



August 15, 2025

Enrollment for 2026 Application Now Open

Participating CACFP Sponsors and Institutions are required to meet annual renewal requirements by September 30, 2025. The Nutrition Division opened registration for the required annual training on July 15, 2025, and enrollment for the 2026 application renewal opened on August 1, 2025.

Step 1: Complete Annual Training Requirements

Registration for the CACFP Annual Training requirements opened on July 15. These requirements include:

- Reviewing the CACFP 2026 Annual Training presentation in GA ATLAS
- Completing the CACFP 2026 Annual Training Test Assessment in GA ATLAS

Once the annual training assessment has been completed and submitted, you will receive access to the FY 2025-2026 CACFP application.

Step 2: Enroll in FY 2026

Upon completion of the Annual Training and Assessment, the CACFP application for the associated program year will change the institution or sponsor's status to "Not Enrolled" and the "Enroll" button will be available.

- Enroll into FY 2026 on or after August 1, 2025

Step 3: Submit your FY 2026 Application on or before September 30

Original or Annual Budgets and Budget Amendments must also be submitted on or before September 30, 2025.

Failure to complete the annual requirements by the specified deadline date will impact continued participation in the CACFP, which includes submission of monthly claims for reimbursement.

Date	Task
August 1	Open Enrollment for FY 2026 *Upon completion of Annual Training and Assessment, Sponsors & Institutions may enroll in FY 2026
September 15	Deadline to submit any Additional Changes to the FY 2025 Application Any FY 25 changes include: *updates to the application *management plan and budget *the addition/termination of centers/homes *Must be completed in GA ATLAS by September 15, 2025, to all time for review and processing.
September 30	Deadline to complete FY 2026 CACFP Annual Training and Assessment. Deadline to submit FY 2026 CACFP Application. Deadline to submit original or annual budget and budget amendments.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your Application Specialist:

Application Specialists	Institution Assignment	Email	Phone Number
Jerald Savage	o (zero)- G	Jerald.Savage@dec.al.ga.gov	(770) 405-7916
Shericka Blount	H-P	Shericka.Blount@dec.al.ga.gov	(404) 656-6411
Vanessa Goodman	Q-Z	Vanessa.Goodman@dec.al.ga.gov	(404) 591-6027

Is Your Institution Required to Submit an Annual Budget?

Original or Annual Budgets and Budget Amendments must be submitted on or before September 30, 2025. At a minimum, annual budgets are required when:

- An Independent Center with an approved budget in FY 2025 intends to use FY 2026 reimbursement funds for new operating and/or administrative costs that require prior approval, specific prior written approval, or formal procurement.
- An Independent Center with an approved budget in FY 2025 with approved costs and the same costs in FY 2026, but new supporting documentation must be submitted for review and approval (e.g., lease agreements for center space, equipment rental, etc.).
- All Administrative, Center and DCH sponsoring organizations must submit an annual budget.

Please follow links below for budget related tools and references:

[Budget Guidance Manual](#)

[Budget Checklist](#)

[Budget Allocation Worksheet](#)

For budget questions or concerns, please contact Gwendolyn Howard, Budget Compliance Supervisor, at 404.651.7191 or email Nutritionbudget@dec.al.ga.gov

Update on Cash in Lieu of Commodities (CILC) Rates and Claim Processing

The USDA has released the Cash in Lieu of donated foods for 2025-2026. Rates are effective from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.

For July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026, the value is **30.50 cents per meal**. This is an increase of one-half cents from the previous year.

Find Cash in Lieu Rate

As a reminder, CACFP Reimbursement Rates were released on July 24th. More information on reimbursement rates can be found on NCA's [blog](#).

CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM (CACFP)						
Per Meal Rates in Whole or Fractions of U.S. Dollars						
Effective from July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026						
CENTERS		BREAKFAST	LUNCH AND SUPPER ¹		SUPPLEMENT	
CONTIGUOUS STATES	PAID	0.40	0.44		0.11	
	REDUCED PRICE	2.16	4.20		0.63	
	FREE	2.46	4.60		1.26	
ALASKA	PAID	0.62	0.71		0.18	
	REDUCED PRICE	3.65	7.05		1.02	
	FREE	3.95	7.45		2.04	
GUAM, HAWAII, PUERTO RICO and VIRGIN ISLANDS	PAID	0.51	0.57		0.15	
	REDUCED PRICE	2.88	5.58		0.82	
	FREE	3.18	5.98		1.64	
DAY CARE HOMES		BREAKFAST		LUNCH AND SUPPER		SUPPLEMENT
		TIER I	TIER II	TIER I	TIER II	TIER I
CONTIGUOUS STATES		1.70	0.61	3.22	1.94	0.96
ALASKA		2.72	0.95	5.22	3.15	1.55
GUAM, HAWAII, PUERTO RICO and VIRGIN ISLANDS		2.19	0.77	4.18	2.52	1.24
ADMINISTRATIVE REIMBURSEMENT RATES FOR SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS OF DAY CARE HOMES				Initial 50	Next 150	Next 800
Per Home/Per Month Rates in U.S. Dollars						Each Additional
CONTIGUOUS STATES				150	115	89
ALASKA				244	186	145
GUAM, HAWAII, PUERTO RICO and VIRGIN ISLANDS				195	149	116

With the release of the new CILC rates, institutions should take note of how this update may impact July 2025 claim submissions and reimbursements.

For institutions that have not yet submitted their July 2025 claim, no action outside of the normal claim submission procedure is required. Claims submitted now will be processed using the new CILC rate. Once approved, these claims will receive full reimbursement that includes the new CILC rate.

On August 1, 2025 institutions were strongly encouraged to delay July 2025 claim submission until the CILC rates were released.

However, if an institution submitted a July claim prior to the release of the updated CILC rates, it's important to note that:

- Reimbursements will be received shortly, depending on each institution's banking processing timelines.
- Because the updated CILC rate was not yet available, these reimbursements do not include the CILC amount. You will receive a 2nd, smaller reimbursement for the July 2025 claim which will be the value of the cash in lieu of commodities (CIL). This CIL reimbursement will be distributed after the claim submission period for July 2025 (estimated end of October 2025).

Farm to Summer Week Recap

Celebrated June 23–27

DECAL's Nutrition Services proudly celebrated **Farm to Summer Week** from June 23 to 27, an annual initiative held during the last full week of June.

This special week is designed to bring fresh, local food and hands-on learning experiences to children and families during the summer months. The goal is to

enhance the quality and appeal of summer meals, increase access to fresh fruits and vegetables, and ensure children remain nourished and engaged while school is out.

Each day of the week featured a unique theme to guide activities and spark curiosity:

- ☐ Monday – What is Farm to Summer?
- ☐ Tuesday – Gardening & Physical Activity
- ☐ Wednesday – Cooking & Taste Testing
- ☐ Thursday – Locally Grown in Meals & Snacks
- ☐ Friday – Literacy, Music & Movement

Highlights from Our Amazing Child Care Providers

Throughout the week, child care providers across Georgia brought these themes to life with creativity, energy, and lots of hands-on fun! Here's how some centers celebrated:

☐ **Boss Babies Childcare Center**

Children kicked off the week learning about the journey from farm to plate with fresh purple hull peas and okra. Later, they enjoyed a delicious lunch of air-fried chicken fingers, peas, corn on the cob, sliced tomatoes, whole grain bread, and milk. For snack time, they sampled Georgia-grown blueberries, figs, and pecans—and even got moving with some physical activities!

☐ **White Oak Learning Academy (Cumming)**

This center embraced the gardening theme by helping children identify foods that grow in gardens. They planned colorful meals, sorted fruits from vegetables, created their own garden drawings, and wrapped it all up with a relaxing yoga session with CALi.

☐ **Pre-K Preparatory Learning Academy**

Children were treated to a special visit from real farm animals! This hands-on experience brought the farm to them, sparking curiosity and excitement about where food comes from.

☐ **Kids World Learning Center**

Children joined the celebration by exploring how watermelons grow. As a special treat, the children participated in a taste test featuring a fruit that was new to many of them—a yellow watermelon! They used their senses to discover its unique qualities and enjoyed this cool, refreshing summer fruit.

