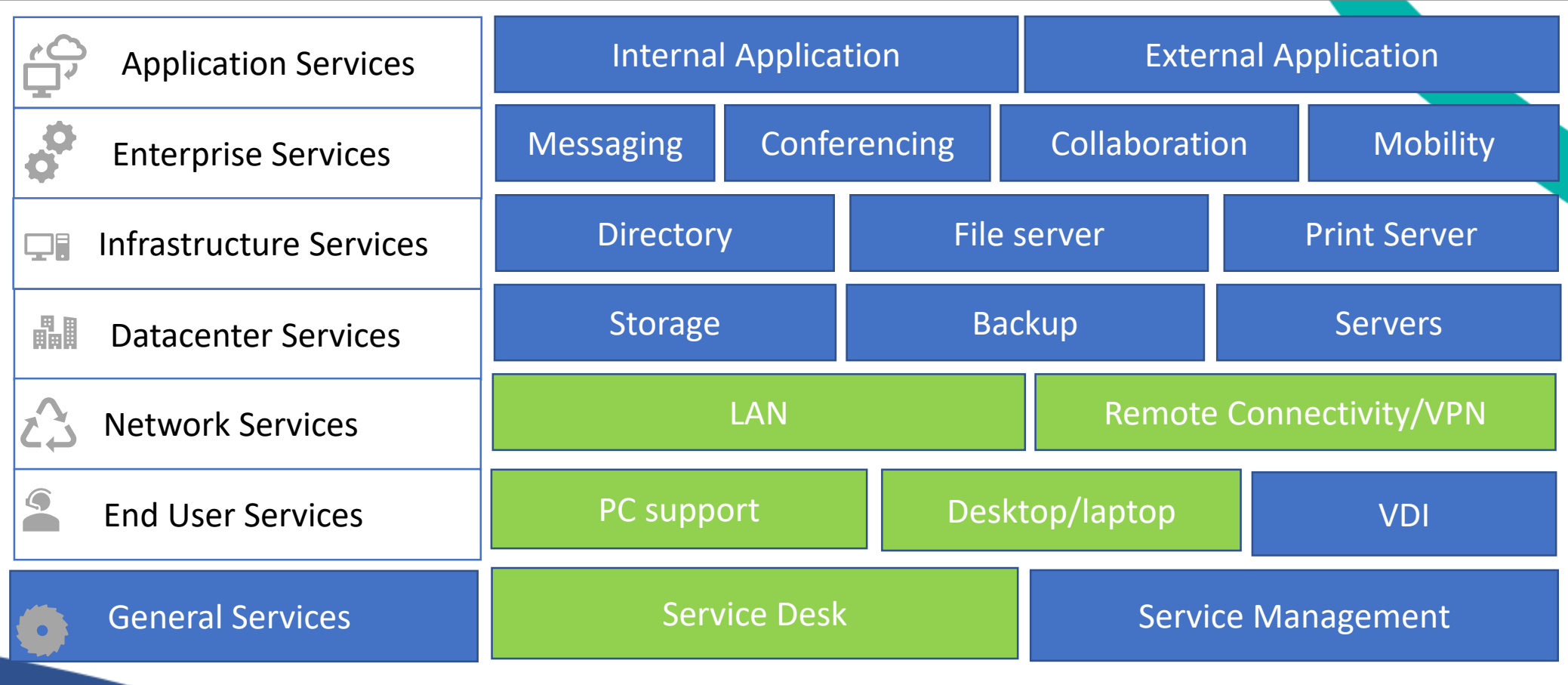
INTRODUCE MODERN TECHNOLOGIES TO SUPPORT IT PORTFOLIO
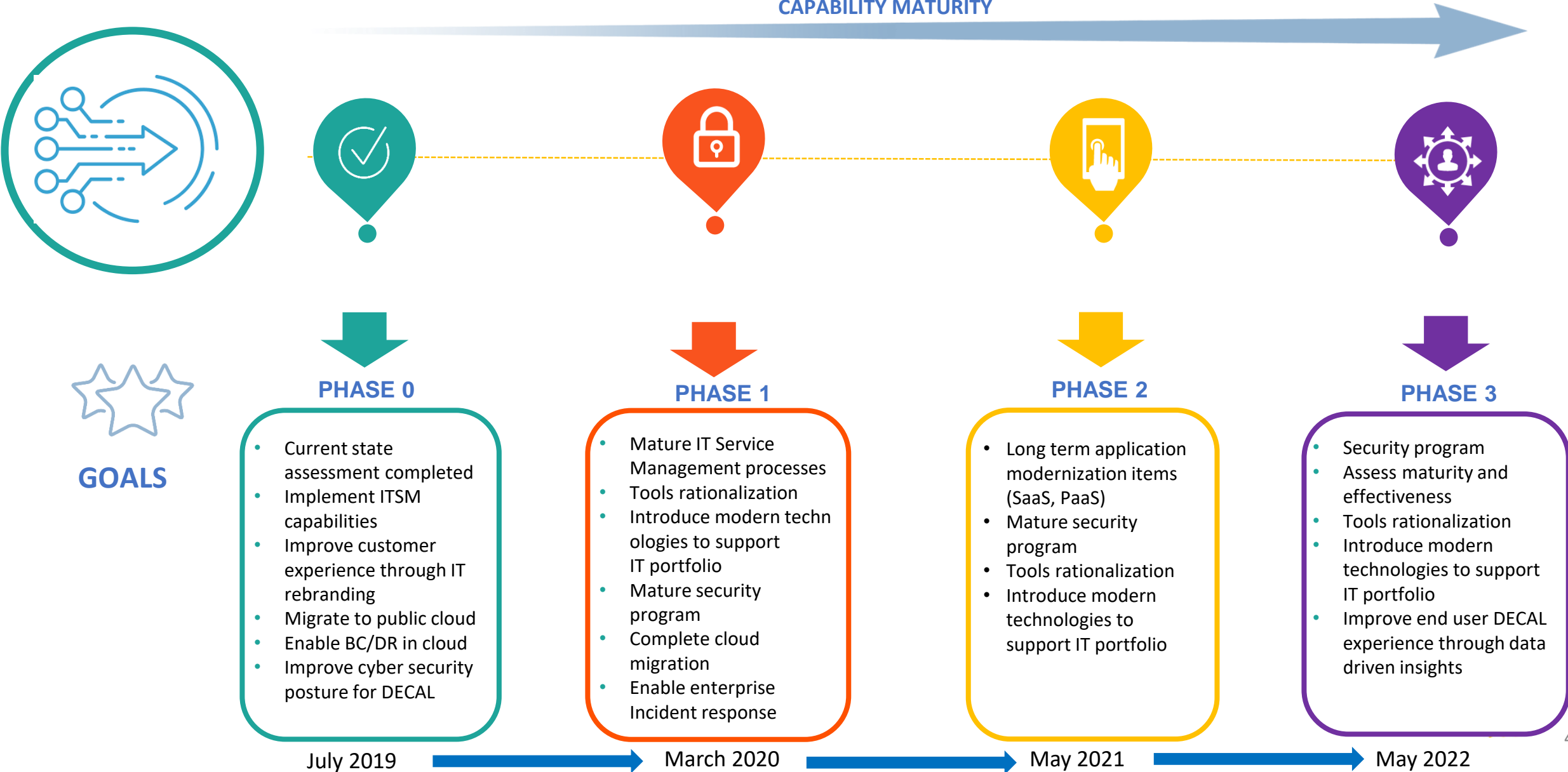
IT Services

