

Welcome to the Board of Early Care and Learning

May 15, 2025



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

Board Meeting Welcome

Phil Davis, Board Chair



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Approval of Agenda and Minutes

- Approve 5/15/25 agenda
- Approve 2/20/25 minutes



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Inspiration

Dr. Karen Jones



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Board Member Updates

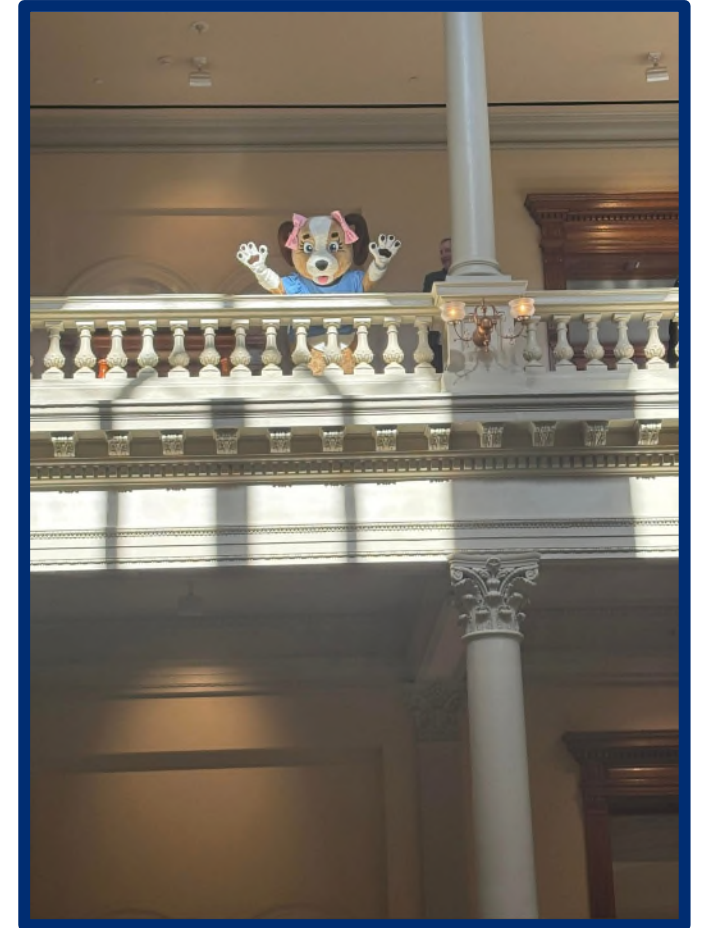
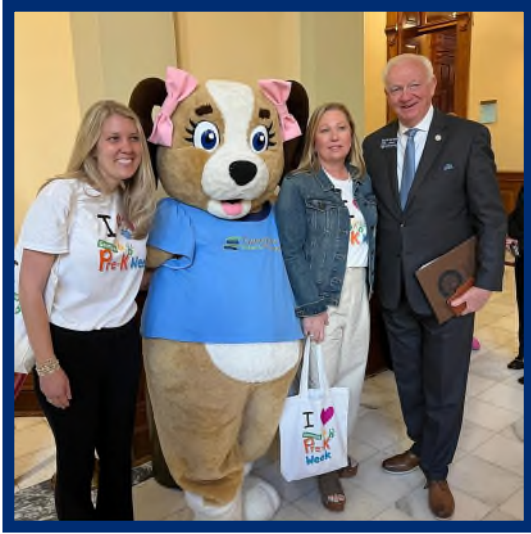
Commissioner's Updates

Amy M. Jacobs, Commissioner



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Pre-K Week Kick Off at the Capitol



Pre-K TOTY Finalists – Private Child Care Center



Autumn Hart
Bundle of Joy Academy
Cobb County



Shawanna Butler
Castial Academy
Barrow County



Sheba Hill
Gems Learning Academy
Fulton County



Pre-K TOTY Finalists – Public Schools



Erica Mimbs
Bleckley County Primary
Bleckley County



Teresa Swaim
West Jackson Elementary
Jackson County



Katonia Williams
Sallas Mahome Elementary
Lowndes County



Celebrating our Early Childhood Educators of the Year





Evaluation of DECAL's Pandemic Relief Funding Activities

ChildTrends®

Rachel Abenavoli, MS, PhD, Research Scientist (on behalf of the Child Trends team)

May 15, 2025

Thanks to...

- DECAL staff, including Rob O'Callaghan, Shayna Funke, Bentley Ponder, other DECAL Deputy Commissioners, Commissioner Amy M. Jacobs, and project leads
- Child Trends team, including Dale Richards, Diane Early, Diana Gal-Szabo, Jing Tang, Elizabeth Villegas, Ilana Huz, Holly Keaton, James Fuller, Jackson Fojut, Quynh Nhu Dao, Dayne Ornelas Gonzalez, Pilar Stoeppelwerth, Shreya Mukhopadhyay, Cassie Simons Gerson, and Julianna Carlson
- The providers, teachers, and families who participated in the study

Overview & Methods

- DECAL implemented about 30 pandemic relief projects supporting early care and education providers, families, and the workforce.
- Child Trends conducted an evaluation to examine DECAL's pandemic relief spending patterns and the impact on ECE providers, educators, families, and DECAL staff and operations.
- Mixed methods approach
 - Analyzed 10+ administrative datasets
 - Surveyed 650 providers (CCLC, FCCLH, and GA Pre-K Administrators)
 - Conducted interviews and focus groups with 40 ECE providers, 23 ECE teachers, 46 families, and 10 DECAL staff

Overall Reach and Spending

\$2 Billion

DECAL distributed approximately **two billion dollars** in pandemic relief funding as of April 2024.

**850,000
Payments**

DECAL made over **850,000 payments** as of April 2024.

Overall Reach and Spending

About **3700** CCLCs received pandemic relief funding, representing roughly **92 percent** of all CCLCs.

Over **1400** FCCLHs received pandemic relief funding, representing roughly **86 percent** of all FCCLHs.