☐ **Little Folks Farm & Childcare**

During Farm to Summer Week, Little Folks Farm & Childcare celebrated watermelon season with fun, hands-on activities that engaged children's senses and encouraged healthy eating habits through taste testing and outdoor exploration.



Boss Babies Childcare Center: Children picked watermelon from their garden.



At Pre-K Preparatory Learning Academy, the children are gently petting a



White Oak Learning Academy (Cumming): Engaging in yoga with CALi.

cow as they learn about farm animals and where our food comes from.



Boss Babies Childcare Center: Sampling Georgia-grown blueberries, figs, and pecans.



Little Folks Farm & Childcare: Learning the right time to pick fruits and vegetables.



White Oak Learning Academy (Cumming): Learning what healthy meals look like on their plates.

Keep the Celebration Going!

Didn't get a chance to participate this year? No worries! You can still explore the [Farm to Summer Week](#) webpage for a variety of free, ready-to-use materials that bring the farm-to-table experience to life any time of year.

☐ **We'd love to see your stories!** Share your photos, activities, and creative moments using the hashtags #GAFarmtoSummer or #GAFarmtoECE or email to morgan.chapman@dec.al.ga.gov and help inspire others to connect children with fresh, local food in fun and meaningful ways.



Farewell and Congratulations to Diana Myers

After six and a half years of service at DECAL, we say a fond farewell to Nutrition Education and Physical Activity Supervisor Diana Myers as she transitions to a new role as Director of Fund Development with the Athens YWCO.

"Diana has been a vital part of our team, leading with heart, creativity, and a deep commitment to Georgia's children and families," said Tamika Boone, Director of Nutrition Services. "Her leadership, insight, and kindness have left a lasting impact on our work and our people."

Thank you for your service, Diana.

Pictured L to R: Tina McClaren, Physical Activity Specialist, Morgan Chapman, Nutrition Education Specialist, Diana Myers, Nutrition Education and Physical Activity Supervisor and Tamika Boone, Director of Nutrition Services.

LaKisha Battle Receives Faithful Service Award for 10 Years of Service

We are proud to celebrate LaKisha Battle, who has been honored with the Faithful Service Award in recognition of 10 years of service as a Technical Assistance Coordinator for the Southeast Region.

Sonja Adams, Senior Manager of Provider Services says, "LaKisha's supervisor, Grushan Blake, and I both agree that she exemplifies what it means to serve with integrity, compassion, and excellence. Throughout her time in this role, LaKisha has consistently gone above and beyond to support nutrition program operators, provide timely guidance, and to ensure that children and families receive the nutritional support they need."

Pictured L to R: Sonja Adams, Senior Manager of Provider Services and LaKisha Battle, Technical Assistance Coordinator for the Southeast Region.



Her colleagues describe her as dependable, driven, and deeply passionate about her work. LaKisha's ability to build strong relationships, solve challenges with grace, and lead with a servant's heart makes her truly deserving of this honor.

Congratulations, LaKisha! Your dedication has not gone unnoticed, and we are grateful for the incredible impact you continue to make.



Are You Ready to Crunch Into the Fun?!

Get Kids Eating, Growing & Learning about Apples

Each October, Georgia Organics leads a statewide campaign to inspire kids to eat, grow, and learn about a locally grown fruit or vegetable. This year, we're shining the spotlight on one of fall's favorite fruits with our **Apple of Our Eye** campaign!

Get ready to celebrate apples to the core! The *Apple of Our Eye* Toolkit is now live and accessible to anyone! This *ap-peel-ing* toolkit is **FREE** and packed with apple-themed lesson plans, activities, cafeteria recipes, and more. Whether you're in the classroom or the cafeteria, the toolkit has everything you need to make this October a bushel of fun.

Join the celebration by sharing your apple-themed activities and photos on social media using #appleofoureye throughout October. Show others across the state how you're growing healthy habits—one apple at a time!

At-Risk Afterschool Waivers Available during Unanticipated School Closures

On July 30, 2025, DECAL was approved by USDA to grant CACFP facilities waivers for the following:

- Non-Congregate Meal Service
- Parent and Guardian Meal Pick-up
- Meal Service Times
- At-Risk Enrichment Activities

You may access the waiver request approval [here](#).

