

Pre-K Updates

January 14, 2022



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

Today's Agenda




- Communication
- Instructional Model
- Pre-K Specialist Visits
- Pre-K Rosters and Payments
- Teacher Waivers and Scholarships
- Supporting Teachers
 - Work Sampling Online
 - Training
 - POWER Payments
 - Pre-K Specialist Support
- Application Timelines
- Important Dates
- Questions

Communication



Communication





**Georgia Dept
of Early Care
and Learning**
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[Home](#) [Agency](#) [Programs](#) [Families](#) [Teachers](#) [Providers](#) [CCDF Stimulus](#) [Contact](#)

 / [Georgia's Pre-K](#) / Project Directors 


Pre-K

 About Pre-K

Book List

Childrens Mental Health Week

Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS)

 Creating a Quality Learning Environment

Curriculum

Enrolling in Pre-K

Families





FAQ

PROJECT DIRECTORS

Project directors are responsible for appropriately implementing Georgia's Pre-K Program. Many resources are available on this website to assist directors in effectively managing their program and in making quality improvements to the Pre-K classroom.

The following is a list of items and/or documents to support you in implementing Georgia's Pre-K Program.

Project Director Resource List:

-  [Pre-K Providers Operating Guidelines](#)
-  [Georgia's Pre-K Rate / Per Child Estimate Chart](#)
-  [Resources](#)
-  [PANDA Roster: Change Request Forms, Tips Sheets, Webinars, and Other Resources](#)

Click +

2021 - 2022 Instructional Model



- Focus on in-person classroom instruction.
- Distance learning can be utilized for temporary closures due to Covid19 quarantine and inclement weather.
- Contact Pre-K Specialist
 - **Report temporary class or program closures.**
 - Discuss temporary changes to instructional format. Changes will need to be approved.



Pre-K Visits

2021 - 2022

- Conduct a combination of scheduled virtual and on-site visits
 - Virtual visits
 - ✓ Follow the established protocol.
 - On-site visits
 - ✓ Conduct one on-site visit per day.
 - ✓ Scheduled at least one week in advance, confirmed the day before visit.
 - ✓ Following health protocols established by each site.
 - ✓ Will be contacted by their assigned Pre-K Specialist to discuss:
 - Required documentation needed for on-site review.
 - List of any documents to be provided prior to visits by PANDA upload or email.

Specialist Support



Pre-K Specialists are available to offer support and technical assistance:

- New Teachers
- New Directors
- Daily schedule development
- GELDS, lesson planning, and WSO
- Classroom management strategies

Pre-K Specialist of the Day (404) 656-5957

If you do not know which Pre-K Specialist is assigned to your program, email prek@dec.al.ga.gov.



Pre-K Rosters & Payments



Pre-K Rosters

2021 - 2022

Roster Due Dates

Roster	Roster Open for Data Entry	Count Day	Due Date to DECAL
1	August 2, 2021	September 3, 2021	September 13, 2021
2	October 4, 2021	November 5, 2021	November 12, 2021
3	December 10, 2021	January 14, 2022	January 21, 2022
4	February 11, 2022	March 11, 2022	March 18, 2022

Roster 3

- Count date is TODAY, January 14th.
 - Only enter enrolled students on your roster.
 - Make sure that you have confirmed each child's attendance in the classroom.
- Roster 3 must be submitted by January 21st for all classrooms.
- PANDA Resources
- Need help? Email panda.rosters@dec.al.ga.gov

The screenshot shows the Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning website. The header includes the department's logo and name, "Georgia Dept of Early Care and Learning BRIGHT FROM THE START", along with social media icons and a search bar. The navigation menu lists various categories: Agency, Programs, Families, Teachers, Providers, CCDF Stimulus, and Contact. The main content area is titled "PROJECT DIRECTORS" and explains the role of project directors. It includes a "Project Director Resource List" with expandable sections for "Pre-K Providers Operating Guidelines", "Georgia's Pre-K Rate / Per Child Estimate Chart", and "Resources". The "Resources" section is expanded, showing a list of links including "PANDA Roster: Change Request Forms, Tips Sheets, Webinars, and Other Resources", which is highlighted with a red box. Other links in the list include "Roster Tips: Moving Students to Another Class", "Roster Tips: Moving Teachers to Another Class", "Pre-K Roster Correction Request Form", "Roster Tips: Correcting Student Data and Teacher Gap Reporting", "Creditable Years of Experience Change Request Form", "Roster Tips- Entering Roster 1 Student Data", "Teacher Roster Tips- Tips for Updating Roster 1 Teacher Data", "Panda Roster System Student Data Entry Roster 1 Webinar", "PANDA: Uploading Student Documents", "PANDA Student Data Training Document", and "PANDA Teacher Data Entry Training Document". A sidebar on the left contains a list of links for Pre-K resources, with "Project Directors" selected.