High Level Roadmap – DECAL IT Roadmap

CAPABILITY MATURITY

GOALS

PHASE 0

- Current state assessment completed
- Implement ITSM capabilities
- Improve customer experience through IT rebranding
- Migrate to public cloud
- Enable BC/DR in cloud
- Improve cyber security posture for DECAL

PHASE 1

- Mature IT Service Management processes
- Tools rationalization
- Introduce modern technologies to support IT portfolio
- Mature security program
- Complete cloud migration
- Enable enterprise Incident response

PHASE 2

- Long term application modernization items (SaaS, PaaS)
- Mature security program
- Tools rationalization
- Introduce modern technologies to support IT portfolio

PHASE 3

- Security program
- Assess maturity and effectiveness
- Tools rationalization
- Introduce modern technologies to support IT portfolio
- Improve end user DECAL experience through data driven insights

July 2019   March 2020   May 2021   May 2022

48

Our Journey

You are the target...

When it comes to cyber-crime, **YOU** are the target.

Cyber Board Recommendations

1. All agencies should consider migrating e-mail to an approved cloud solution provider by September 1, 2020 (Microsoft O365, Google Cloud, etc.).
2. All agencies should immediately take steps to comply with Policy PS-19-001: Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA), effective July 1, 2019.
3. All agencies should remove Local User Admin access from devices on their networks by June 30, 2020. Any exemptions to this recommendation should comply with the MFA policy under Item 2.
4. The Office of Information Security provided additional guidance on January 15, 2020 for ongoing cyber training compliance, campaign, and reporting. Executive agencies are highly encouraged to utilize the Proofpoint Wombat training software as their primary training platform.
5. On January 14, 2020, Microsoft Corporation ended support of Windows 7, Windows 2008, and Windows 2008R2 operating systems. All agencies should upgrade these highly vulnerable systems immediately.
6. As of January 1, 2020, 95% of state employees have completed the mandatory cybersecurity awareness training for 2019. Agency heads are encouraged to continue leading this program and building on our successes in 2020.

Cyber Security Training 2020

New Hire/2019 Make-up Training Schedule
90-Day Duration
Training modules to include:
- Introduction to Phishing
- Protection Against Ransomware

Ongoing Scheduled Training: 2020
Q1: Training modules - *Security Essentials and Social Engineering*

Q2: Phishing campaign + additional training – Retake New Hire Training Assessment that will drive additional training modules
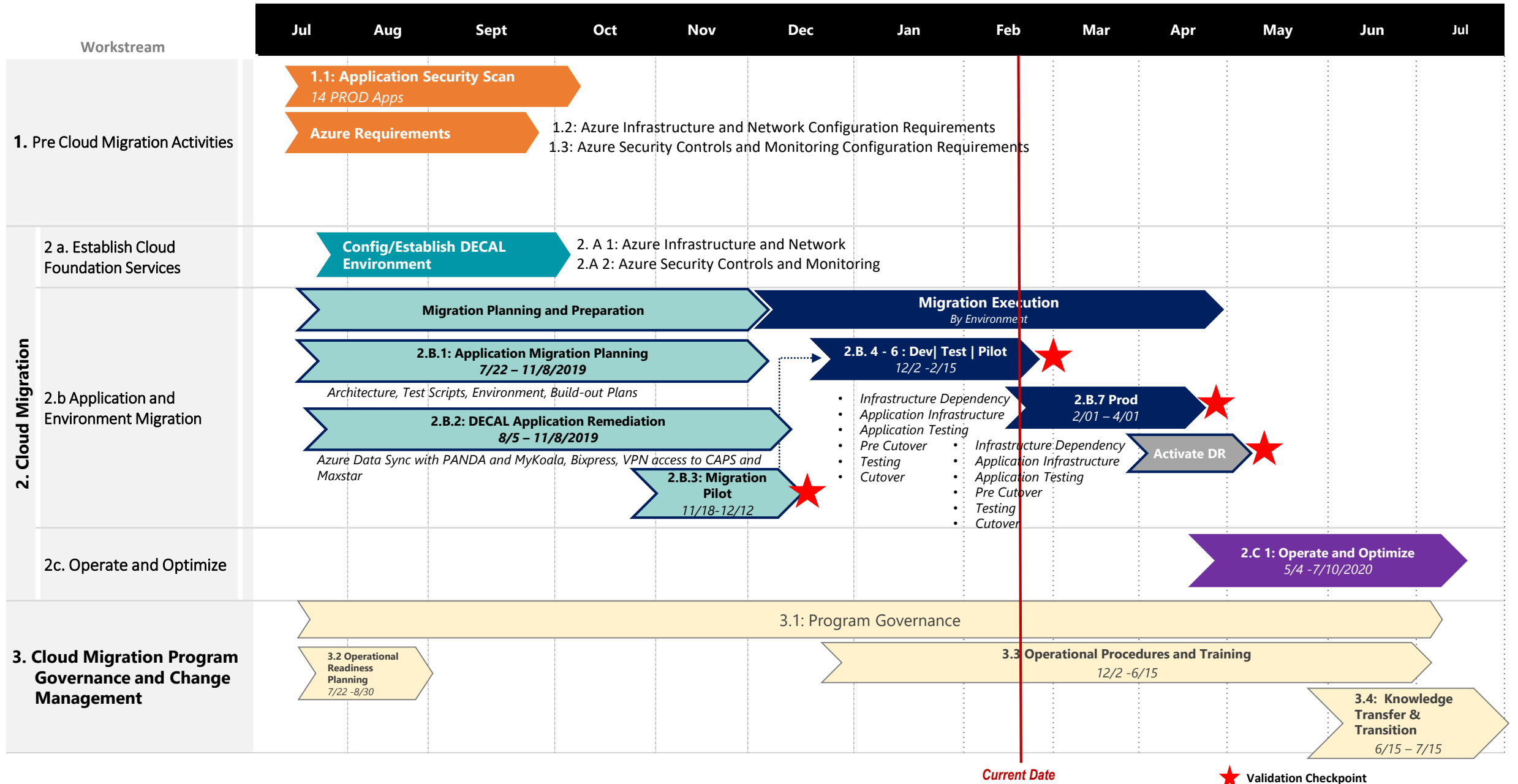
Q3: Training modules – *Avoiding Dangerous Attachment and Data Protection & Destruction*