These waivers can only be utilized during unanticipated school closures resulting from natural disasters, unscheduled major building repairs, court orders relating to school safety or other issues, labor-management disputes or when approved by DECAL for similar unanticipated causes.

In order for a CACFP facility to utilize the above-mentioned waivers, the facility:

- Must be approved to operate the CACFP (child care centers, adult day care centers, emergency shelters, day care homes, outside-school-hours care centers, and/or at-risk afterschool sites);
- Must be located in an area impacted by an unanticipated school closure resulting from natural disasters, unscheduled major building repairs, court orders relating to school safety or other issues, labor-management disputes or when approved by DECAL for similar unanticipated causes; and
- Must limit the use of the waivers to no more than 10 consecutive days. In situations that may warrant a longer time period, Food Nutrition Service (FNS) approval will be required.

CACFP organizations must seek approval to utilize these waivers and can request their usage through the waiver module in GA ATLAS.

Please note: If desiring to utilize the Home Delivery or Parent/Guardian Pick-up meal service models, CACFP organizations must complete and attach in the waiver module, the USDA Waiver Request Addendum, which can be found [here](#).

Note: Home Delivery does not apply to day care homes.

For questions, please contact [Melissa Stanley](#) or [Tammie Baldwin](#).

Upcoming Training Dates:

August 19, 2025

Tuesday Tip! CACFP Meal Pattern Refresher

1:30 – 2:15 pm

CACFP portion sizes can be confusing on paper, and in practice many more questions come up.

Join this webinar:

- to see correct portion sizes illustrated,
- to make sure you are meeting the minimum serving requirements and
- for a refresher of the meal pattern requirements and portion sizes.

Participants can earn one [0.50] state-approved hour(s) for attending this training in its entirety.

[\[Register Now\]](#)

August 20, 2025

CACFP Procurement Readiness

1:00 – 3:00 pm

Do you have questions or challenges when executing procurement while trying to follow procurement regulations, requirements, and procedures?

Join this webinar to learn:

- procurement regulations
- relevant procurement practices when procuring food & non-food items,
- how to develop formal solicitations, and
- how to incorporate local sourcing practices into meal service.

[\[Register Now\]](#)

September 16, 2025
Tuesday Tip! Serving Grains in CACFP
1:30 - 2:15 pm

Does your monthly menu include whole grains?

Join this webinar to learn CACFP requirements for serving at least one [1] whole grain-rich food per day.

Participants can earn one-half [0.50] state-approved hour(s) for attending this training in its entirety.

[\[Register Now\]](#)

Notes: This is a two-step process:

- Step 1: After registering in GA ATLAS, you will receive a Training Confirmation email immediately from Georgia DECAL Help Desk -helpdesk@cnpus.com with a registration link to attend the webinar (**check your spam/junk folder**).
- Step 2: You must then register for the training using the link provided on the Training confirmation e-mail. If you should have an issue with registering, please contact Leslie Truman prior to the day of training.

Click [here](#) if you need a refresher on how to register for training in GA ATLAS.

Please note: Only the Program Contact (PC) can self-register within GA ATLAS. If an additional person will be attending, please contact Leslie Truman, Administrative Assistant, at (404) 657-1779 or email leslie.truman@dec.al.ga.gov for assistance.

Training Opportunities Available Through the National CACFP Association



Ready to turn mealtime into a hands-on learning experience with local food?

Discover how to grow your program from the ground up with expert-led sessions, real-world success stories and creative ways to source local food and teach agriculture in your care setting. You can also earn certificates for up to 5.5 hours of Continuing Education Units for attending.

Whether you're just planting the seeds or ready to harvest new ideas, this training will equip you with the tools and inspiration to make a lasting impact in your community—just in time for Farm to CACFP Week, October 12-18.

Download the Flyer

Topics Include:

- Rooted in Purpose: What is Farm to CACFP?
- Cultivating Funding for Farm to CACFP: Strategies and State Support
- Find Your Farmer: Enrich Farm to ECE Through Producer Relationships
- Sowing Success: Real Stories & Strategies in Farm to CACFP
- Cooking Up Local Goodness

- Little Sprouts, Big Lessons: Farm to Early Education

Bonus On-Demand Webinars:

- Farmers Market Field Trip

Can't make it to the live sessions?

