



## BRIGHT FROM THE START

Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning  
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, SE, Suite 754, East Tower, Atlanta, Georgia 30334  
(404) 656-5957

**Brian P. Kemp**  
GOVERNOR

**Amy M. Jacobs**  
COMMISSIONER

August 17, 2020

Dear Day Camp Providers,

The Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) is committed to supporting families' need for child care during the COVID-19 public health emergency. DECAL recognizes the vital role that providers play in the support of Georgia's children and families, especially during a public health crisis. DECAL also recognizes the important role of the child care industry in the economic stability of the state.

Governor Brian P. Kemp issued an Executive Order on August 15, 2020 that pertains to day camp programs. The Executive Order can be found at <https://gov.georgia.gov/executive-action/executive-orders/2020-executive-orders> and must be implemented by all open and reopening day camp programs beginning August 17, 2020 until further notice. The Order expands the regulation definition of day camps and requires that day camps operating for the purpose of facilitating distance learning during a public health emergency must comply with health and safety standards. DECAL staff are authorized to ensure compliance with the Executive Order requirements. The Health and Safety Standards and checklists can be found at <http://www.decals.ga.gov/CCS/Exemptions.aspx>.

The Executive Order requires that programs must ensure that all persons responsible for the care and supervision of children must undergo fingerprinting background checks. The checks must be run through DECAL processes described at <http://www.decals.ga.gov/CCS/CriminalRecordsCheck.aspx>.

Whether you have decided to close or operate during this time, you should report this information through your DECAL KOALA account. If you have not updated this information to DECAL, please follow these steps:

- Log in to your DECAL KOALA account at [www.decalkoala.com](http://www.decalkoala.com)
- On the green Menu Bar, click Facility Update
- Click Operating Details
- Enter your program's COVID-19 information in the blue area, including dates closed and open
- Enter whether your program's is open to serve school-age children all day to facilitate distance learning purposes

If you have questions about the Executive Order or DECAL support, you may contact us at [ChildCareServices@decals.ga.gov](mailto:ChildCareServices@decals.ga.gov). Additionally, for information and updates on COVID-19, including DECAL's Frequently Asked Questions for each DECAL division, please visit <http://www.decals.ga.gov/BFTS/Covid19.aspx>. Please also continue to visit the websites of the Governor's Office, Georgia Department of Public Health, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for the latest and most accurate information.

Thanks for all you do for Georgia's children and their families.

Sincerely,

*Pam Stevens*

Pam Stevens  
Deputy Commissioner for Child Care Services