Q4: Phishing campaign + additional training – Retake New Hire Training Assessment that will drive additional training modules

Cloud Migration Update

Overall Timeline: We are in the Migration Execution Phase

Workstream	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul

1. Pre Cloud Migration Activities

1.1: Application Security Scan
14 PROD Apps

Azure Requirements

1.2: Azure Infrastructure and Network Configuration Requirements
1.3: Azure Security Controls and Monitoring Configuration Requirements

2. Cloud Migration

2 a. Establish Cloud Foundation Services

Config/Establish DECAL Environment

2. A 1: Azure Infrastructure and Network
2.A 2: Azure Security Controls and Monitoring

2.b Application and Environment Migration

Migration Planning and Preparation

Migration Execution
By Environment

2.B.1: Application Migration Planning
7/22 – 11/8/2019

Architecture, Test Scripts, Environment, Build-out Plans

2.B. 4 - 6 : Dev| Test | Pilot
12/2 -2/15

2.B.2: DECAL Application Remediation
8/5 – 11/8/2019

Azure Data Sync with PANDA and MyKoala, Bixpress, VPN access to CAPS and Maxstar

- Infrastructure Dependency
- Application Infrastructure
- Application Testing
- Pre Cutover
- Testing
- Cutover

2.B.7 Prod
2/01 – 4/01

- Infrastructure Dependency
- Application Infrastructure
- Application Testing
- Pre Cutover
- Testing
- Cutover

Activate DR

2.B.3: Migration Pilot
11/18-12/12

2c. Operate and Optimize

2.C 1: Operate and Optimize
5/4 -7/10/2020

3. Cloud Migration Program Governance and Change Management

3.1: Program Governance

3.2 Operational Readiness Planning
7/22 -8/30

3.3 Operational Procedures and Training
12/2 -6/15

3.4: Knowledge Transfer & Transition
6/15 – 7/15

Current Date

⭐ **Validation Checkpoint**

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Migration Phase

	Milestone/ Deliverables	Due Date	Status	Comments
Dev- Pre-Prod	Migrate	12/24	🔵	
	Resolve Infrastructure Issues	1/17	🔵	
	Resolve Application Infrastructure Issues	1/24	🔵	
	Application Testing	2/7	🟢	
	Pre-Cutover	2/21	🟢	
	Smoke Testing	2/21	🟢	
	Security Setup Review	2/17	🟢	
	Environment Validation # 2	2/17	🟢	
	Go-live	2/21	🟢	
Production	Migration Planning	2/15	⚪	
	Resolve Infrastructure Issues	3/10	⚪	
	Resolve Application Infrastructure Issues	3/10	⚪	
	Application Testing	3/14	⚪	
	Performance Testing	3/18	⚪	
	Pre-Cutover	3/18	⚪	
	Environment Setup and Security Setup Review	3/18	⚪	
	Smoke Testing	3/24	⚪	
	Go-live	4/15	⚪	
Activate DR	DECAL DR/ Sync Plan	3/18	⚪	
	Validation plan	3/18	⚪	
	Complete DR Testing	5/1	⚪	
Program Governance	SOPs: Azure Monitoring, Change Control, RBAC, Cloud Management, Provisioning, Code Deployment, Configuration management, Network Monitoring, Backout Plan, Compliance Review	4/1	🟢	
	Operating Model: Cloud Support Model, Training	4/1	🟢	
	Organization Communication	4/1	🟢	

Key Decisions Made

- Barracuda WAF Setup
- Beyond Trust Configuration

Key Accomplishments and Planned Activities

Key Accomplishments:
- ✓ Migrated all Dev- through-Pre-prod completed
- ✓ Developed plan to resolve application specific dependences before 1/24
- ✓ Confirmed validation/ checklist with the infrastructure operations team to resolve dependencies before 1/17
- ✓ Pre-validation to be completed by 1/13
- ✓ Resolved the application dependencies
- ✓ Resolved the infrastructure dependencies
- ✓ SendGrid Pilot testing completed
- ✓ Complete pre-work for application team access
- ✓ Address Infrastructure, Network, Security dependencies for dev –through pre-prod
- ✓ Address Application Infrastructure Issues
- ✓ Completed ServiceNow Integration with Azure for Alerts
- ✓ Back-ups have been enabled
- ✓ Shared updated Architecture and pre-provisioning documents
- ✓ Preview of pre-provisioning, Monitoring, RBAC, IAM, Backout Plan completed.

Planned activities for next two weeks
- Complete Application testing for pre-prod environments
- Triage the alerts
- Complete SMTP service
- Complete Validation # 2
- Pre-cutover sync
- Production server migration planning
- Walk through RBAC, Monitoring, Access provisioning, Backout plan

Accomplishments *(last six months)*

People

- ✓ Enhanced IT Leadership
- ✓ Hired critical IT operational members
- ✓ Strategy in place
- ✓ Training and Mentorship in place

DECAL IT Processes

- ✓ IT provisioning and fullfillment processes
- ✓ Change management processes
- ✓ ITSM process and governance established
- ✓ Implemented service catalog and request fulfillment

DECAL Technologies/ Tooling

- Azure Cloud
  - ✓ Operational tools (SIEM, Monitoring, Backup & Recovery, DR, PIM
- ServiceNow for ITSM
  - Change, Incident, Problem, Asset, Conf. Mgmt, Knowledge
- Service Catalog
- Customer Portal
- Monitoring tools & Integration

Georgia was one of 26 states awarded the Preschool Development Renewal Grant.