Your registration includes on demand access through **October 8, 2025**.

[Save Your Spot Today!](#)

In Case You Missed It: *Webinar Recordings Now Available*

If you missed a webinar, please visit the [Training and Technical Assistance](#) webpage for previously recorded webinars. This month's training highlight is the [Product Formulation Statement \(PFS\) & CN Labels webinar](#). It discussed how Product Formulation Statements & CN Labels provide a way for a manufacturer to demonstrate how a processed food product may contribute to the meal pattern requirements in child nutrition programs (CNP).

Snack Attack *New Recipes!*

The [National CACFP Sponsor Association](#) has shared snack options for program operators that are #CACFPCreditable.

- Celery and tuna salad
- Apricots and muffin
- Cherry tomatoes and mozzarella cheese
- Sugar snap peas and carrot bread
- Bagel chips and bean dip

Meal Pattern Minute *New!*

The [National CACFP Sponsor Association](#) has developed quick CACFP meal pattern tips, recipes, resources, and videos. View the videos of the following meal pattern minute tips below.

- [Pureed Vegetables](#) *New!*
- [Crediting Tomatoes, Avocados and Pumpkins](#) *New!*
- [Freezing Yogurt](#) *New!*
- [Home-Frozen Fruits](#) *New!*
- [Açaí](#) *New!*

Identifying Gluten-Free Foods

The [Bell Institute](#) has developed this fact sheet on how to identify gluten-free foods for the CACFP.

[Get the Facts](#)

My Food Program Provides Monthly Menus & Recipes



My Food Program understands that menu planning can be both time-consuming and complex that's why they have taken care of it for you! To support your efforts, My Food Program compiled a monthly menu featuring CACFP-creditable recipes aligned with each of the National Food Days happening this month.

The My Food Program comprehensive menu includes options for Breakfast, Lunch/Supper, and Snack. Each recipe clearly outlines the meal pattern contribution, meal type, yield, and portion sizes, making compliance and planning easier than ever.

Explore the National Food Days happening this month. Click [here](#)

The Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) does not endorse or promote any commercial products, including CACFP software. The resource shared above is provided solely as a tool to support CACFP operators with menu planning and is not intended as an endorsement of any specific product or service.



Nutrition Ed Nook

Juicy, Sweet Melons!

The August Harvest of the Month ([English](#) and [Spanish](#)) feature is melons!

These sweet, juicy fruits are a summertime favorite, perfect for enjoying fresh off the vine or chilled in the refrigerator. Whether you're slicing into a crisp watermelon or savoring a fragrant

cantaloupe, melons offer a refreshing taste of the season.

Melons are grown in many regions and come in a wide variety of flavors, colors, and textures. The Galia melon, originally from Israel, is known for its sweet, aromatic flesh and netted rind. The Charentais melon, a small, fragrant variety from France, is prized for its rich orange flesh and intense flavor. In Japan, the Yubari King melon is considered a luxury fruit, often given as a gift and known for its perfect sweetness and smooth texture.

Georgia plays a major role in melon production, especially during the summer months. The state ranks second in the nation for watermelon production, and Cordele, located in Crisp County, is known as "The Watermelon Capital of the World." When it comes to cantaloupe, the top-producing counties in Georgia are Tift, Colquitt, and Worth.

Melon season in Georgia runs from May through October, with June, July, and August being the peak months for the sweetest and juiciest fruit. This makes August the perfect time to enjoy locally grown melons at their best.

Melons are incredibly versatile and can be used in a variety of dishes. They add a burst of freshness to salads, salsas, and side dishes. They can also be incorporated into main courses or blended into refreshing drinks. Their natural sweetness and high-water content make them a perfect ingredient for hot summer days.

Fun Fact: Watermelon is in the same family as cucumbers, pumpkins, and squash.

