

Frequently Asked Questions  
Related to Covid-19/Coronavirus  
March 14, 2020 *(to be revised regularly)*

*This document is a compilation of questions that the Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) has received from child care providers, families, policy makers, and the public relating to the impact of Covid-19/Coronavirus.*

*We recommend that you visit this webpage often because this document will be updated regularly as additional questions are submitted.*

### **FOR PROVIDERS: Regarding Georgia's Pre-K Program**

**The submit date for Pre-K rosters is March 20, 2020. Will this date be extended due to the closures?** Because the COVID-19 virus has resulted in many program closures, the due date for roster 4 has been extended from March 20 to **Friday, April 3.**

Be sure to submit your roster by close of business on April 3. We strongly encourage you to submit your roster as soon as it is ready to avoid delay of your April payment. If you have concerns about meeting the April 3 submission date, email [panda.rosters@dec.al.ga.gov](mailto:panda.rosters@dec.al.ga.gov). Include your organization's legal name in the body of the email.

**Will Pre-K payments be paid on schedule?** Yes, DECAL will execute payments on schedule even if the state office staff are teleworking or if the state office is closed. The April payment is scheduled on or before April 12, 2020. Payments will be based on the April roster count.

**Is the Governor or DECAL mandating that Pre-K programs close?** No, neither Governor Kemp nor DECAL is requiring Pre-K programs to close. Closures are at the discretion of local providers.

**I operate a Pre-K program at a child care program, and the local school system is closing. Should I also close?** Pre-K classrooms operated by child care programs are not required to close if the local school system is closed. However, many child care programs choose to follow local school system's closures. If you need guidance in deciding if you should close, contact your local department of health.

**Will Pre-K providers be required to make up days due to COVID-19 related closures?**

Currently, DECAL is not requiring make-up days for COVID-19 related closures. For closures exceeding 10 school days, DECAL will revisit the make-up day policy and provide guidance before Monday, March 30.

If the Governor declares a State of Emergency (SOE), the days included in the SOE declaration do not have to be made up. The decision to make up missed days should be based primarily on the time needed to recover learning and on what is in the best interests of students and staff. Contact your Pre-K Specialist if you have specific questions.

**Should Pre-K students be counted as absent on days when the Pre-K program is closed, when the student or a family member is quarantined, or when a family decides to keep a child at home due to COVID-19 concerns?** If the program/classroom is closed, the closure should be noted on the attendance roster. If individual students are not present due to a quarantine, the absence should be marked as excused. Absences for students whose parents choose to keep them at home as a precautionary measure should also be marked as excused absences. Programs should not disenroll students who are not attending due to COVID-19.

**Should Pre-K lead and assistant teachers be paid if the Pre-K program is closed due to COVID-19?**

Frequently Asked Questions  
Related to Covid-19/Coronavirus  
March 14, 2020 *(to be revised regularly)*

Payments will not be adjusted for closure days due to COVID-19. The minimum salary requirements for lead and assistant teachers must be met. Programs are required to pay Pre-K lead and assistant teachers during COVID-19 closures. Providers must arrange to process and distribute pay to Pre-K teachers.

**If my Pre-K program will be temporarily closing due to COVID-19, who should I contact?** Pre-K Project Directors should contact their Pre-K Specialists regarding any closures. If your program is licensed, you must also follow child care licensing regulations and contact the licensing division.

**If my Pre-K program is closed but my child care center remains open for child care, can I require my Pre-K teachers to work supervising other age groups? If so, do I use Pre-K funds to pay them?**

DECAL does not have guidelines for the agreements between child care programs and their teaching staff. Pre-K funds may not be used to pay Pre-K teachers to supervise other age groups of children.

**Can programs keep the Pre-K class operating and allow other age groups to participate in the classroom to accommodate families in the community?** If the Pre-K classroom is open, it should run as a typical Pre-K class; other age groups should not be placed in the classroom.