The state will receive $11.2M over three years.
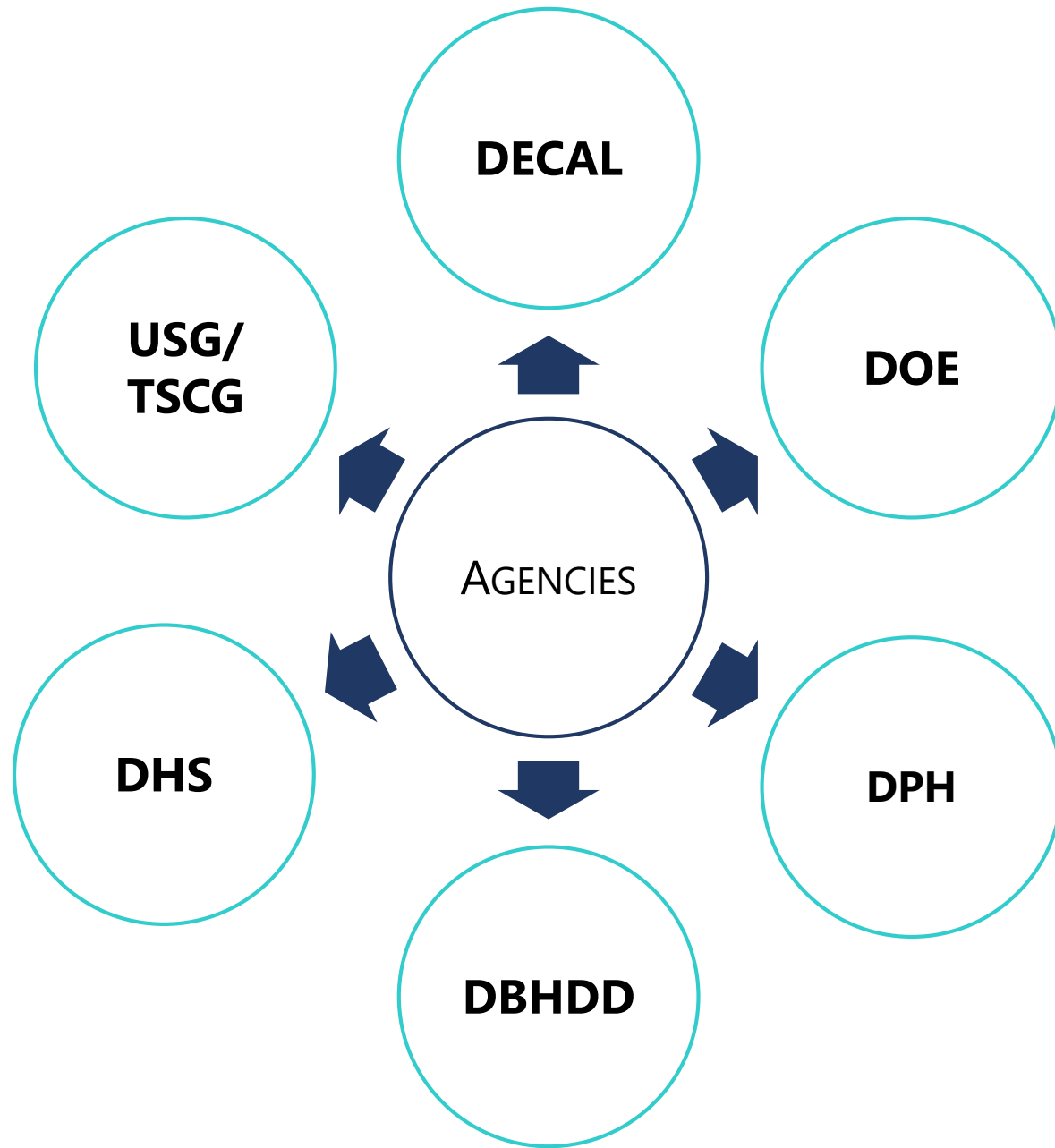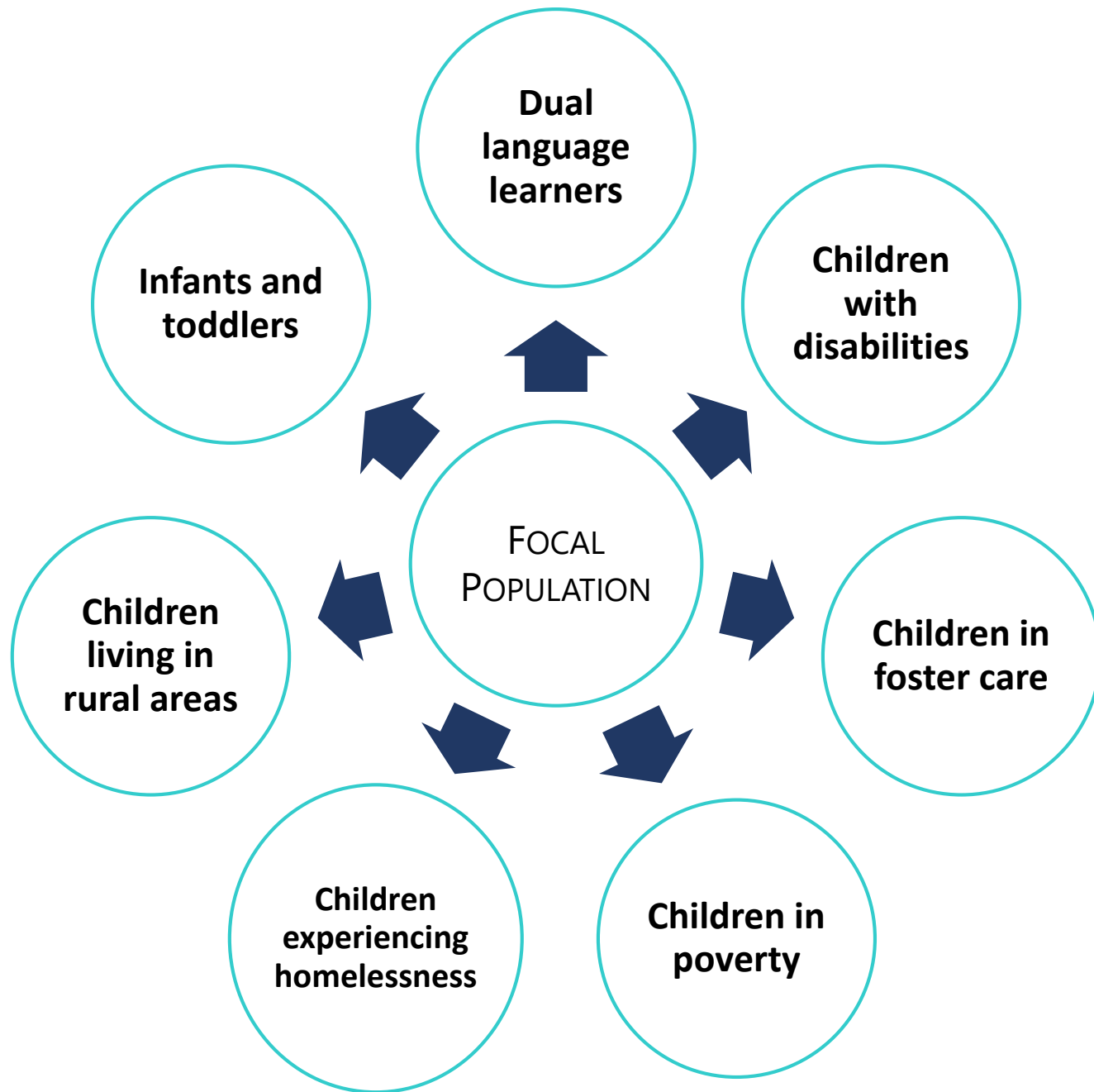
Vulnerable and Underserved B-5 Populations
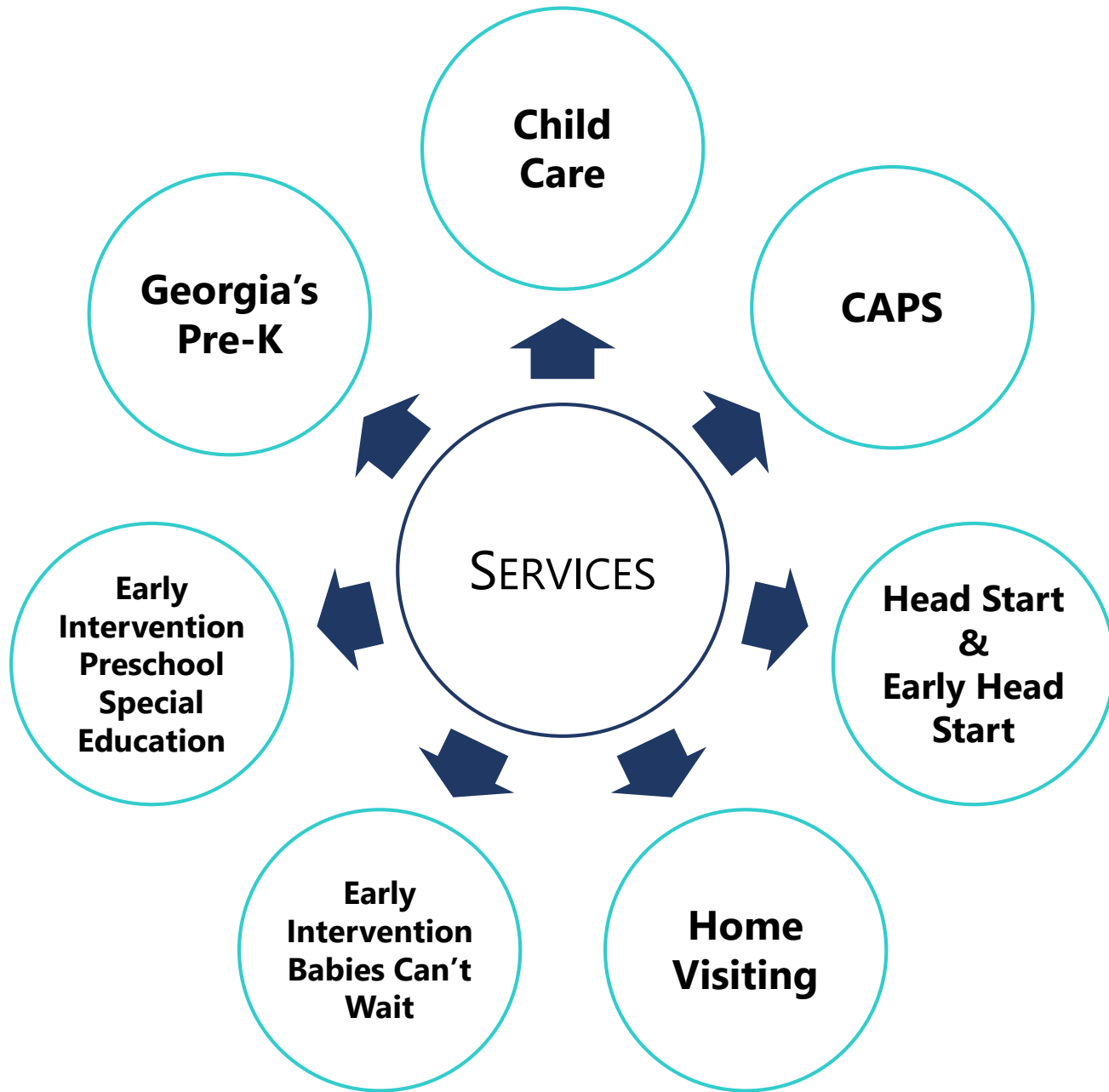
Early Childhood Care and Education Services