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Agency Programs Families Teachers Providers CCDF Stimulus Contact

/ Georgia's Pre-K / Project Directors

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GA's Pre-K At Home

Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards

Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health

Operating Guidelines

Pre-K Forms

Pre-K Supports

Professional Learning

Project Directors

Search for Pre-K

Starting a Pre-K Program

Summer Transition Program

Teachers

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The following is a list of items and/or documents to support you in implementing Georgia's Pre-K Program.

Project Director Resource List:

+ Pre-K Providers Operating Guidelines

+ Georgia's Pre-K Rate / Per Child Estimate Chart

+ Resources

- **PANDA Roster: Change Request Forms, Tips Sheets, Webinars, and Other Resources**

Roster Tips: Moving Students to Another Class

Roster Tips: Moving Teachers to Another Class

Pre-K Roster Correction Request Form

Roster Tips: Correcting Student Data and Teacher Gap Reporting

Creditable Years of Experience Change Request Form

Roster Tips- Entering Roster 1 Student Data

Teacher Roster Tips- Tips for Updating Roster 1 Teacher Data

Panda Roster System Student Data Entry Roster 1 Webinar

PANDA: Uploading Student Documents

PANDA Student Data Training Document

PANDA Teacher Data Entry Training Document

Payments

2021 - 2022

- Pre-K payments for the remainder of the school year (January – May) will continue to be based on the Grant Agreement and current verified lead teacher credentials in PANDA.
 - A per child proration will not be applied to operating costs.
- Programs should continue filling vacant slots.



Transportation Payments

- Due to the decision to not prorate payments based on enrollment, DECAL is unable to execute transportation through the regular payment process.
- 2021 - 2022 transportation reimbursement will be paid by a special adjustment payment in PANDA.
- Transportation will be calculated at a current rate of \$16.50 for each eligible child reported for transportation on the roster.
- A payment for August - November will be processed **TODAY, January 14th**.
- A second payment for December - May will be processed after the fourth roster.

Lead and Assistant Teacher Credential Waiver



- Providers with a waived teacher who will not hold a qualifying credential by fall 2022 may now request a waiver extension. Approval is contingent upon the following:
 - Teacher must be actively pursuing an approved credential.
 - Teachers planning to enroll in a credential or educator preparation program must be enrolled **prior** to submission of the request for waiver extension (enrollment documentation must be maintained on site).
 - Teacher will earn an approved credential by the end of the 2022-2023 school year.
- *Request for Extended Waiver of Teacher Credential* form is posted under the Project Director Resource List.

Submit the form to your Pre-K Specialist.





RESOURCES FOR THE GEORGIA'S PRE-K 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

+ General Information

+ Emergency Closure Lesson Plan and Schedule Templates

+ Emergency Closure Resources

+ Social and Emotional T

+ Family Engagement and Resources

Resource List

Lead Teacher Credential/Salary

Assistant Teacher Credential/Salary

Webinar

Pre-K Providers' Operating Guidelines

Work Sampling Online (WSO) Guidance

Off to a Good Start Lesson Plans (OTAGS)

Can You Touch a Color Lesson Plan

Georgia's Pre-K Credential and Salary Frequently Asked Questions for Teachers

Enrolling in the Georgia Professional Development System (GaPDS)

Inclement Weather Closures and Make-up Days

PEACH How To Guide

Georgia's Pre-K WSO Help Ticket

The Pyramid Model for Supporting Social Emotional Development in Young Children

2021-2022 Best Practices WSO Webinars Schedule

Resources to help teachers meet credential requirements are available on the Pre-K Teacher webpage under the Credential/Salary tabs.

- Lead Teacher:**

- [Guidance in Meeting Pre-K Lead Teacher Credential Requirements](#) provides guidance to help teachers who hold a non-ECE bachelor's degree meet credential requirements.
- [Georgia Professional Standards Commission \(GaPSC\) Frequently Asked Questions](#) helps teachers understand GaPSC certification process.