**If I choose to keep my Pre-K class operating but very few children attend, should I close the class?**

This decision is at the discretion of the Pre-K Project Director.

**Can a program require teachers to report to work for teacher workdays when the Pre-K class is closed?**

This decision is at the discretion of the Pre-K Project Director, school superintendent, or other positions of authority who make decisions for the program. However, caution should be used when making these decisions especially for teachers who may be in a high-risk group for COVID-19. Programs may wish to contact their local health department for guidance.

**Does DECAL recommend “digital learning” days for Pre-K students?** The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends no more than one hour of total screen time for children age 4. Screen time includes ALL screens including TV, laptops, and hand-held devices. DECAL does not support online learning days for Pre-K children and encourages families and Pre-K providers to limit screen time to no more than one hour a day in high quality digital content.

### **FOR PROVIDERS: Regarding Child Care Licensing (CCS)**

**Should I change any of my classroom practices because of the coronavirus?**

You should continue your basic health and safety practices such as handwashing and cleaning and disinfecting surfaces that could possibly pose a risk to children and teachers. Extra care and attention should be given to ensure you and your students use proper handwashing techniques. *Proper basic hand washing* involves using soap and warm water to wash hands for about 20 seconds. Children and teachers should also cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue and immediately dispose of the tissue in a trashcan. For additional information, visit the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidance for child care programs. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/checklist.html>  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/guidance-for-schools.html>

**If my child care program is exposed to COVID-19, what steps should I take?**

1. Immediately contact your local public health department.

Frequently Asked Questions  
Related to Covid-19/Coronavirus  
March 14, 2020 *(to be revised regularly)*

2. Based on guidance from the health department, determine your next steps and notify parents, staff, and other individuals possibly impacted.
3. Contact Child Care Services Intake at 404-656-5957 within 24 hours to inform DECAL.

**Did the Governor shut down schools and child care due to COVID-19?**

Currently, the Governor is encouraging child care providers to make decisions about closing at the local level. If you feel it's in the best interest of the children, families, and staff at your program to close, notify your child care services (CCS) consultant.

**What measures should child care providers take if parents are unable to pick up sick children?**

Providers should continue with normal business operations and follow their established policy concerning children who are sick and need to be picked up.

**What measures should child care providers take if a child is sick at the program?**

Providers should follow normal procedures and policies.

**Are additional rules and regulations going to be put into place soon to combat the spread of COVID-19?**

Child care providers should continue to operate by the current child care licensing rules unless directed differently by the local health department. Pay strict attention to rules pertaining to hygiene, communicable diseases, cleaning, and sanitizing. If employees or children are sick, the CDC and the Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) recommend they stay home.

**The CDC is discouraging large events. Does the state have a position on larger child care learning centers as they may be more vulnerable to larger spread?**

DECAL has not received direction from the Department of Public Health or the Governor's Office concerning large child care learning centers. We do not anticipate decisions being made based on program capacity.

**Will DECAL be providing plans and/or guidance for child care learning centers and family child care learning homes regarding distance learning?** Providers should consult Georgia's state licensing rules and *Caring for Our Children* regarding best practices for activities and schedules. Distance learning for young children is not considered best practice. The American Academy of Pediatrics has recommendations for children's media use. For children ages birth to 24 months, screen use is not recommended. For children ages 2 to 5, limit screen use to one hour per day of high quality programs. Screen time includes all screens including television, videos, and any hand-held devices.

**Should providers continue to promote family style dining during meals?**

DECAL will continue to monitor guidance from the DPH and the CDC for additional information related to the Coronavirus. At this time, there is no additional guidance, and providers should adhere to licensing rules regarding family style dining and other dietary considerations. Providers should use best judgment regarding changes in meal service.

