

Pre-K Updates

August 21, 2020



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

Today's Agenda

back to
School



- Communication
- Instructional Models
- Pre-K Rosters and Payments
- Student Attendance & Student Documentation
- Supporting Teachers
- Reminders
- Important Dates
- Questions

Communication



Communication

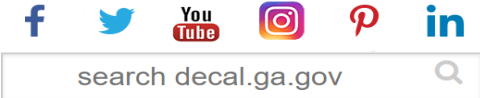
August

- Update Emails
- Bi-Weekly Webinars
 - Scheduled for Friday @ 12:00.
 - Will be recorded and posted.

September

- FAQs updated as needed.
- Update Webinar: Friday, September 18th, 12:00 pm

Communication



[Home](#) [Agency](#) [Programs](#) [Families](#) [Teachers](#) [Providers](#) [Contact Us](#)

[Menu](#) / [Georgia's Pre-K](#) / Project Directors



Pre-K

[About Pre-K](#)

[Book List](#)

[Classroom Assessment Scoring System \(CLASS\)](#)

[Creating a Quality Learning Environment](#)

[Curriculum](#)

[Enrolling in Pre-K](#)

[Families](#)

[FAQ](#)

[GA's Pre-K At Home](#)

[Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards](#)

[Operating Guidelines](#)

[Pre-K Supports](#)

[Professional Learning](#)

[Project Directors](#)

[Search for Pre-K](#)

[Starting a Pre-K Program](#)

[Summer Transition Program](#)

PROJECT DIRECTORS

Project directors are responsible for appropriately implementing Georgia's Pre-K Program. Many resources are available on this website to assist directors in effectively managing their program and in making quality improvements to the Pre-K classroom.

The following is a list of items and/or documents to support you in implementing Georgia's Pre-K Program.

Project Director Resource List:

[2019 – 2020 Pre-K Providers' Operating Guidelines](#)

[2019 – 2020 Pre-K Providers' Operating Guidelines Addendum April 21, 2020](#)

[2020 – 2021 School Year Georgia's Pre-K Program Guidance Toolkit](#)

[2020 – 2021 School Year Georgia's Pre-K Program Guidance Webinar](#)

[2020 – 2021 School Year Georgia's Pre-K Program Guidance Webinar Slides](#)

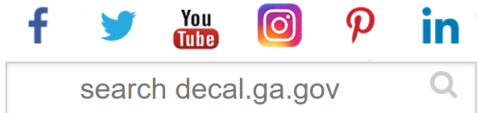
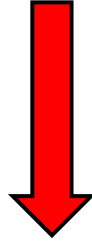
[+ 2020 – 2021 Georgia's Pre-K Updates and FAQ](#)

[Pre-K Instructional Model Approval Form](#)

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[Home](#) [Agency](#) [Programs](#) [Families](#) [Teachers](#) [Providers](#) [Contact Us](#)

 / [Georgia's Pre-K](#) / Teachers




Pre-K

 [About Pre-K](#)

[Book List](#)

[Classroom Assessment Scoring System \(CLASS\)](#)

 [Creating a Quality Learning Environment](#)

[Curriculum](#)

[Enrolling in Pre-K](#)

[Families](#)

[FAQ](#)

[GA's Pre-K At Home](#)

[Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards](#)

RESOURCES FOR THE GEORGIA'S PRE-K 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

 [General Information](#)

 [Pre-K Instructional Models](#)

 [Schedule and Lesson Plan Templates](#)

 [Virtual Learning Resources](#)

 [Social and Emotional Tools](#)

 [Family Engagement and Resources](#)

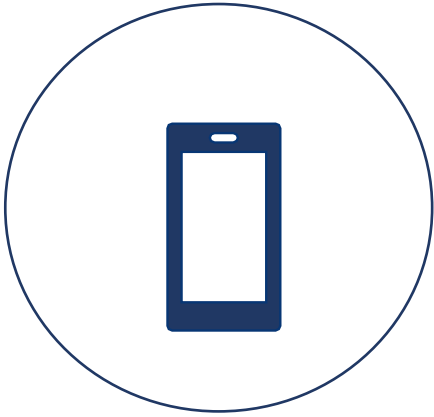
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Instructional Models



Distance Learning



Ongoing Communication with Families

Helpful tools:

- [Class Tag](#)
- [Bright Wheel](#)
- [Remind](#)
- [Bloomz](#)
- [Talking Points](#)



Virtual Platforms

Options:

- [Zoom](#)
- [Class Dojo](#)
- [Google Classroom](#)
- [Seesaw](#)
- [Webex](#)



Student Privacy

Information:

- [FERPA and Coronavirus](#)
- [FERPA & Virtual Learning](#)

Pre-K Rosters & Payments



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■	—
■	—
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Pre-K Rosters

2020 - 2021

Dates for Roster 1 and 2 have been revised due to later school start dates.

