

Pre-K Updates

July 23, 2021



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

Today's Agenda

back to
School



- Communication
- 2021-2022 Instructional Model
- Pre-K Rosters and Payments
- Staffing the Classroom
- Supporting Teachers
 - Resources
 - Training
 - Work Sampling Online
 - Employment Terms Document
 - Pre-K Specialist Support and Visits
- Important Dates
- Questions

Communication



Communication

- Update Emails
 - Will include any new information, important dates, and relevant resources.
- Regularly Scheduled Webinars
 - Scheduled for Fridays @ 12:00.
 - Will be recorded and posted.
- Regional Pre-K Specialist

Communication



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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](#)

[+ 2021 – 2022 Georgia's Pre-K Updates and FAQ](#)

[+ Child Registration and Waiting List Information Forms](#)

[+ Georgia's Pre-K Credential Information](#)

Pre-K

[+ About Pre-K](#)

Book List

Childrens Mental Health Web

Classroom Assessment Scoring
System (CLASS)

[+ Creating a Quality Learning
Environment](#)

Curriculum

Enrolling in Pre-K

Families

FAQ

GA's Pre-K At Home

Georgia Early Learning and
Development Standards

Infant and Early Childhood
Mental Health

2021 - 2022 Instructional Model



- Returning to traditional face to face classroom instruction.
- Currently hybrid and full distance models are not being approved.
- Distance learning can be utilized for temporary closures due to Covid 19 quarantine and inclement weather.
- Must report closures to your Pre-K Specialist.





Pre-K Rosters & Payments



Teacher Rosters

- Teacher Information Screens opens on **Monday, July 26th**.
- Please review and update Lead and Assistant Teacher information.
- Information will be used for the August payment calculation.
- PANDA Resources
 - *PANDA Teacher Data Entry Training Document*
 - *Roster Tips*
- Need help? Email panda.teachers@decal.ga.gov

Pre-K	PROJECT DIRECTORS
About Pre-K	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.
Book List	
Childrens Mental Health Week	The following is a list of items and/or documents to support you in implementing Georgia's Pre-K Program.
Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS)	Project Director Resource List:
Creating a Quality Learning Environment	+ Pre-K Providers Operating Guidelines
Curriculum	+ Georgia's Pre-K Rate / Per Child Estimate Chart
Enrolling in Pre-K	+ Resources
Families	
FAQ	- PANDA Roster: Change Request Forms, Tips Sheets, Webinars, and Other Resources
GA's Pre-K At Home	Roster Tips: Moving Students to Another Class
Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards	Roster Tips: Moving Teachers to Another Class 
Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health	Pre-K Roster Correction Request Form
Operating Guidelines	Roster Tips: Correcting Student Data and Teacher Gap Reporting
Pre-K Forms	Creditable Years of Experience Change Request Form
Pre-K Supports	Tips for Entering Roster 1 Student Data
Professional Learning	Panda Roster System Student Data Entry Roster 1 Webinar
Project Directors	PANDA: Uploading Student Documents
Search for Pre-K	PANDA Student Data Training Document
Starting a Pre-K Program	PANDA Teacher Data Entry Training Document 

Student Rosters

Pre-K

About Pre-K

Book List

Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS)

Creating a Quality Learning Environment

Curriculum

Enrolling in Pre-K

Families

FAQ

GA's Pre-K At Home

Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards

Operating Guidelines

Pre-K Supports

Professional Learning

Project Directors

Basic Materials List

Pre-K CAPS

Child Registration Forms

Curriculum

Director Grant Requirement

PANDA RESOURCES

PANDA (Pre-K Application and Database Access) is the online provider service system for Georgia's Pre-K Program. Through PANDA, providers can submit applications, complete rosters and waiting lists, check on payments, submit their reconciliation, and update site and contact information. The documents below are designed to assist providers with performing these functions in PANDA. For questions about PANDA, please contact Georgia's Pre-K Program at panda.support@decal.ga.gov.

Documents List

[PANDA Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#)

[PANDA Payment Advice Instructions](#)

[PANDA Provider Calendar Instructions](#)

[PANDA Student Data Training Document](#)

[PANDA Teacher Data Entry Training Document](#)

[Race & Ethnicity Instructions](#)

[PANDA Student Roster Template 2021](#)

[Teacher Roster Tips- Tips for Updating Roster 1 Teacher Data](#)

[Roster Tips- Entering and Correcting Student information](#)

[PANDA QRSG Data Training Document](#)

- Rosters will open for entry on August 2nd.
- Count date is September 3rd.
 - Only enter enrolled students on your roster.
 - Make sure that you have confirmed each child's attendance in the classroom.
- Student Rosters must be submitted by September 13th for all classrooms.
- PANDA Resources
 - *PANDA Student Data Entry Training Document*
 - *Roster Tips*
- Need help? Email panda.rosters@decal.ga.gov

Pre-K Rosters

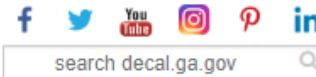
2021 - 2022

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

Rosters

2021 - 2022



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PROJECT DIRECTORS

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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](#)