Funds will be used to strengthen Georgia's early childhood system through:

- Strengthening family voice and engagement
- Helping families understand child development and connect to early intervention services
- Connecting families to community services through strengthening partnerships and transitions
- Building early childhood workforce capacity
- Increasing access to high quality child care
- Making early childhood data more accessible and useable

Georgia Dept of Early Care and Learning
BRIGHT FROM THE START

Next Steps

- Needs Assessment

- Strategic Planning

Georgia Dept of Early Care and Learning
BRIGHT FROM THE START

DECAL is identifying and training parents across the state to become peer leaders and advocates.

Family Ambassadors

- Share resources and information at community events including
  - Early childhood services
  - Child development

- Participate in community and state level advisory groups and provide feedback to inform policy and practice

Next Steps

- Recruit and train a 2nd cohort this spring.
- Create a state level Cross Agency Family Council.
- Pilot Safe and Secure Family Leadership Institute.

2020 Update

Bentley Ponder, Deputy Commissioner,
Quality Innovations and Partnerships

Denise Jenson, Quality Rated Operations Director

Shawnell Johnson, CAPS Family Support Director

**Georgia Dept
of Early Care
and Learning**
BRIGHT FROM THE START

2020 Has Come . . .

Quality Rated

- Georgia's system to communicate, assess, and improve quality in child care and school-age programs

- Implemented 2012

- Exponential growth 2014-present

- Administration: DECAL

- Technical Assistance: CCR&Rs

CAPS

- Georgia's federally funded program to provide child care subsidies to low-income families

- Funded through the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF)