- Assistant Teacher:**

- [Guidance in Meeting Pre-K Assistant Teacher Credential Requirements](#) provides information for acquiring a Paraprofessional License issued by the GaPSC.

- Educational counseling services are available for teachers.**

- 770-642-6722 or 1-800-227-3410
- support@decalscholars.com





Changes to Scholarships

for Pre-K Teachers

**CDA and
Academic
Scholarships
Available Now!**

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

A temporary waiver program for Pre-K lead and assistant teachers who have received a credential waiver to receive a DECAL Scholars Scholarship to further their education in Early Childhood Education.

REQUIREMENTS

- Employment as a Pre-K lead or assistant teacher for a minimum of 25 hours per week (*not including school breaks*)
- Received a credential waiver during the 2021-2022 school year
- Work in a child care center licensed by DECAL, Department of Defense (DOD), or an exempt Head Start center, or public school
- Must be US citizen, legal permanent resident, or qualified alien or non-immigrant
- Must be accepted into a formal early childhood education program of study leading to the award of an approved lead teacher or assistant teacher credential or degree at an eligible institution

APPLY TODAY!

770-642-6722 OR 1-800-227-3410
WWW.DECALSCHOLARS.COM
SUPPORT@DECALSCHOLARS.COM

- Temporary initiative to support waived Pre-K teachers who are pursuing an Early Childhood Education credential or degree.
- Some of the eligibility requirements for tuition assistance are temporarily waived.
- Applicant must be accepted into a formal education program of study leading to the award of an approved lead teacher or assistant teacher credential or degree at an eligible institution.
- For information and to apply, teachers can visit www.decalscholars.com or call 770-642-6722 or 1-800-227-3410.
- Coming Soon! Care Solutions will host a webinar.



Supporting Teachers



Work Sampling Online (WSO)

2021 - 2022

- Screen checklists for your Pre-K classes to ensure that teachers have finalized Period 1 checklist ratings.
- Instructions for screening classes is posted on the Work Sampling System Program page. Look for *How to Screen a Class - Admins*
<http://dec.al.ga.gov/Prek/PreKChildAssessmentProgram.aspx>
- The webinar recording for *WSO for Administrators* is posted under the Project Director Resource List.

WSO Resources	WSO How To Files	Correlations	Updates
How To Access/Print the P4 Developmental Guidelines			
How to Activate ActiveX Message			
How to Add an Administrator			
How To Add a Class - PreK Teacher			
How To Add a Class - Directors/Admin			
How To Add a Student - Directors/Admin			
How To Add a Student - PreK Teachers			
How to Add a Student - Inclusion Teachers			
How to Add a Teacher - Directors/Admins			
How To Archive			
How to Check IE Security Settings			
How to Clear Your Cache			
How to Create/Manage Alerts - Directors/Admins			
How To Edit Class Information			
How to edit Student Information			
How To Print Checklist(s)			
How to Print/Email a PANDA Roster Report - Admins			
How to Resize Pictures			
How to Run a Pending Checklist Report			
How to Run a Pending Summary Report			
How To Screen A Class - Admins			

Providing Our Workforce Essential Recognition (POWER) Payments

2021 - 2022

Through funds provided by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA) 2021 and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) 2021, DECAL will provide two POWER payments of \$1,000 for each Georgia's Pre-K Lead and Assistant Teachers this school year (a total of \$2,000 per eligible teacher).

- **Applying for POWER funds**
 - **School systems** will not need to apply. DECAL will pay the funding directly to local school systems through PANDA.
 - DECAL anticipates processing the first payment by January 30, 2022, and the second payment by April 30, 2022.
 - **Private providers** will need to submit an application for eligible staff. School systems that are also a Head Start, Early Head Start or licensed child care provider will need to submit an application for any additional eligible early learning staff (other than Georgia's Pre-K).
 - The application will open for the first payment in January 2022 and payments will be processed January – March 2022.
 - The application for the second payment will open in June 2022 and payments will be processed June - August 2022.
- **For Questions**
 - School systems: email prek@decals.ga.gov or contact Susan Adams (susan.adams@decals.ga.gov or 404-651-7420)
 - Private providers: email supplementalpayments@decals.ga.gov.

