



Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

**BRIGHT FROM THE START:  
Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning**

**Nutrition Services**

|               |                        |                            |          |
|---------------|------------------------|----------------------------|----------|
| <b>POLICY</b> | <b>No.: CACFP/00-3</b> | <b>Effective Date:</b>     | 9/1/1999 |
|               |                        | <b>Revised:</b>            | 2/1/2005 |
|               |                        | <b>Revision Effective:</b> | 2/1/2005 |

**SUBJECT:** Start-up Funds for Day Care Home Sponsors

**LEGAL AUTHORITY:** 7 C.F.R. § 226.12 (b), O.C.G.A § 20-1A-5

*Cross Reference/See Also:*

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this memorandum is to define the policy for the receipt of start-up funds for day care home (DCH) sponsors.

**II. APPLIES TO**

This policy applies to all new day care home (DCH) sponsors participating in the CACFP.

**III. DEFINITION(S)**

"Day Care Home" means an organized nonresidential child care program for children enrolled in a private home, licensed or approved as a family or group day care home and under the auspices of a sponsoring organization. (7 C.F.R. § 226.2)

" Sponsor" or "Sponsoring organization" means a public or private nonprofit organization that is responsible for administering the food program for one or more day care home(s). (7 C.F.R. § 226.2)

**IV. POLICY**

Section 226.12(b) of the Code of Federal Regulations authorizes start-up payments for DCH sponsors. Payments are to be utilized by the sponsor for development of the organization and recruitment of new homes. Only new DCH sponsors may apply for start-up funds.

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## V. PROCEDURE(S)

To apply, the DCH Sponsor indicates on their Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) application their interest in the receipt of start-up funds. The DCH sponsor must also submit documentation to Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) detailing how the start-up funds will be used.

If the DCH sponsor's request for start-up funds is approved, DECAL will electronically transfer the start-up funds to the DCH sponsor's bank account.

After six months of receipt of the start-up disbursement, DECAL will review documentation of the activities performed and costs incurred by the DCH sponsor. If start-up funds have not been expended in accordance with the approved application, DECAL will demand immediate repayment of funds from the DCH sponsor. DECAL will collect any start-up payments in excess of actual costs.

## VI. COMMENT(S)

Any questions regarding this policy should be directed to the Policy Coordinator at (404) 651-7181.