Roster	OLD Roster Open for Data Entry	NEW Roster Open Date for Data Entry	OLD Count Day	NEW Count Day	NEW Due Date to DECAL
1	August 3, 2020	August 25, 2020	September 4, 2020	September 18, 2020	September 25, 2020
2	October 5, 2020	October 19, 2020	November 6, 2020	November 13, 2020	November 20, 2020
3	December 11, 2020	No Change	January 15, 2021	No Change	No Change
4	February 12, 2021	No Change	March 12, 2021	No Change	No Change

* Operating Guidelines and COVID-19 Addendum have been updated and posted.

Student Rosters

PANDA RESOURCES

PANDA (Pre-K Application and Database Access) is the online provider service system for Georgia's Pre-K Program. Through PANDA, providers can submit applications, complete rosters and waiting lists, check on payments, submit their reconciliation, and update site and contact information. The documents below are designed to assist providers with performing these functions in PANDA. For questions about PANDA, please contact Georgia's Pre-K Program at panda.support@decal.ga.gov.

Documents List

[PANDA Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#)

[PANDA Payment Advice Instructions](#)

[PANDA Provider Calendar Instructions](#)

[PANDA Student Data Training Document](#)

[PANDA Teacher Data Entry Training Document](#)

[Race & Ethnicity Instructions](#)

[PANDA Student Roster Template 2021](#)

[Teacher Roster Tips- Tips for Updating Roster 1 Teacher Data](#)

[Roster Tips- Entering and Correcting Student information](#)

[PANDA QRSG Data Training Document](#)



- Rosters will open for entry on **August 25th**.
- Count date is **September 18th**.
 - Only enter enrolled students on your roster. Children are enrolled when they have enrollment paperwork on file and are receiving educational services (in-person, virtual, completing distance learning activities).
 - Make sure that you have confirmed each child's attendance in the classroom.
 - Contact PreK@decal.ga.gov if you have questions about a parent who submitted enrollment paperwork, but the child has not started.
- Student Rosters must be submitted by **September 25th** for all classrooms.
 - **Classes with no students entered will be closed.**
- Refer to [Roster Tips- Entering and Correcting Student Information](#).
- Need help? Email panda.rosters@decal.ga.gov

Rosters

2020 - 2021

Pre-K

+ About Pre-K

Book List

Classroom Assessment Scoring
System (CLASS)

+ Creating a Quality Learning
Environment

Curriculum

Enrolling in Pre-K

Families

FAQ

GA's Pre-K At Home

Georgia Early Learning and
Development Standards

Operating Guidelines

+ Pre-K Supports

Professional Learning

+ Project Directors

Search for Pre-K

Starting a Pre-K Program

Summer Transition Program

+ Teachers

Teachers of the Year

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Project Director Resource List:

Pre-K Providers Operating Guidelines

2019 – 2020 Pre-K Providers' Operating Guidelines Addendum April 21, 2020

2019-2020 WSO End of the Year Guidance for Directors

2020-2021 Pre-K Rate/Pre Child Estimate Chart

Pre-K Instructional Model Approval Form

+ 2020 – 2021 School Year Georgia's Pre-K Program Guidance Toolkit

+ Pre-K Roster Request Forms and Tip Sheets



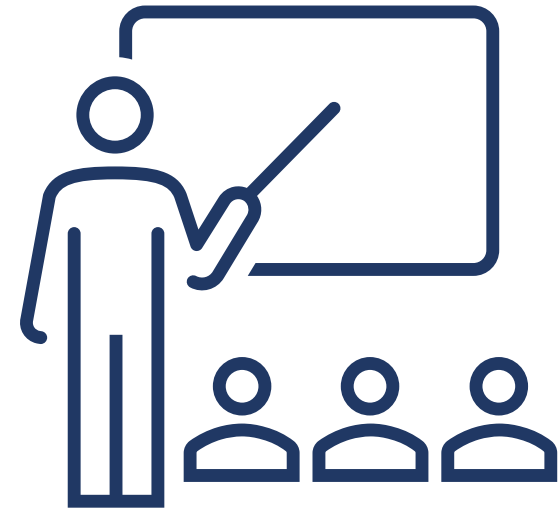
+ 2020 – 2021 Georgia's Pre-K Updates and FAQ

Payments

2020 - 2021

- The August, September and **October** payments will be based on the Teacher Information in PANDA and the Grant Agreement.
 - The August payment was processed on **Monday, August 10th**.
 - Classrooms with incomplete teacher information were not paid.
 - Programs without an executed Grant Agreement were not paid.
 - Separate payment for Teacher CYE Supplement Pay was processed on **Monday, August 17th**.
- The November payment will be based on Roster 1 data.
 - Roster 1 data will be reviewed to determine proration of operating costs.
 - **It is very important that Roster data is entered correctly and on time.**