Integration:

- [Melon Salsa](#)
- [Melon Cooler](#)
- [Melon and Mint](#)
- [Watermelon Pop](#)
- [Watermelon Cooler](#)
- [Cantaloupe Melon Kabobs](#)

Education:

- **Watch *Inside Georgia's Sweetest Season: Cordele's Watermelon Harvest*** video to see harvest season in full swing. Grower, Leger & Son, shows what it takes to get thousands of sweet, juicy watermelons from field to market. Take a look behind the scenes of Georgia's favorite summertime staple!
- **Discuss** the importance of hydration. Watermelon is 92% water. Food is an option for hydrating. Sliced, cubed, juiced or blended, watermelon is a versatile hydrating food you can enjoy.
- **Read *Watermelon Day***, by Kathi Appelt Koller. There's a watermelon growing in the corner of the patch where the fence posts meet, and Jesse is waiting for it. Waiting for it to fill up with the cool summer rain and the hot summer sun. Waiting until at last it is ripe and ready for eating. Waiting until it is ready for her family's annual Watermelon Day.
- **Talk** with families about how children can help with meal preparation such as using a plastic knife or cookie cutter to cut melons into cubes or fun shapes.
- **Bonus:** Send recipes home with families for them to incorporate melons into their meals! Check [Pinterest](#) for recipe inspiration.
- **Want ECE melon-themed resources?** Check out Quality Care for Children's [Harvest of the Month toolkit](#) for more ways to engage ECE students.

Conversation:

- What melons have the children you serve eaten before?
- Which melon do they like best—watermelon, cantaloupe, or honeydew?
- If they could make their own melon, what color or shape would it be?

Share your Harvest of the Month stories and menu integration of melons with Nutrition Education Specialist, Morgan Chapman, MPH, MCHc at morgan.chapman@dec.al.gov

Physical Activity Corner

Family Engagement Through Physical Activity

Family engagement during the earliest years of a child's life is one of the most powerful factors of a child's growth and development.

The positive outcomes of engaging parents, staff, and caregivers increase the support for children's learning at home, empowers parents, and improves family well-being. According to CDC, family engagement in relation to physical activity in childcare settings and schools work together to increase physical activity opportunities outside of a child's learning environment.



Family engagement improves cognitive development and academic performance, better social-emotional development, and improved health. Their families are children's first teachers, and it is the quality of parent-child relationship and interactions that create the foundational skills that children need at home, in school and their community.

- Family Engagement & Physical Activity Ideas & Tips for Families:



- **Have a Family Picnic.** Social interactions boost children's cognitive and communication abilities. Have a family picnic in the backyard of your home, outside on the lawn, or at a nearby park. Consider bringing a blanket, basket, toss and catch, kickball, running, etc. to get active!
- **Plan a day outdoors.** As a family, schedule a time each day for an outdoor activity with your children. Hike a local nature trail/park or ride a bicycle path.
- **Choose toys appropriately and wisely.** Give children toys that encourage physical activity, such as balls, hopscotch, hula hoops, and jump ropes. Choose the Do It Yourself

- (DIY) materials on active play indoors and outdoors.
- Limit Screen Time. As per the CDC, one to two hours of screen time a day should be the limit for children. As a family, set boundaries, keep the television and electronics out of the child's bedroom and limit computer usage to school projects.
- Gardening. Caring for the plants gives the children a reason to get outside each day. Learning how to grow a garden teaches us about the origins of our food and encourages healthy eating and active living habits.

Engaging families as partners early in the physical activity space allows parents to establish strong home-school and community connections that support their children's growth and development in the long-term. It is an essential component of high-quality early care and education. Let Us Keep Family Engagement Moving!

Integration:

- **Bright From the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning – Family Engagement and Resources**
- **CDC – Families and Community Engagement**
- **Strengthening Families Georgia**
- **Six (6) Fun and Easy Outdoor Activities for Kids (Strong4Life)**
- **15 Ways to Encourage Family Engagement**

Education:

- **Read aloud**, *'We're Better Together'* by Eileen Spinelli.
- **Watch** the video on Family Engagement: *'The Power of Parent Involvement in Early Childhood Education.'*
- **Talk** with families about ways to bring family together and to promote physical activity on family engagement all year round, whether at home, outside, in their local community, at your childcare site, or at their local community recreational areas.
- **Bonus:** Share #FamilyEngagement, #InstaFitness, #MoveYourWay #OutdoorFamilyActivities, #ActiveIndoors pictures and events that are happening in your communities.

Conversation:

- What physical activities are good for family engagement?
- How do you encourage families to engage in physical activity (indoor/outdoor)?
- Why is family engagement important in children?
- How does family impact physical activity?