Pre-K Training



- All Returning Lead and Assistant Teacher **SELF-PACED ONLINE** training must be **completed by January 31, 2022.**
 - The MARVEL of Writing
 - Reading and Exploring Informational Text Social Studies
- All online coursework for virtual live training will close on **April 30, 2022.**
 - Encourage teachers not to wait until the last minute.
 - Designate time during the workday for teachers to complete online coursework.
 - For questions or login assistance, submit a help ticket:

<https://bestpractices.gsu.edu/help/>



Inclusive Early Learning Week

February 13th – 19th 2022



- Increases the public's awareness of advocacy for inclusion
- Celebrates program success in creating inclusive classrooms
- Promotes inclusive practices in all early learning environments in Georgia
- Stay tuned to the DECAL social media pages for ways to participate in the celebration!

For information and resources, visit the [Inclusive Early Learning Week](#) tab on the DECAL webpage.



#LoveInclusion2021
#GaSEEDSforSuccess



Inclusion and Behavior Support

Call the Helpline anytime you:

- Need assistance with addressing challenging behavior virtually and on-site
- Need information about child referrals
- Have questions about coaching support regarding classroom practices related to SED or Inclusion
- Are interested in training on inclusion or social emotional training

1.833.354.HELP

GEORGIA SEEDS for SUCCESS



inclusion@dec.al.ga.gov



Inclusion and Behavior Support Outreach Campaign

- Behavior Tip Tuesdays
- Teacher Testimonials and Specialist Spotlights
- Resources – SEEDS Quick Tips, Inclusive Practice Tips and more
- Social emotional contest and provider prizes!

Looking Toward Next Year



Student Registration

2022 - 2023

Student Registration Policy

- Review and update registration policy and procedures
 - Must be in writing and available for review
- Considerations for the 2022 - 2023 school year policy
 - *Will your program enroll students who are age eligible for kindergarten?*
 - *Are there any interim policies?*

Registration Timeline

- Consider postponing registration to the spring
- Coordinate across programs

Application Timelines

2021 - 2022

Application	Release Date	Due Date
Georgia's Pre-K Program	January 24	February 16
Summer Transition Program	February 21	March 11
Pre-K Teacher of the Year	March 1	March 25

Georgia's Pre-K Application

2022 - 2023

- Continuation and Expansion application will be available in PANDA on **January 24th**.
- Programs must continue to apply for currently funded classes and request any expansion classes.
- All application components, including supporting documents for expansion classes, are submitted in PANDA.
- Once a Pre-K application is submitted, changes cannot be made. If requesting expansion, make sure to do so BEFORE clicking the Submit button.
- Applications must be submitted to DECAL online in PANDA no later than 5:00 p.m. on **February 16th**.

Summer Transition Program Application

2022

- New, continuation and expansion STP applications will be available in PANDA on February 21st.
- Applications must be submitted online in PANDA by 5:00 p.m. on March 11th.
- Grant recipients will be announced in April.
- STP Application webinar will be scheduled.
- Email questions to summerschool@decal.ga.gov.

Georgia's Pre-K Teachers of the Year

2021-2022



LaNita Carey
Jackson Creek Academy - Lilburn



Stephanie Curington
Kings Chapel Elementary - Perry



Pre-K Teacher of the Year Application

2022-2023

- Application will be posted on March 1st on the home page of the DECAL website and on the Teacher of the Year page.
- Applications must be submitted via email by 5:00 p.m. on March 25th.
- Finalists will be announced in May 2022.
- Winners will be announced in early fall.
 - One winner from a public school and one winner from a private child care learning center
- The teachers will serve as ambassadors for Georgia's Pre-K Program.
- For questions, contact Meghan McNail at 770-357-4911 or Meghan.mcnaul@decal.ga.gov.

Resources



[How to Support Your Child's Social-Emotional Health: 8 Tips for Families](#)

The past two years have been extremely challenging for families, and many kids are experiencing big emotions. This article shares simple ideas families can try at home. Many could also be used in the classroom. The tips are available in 16 languages!



[Kids Use Play To Communicate. Here's Why Adults Need To Pay Attention. | EdSurge News](#)

This article is part of the guide Survival Mode: Educators Reflect on a Tough 2021 and Brace for the Future.

www.edsurge.com

Important Dates



January 14: Roster 3 Count Date

January 24: SY23 Pre-K Application Open

January 21: Roster 3 Due Date

February 16: SY23 Pre-K Application Due

February 13 – 19: Inclusive Early Learning Week

February 21: Summer Transition Program Application Open

March 1: Pre-K Teacher of the Year Application Posted

March 11: Summer Transition Program Application Due

March 25: Pre-K Teacher of the Year Application Due



Questions
Email
prek@dec.al.ga.gov

