



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

Brian P. Kemp
Governor

Amy M. Jacobs
Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Statement on Governor Brian P. Kemp's
April 23, 2020 Executive Order
Reviving A Healthy Georgia**

**Attribute to Amy M. Jacobs, Commissioner
Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning**

“On Thursday, April 23, 2020, Governor Brian P. Kemp issued an [Executive Order](#) entitled Reviving A Healthy Georgia, effective from May 1, 2020, at 12:00 AM until May 13, 2020, at 11:59 PM. Among other areas, this Executive Order addresses how licensed child care learning centers and family child care learning homes will operate under Section VII Education and Children. This Executive Order allows for all licensed child care facilities to remain open while recognizing the standard hygiene, sanitation, and disinfection licensing rules set forth in Section V and promulgated by the Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL). The section also outlines additional safety measures that are required to be followed by licensed child care programs during this time in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19. We will continue to limit group sizes to a maximum of 10 people per room, including teachers. DECAL is committed to supporting early learning providers during this public health emergency and recognizes the vital role that providers, including their teaching staff, play in the support of Georgia’s children and families, especially during a public health crisis. DECAL also recognizes the important role of the early learning industry in the economic stability of the state. Early education programs licensed by DECAL, including Child Care Learning Centers, Family Child Care Learning Homes, Pre-K Programs, license exempt providers, and Child and Adult Food Programs and Summer Food Service Program Institutions and Sites, shall maintain full compliance with all DECAL directives and guidance.”

About DECAL

Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning is responsible for meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia's children and their families. It administers the nationally recognized Georgia's Pre-K Program, licenses child care centers and home-based child care, administers Georgia's Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS) program, federal nutrition programs, and manages voluntary quality enhancement programs.

The department also houses the Head Start State Collaboration Office, distributes federal funding to enhance the quality and availability of child care, and works collaboratively with Georgia child care resource and referral agencies and organizations throughout the state to enhance early care and education. For more information, go to www.decal.ga.gov.