



## BRIGHT FROM THE START

Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning  
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**Nathan Deal**  
GOVERNOR

**Amy M. Jacobs**  
COMMISSIONER

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Dear Exempt Provider:

As part of the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act of 2014, requirements have been implemented to help strengthen the foundation of health and safety for children in out-of-home environments. The new requirements mandate that all staff with direct care responsibilities must complete Health & Safety Orientation training plus CPR & First Aid training (if not currently certified). This applies to all exempt programs that receive CAPS subsidy funding approved under the following categories:

- Government owned, and
- Day Camp programs.

New staff members hired on or after October 1, 2016 must obtain the training within 90 days of employment. Staff that were hired prior to October 2016 must complete the Health & Safety Orientation training and CPR and First Aid training (if not currently certified) by June 30, 2017.

DECAL is providing a free online module for the Health & Safety Orientation through Pennsylvania State University that is now available at <http://extension.psu.edu/youth/betterkidcare/on-demand>. First, sign in to the On Demand option, and then choose the module called "Georgia Health and Safety Orientation Training (for Georgia child care providers only)". You can also find additional training options at: <https://www.training.decgal.ga.gov/> (search "Health & Safety Orientation"). This new Health & Safety Orientation training only has to be completed one time by the employee and does not have to be renewed annually.

An informational webinar, which will provide an overview of the training requirements, will be held on Wednesday, January 18, 2017 from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. You can register for the webinar at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1259192981156498436>.

If you have any questions regarding the new training requirements please e-mail [ChildCareServices@decgal.ga.gov](mailto:ChildCareServices@decgal.ga.gov) or call 404-657-5562 to speak to an intake consultant.

Best regards,

Kristie Lewis, Assistant Commissioner for Child Care Services