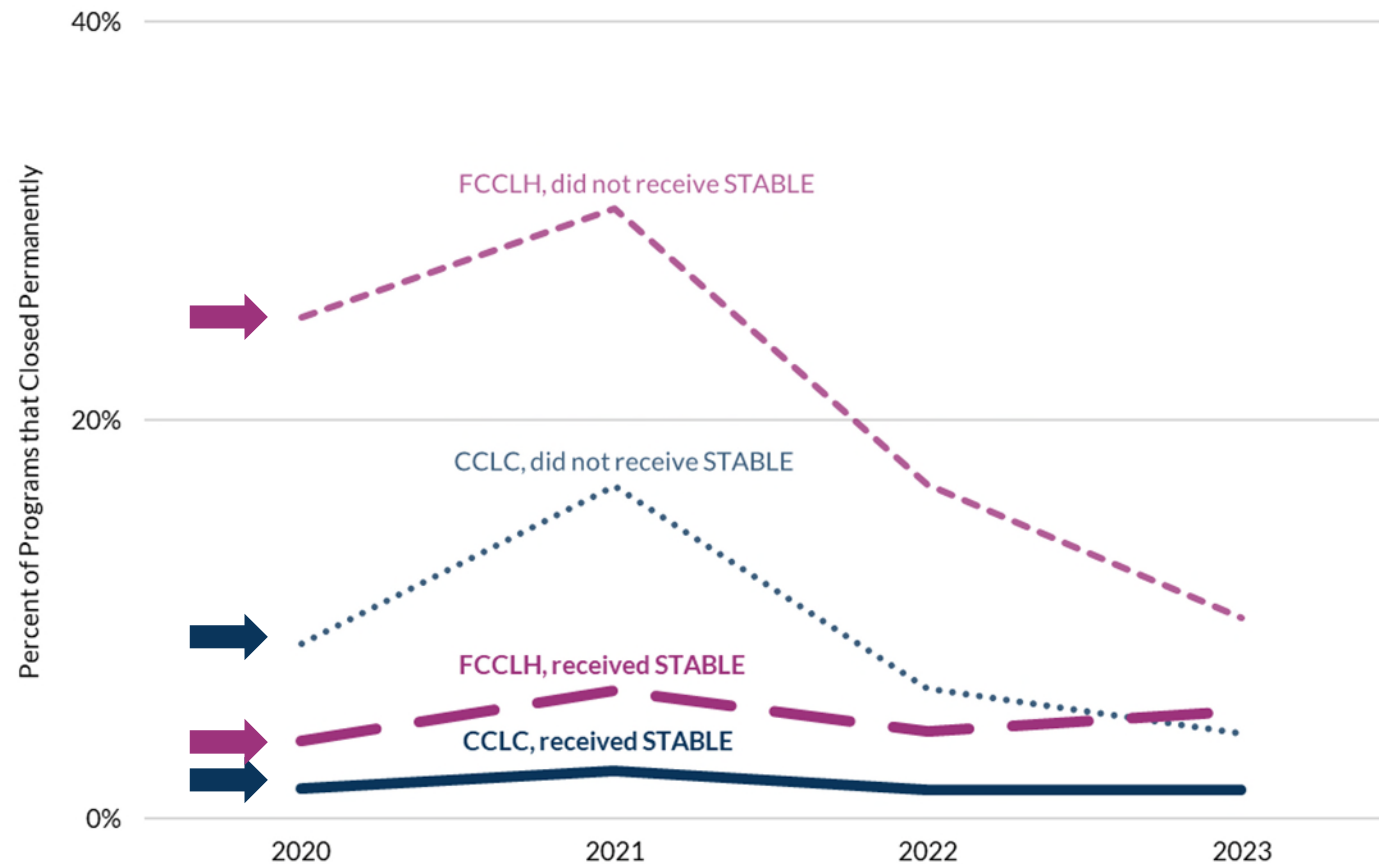
On average, each CCLC provider received a total of **over \$500,000** in pandemic relief funding.

On average, each FCCLH provider received a total of **almost \$50,000** in pandemic relief funding.

STABLE Reach and Spending

- Over 3,800 providers (80-90% of all providers) received at least one round of stabilization funding through STABLE.
- Largest STABLE allocations:
 - During the first three rounds of STABLE, CCLCs spent over one third of funds on retaining or hiring teachers, and FCCLH providers spent over one third on facilities (e.g., repairs/improvements).
 - During the fourth round of STABLE, CLCCs allocated about two-thirds of their funds and FCCLHs allocated about half of their funds to workforce supports.

Providers that received STABLE had lower closure rates than those that did not.



Providers and teachers reported feeling appreciated by DECAL's support.

Providers	Teachers
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reported that projects with flexible funds (e.g., STABLE) were very helpful• Reported that funds helped them:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Avoid or delay closing• Avoid layoffs and retain staff• Make needed repairs / improvements• Continue quality improvement activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Found that POWER was the most helpful support and appreciated getting to decide how to use funds• Reported that POWER helped them:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cover necessities such as rent, bills, groceries, and clothing• Purchase classroom supplies without having to use their own money



I started my daycare and got licensed right smack dab in the middle of COVID, like as soon as COVID started is when I got licensed. So it was like a sink or swim situation. So when the funding came about, I can't even tell you how relieved I was. Not so much because I'm getting so much money, but because I'm able to keep my doors open. My dream doesn't have to die, you know, the passion I have. I can continue on with it.

