



Georgia Dept of Early Care and Learning

BRIGHT FROM THE START

September 3, 2020

Sponsoring Organizations & Institutions:

This is a reminder that on August 21, 2020, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) provided clarification to State agencies and Program operators (institutions) about serving meals to school-age children, **12 years old and under**, who are attending school virtually, and who are also enrolled and attending child care during the day. You can review the USDA memo [here](#).

*Based on this guidance, DECAL has developed a document that outlines the requirements institutions must follow when serving meals to school age children. **This option does not apply to school-age children over 12 years of age.** However, children ages 13-18 may be served through the At Risk Afterschool program. Please review the document that has been updated to emphasize specific age-related requirements [here](#).*

ACTION REQUIRED:

As a reminder, to ensure program integrity, DECAL is requiring Sponsors/Institutions to take the following action:

1. Sponsors must complete the **School-Age Children Certification Statement-Sponsors** confirming that they will follow program guidelines and agree to inform, train and monitor program accountability for their applicable sites.
2. Independent Centers must complete the **School-Age Children Certification Statement-Independent Centers** agreeing to follow program guidelines.
3. School-Age Children Certification forms must be kept on file at the sponsor's office or center and must be made available upon request by USDA, DECAL or an authorized representative.

Thank you for all you do to serve children and their families during this unprecedented time!

Nutrition Services Team

Together, we can help feed Georgia's Children.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

[Nondiscrimination Statement: English](#)

[Nondiscrimination Statement: Spanish](#)