**Who should I contact with any questions not addressed in this FAQ?**

General questions can be directed to DECAL's main office at 404-656-5957. The receptionist will direct callers to the most pertinent division. You may also directly contact DECAL divisions at:

Child Care Licensing: [childcareservices@decals.ga.gov](mailto:childcareservices@decals.ga.gov)

Frequently Asked Questions  
Related to Covid-19/Coronavirus  
March 14, 2020 *(to be revised regularly)*

Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS): [1-833-4GA-CAPS](tel:1-833-4GA-CAPS) or the *Contact Us* link on our website  
<https://caps.decal.ga.gov>

Quality Rated: [1-855-800-7747](tel:1-855-800-7747), [qualityrated@decal.ga.gov](mailto:qualityrated@decal.ga.gov)

Nutrition: [Kate.Alexander@decal.ga.gov](mailto:Kate.Alexander@decal.ga.gov) or 404-651-8193

Pre-K: [prek@decal.ga.gov](mailto:prek@decal.ga.gov) or call 404-651-7420

**If public schools in an area close, will the state allow child care programs to serve those children without being screened for the virus?**

If the students have not been directed to self-isolate by the local public health department, they can be served in child care programs. The child care provider should ask that question at the time of enrollment. Remember that license capacity and staff: child ratios should be maintained in accordance with state rules and regulations in all classrooms.

**If my local school system has closed, but my program remains open, is it safe to accept school age children for care?**

It is the child care provider's decision who to accept care. Providers can ask the family if they have been contacted by, or are being monitored by, the local health department. This information can help providers make informed decisions about accepting children into their program.

**If there are two degrees of separation between someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19 and someone at a child care facility, does that person need to self-isolate? For example: If a teacher at a facility had lunch with a friend who was exposed to COVID-19 but is not experiencing any symptoms, does the teacher need to self-isolate?**

At this time, the public health departments are requiring self-isolation only for those with direct contact with a person who is confirmed to have COVID-19. Exposure to COVID-19 is contact within six feet for a duration of ten minutes or more. If you have questions about exposure, contact your local health department.

**Will a child care provider be notified if an employee or a child at their facility has COVID-19?**

DPH conducts a thorough investigation when COVID-19 cases are confirmed or presumed. Anyone who may have been exposed to the patient is contacted and given direction for self-isolation and testing.

**Can a child care program increase their capacity to serve additional children during the outbreak?**

At this time, license capacity cannot be increased. We understand that you may be asked to care for additional children during this time; however, licensing regulations regarding license capacity are designed to best protect children.

**FOR PROVIDERS: Regarding CAPS**

**If my local school system has closed, but my program remains open, is it safe to accept school age children for care?**

It is the child care provider's decision who to accept for care. Providers can ask families if they have been contacted by or are being monitored by the local health department. This information can help providers make informed decisions about whether to accept children into their program.

**How will I be paid during this time?**

Frequently Asked Questions  
Related to Covid-19/Coronavirus  
March 14, 2020 *(to be revised regularly)*

The billing portal will remain open and providers can continue to submit invoices for payment processing. Payments can be processed by the CAPS program remotely. We anticipate no disruptions in payments to child care providers.

**If a family is unable to pay their CAPS weekly assessed fee because they are temporarily not working, will CAPS pay the family fee?**

Once the family reports this change in their circumstances to the CAPS program via Georgia Gateway, their family fee can be reduced accordingly by CAPS, and your payment will be adjusted based on the new amount.

**Can I get paid for children with CAPS scholarships if I am closed, or if I am open, but some children are not attending?**

Whether open or closed, a provider may continue to bill for any child with an active scholarship who was present at least once since March 1, 2020. When billing for absent children, or billing for a service week when the center is closed, providers should bill only on one scholarship per child using the scholarship with the highest rate. This emergency policy will remain in effect through service week ending March 29, 2020. Even though providers will be paid for all children in care since March 1, 2020, providers must still keep accurate records required by CAPS policy including sign in and sign out records.

**FOR PROVIDERS: Regarding Quality Rated**

**Is Quality Rated currently conducting classroom observations.**

Quality Rated will suspend classroom observations until April 13.