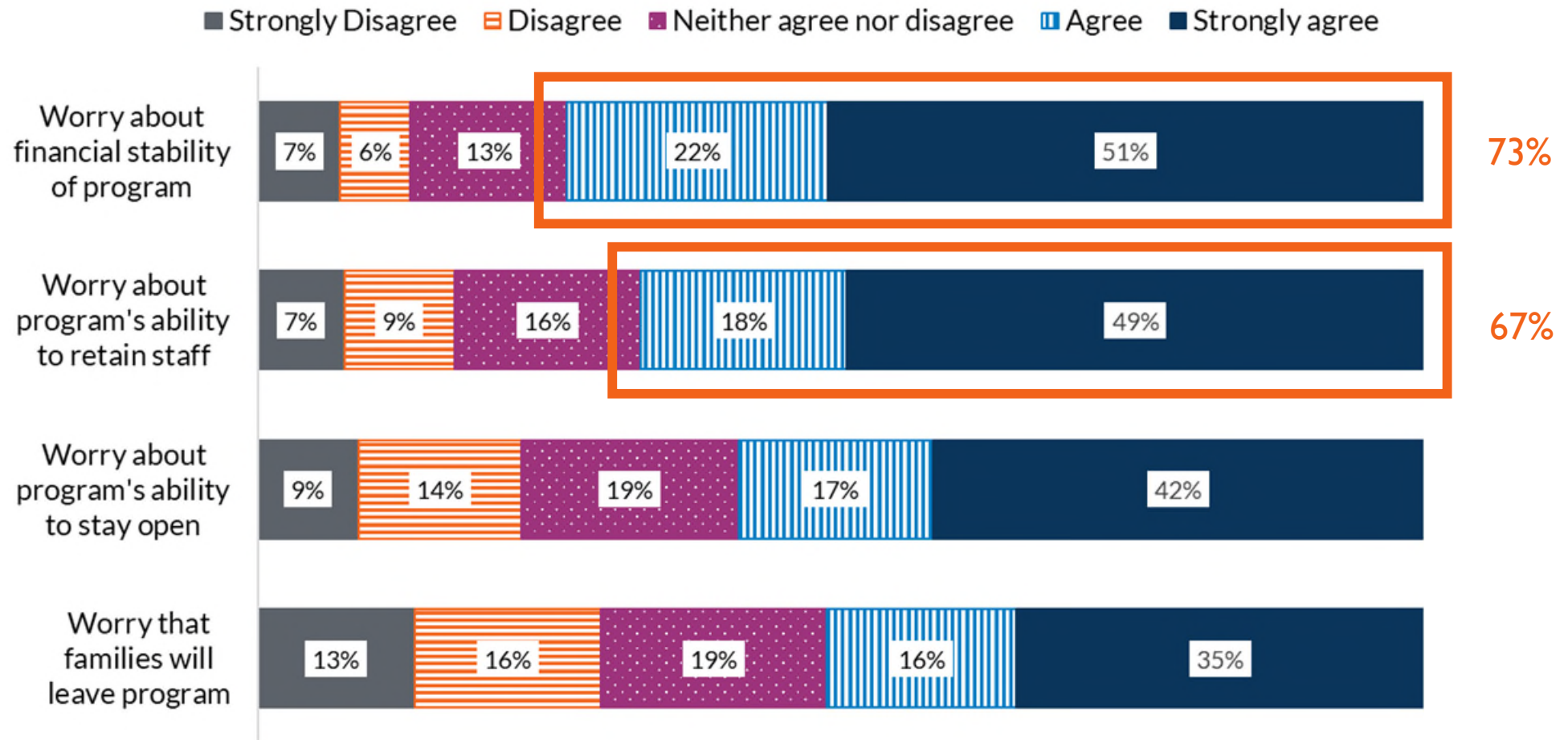
- Provider



Well, it's definitely the extra security because as early educators, we don't really get paid that much, so we basically live paycheck to paycheck. So when we got that extra like \$1000, it was helpful because I'm like, well, I don't have to worry about waiting until Friday to get paid. I can put gas in my car now.

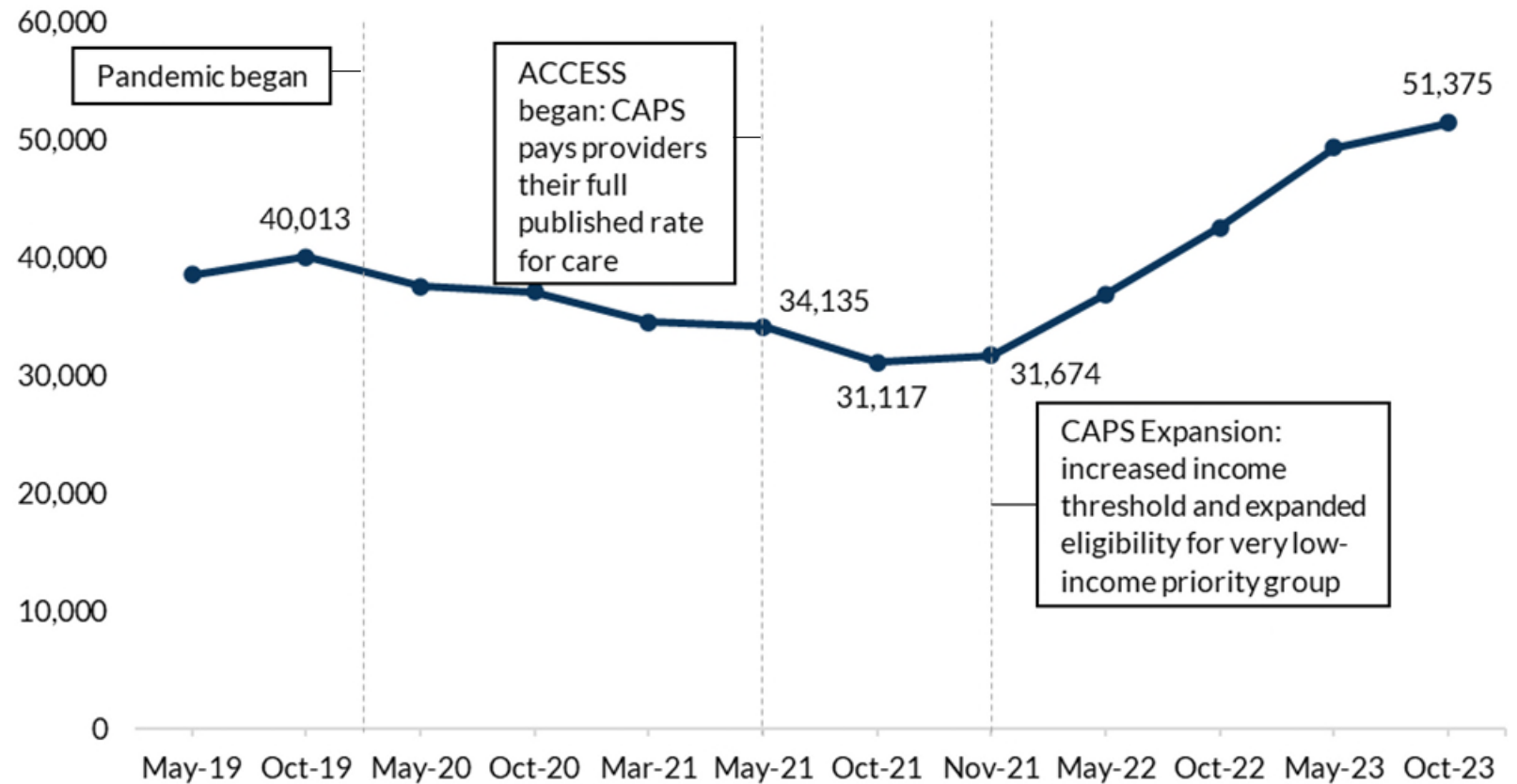
- Teacher

Providers worried about financial stability and retaining staff after funding ended.