Share your #FamilyEngagement, #InstaFitness, #OutdoorFamilyActivities, #MoveYourWay #ActiveIndoor, stories and pictures with Physical Activity Specialist, Tina McLaren, MPH at tina.mclaren@dec.al.ga.gov



Follow DECAL on Pinterest

Do you need ideas to help incorporate nutrition education and physical activity at your site?

Check out DECAL's Pinterest for CACFP, Happy Helpings& Harvest of the Month recipes, physical activity ideas, healthy holiday celebrations, and more click [here](https://bit.ly/DECALpins).

Nutrition and Physical Activity pins are saved and added weekly.

Questions or suggestions, submit to morgan.chapman@dec.al.ga.gov or tina.mclaren@dec.al.ga.gov.

Eat Healthy and Live Active



Georgia Early Care and Education Harvest of the Month 25-26 Calendar

The Georgia Early Care and Education Harvest of the Month is a collaborative campaign between Quality Care for Children, Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning, Georgia Department of Human Services, and Georgia Organics. The campaign aims to encourage healthy eating habits by promoting a different local, seasonal fruit or vegetable each month.

Visit [EatLearnGrowGA](https://eatlearngrowga.org) to access a variety of classroom activities aligned with the Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards (GELDS), recipes, book lists, family newsletters, and more to help you incorporate a new vegetable or fruit each month in the classroom, kitchen, and home.

For school-age children resources, visit the Georgia Department of Education's Harvest of the Month [webpage](#).

CACFP Resources:

The following documents were covered in previous newsletters:

- [FNS Issues Guidance on Using Federal Funds to Purchase Local Foods](#)
- [Helpful Hints for Completing the CACFP Application](#)
- [Supplier Change Request \(SCR\) Form and Updates](#)
- [Updates to Child and Adult Care Food Program Procurement Documents](#)
- [Stay Informed: At-Risk Afterschool Waivers Available during Unanticipated School Closure](#)
- [Check your Email Messages & Update Your Email Address in ATLAS](#)
- [Nourishing Healthy Eaters](#)
- [CACFP Policy 41 – State Agency Monitoring Requirements in the Child and Adult Care Food Program](#)
- [Reimbursement Rates for CACFP Providers](#)
- [Updated Procurement Forms to include Civil Rights Assurance Statement](#)
- [Updated Agreements for DCH and Administrative Sponsors](#)
- [Updated Suspension & Disbarment Certification Information](#)
- [How to File a CACFP Claim for Reimbursement](#)

You can find archived CACFP Newsletters [here](#).

Dates to Remember

DATE	EVENTS
August	Harvest of the Month: Melons
August 19	Tuesday Tip! CACFP Meal Pattern Refresher- Webinar
August 20	CACFP Procurement Readiness- Webinar
September 1	Holiday: Labor Day
September 15	Deadline to submit any additional changes to the FY 2025 Application
September 16	Tuesday Tip! Serving Grains in CACFP- Webinar
September 24	Farm to CACFP Boot Camp- Webinar
September 30	Deadline to complete 2026 CACFP Annual Training and Assessment
September 30	Deadline to complete 2026 CACFP Application
September 30	Deadline to Submit Original or Annual Budget Amendments
October 12-18	Farm to CACFP Week

Join Us for a NEW DECAL Download!

Prepping for Pre-K



This week we're turning our attention to one of the most important milestones in early childhood education: preparing for Georgia's Pre-K Program.

We have assembled a panel of experts to explore what families, educators, and communities can do to ensure children are ready for a successful year of learning and growth.

Joining us this week are Georgia's Pre-K Program Specialists Alice Lasseter, Rokeya Stone, and Perri Walden. Meghan McNail is Director of Georgia's Pre-K Program Instructional and Regional Operations, and Devon Porter is Manager of Outreach and the Summer Transition Program.

Listen to the episode [here](#).

How was my Customer Service?

Provide feedback on your experience with the Nutrition Team



Click on the icon on the right to participate in the customer service survey. Responses are anonymous.



Cindy Kicklighter
Joann Kilpatrick

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Nondiscrimination Statement: English

Nondiscrimination Statement: Spanish

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