- Full transfer of the program to DECAL occurred in 2017

- DECAL's implementation includes Scholarships and Family Support

- Serves, on average, approximately 55,000 children a month

2020 Goal

ALL CAPS providers must be rated 1, 2, or 3 stars by December 31, 2020 to continue to receive CAPS funding.
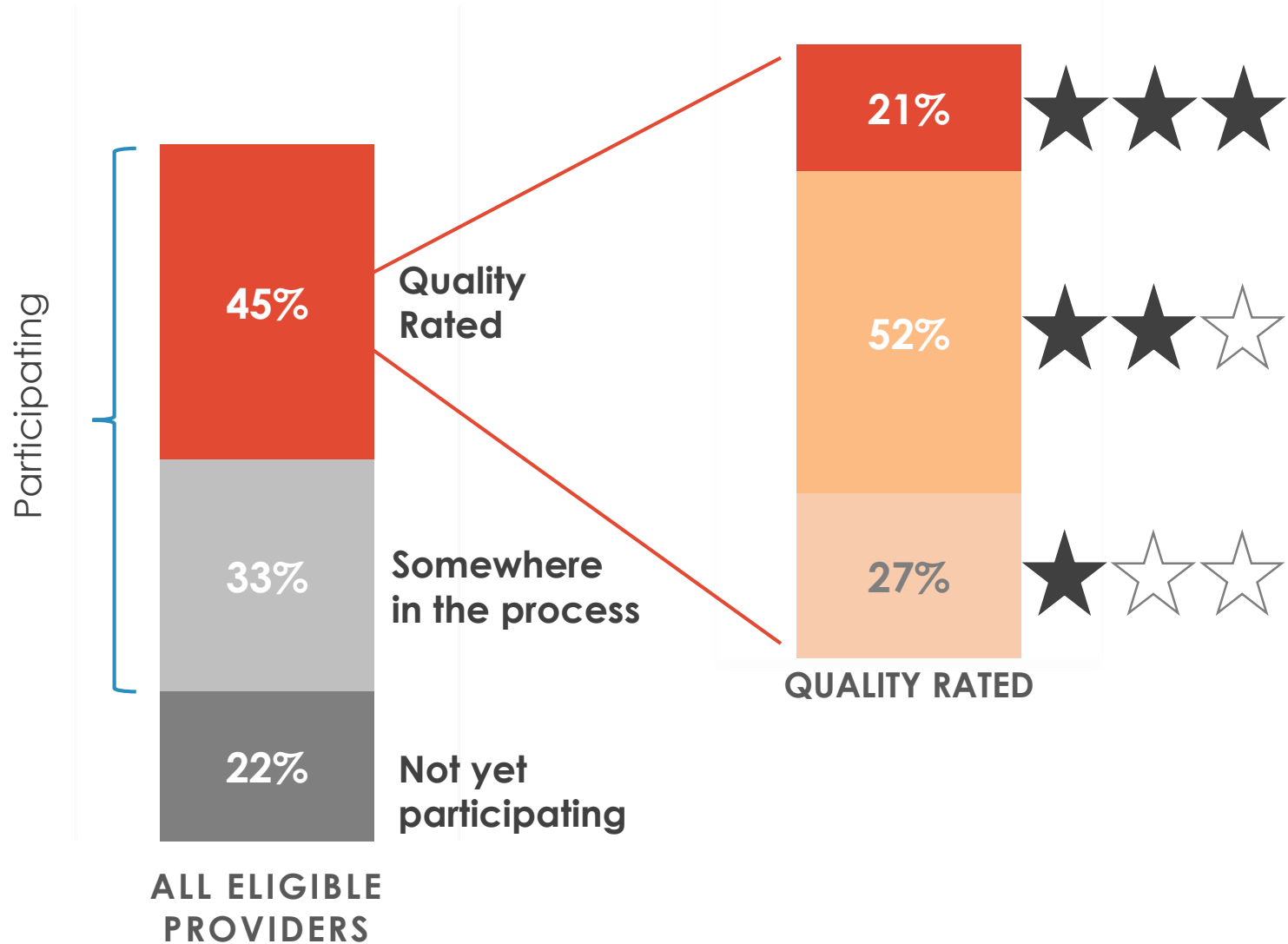
70% of children receiving CAPS or QRSG are at a Quality Rated provider.
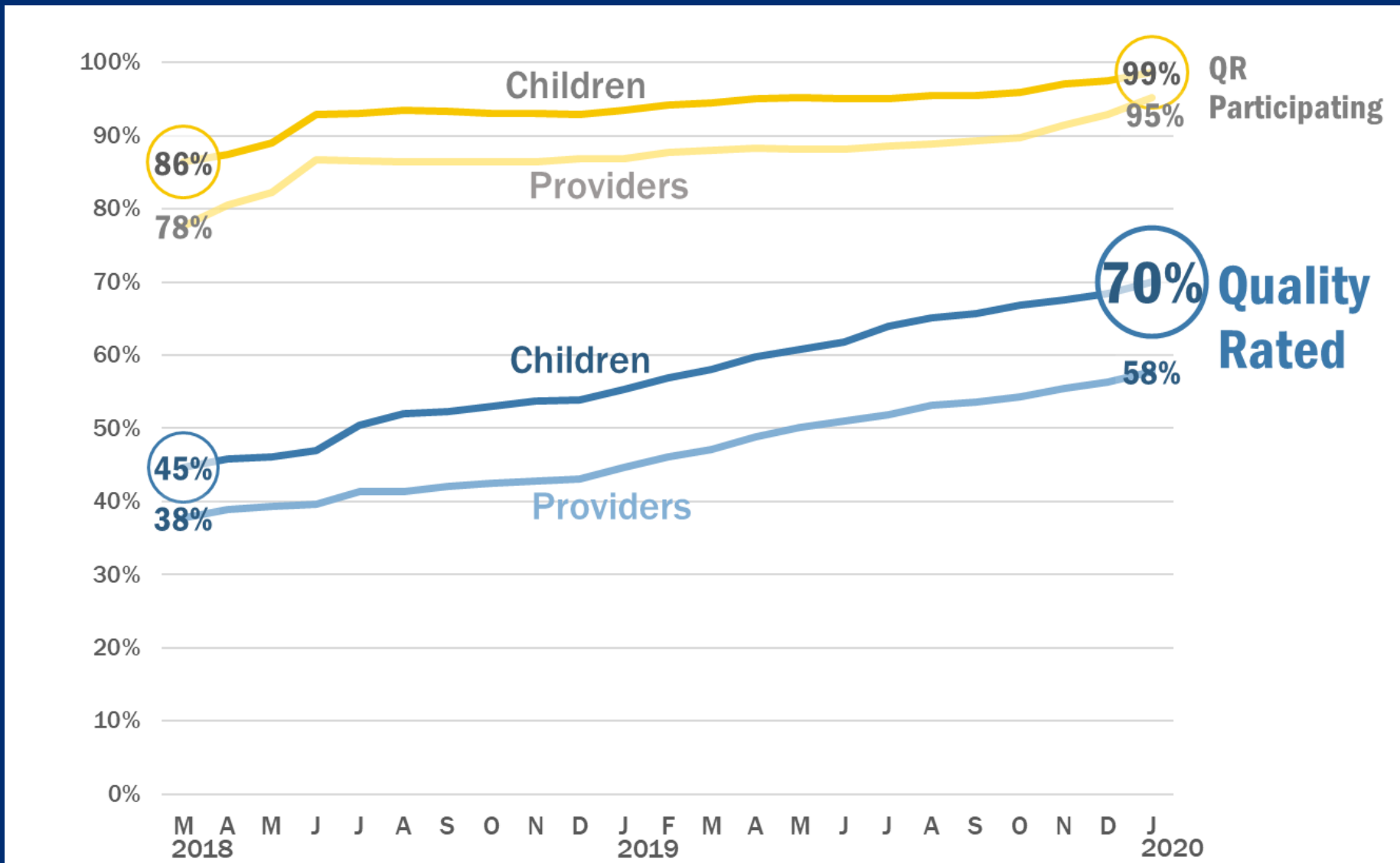
QR Operational Updates