Total number of families using a CAPS scholarship (May 2019-October 2023)

- CAPS participation slightly decreased from October 2019 to October 2021.
 - True for all racial-ethnic groups except Hispanic children
- CAPS participation **increased by nearly 1.5 times following the launch of the CAPS Expansion.**



Families' Experiences with Relief Efforts

- Families expressed **appreciation for the support and relief** during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Families reported that they would **not have been able to afford child care if not for ACCESS**.
- Families also reported that having access to free child care allowed them **to keep their job, purchase household essentials and equipment for remote learning, and contribute to their savings**.
- Families discussed how access to child care **increased socialization** for their children.



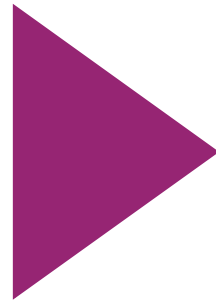
It may seem like a few dollars to some people, but some people don't have that few dollars to just give up... We had car payments, we had [a] mortgage, we had food problems. We used to go to the food banks for food because we didn't have it. We didn't have it... And then I had a parent fee to pay. Like I don't have money to pay everything else, but now I got a parent fee to pay. But when my daycare told me CAPS paid all, we got some food. We went grocery shopping. We took the little \$30 and went grocery shopping. It helped a lot.

- Parent

Families' Experiences with Relief Efforts

- Some families needed to make significant changes when the pandemic relief support ended, but others did not feel as much of an impact.

The majority of families in focus groups reported **paying more now for child care** than during the pandemic.



- ❖ 80 percent mentioned having to **work more, cut out other necessities, or be creative in spending.**
- ❖ 33 percent mentioned being able to **plan for the change in fee and re-working their budget.**
- ❖ 10 percent mentioned **changing their child care** arrangement **or no longer using care** because of added costs.

DECAL Staff Perspectives

- DECAL staff unanimously reported **meeting the clearly defined goal articulated by Commissioner Jacobs to use the funds to stabilize the child care industry** to support providers, teachers, and families.
- DECAL was able to **successfully implement and oversee many projects** to support providers, teachers, and families.
- Staff commonly reported **challenges with how much funding came in at once and the short spending timeframe.**



We were able to see what it can be like when we fund [child care]. Sometimes you wonder, if we throw enough money at [supporting child care], would it be better? Yeah, it will. We found that out. When you can pay people. So I think that's the biggest lesson: funding programs does work.

- DECAL Staff Member

Public Products in Spring 2025

- Three reports on how the pandemic relief funding supported:
 - Providers (CCLH, FCCLH, GA Pre-K administrators)
 - Educators
 - Families
- Three briefs highlighting key findings on:
 - Reach and spending of pandemic relief efforts focused on providers and teachers
 - Providers' and teachers' perceptions of pandemic relief efforts
 - Reach of pandemic relief spending on families and families' experiences with relief efforts
- Three snapshots each focused on one of the major projects (STABLE, POWER and CAPS projects)



Discussion and Questions

Thank You!

Child Trends®



Finance, Legislative, & Administrative Updates

Woody Dover, Enterprise Project Management Director



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FY 2025 Budget Comparison

Data as of March 31 st	Budget	Expenditures*	Remaining Balance	% Remaining
BY PROGRAMS				
Child Care Services	\$621,271,722	\$446,963,550	\$174,308,172	28%
Nutrition	\$170,100,000	\$124,353,573	\$45,746,427	27%
Pre-K + (HS)	\$549,021,095	\$422,369,713	\$126,651,382	23%
Quality Initiatives	\$83,693,238	\$77,930,282	\$5,762,956	7%
Totals	\$1,424,086,055	\$1,071,617,119	\$352,468,936	25%

BY FUNDING SOURCES				
State General	\$71,982,694	\$21,047,299	\$50,935,395	71%
State Lottery	\$548,846,095	\$422,237,033	\$126,609,062	23%
Federal	\$802,757,766	\$628,083,275	\$174,674,491	22%
Other	\$499,500	\$249,512	\$249,988	50%
Totals	\$1,424,086,055	\$1,071,617,119	\$352,468,936	25%

* Includes encumbrances.

Finance Update FY 2025 Budget Summary – Q3



AFY 2025 Appropriation

Original FY 2025
Appropriation

AFY 2025
Appropriation

Change

BY PROGRAMS

Child Care Services	\$339,388,378	\$339,388,378	\$0
Nutrition	\$170,000,000	\$170,100,000	\$100,000
Pre-K + (HS)	\$541,598,948	\$549,021,095	\$7,422,147
Quality Initiatives	\$57,693,238	\$57,693,238	\$0
Totals	\$1,108,680,564	\$1,116,202,711	\$7,522,147

BY FUNDING SOURCES

State General	\$71,882,694	\$71,982,694	\$100,000
State Lottery	\$541,423,948	\$548,846,095	\$7,422,147
Federal	\$494,874,422	\$494,874,422	\$0
Other	\$499,500	\$499,500	\$0
Totals	\$1,108,680,564	\$1,116,202,711	\$7,522,147

HB67 AFY 2025 Appropriation



Nutrition Services

State General Funds Change			
FY 2025	AFY 2025	Increase	% Change
\$0	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	100%

Increase

- Increase funds for start up grants up to \$10,000 per provider to establish additional Summer Food Service Program meal sites in areas with high rates of child food insecurity = \$100,000

HB67
AFY 2025
Appropriation



Pre-K Program

State Lottery Funds Change			
FY 2025	AFY 2025	Increase	% Change
\$541,423,948	\$548,846,095	\$7,422,147	1.37%

Increase

- Increase funds to provide salary parity between Pre-K teachers with K12 teachers by moving to the State Board of Education salary schedule = \$7,422,147
- Utilize existing funds (\$3,549,690) for development costs of the new Pre-K Management System = Yes

HB67
AFY 2025
Appropriation



FY 2026 Appropriation

	Original FY 2025 Appropriation	FY 2026 Recommendation	Change
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BY PROGRAMS

Child Care Services	\$339,388,378	\$344,860,743	\$5,472,365
Nutrition	\$170,000,000	\$170,000,000	\$0
Pre-K + (HS)	\$541,598,948	\$563,215,616	\$21,616,668
Quality Initiatives	\$57,693,238	\$57,693,238	\$0
Totals	\$1,108,680,564	\$1,135,769,597	\$27,089,033

BY FUNDING SOURCES

State General	\$71,882,694	\$77,355,059	\$5,472,365
State Lottery	\$541,423,948	\$563,215,616	\$21,616,668
Federal	\$494,874,422	\$494,874,422	\$0
Other	\$499,500	\$499,500	\$0
Totals	\$1,108,680,564	\$1,135,769,597	\$27,089,033

