



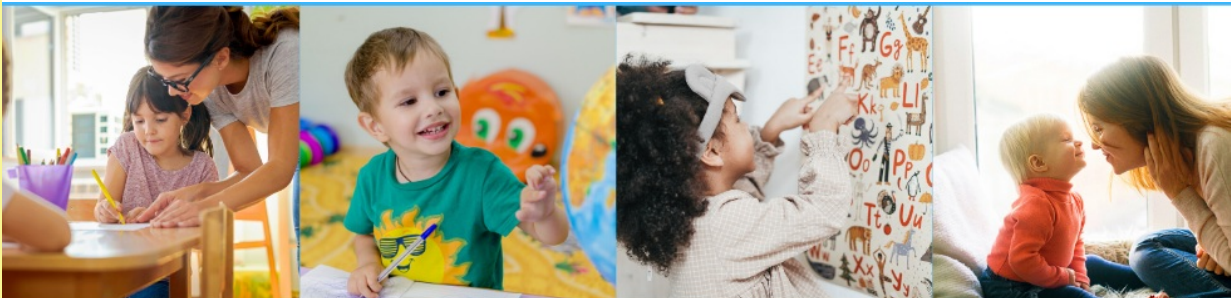
Georgia Dept of Early Care and Learning

BRIGHT FROM THE START

Exemptions Newsletter - Spring 2020



STAY IN THE KNOW



CORONAVIRUS INFORMATION & RESOURCES FOR PARENTS/FAMILIES & CHILD CARE PROVIDERS

Here at the Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning, our top priority is always the health and safety of all children, their families, and the child care

workforce. As we continue to respond to COVID-19 Coronavirus in Georgia, we will post all of our communications on this important issue at <http://dec.al.ga.gov/BFTS/Covid19.aspx>. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work through the many questions and issues related to this unprecedented public health emergency. If you need more information, please e-mail ccsexemptions@dec.al.ga.gov.

For the latest updates, please follow these sites: **Governor's Office, GA Department of Public Health**, and **CDC**.

In light of the Governor's Executive Order, DECAL is providing the following guidance:

Georgia's license-exempt programs may remain open if group sizes are limited to no more than 10 individuals—including staff—and each group is self-contained.

To meet the needs of local communities, DECAL supports your decision to operate the approved category 7 – Day Camp during this time under the conditions approved that the children are ages five and up. Whether you have decided to close or operate during this time, you may report this information through your [DECAL KOALA](#) account.

And remember best practices:

- Stay home if you are sick!
- 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.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Get a flu shot.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

[CDC Website](#)

[Exemption Information](#)

[Governor's Office](#)

[DECAL Koala](#)

Talking to Children About Coronavirus (COVID19)

American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP) has compiled resources for parents, patients, and clinicians to help with the impact of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Parents and teachers are faced with the challenge of discussing the evolving coronavirus outbreak with young children. Although these may be difficult conversations, they are also important. There are no "right" or "wrong" ways to talk with children about such public health emergencies. Below are a few ways to begin the conversation.

1. Create an open and supportive environment.
2. Answer questions honestly.
3. Use words and concepts children can understand.

[Click here for the full list](#) of suggestions provided by AACAP you may find helpful. Additional links are below with resources with guidance. You can also find resources on [Helping Kids Cope While Sheltering in Place](#).

Talking to Children About
Coronavirus (COVID19)

Helping Kids Cope While
Sheltering in Place

United States®
Census
2020

Shape
your future
START HERE



United States
Census
2020

The 2020 Census counts every person living in the United States and five U.S. territories. The census provides critical data that lawmakers, business owners, teachers, and many others use to provide daily services, products, and support for you and your community. Every year, billions of dollars in federal funding go to hospitals, fire departments, schools, roads, and other resources based on census data.

For more information [click here for the U.S. Census Bureau](#) website.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

A Unified
Vision
to **Serve**
Georgia's
Youth

Georgia Afterschool
& Youth Development
Initiative

A collaboration between GSAN & GUIDE, Inc.

Georgia Afterschool & Youth Development Conference

Registration is open for the 2020 Georgia Afterschool & Youth Development Conference. The early bird registration is happening now. See the rates below!

This conference, being held for the fifth time in 2020. This dynamic conference will provide three action-packed days of professional development, networking

and collaboration. All youth development and afterschool providers are invited to attend!

When: September 16-18, 2020
Where: The Classic Center in Athens, GA

Registration rates:
March 1 – April 30: \$175
May 1 – June 30: \$250
July 1 – August 31: \$325

[Click for More Information](#)



Your virtual and in-home learning solution.

Educators and families are facing unique challenges during this time. The Cox Campus is your go-to place for free professional development, teaching resources, and more.

[Click for More Information](#)

SPRING ACTIVITIES

(Sheltering-in-Place)



Making Dream Boards for School Age Children

To begin constructing a dream or vision board, school age children will need to:

- 1) Collect some old magazines & newspaper clippings
- 2) Find some photos that are special to them
- 3) Find some quotes or sayings that inspire

These images and words can literally be anything! From words that inspire them, to a sport they want to try, to their favorite foods. Finally, pick up a poster board at your local craft or dollar store and get started!



Easy Easter
Word Family
Eggs



Child Care Services Exemptions Unit
CCSExemptions@dec.al.ga.gov
770/293-5977

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