**Are providers penalized if they are closed and miss their cohort/observation window?**

QR will make every attempt to reschedule your observation for your current cohort. However, this may not be possible. In this case, your observation may occur at some other time during this year.

**How does this situation impact the 2020 Goal?**

The current does not impact the 2020 Goal. Cohorts 3 and 4 have open slots that can ensure all eligible providers are observed by December 31, 2020.

**How is the cohort selection process being impacted?**

Quality Rated is extending the dates that are considered for the first quarter. The quarter will be extended to April 30, 2020. Extensions for Cohorts 2, 3, and 4 will be considered later. The portfolio submission date for providers in the reverse process for Cohort 1 has been extended to April 15, 2020.

**If my observation cannot be completed during my original 30-day window, will I receive a notice of the new window, and will I be allowed to pick additional blackout dates?**

Yes, you will be notified of your new 30-day window. You will not be able to select any new black-out days during the new 30-day window, but you will have the opportunity to share any program closure dates.

**I am a Cohort 2 provider, and I will not be able to submit by portfolio by March 23<sup>rd</sup> due to my program being closed. Will I forfeit my Cohort 2 observation slot if I do not submit my portfolio?**

No, we will be extending the submission window in which you can submit your portfolio to April

Frequently Asked Questions  
Related to Covid-19/Coronavirus  
March 14, 2020 *(to be revised regularly)*

30. If you think you will be closed longer than this time, contact the Quality Rated Help Desk.

**Will assessors come if TA's have suspended technical assistance visits to my program?**

We will coordinate communication efforts with each local resource and referral agency. These communication strategies are being developed.

**If I have opted-out of the rating extension to 2021, and my rating is due to expire within the next four weeks, will my rating be extended?**

Yes, we will be extending ratings for all programs that have expiration dates that fall within the next three weeks. We will communicate with programs as decisions are made.

**FOR PROVIDERS: Regarding Staff/Workforce Training**

**How do I know if a scheduled training is canceled?**

If you or your staff registered for training through the Georgia Professional Development System (GaPDS), you will receive a cancellation email if the training is canceled. You may also check the Training Cancellations webpage on GaPDS for the most up-to-date information. If you or your staff did not register for the training through GaPDS, you will need to contact the trainer directly to find out if the training has been canceled.

**FOR PROVIDERS: Regarding Criminal Records Checks**

**At this time will my requests for background checks be processed?**

Yes, unless the DECAL offices are ordered closed, DECAL staff processing background checks will be in the office as usual.

**For CACFP or SFSP Sponsors/Participants**

**SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM (SFSP)**

**How does the SFSP work during an unanticipated school closure?**

In the event of an unanticipated school closure, SFSP sponsors may serve FREE nutritious meals to children in low-income areas. Program requirements are the same as traditional SFSP but occur during the school year when unanticipated school closures occur.

**Am I eligible to serve SFSP meals during unanticipated school closures?**

Sponsors who have participated in the SFSP within the past two years are eligible to serve meals during unanticipated school closures.

**Am I required to submit an application to serve meals during an unanticipated school closure?**

SFSP organizations are exempt from submitting new applications to participate if the sponsor participated in the SFSP during the current year or in either of the prior two fiscal years. In addition, new sponsors applying for participation in the program due to an unanticipated school closure are exempt from the application submission deadline. At a minimum, DECAL would still require the following documentation to be considered eligible for reimbursable meals during an unanticipated school closure:

Frequently Asked Questions  
Related to Covid-19/Coronavirus  
March 14, 2020 *(to be revised regularly)*

- Site application identifying locations
- Food permit, if applicable (refer to the following link to determine if a food permit is required for the site  
<http://www.decal.ga.gov/documents/attachments/FoodServiceKitchenInspectForm.docx>)
- Budget outline of projected expenses with supporting documentation

**What sites are eligible to serve SFSP meals during unanticipated school closures?**

SFSP sites must still meet area eligibility requirements which means the site is in an area in which at least 50% of the children residing in the area are eligible for free or reduced-priced meals.