Student Attendance & Documentation



Student Attendance

2020 - 2021

How To Take Attendance for Distance Learning

- Each Pre-K program is responsible for developing a written process for how student attendance will be documented. The process should include how the program will determine if a child is present and the procedures for addressing attendance issues with families.
- Programs may choose to take attendance based on children's presence during virtual learning instruction, as well as evidence of activities completed at home. Other examples for recording attendance include:
 - Communication from a family member/caregiver that the child was engaged in a learning activity
 - Online sign-in form
 - Parent/caregiver responding to a text, email, or phone call
 - Participation in “check-in” virtual conference
 - Parent or caregiver picking up learning packets as they are distributed
 - Daily or Weekly Family Report (prepared by the teacher with activities that can be "checked off" by families)
 - Logging into an online learning platform

Student Attendance

2020 - 2021

How To Handle “Excessive” Absences

- There may be additional absences this year due to the pandemic:
 - Quarantine of the child or a family member
 - Transportation issues
 - Technology issues
- Programs should follow up with the families of children who are absent to document reasons for the absences.
- Programs are not required to automatically disenroll children due to absences if the program is in communication with the family and documenting reasons for absences.
- Programs should withdraw children who are no longer attending and are not returning to the program.

Student Attendance

2020 - 2021

Should a program mark a student who is quarantined absent?

If a child is quarantined, not sick, and able to participate in distance learning activities, then the child can be marked present. If a child is quarantined and is sick or unable to participate in distance learning activities, then the absence should be recorded as an excused absence.

Student Documentation

2020 - 2021

Families may experience difficulties acquiring required documentation (acceptable age documentation, immunization and eye, ear, dental and wellness forms) for enrollment and program attendance due to pandemic.

- Programs should work with families to acquire required forms and document progress.
- Appropriate documentation should be on file even for students in full distance programs.
- Contact Pre-K if a family needs support in acquiring screenings.
- Programs may extend deadline for acceptable age documentation and immunizations (Form 3231) for up to 90 days.

Supporting Teachers



Teacher Resources

2020 - 2021



search decal.ga.gov



Agency

Programs

Families

Teachers

Providers

Contact Us



/ Georgia's Pre-K / Teachers



Pre-K

+ About Pre-K

Book List

Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS)

+ Creating a Quality Learning Environment

Curriculum

Enrolling in Pre-K

Families

FAQ

GA's Pre-K At Home

Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards

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+ Social and Emotional Tools

+ Family Engagement and Resources

Teacher Training

2020 - 2021

- The training calendar will be available in the next few weeks. An email will be sent when training registration opens.
 - New Teacher training will be virtual in the fall; **and** the second day will be offered face to face in the spring. (Total 2 days)
 - Returning Teacher training will be offered virtually in the fall **or** a face to face one day training in the spring. (Total 1 day)
- An optional training webinar on distance learning has been posted.
 - **Intentional Teaching in a Virtual Classroom**
 - Posted under *Virtual Learning Resources*.



Resources

2020 - 2021



The National Center for Pyramid Model Innovations (NCPMI) has created a reopening guide for early childhood programs. The Leadership Team's Guide for Re-Opening Programs can be found at:

https://challengingbehavior.cbcs.usf.edu/docs/Leadership_ReOpening_Guide.pdf

Additional Resources for *Emergencies and National Disasters: Helping Children and Families Cope* can be found on their website.

<https://challengingbehavior.cbcs.usf.edu/emergency/index.html>



The Children's Museum of Atlanta offers a variety of at home activities for children in early childhood through elementary school. Those resources can be accessed on their website at:

[Children's Museum of Atlanta At Home](#) or on their YouTube channel at:

[Children's Museum of Atlanta YouTube.](#)



Conscious Discipline offers free educator and family resources in both English and Spanish which can be accessed on their website at: [Conscious Discipline.](#)

Reminders



- Contact your Pre-K Specialist if your program has an intermittent closure.
- Make sure that your calendar is entered for approval.
- Prepare for 2019 – 2020 Pre-K Reconciliation Reports:
 - Email notification when report is ready
 - Webinar training in September
 - Due dates-
 - Private- October 31st
 - Public- November 15th



Important Dates



August 25: Rosters open

August 27: DECAL Board Meeting

September 1: WSO opens for teachers

September 18: Roster Count Date

September 18: Pre-K Updates
Webinar

September 25: Roster Due Date

September 30: All 2019 – 2020
Pre-K Funding must be expended.

October 5 – 9: Georgia's Pre-K
Week



Questions



Thank You!

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