



BRIGHT FROM THE START

Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
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Brian P. Kemp
GOVERNOR

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Dear Child Care Program Provider,

The Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) is committed to providing all child care programs with updated information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) relevant to your program operations during the COVID-19 public health emergency. The CDC has prepared materials to help you determine whether your program is ready to reopen or remain open with appropriate health and safety measures in place. Please reference the “Decision Tree” document that applies to your facility.

Additionally, the CDC provides detailed information for childcare programs, schools, and summer camps about health and safety practices to mitigate COVID-19 exposure, and to plan, prepare, and respond to pandemic emergencies. Please reference the CDC website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/index.html>.

The Executive Order signed on May 12, 2020 explicitly states that day camps and summer camps exempt from licensing must follow CDC guidance. The order stated, “If the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issues guidance for Summer Camps, the provisions of such guidance shall control.”

DECAL recommends all programs strive to provide services that best mitigate contracting the virus. Please visit the web pages listed below for up-to-date information and helpful guidance for child care providers on COVID-19:

<http://www.dec.al.ga.gov/BFTS/Covid19.aspx>.

<https://dph.georgia.gov/>

<https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/guidance-related-to-childcare-during-covid-19/>

Please continue to keep your open/close status updated through your DECAL KOALA account. If you have questions or need DECAL support, you may contact us at ChildCareServices@dec.al.ga.gov.

Thanks for all you do for Georgia’s children and their families. Stay safe and be well.

Pam Stevens

Pam Stevens
Deputy Commissioner for Child Care Services