**Can I serve meals at a new site?**

Yes, sponsors may add new sites to serve meals during an unanticipated school closure if the site(s) meet the eligibility requirements noted above.

**What are the options for SFSP meal service during unanticipated school closures?**

- Breakfast only
- Snack only
- Lunch only
- Supper only
- Lunch and AM or PM Snack
- Breakfast and AM or PM Snack
- Breakfast and Lunch
- Supper and AM or PM Snack
- Breakfast and Supper
- AM and PM Snack

**What is the meal pattern for SFSP during unanticipated school closures?**

The meal pattern is the same as traditional SFSP. See <https://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/meal-patterns>

**Can we provide a SFSP sack meal for a child to take home and qualify for reimbursement?**

Yes, based on the exceptional circumstances relating to the declaration of a public health emergency due to the coronavirus by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, FNS has approved DECAL's request to waive the requirement that, during unanticipated school closures, SFSP meals must be served in a congregate setting.

**Are sponsors and institutions required to follow proper procurement procedures during an emergency?**

Emergency purchases are defined as situations when the welfare of life, property, or the continuation of vital programs are in jeopardy and require immediate, on-the-spot purchases. Emergency purchases can be issued when there is limited time to purchase in the regular manner since the item or service is needed immediately. During an emergency, purchase, micro-purchase, and small purchase procedures are acceptable. Sponsors and institutions must have a process in place to document written quotes received via telephone and keep invoices and receipts on file. Contact DECAL if emergency purchases exceed formal procurement threshold limits.

See <http://decal.ga.gov/documents/attachments/ProcurementManual.pdf>

**AT-RISK AFTERSCHOOL**

Frequently Asked Questions  
Related to Covid-19/Coronavirus  
March 14, 2020 *(to be revised regularly)*

**Are at-risk afterschool centers allowed to continue serving meals and snacks during unanticipated school closures?**

Yes. At-risk afterschool centers may continue serving meals and snacks as part of the At-Risk Afterschool Meals component of CACFP. When operating during unanticipated school closures, afterschool centers must continue to meet At-Risk Afterschool requirements, including the requirement that programs must offer education or enrichment activities. On days when schools are closed, at-risk afterschool centers that normally offer a snack and supper after school may instead choose to offer either lunch and a snack, or breakfast and a snack. These meals and snacks would be reimbursed through CACFP at the free rate. Additionally, CACFP sponsors may serve a snack and/or a meal at a site that has been served meals earlier in the day by SFSP sponsors.

**Can I claim reimbursement for meals served to children who did not typically attend my At-Risk afterschool program (e.g., siblings of enrolled children whose schools are closed due to coronavirus concerns)?**

Yes, as long as the child is eligible to receive meals and all required records are maintained which include but are not limited to meal count records, attendance records, and menus. See CACFP Policy 18 at <http://www.dec.al.ga.gov/documents/attachments/CACFPPolicy18.pdf> for recordkeeping requirements. Additionally, institutions should ensure the ATLAS application reflects current operations including the current average daily attendance and the types of meals served.

**CHILD CARE LEARNING CENTERS OR FAMILY DAY CARE LEARNING HOMES:**

**I am a CACFP sponsor. Do I have to adhere to monitoring requirements during unanticipated school closures?**

At this time, USDA has not communicated any flexibility regarding monitoring requirements. DECAL will notify sponsors immediately if additional information is received.

**Can I claim reimbursement for meals served to children who did not typically attend my At-Risk afterschool program (e.g., siblings of enrolled children whose schools are closed due to coronavirus concerns)?**

Yes, as long as the child is eligible to receive meals and all required records are maintained which include but are not limited to enrollment records for all children claimed, meal count records, and menus. See CACFP Policy 18 at <http://www.dec.al.ga.gov/documents/attachments/CACFPPolicy18.pdf> for recordkeeping requirements. Institutions should ensure the ATLAS application reflects current operations to include total enrollment, average daily attendance, and types of meals served.