QR Operational Changes: Temporary and Permanent

- Temporary
  - Providers who have a mandatory re-rating (required reassessment) in 2020 will be granted an automatic "hold-harmless" year.
  - Voluntary reassessment requests will be suspended in 2020.
- Permanent
  - Quality Rated transitioned to a Cohort Group Sign-up System (slots) for providers to navigate the QR process.
  - Developing two new QR statuses for programs:
    - Provisional
    - Probational

2020 Mandatory and Voluntary Re-Rates

2020 Required Reassessment (n=505)

45

460
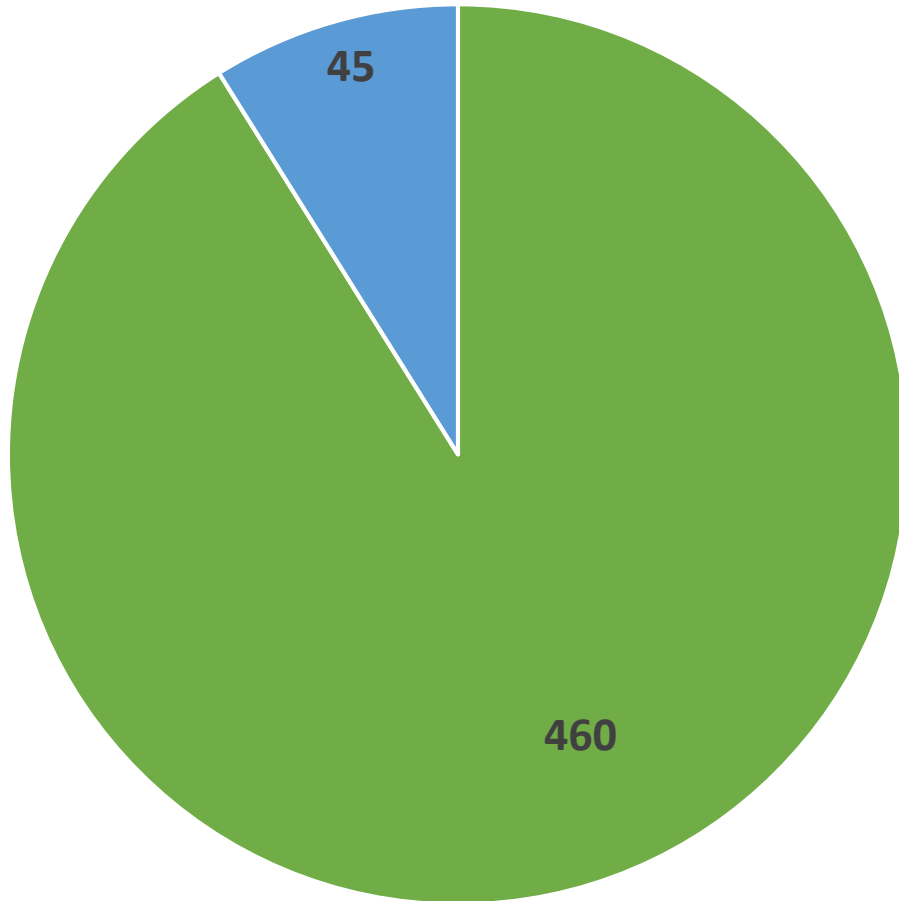
■ Extended ■ Opted Out

2020 Request for Reassessment (n=2110)

35

2075
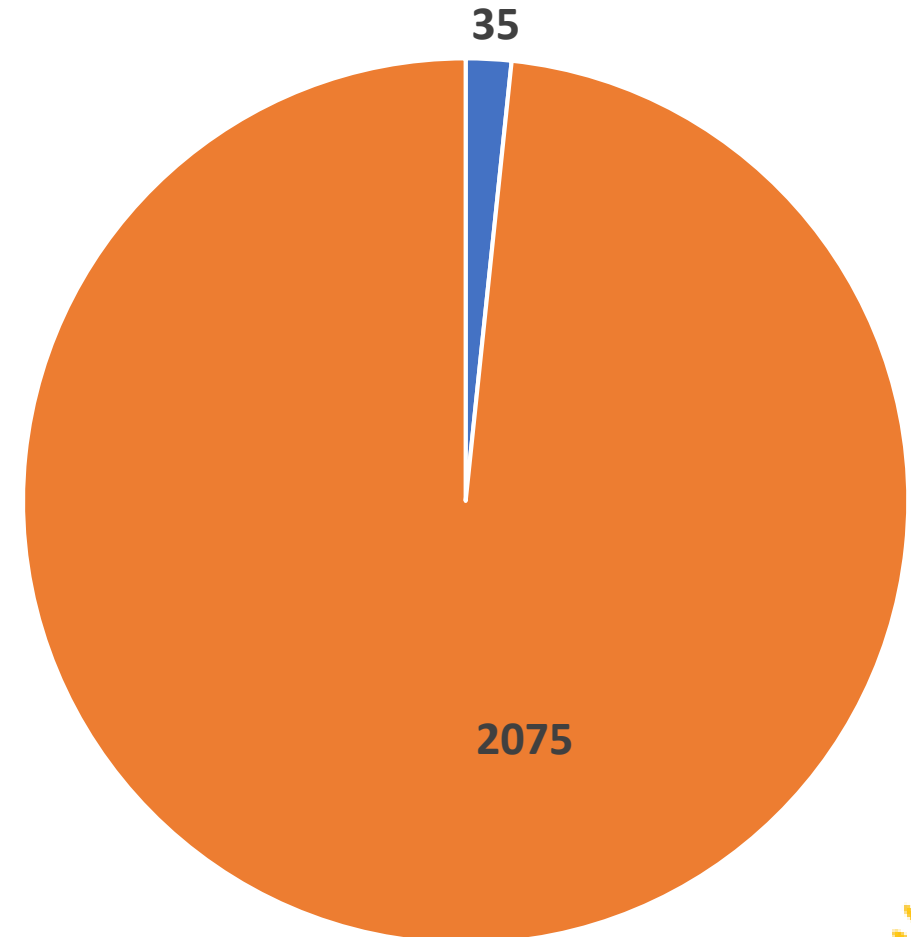
■ Opted Out ■ Suspended

New Sign-up System Implemented December 1, 2019

- All providers receiving an initial rating register for one of four cohort groups.
- CAPS providers had to sign up for a slot by January 31, 2020.
- CAPS providers who did not self-select a slot by January 31 are being contacted to determine their intent to remain a CAPS provider.
- Signing up for a cohort group makes CAPS providers eligible for a 2020 Rating Incentive Package.