HB68 FY 2026 Appropriation



Pre-K Program

State Lottery Funds Change			
FY 2025	FY 2026	Increase	% Change
\$541,423,948	\$563,040,616	\$21,616,668	3.99%

Increase

- Increase formula funds for annual update of teacher training and experience= \$5,263,853
- Increase formula funds to reflect an increase in health insurance employer contribution per-member per month (PMPM) rate for certified teachers at public Pre-K providers to \$1,885 effective July 1, 2025= \$1,207,440
- Increase funds for year two of a four-year phase in to reduce classroom size from 22 to 20 students to improve instructional quality= \$14,061,322

HB68
FY 2026
Appropriation



Child Care Services

State General Funds Change			
FY 2025	FY 2026	Increase	% Change
\$71,882,694	\$77,355,059	\$5,472,365	7.61%

Increase

- Increase funds to annualize state match for Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS) reimbursement to the 60th percentile of market rates for childcare providers=\$1,540,000
- Increase funds to provide 500 additional state-funded slots in the Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS) program=\$3,928,500

HB68
FY 2026
Appropriation



DECAL Legislative Update

HB 175

- Update language related to criminal records checks to comply with federal mandates

HB 136

- Expands tax credits for children and child care

HB 371

- Increases Capital Outlay formula for local school systems to include Pre-K students



Georgia's Pre-K and Instructional Supports Updates

Susan Adams, Deputy Commissioner for Georgia's Pre-K and Instructional Supports



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Summer Transition Program 2025

- Program Models
 - Rising Pre-K
 - Rising Kindergarten
- Five-week program
 - 23 Instructional Days
- Class size
 - 12 for Rising Pre-K
 - 14 for Rising Kindergarten
- Funded with Lottery dollars



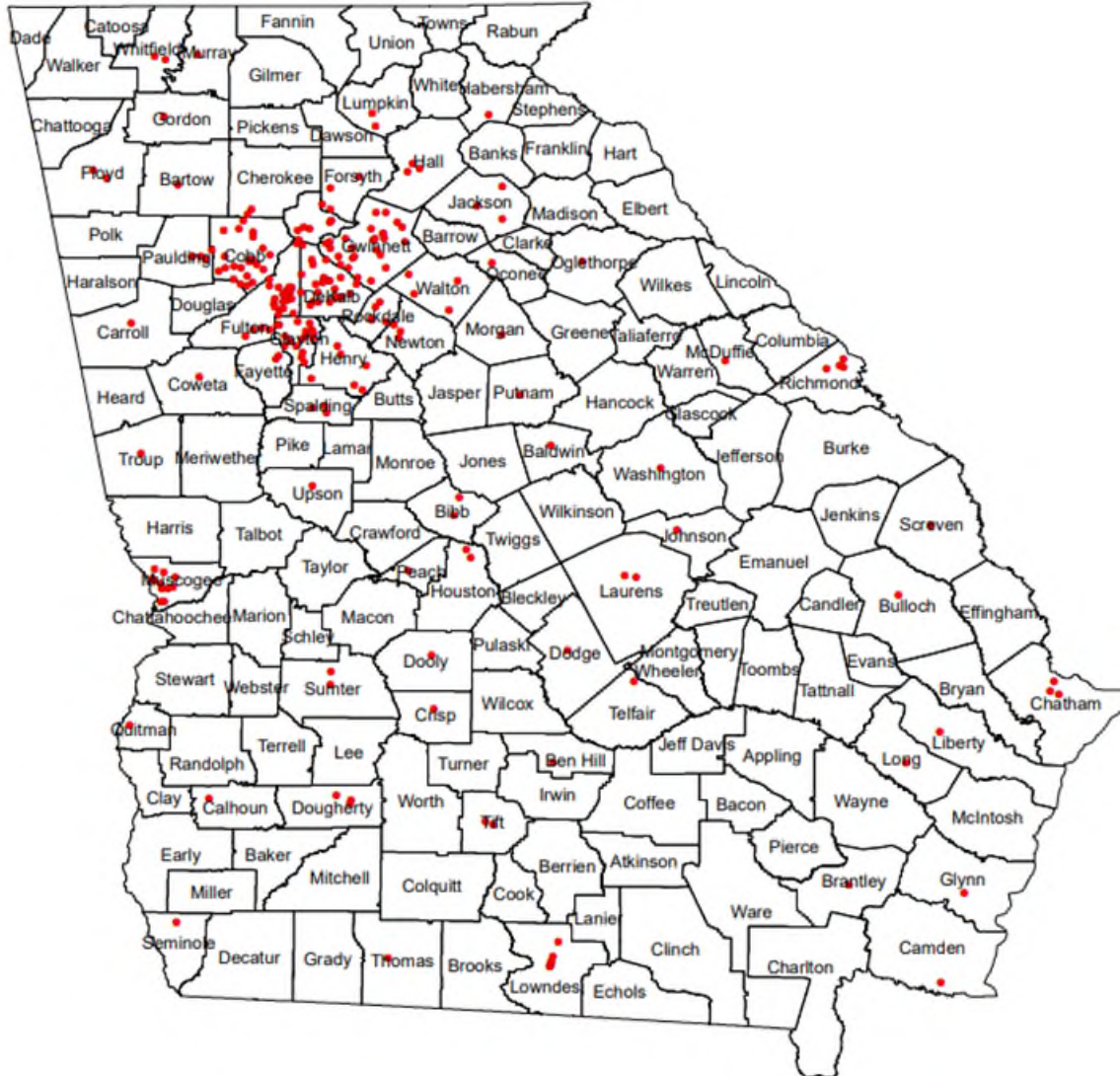
Georgia's
Pre-K Program

Rising Pre-K Classrooms



Slots: 828
Classes: 69

Rising Kindergarten Classrooms



Slots: 4,578
Classes: 329

Infant Early Childhood Mental Health Updates

Laura Lucas, MS, IMH-E®, IECMH Director



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Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health Update



IECMH Task Force



IECMH Consultation



Children's Mental Health Week





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Children's Mental Health Week

May 5th-9th

- **NEW** - "Take a Breath Together" video with CALi and Commissioner Jacobs
- Virtual Puppet Shows
- Classroom calm kit prizes
- Professional Development Opportunities and resources
- Feelings Friday Dance Party with CALi!
- 1 Grand Prize Winner will receive a live puppet show, with special guest, CALi

Children's Mental Health Week Reading Visits



Children's Mental Health Week Reading Visits



Children's Mental Health Week Reading Visits



NEW OLLi TRAINING AVAILABLE!