**Do you recommend closing my child care center or day care home to prevent the spread of Coronavirus?**

The health and safety of your employees and the children in your care is a top priority for DECAL. While it is ultimately your decision, the Department of Public Health (DPH) is not recommending widespread school closures. If necessary, DPH may advise communities on mitigation measures including the closure of schools and child care programs. DECAL is in regular contact with DPH and will inform centers/day care homes if their recommendations change. Programs are also advised to follow directives from their local health department.

If you do decide to close your center/day care home, notify your application specialist or email Leslie Truman at [Leslie.Truman@dec.al.ga.gov](mailto:Leslie.Truman@dec.al.ga.gov)



Frequently Asked Questions  
Related to Covid-19/Coronavirus  
March 14, 2020 *(to be revised regularly)*

**If a statewide mandate was issued requiring child care centers and homes to close, would the USDA provide financial relief or advancement to relieve the impact to sponsors?**

At this time, DECAL is not aware of any plans for USDA to provide funding during times in which child care centers or homes are closed and not serving meals to children. If we receive additional information from USDA, we will provide this information to all institutions.

**Are there any plans to postpone or reschedule the National CACFP Childcare Conference in April?**

Due to the risk of the rapid spread of the Coronavirus, and the need to protect the most vulnerable members of the community, the National CACFP Sponsors Association Board of Directors voted to cancel the conference.

Contact your hotel to cancel your guest room reservations. Also, today, many major airlines and other transportation services announced that they are waiving cancellation fees due to COVID-19 through the end of April, so contact them immediately. For additional questions, contact [conference@cacfp.org](mailto:conference@cacfp.org).

**What is necessary to amend budgets to get approval for disinfectants, etc. when these products become more readily available?**

Due to the current situation, cleaning supplies such as disinfectants would be considered necessary and reasonable costs. If an institution would like to charge these costs, the ATLAS Budget Detail (Non-food supplies budget category) must be revised if any of the following factors apply:

- A new cost is incurred that wasn't previously approved in the budget
- A line item increases or decreases by 20% or more. A line item is defined as the function level, Operating and Administrative and/or the Program level CACFP and SFSP. If a change impacts either level by 20% or more, a budget revision is required.
- When allocation methodologies change due to changes within the organization resulting in an increase or decrease of 20% or more.
- A new cost item will be incurred that requires prior or specific prior approval or special consideration (i.e., formal procurement)
- When an approved specific prior written approval item's actual cost is found to be more than the actual approved amount
- Costs that exceed established maximums are unallowable, and the 20% rule does not apply when established maximums are breached.

Once the budget revision is completed, notify the Budget Compliance Specialist at [Tremachel.Johnson@decalfga.gov](mailto:Tremachel.Johnson@decalfga.gov)

## **About Open Records Requests**

**Can I still submit an Open Records Request?**

Yes, the Open Records staff will continue to operate at full capacity. Open Records staff will respond to all requests within 72 hours.

## **FOR FAMILIES: Regarding CAPS**

Frequently Asked Questions  
Related to Covid-19/Coronavirus  
March 14, 2020 *(to be revised regularly)*

**How do I know if my child care provider or local school system is closed?**

Contact your provider or local school system to verify closure. Local news stations will often list school closures. You can also visit [www.gadoe.org](http://www.gadoe.org) for information on school closures.

**If my local school system closes, can my child go to my child care provider?**

If the child care provider is open, has space, and an active scholarship for your child, and the Department of Public Health or your local health department hasn't contacted you and instructed you to isolate at home, your child can attend that program.

**What are my options for child care assistance if my child care program is closed, and I need child care to go to work or school?**

When you arrange alternative child care for your child(ren), you must submit a *provider change request* as a case change on Georgia Gateway at <https://gateway.ga.gov>. The alternative provider must be approved to participate in the CAPS program.