Cohort Group Slot-Based System

2020 Rating Packages for CAPS Providers

Program Sign-Up Incentive	
December	January
$500	**$200**

- Encourage early commitment to being observed
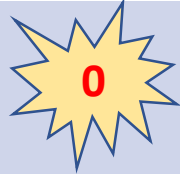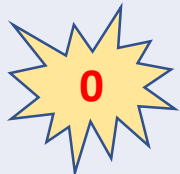
Program Rating Incentives			
Observation Cohort	Director	Teacher	Program
Feb – Mar 2020	**$300**	**$150**	**$700**
Apr – Jun 2020	**$250**	**$150**	**$500**
Jul – Sep 2020	**$200**	**$150**	**$400**
Oct – Dec 2020	**$150**	**$150**	**$0**

- Encourage observations earlier in the year
- Payments made upon achieving a star rating
- Available for initial ratings

2020 Cohort Groups

Select One	Cohort Group	Number of Slots Available	Portfolio Submission Window	Observation Window	Rating Window
☐	1	0	12/17/2019 To 12/23/2019	February – March 2020	Mar – May 2020
☐	2	0	3/17/2020 To 3/23/2020	April – June 2020	May – Aug 2020
☐	3	174	6/19/2020 To 6/24/2020	July – September 2020	Aug – Nov 2020
☐	4	93	9/16/2020 To 9/21/2020	October – December 2020	Nov 2020 – Feb 2021

Selection of a Cohort Group Slot was amazingly successful and provider friendly

- 1,004 programs have selected their cohort
  - 874 CAPS providers
  - 126 non-CAPS providers

Quality Rated Provisional and Probationary Statuses

- DECAL is developing a Provisional Rating for newly licensed programs. Will allow programs to begin serving families receiving CAPS scholarships immediately, while becoming rated.
  - Will include an Online Orientation and Pre-Rating Study to determine eligibility
  - Start date for new Provisional Rating TBD

- DECAL is also developing an optional QR probationary status, available to all programs who do not rate. Those programs wanting to continue serving families who receive CAPS scholarships would be immediately eligible for probationary status.
  - Case management approach to provide quality supports during a 12-18 month prescribed improvement process
  - Start date TBD

Extra help for those just starting out and for those who need it along the way

Supports for Providers

Supports for Providers

- DECAL created a 2020 cross-divisional case management committee to facilitate supports for providers.

- The goals of the committee:
  - Recruitment strategies that involve intentional outreach to recruit non-rated CAPS providers

  - Comprehensive supports across DECAL divisions (i.e., licensing compliance, Pre-K guidance, etc.)

  - Targeted communication to CAPS providers regarding deadline

  - Targeted recruitment data collection from the child care resource and referral agencies

Successful Support

- The committee has successfully supported providers in the following ways:
  - Streamline a process to allow providers to express their concerns about participating in Quality Rated
  - Conduct joint office conferences with CAPS providers to discuss the 2020 deadline
  - Encourage CAPS providers to select the appropriate cohort slot group
  - Troubleshoot provider issues that may impact multiple divisions

Communication with Families

- DECAL developed multifaceted, ongoing communication plan.

- General communications about the benefits of choosing a Quality Rated provider are underway.

- Communications to CAPS families around plans for the 2020 goal and what families can expect began in December 2019.

- Communications to all CAPS families will also occur before each major milestone.

- Communication about the deadline is currently included in all renewal notices sent to families.

- Targeted communications with families that remain enrolled at an unrated provider after December 31, 2020, will occur 45-60 days prior to their renewal in 2021.

Communication with Families

Beyond 2020

- Changed Georgia Early Childhood Education landscape

- Quality Rated revisions

- Continued need to support programs in increasing star rating and continuous quality improvement

Proposed Rule Changes

- Request to ensure that food service and supervision meet standards set forth in ***Caring for Our Children***
- Update requirements regarding feeding of children to prevent choking
- Update definition of supervision to provide more comprehensive information
- Request to add new rule for annual license fees

Why standards from Caring for Our Children

- National Health and Safety Performance Standards; Guidelines for Early Care and Education Programs
- Best evidence, expertise, and experience in the country on *quality* health and safety practices and policies
- Guidance from
  - The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)
  - The American Public Health Association (APHA)
  - The National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education (NRC)

Proposed changes:
591-1-1-.15 Food Service and Nutrition To prevent choking

- **Food size:**
  - Infants – solid foods cut ¼ inch or smaller
  - Toddlers – cut ½ inch or smaller
- **Staff ensure that children:**
  - do not put excessive amounts of food in their mouths
  - chew food appropriately
  - are seated while eating
  - are not laid down or put to sleep with food in their mouths
- Manufacturer's instructions and recommendations are followed
- Children less than four years old are not served foods associated with choking (**any food** similar in shape and size to a child's trachea/windpipe, such as, peanuts, hot dogs, raw carrots, popcorn, fish with bones, cheese cubes, and grapes)
- Food must not be served until it is prepared appropriately for each child's age, and individual eating, chewing, and swallowing ability

Proposed changes:
591-1-1-.32 Staff Child Ratios and Supervision

Supervision must:
- Be appropriate to individual age, needs, and capabilities of each child
- Include:
  - indoor and outdoor activities
  - meal times
  - nap time
  - transportation
  - field trips
  - transitions between activities
- Staff must:
  - be positioned to maximize their ability to hear, see, and respond promptly to children's needs and actions
  - be seated an arm's length from children; attentive; and participating with children during meal times

Proposed Timeline

- Board authorizes CCS to move forward with revisions
- Public comment/webinars July 2020
- Board action on proposed rule changes taken at August 27, 2020 meeting
- If approved, changes become effective October 1, 2020
- Changes recorded in CCLC and FCCLH rule books

Lunch
(Pick up as directed)

Committee Meetings

- *Programs – Hickory*
- *Budget/Finance – Willow*
- *Quality Innovations and Partnerships – Oak*

The public is welcome to attend/observe committee meetings but may not participate in the committee's discussion.

Welcome to the Board of Early Care and Learning

Public Comments

February 20, 2020

Committee Reports

- Budget/Finance
- Programs
- Quality Innovations and Partnerships

Board Meeting Dates 2020

~~February 20, 2020~~

May 21, 2020

August 27, 2020

November 19, 2020