Introduction to Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health (IECHM)

Looking for a training that counts towards your required Professional Development hours? Scan the QR code to learn how to register, attend and learn about Mental Health!



Questions:

gapds@dec.al.ga.gov
404-267-2760

1. Smell the Flower



2. Blow out the Candle



Scan here to watch a video of CALi and friends taking a breath together.



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Break

Ten Minutes



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Federal Programs Updates

Elisabetta Kasfir, Deputy Commissioner for Federal Programs



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CAPS Advisory Councils Launching May 2025



- CAPS is launching two new advisory councils to strengthen stakeholder engagement
 - **Provider Advisory Council**
 - **Family Advisory Council**
- **Focus:** Provide feedback on policy, systems, and program improvement
- **Goal:** Ensure providers and families help shape the CAPS program



CAPS Advisory Council Selection Process

- Each Council includes 12 members
- Recruitment was conducted via CAPS website, social media, and partner networks
- Applications were
 - submitted through SurveyMonkey
 - scored using a rubric
- Provider Council final selection considered: application score, licensed capacity, rural vs. urban location, Provider type (family child care provider vs. child care learning center)
- Family Council final selection considered: application score, geographic diversity, family structure and care needs

Goal: A diverse group of members was selected to represent varied perspectives.



Provider Advisory Council Role



- Comprised of child care providers with direct experience using CAPS
- Advises on policy, workflows, and sustainability of CAPS systems
- Providers help ensure policies support day-to-day operations



Family Advisory Council Role



- Includes parents and caregivers receiving CAPS scholarships
- Amplify family voices in decision-making
- Members share feedback to enhance program accessibility and effectiveness



Meeting Structure and Collaboration

CAPS advisory councils will meet virtually and in-person throughout the year

Meetings will be held quarterly

Provider and Family councils will meet separately, but collaborative insights encouraged

Platform for ongoing engagement and continuous feedback



Looking Ahead



- CAPS Advisory Councils mark a step to strengthen the partnership with CAPS families and providers
- Members will help drive meaningful change across CAPS
- Stay tuned for updates from inaugural meetings in May and June 2025



CAPS 2 Gen Student Parent Pilot Update



Quality Innovations and Partnerships Updates

Bentley Ponder, Deputy Commissioner for Quality Innovations and Partnerships



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Community Impact Grants

- Funded by Georgia's Child Care & Development Fund (CCDF)
- Three types of 2-year grants:



2Gen Innovation Grants for Student Parent Success

- Award Amount: Up to \$75,000
- Number of Grantees: 5



2Gen Community Literacy Grants

- Award Amount: Up to \$75,000
- Number of Grantees: 4



Community Transformation Grants

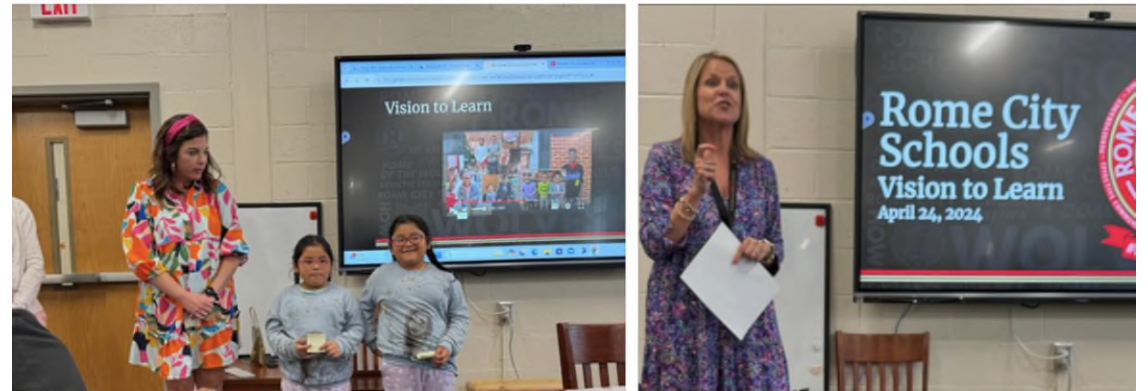
- Award Amount: Up to \$125,000
- Number of Grantees: 6



Purpose of Community Impact Grants

Support community-specific solutions and innovations that:

- Address critical local needs
- Help families access resources related to high-quality early learning
- Build strong community support systems
- Close possible opportunity gaps
- Enhance the well-being of families with children from birth to 8 years old.