**If I have a CAPS scholarship, and I am instructed to isolate my child for 14 days, and my child doesn't attend the CAPS child care program, am I still required to pay the CAPS weekly assessed fee?**

The family is responsible for paying the family fee to the child care provider if any child is in care; however, you should check with your child care provider about their payment policy when children are absent.

**Am I responsible to pay my weekly assessed fee if I am on a temporary layoff because of an employer work stoppage?**

You can report a change to your case through Georgia Gateway at <https://gateway.ga.gov> informing CAPS that you have experienced a temporary layoff. Your family fee may be reduced based on your change in income.

**How will my application, renewal, or case change be handled if the due date occurs while CAPS offices are closed?**

CAPS will work diligently to complete all applications, renewals, and change requests as quickly as possible. If State offices are closed, or staffing is limited, there could be some delays. Thank you for your patience as we process your application, renewal, or change request.

**How would a state office closure impact my renewal that is due?**

Renewals are not be impacted at this time because CAPS staff will be available to process renewals remotely. You can help in this process by uploading copies or by using your cell phone to take pictures of your documents and uploading them to Gateway at <https://gateway.ga.gov>.

**How can I submit my renewal application and verification documentation if my local DFCS office is closed?**

Families can use their phone or computer to apply for benefits and upload verification documents by taking a picture of their application and documents and uploading them to Gateway at <https://gateway.ga.gov>.

**If I have a CAPS scholarship and my child care provider is not open for business, can I take my child to another child care provider?**

Frequently Asked Questions  
Related to Covid-19/Coronavirus  
March 14, 2020 *(to be revised regularly)*

Yes, you may take your child to any child care provider who may participate in the CAPS program. If you take your child(ren) to another provider, you must submit a *provider change request* as a case change on Georgia Gateway at <https://gateway.ga.gov>.

**What is the best way to contact CAPS if I have questions related to my CAPS scholarships and/or any adverse actions taken on my case?**

CAPS can be contacted by calling 1-833-4GA-CAPS or sending us communication by clicking the “Contact Us” link on our website <https://caps.dec.al.ga.gov>.

**FOR FAMILIES: General Questions**

**What can my child and I do to stop the spread of COVID-19?**

- Stay home if possible
- Wash your hands often with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue; then dispose of the tissue in the trash.
- Stay home if you are sick.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Get a flu shot.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

**What should I do if my child exhibits symptoms?**

Contact your primary care physician’s office or your local public health department.

**Are there any resources for supporting learning at home while child care and Pre-K programs are closed?**

Below are resources by age group. Additional resources will be added as they are developed.

**All Ages**

- 49 Fun Physical Activities  
<https://activeforlife.com/49-fun-physical-activities-to-do-with-kids-aged-2-to-4/>

**Toddlers:**

- Everyday learning activities for toddlers and three year olds  
<https://www.parents.com/toddlers-preschoolers/development/intellectual/everyday-toddler-lessons/?>
- Fun, simple activities to engage your toddler and three year old in learning  
<https://thisreadingmama.com/simple-toddler-activities/>
- Fun art, science, math and literacy activities for toddlers and threes  
<https://talkingisteaching.org/>
- Great ideas to keep your toddlers busy and learning  
<https://busytoddler.com/category/activities/>
- Tons of simple and fun activities to encourage literacy and school readiness  
<https://www.vroom.org/>
- 20 learning activities for toddlers and threes that use items easily available around the house

Frequently Asked Questions  
Related to Covid-19/Coronavirus  
March 14, 2020 *(to be revised regularly)*

<https://www.powerfulmothering.com/20-easy-learning-activities-for-toddlers/>

**Preschool (3 & 4 year olds):**

- 25 Indoor Play Activities from a Preschool Teacher  
<https://www.parentmap.com/article/25-indoor-play-activities-from-a-preschool-teacher>
- 20 Indoor Activities besides TV  
<https://theartofsimple.net/20-indoor-activities-for-kids-besides-tv/>