Rome City Schools

Community Transformation Grantee

2023-2024

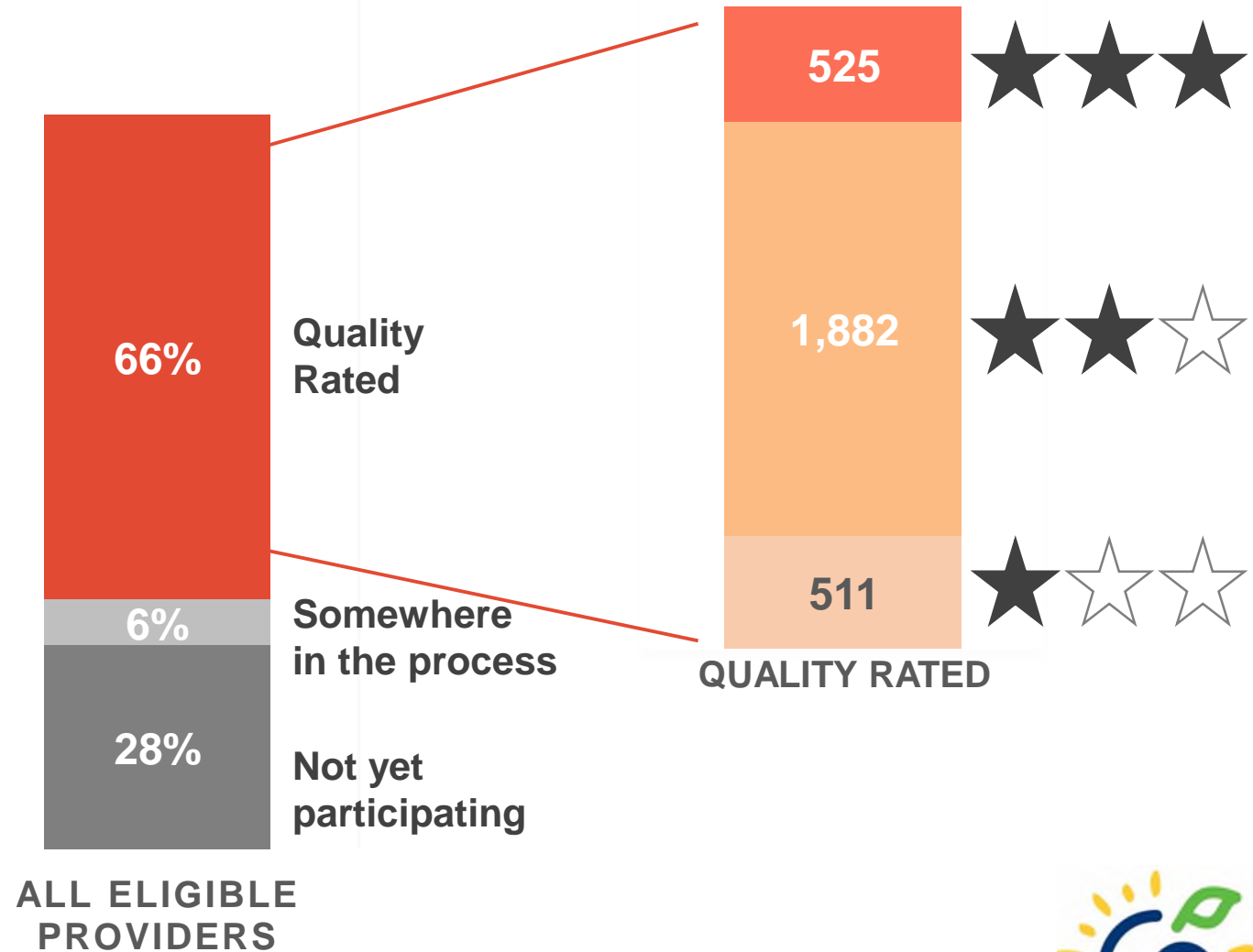


Quality Rated Family Support Call Center

- DECAL will operate the QR Family Support Call Center (1-877-ALL-GA-KIDS) starting July 1, 2025
- Call Center duties include:
 - Supporting families in finding high-quality child care
 - Helping providers update their KOALA information
 - Referring families and providers to other resources
- Four staff have started; one position left to fill



Quality Rated by the Numbers



Quality Study

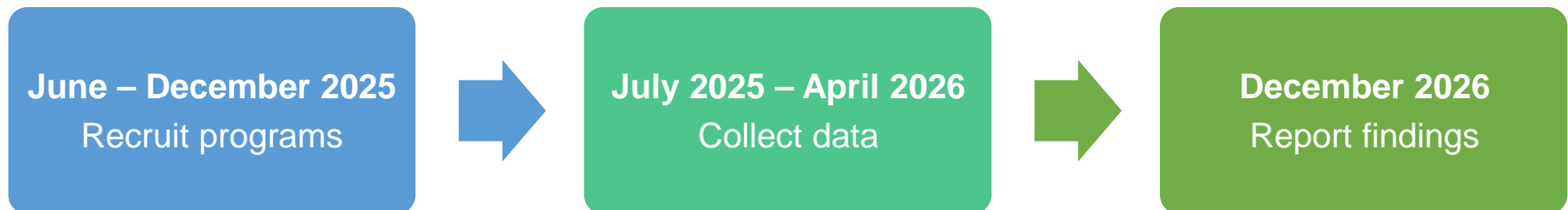
In 2025, Child Trends will begin a comprehensive study of child care quality in Georgia.

Study goals

- Describe the quality of licensed child care and early care and education programs across Georgia
- Gather information to inform Quality Rated revisions

Study Sample

- 175 licensed child care learning centers
- 75 licensed family child care learning homes
- 50 licensed stand-alone school age programs



Commitment to Quality (C2Q) Payments

- Official C2Q payments began February 2025 based off CAPS payments for October to December 2024
- 2-star providers receive a 5% bonus, and 3-star providers receive a 10% bonus
- Q1 payments
 - 1,910 programs received a Q1 payment
 - 80% were 2-stars and 20% were 3-stars
 - The average payment was \$2,530
- Q2 payments begin May 29



Quality Rated Workforce Bonuses



- On April 1, DECAL began offering \$500 annual bonuses to eligible staff of 1-,2-, and 3-star Quality Rated programs
- Each QR program has an “application month” where all staff from the program apply
- Eligibility requirements:
 - Employed for at least 90 days
 - Work on-site at a qualifying child care program
 - Full-time teacher or support staff working at least 30 hours per week **OR** school-age only staff working at least 15 hours per week
- Available to teachers, on-site management, and support staff



Greenbrier Site Visit/Media Event



Quality Rated Workforce Bonuses: Month 1

- April was the kick-off month for the QRWB
- Eligible staff from programs with an April or January program application month were eligible to apply from April 1–30
- Stats for April:
 - 446 eligible programs. Approximately 92% of eligible programs had at least one staff person apply. 93% of child care centers and 92% of family child care learning homes.
 - More than 2,900 staff have received or are receiving a \$500 annual bonus
 - Less than 7% of applications were denied



Unsolicited Provider Feedback



- ✓ Your program is currently Quality Rated with a 1-, 2-, or 3-Star Rating.
- ✓ You have worked on-site at your program for at least 90 days.
- ✓ You are a full-time teacher or support staff working 30+ hours per week OR School Age Only program staff working 15+ hours per week.

Each program has a unique Payment Application Month.
SCAN NOW for more information and to discover your program's Payment Application Month!

License #: _____

“Please pass along my sincere appreciation and gratitude for the Quality Rated Workforce Bonus for me and my staff! Most of my staff truly love what they do with young children and the relationships they have with our families, but a monetary bonus truly says that our leaders at DECAL know and understand the hard work they put into caring for children each and every day.

As an owner of three centers with 60 employees, I am speaking on behalf of my staff and wanted to send our heartfelt thanks and appreciation.”

– Donna Williams, Meadowlake Learning Centers



Child Care Services Updates

Pam Stevens, Deputy Commissioner for Child Care Services



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Proposed July 1, 2025 Rule Changes

Changes Needed To:



Meet compliance with HB538 – Georgia Early Literacy Act



Better align with and meet compliance with CCDF requirements



Strengthen CPR requirements to better protect children in care



Clean up: renumbering and reformatting to comply with Secretary of State requirements



- Changes would be made in licensed program rules & regulations for:
 - **Child Care Learning Centers**
 - **Family Child Care Learning Homes**
- Mirror changes in Health & Safety Standards for License-Exempt & Informal Providers for CCDF compliance

Chapters Affected

Child Care Learning Centers (CCLC)

- 591-1-1-.02 – Definitions
- 591-1-1-.14 – First Aid & CPR
- 591-1-1-.21 – Operational Policies & Procedures
- 591-1-1-.33 – Staff Training

Family Child Care Learning Homes (FCCLH)

- 290-2-3-.03 – Definitions
- 290-2-3-.07 – Staffing & Supervision
- 290-2-3-.08 – Children's Records



General Clean-up

- Renumbering and reformatting of rules in chapters being opened to comply with Secretary of State requirements:
 - **591-1-1-.02 Definitions**
 - **591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**
 - **290-2-3-.07 Staffing and Supervision**
 - **290-2-3-.08 Children's Records**
- Removing training documentation language from **.08 Children's Records** chapter and putting it in the appropriate **.07 Staffing and Supervision** chapter in FCCLH Rules & Regulations.

CCLC
FCCLH



Proposed Rule Chapter Changes

591-1-1-.02(f) Definitions

290-2-3-.03(e) Definitions

- Changes needed to comply with HB175 for compliance with federal regulations.

Proposed Draft Language:

- Remove reference to the National Crime Information Centers National Sex Offender Registry and replace with general language for appropriate sex offender registries, repositories, or data bases.

CCLC
FCCLH



Proposed Rule Chapter Changes

591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures

290-2-3.08 Children's Records

- Changes needed for clarification and compliance with CCDF requirements.

Proposed Draft Language:

- Add requirement for programs to provide information to parents on the program's suspension and expulsion policies.
- Add language as required around program practices to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma in children, to include recognition, response, and reporting.

CCLC
FCCLH



Proposed Rule Chapter Changes

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training

290-2-3-.07 Staffing and Supervision

- Changes needed for clarification and compliance with CCDF requirements.
- Changes needed for compliance with HB538 – GA Early Literacy Act.
- Changes to incorporate provider use of GaPDS to house training certificates.

Proposed Draft Language:

- Add language to include volunteers and other staff being required to obtain program orientation.
- Add language for Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID) which includes SIDS, since universal language now includes both terms.
- Enhance language for training in child development to include the major domains (cognitive, social, emotional, physical, and approaches to learning) and align with GELDS.
- Add language to allow programs to use the workforce registry and professional development system (GaPDS) to house their training for review by the Dept.
- Add requirement for 2 hours of language and literacy training.
- Add requirement for 2 specific hours of ongoing health and safety training.

CCLC
FCCLH



Proposed Rule Chapter Changes

591-1-1-.14 First Aid and CPR

290-2-3-.07 Staffing and Supervision

- Changes needed for clarification and compliance with CCDF requirements.
- Changes to strengthen CPR requirements to protect health and safety of children in care.

Proposed Draft Language:

- Add “pediatric” to requirements for first aid and CPR training.
- Reduce time frame for obtaining training from 90 to 45 days.
- Require at least one person be present in each classroom with children to have current certification and training and making this a core rule requirement.

CCLC
FCCLH



Provider Resources & Support

DECAL-wide awareness campaign around choking prevention, responsiveness during mealtime routines and developmentally appropriate practices for infants, toddlers, and their teachers during meals

Collaboration internally with Nutrition and the Infant/Toddler program and externally with CHOA and others

Development of resources to include: posters, handouts, micro-trainings, super Saturday events, updates to indicator manuals, etc.



Health & Safety Grants



Health & Safety Grants

- Federal ARPA funds awarded to all open, operating, and licensed CCLC and FCCLH programs
- Award amounts ranging from \$5,000-\$40,000--based on licensed capacity--to fund equipment and materials to support health and safety compliance
- Awarded in 3 phases:
 - **Phase 1** March 30, 2023-September 30, 2023, for FCCLHs and CCLCs with licensed capacity up to 100
 - **Phase 2** October 2, 2023-May 31, 2024, for CCLCs with a licensed capacity of 101+, after school programs in public school buildings, and programs opened February 2023-September 2023
 - **Phase 3** January 17, 2023-May 31, 2024, for programs opened October 2023 – December 31, 2023



Technical Assistance Support

213 Programs identified as:

- Multi-year non-compliant (repeat issues in support or deficient status between FY 2019 – FY 2023 and/or
- Adverse actions issued FY 2020 – FY 2023 in playground violations

Programs had to agree to:

- Program evaluation
- Monthly TA visits (minimum 6 months)
- Core rule training for all staff

Programs would receive an additional \$5,000 - \$12,000

Phase 1 – April 2023 – September 2023 | Phase 2 – October 2023 – May 2024



Sustaining Playground Outcomes



April-September 2023 Health and Safety Grant TA Participants:

- 89 programs received technical assistance (TA); 81 remain open.
- All 81 open programs received regulatory visits since completion.
- 88% have had no Adverse Actions due to playground violations since completion of TA.

October 2023-May 2024 Health and Safety Grant TA Participants:

- 67 programs received TA; 63 remain open.
- 61 programs have received regulatory visits since completion.
- 95% of visited programs have had no Adverse Actions due to playground violations since completion of TA.





Ongoing Compliance Outcomes for Both Groups

Of 142 programs that have received regulatory visits since the conclusion of Health and Safety Grant Technical Assistance through March 31, 2025:

82%

Have had **no Core Rule repeat** violations since receiving technical assistance (TA).

82%

Have **not** received **a support or deficient compliance** status since completion of the Health and Safety grant TA.

96%

Are currently in **Good Standing with no high citations for any rule** as of 3/31/25.



The following Committee meetings are in session:

Programs and Rules – Oak Conference Room

Budget and Finance – Cypress Conference Room

Quality Innovations and Partnerships – Hickory Conference Room Oak

The Public Comment Period will commence at 1:00 pm.



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

Welcome to the Board of Early Care and Learning

Public Hearing

May 15, 2025



**Georgia Dept
of Early Care
and Learning**
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Committee Reports

Board Action On:

Rules and Regulations for Child Care Learning Centers

Rule Chapter 591-1-1-.02 Definitions

Rule Chapter 591-1-1-.14 First Aid and CPR

Rule Chapter 591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies and Procedures

Rule Chapter 591-1-1-.33 Staff Training



Board Action On:

Rules and Regulations for Family Child Care Learning Homes

Rule Chapter 290-2-3-.03 Definitions

Rule Chapter 290-2-3-.07 Staffing and Supervision

Rule Chapter 290-2-3-.08 Children's Records



Board Elections



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Board Meeting Dates 2025

-
- ~~February 20, 2025~~
 - ~~May 15, 2025~~
 - August 28, 2025
 - November 20, 2025