[2019 – 2020 Pre-K Providers' Operating Guidelines Addendum April 21, 2020](#)

[2020 – 2021 School Year Georgia's Pre-K Program Guidance Toolkit](#)

[2020 – 2021 School Year Georgia's Pre-K Program Guidance Webinar](#)

[2020 – 2021 School Year Georgia's Pre-K Program Guidance Webinar Slides](#)

[2020 – 2021 Georgia's Pre-K Updates and FAQ](#)

Documents **Webinars/Presentation Slides** Presentation Handouts Archived Presentations

Documents **Webinars/Presentation Slides** Presentation Handouts Archived Presentations

[2021-2022 Welcome to Georgia's Pre-K Program Webinar](#)

[2020-2021 New Project Director Training Pre-K Basics Webinar](#)

[2020-2021 Pre-K Basics \(Slides\)](#)

[2020-2021 New Project Director Training Financial Basics Webinar](#)

[2020-2021 Financial Basics Slides \(Slides\)](#)

[New and Improved PANDA Webinar](#)

[2019-2020 Year End Reconciliation Webinar](#)

[2019-2020 Year End Reconciliation Webinar \(slides\)](#)

[GaPSC Certification Overview for Georgia's Pre-K Program - Slides](#)

[GaPSC Certification Overview for Georgia's Pre-K Program](#)

[WEBINAR SERIES: The Pyramid Model for Supporting Social Emotional Development in Young Children](#)

[Using the WSO Class Profile Report to Plan Webinar \(mp4\)](#)

[WSO Narrative Summary Report: Tips and Tricks Webinar \(mp4\)](#)

[PANDA Roster System Webinar \(mp4\)](#)

[PANDA Roster System: Teacher Data Entry Webinar \(mp4\)](#)

[PANDA Roster System: Student Data Entry Webinar \(mp4\)](#)

Payments

2021 - 2022

- Pre-K payments will be processed by the 14th of each month or the next business day.
- The August and September payments will be based on the Grant Agreement.
- The October payment will be based on Roster 1 data.
 - Roster 1 data will be reviewed to determine proration of operating costs.
 - It is very important that Roster data is entered correctly and on time.

Staffing the classroom



- Each Pre-K classroom should be staffed with a credentialed lead and assistant teacher.
 - Review Pre-K Guidelines for credentials.
 - Multiple options for meeting the credential requirement
 - Assistant teacher age requirement of 21 removed in current guidelines.
- Due to the pandemic, many programs are struggling to find teachers with the appropriate credential.
 - Work with your higher education programs to identify appropriate candidates
 - Post open positions on DECAL website
 - Consider delaying the start of school
 - Apply for a credential waiver



Applying for a Credential Waiver

2021 - 2022

- Providers that are unable to fill a lead and/or assistant teacher position with a sufficiently credentialed teacher can request a waiver of teacher credential.
- Classes without a sufficiently credentialed lead teacher are paid at the insufficient credential rate, which is equal to the assistant teacher salary.
 - The insufficient rate will not be applied if the waived lead teacher has a verified ECE Associate Degree. These class will be paid at the Two-Year Degree rate.
- Waivered lead teachers are not eligible for the CYE supplement.
- *Request for Waiver of Teacher Credential* form will be posted under the Project Director Resource List.
 - Submit the form to your Pre-K Specialist for review and approval.

Employment Terms Document

2021 - 2022

- Beginning in school year 2021-2022, all Pre-K grantees are required to have written documentation detailing the employment terms between the employer and all Georgia's Pre-K lead teachers. This written documentation is recommended, but not required, for Pre-K assistant teachers.
- The employment terms document should include the following, at a minimum:
 - Employment beginning and end dates
 - Compensation information
 - Benefits information
 - Broad scope of work
- Refer to Section 11. 3 of the Pre-K Providers' Operating Guidelines for details.
 - Appendix Z – *Sample Georgia's Pre-K At-Will Employment Agreement* provides guidance in developing written documentation detailing the employment terms between the employer and all Georgia's Pre-K lead teachers.
- If your program already uses an employment terms document (employment contract, offer letter, work agreement, etc.), the document will meet the requirement.

Work Sampling Online (WSO)

2021 - 2022

- Teachers are required to rate each student on ALL performance indicators.
 - Only required to collect assessment documentation for the Language and Literacy and Mathematical Thinking domains.
 - Teachers should also collect documentation in the social emotional domain for any children who are experiencing challenging behaviors.
- Work Sampling Online training will be embedded throughout New Teacher Training.
- Webinars will be offered for new and returning teachers.
- Webinar for Administrators will be offered in the fall.
- WSO portal opens:
 - July 20th - administrators
 - August 10th – teachers

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 Visits

2021 - 2022

Program and Roster Verification Visits

- Will begin after September 13th (first roster).
- Visits will be scheduled for a mutually agreed upon time and day.
- Providers will be contacted by their assigned Pre-K Specialist to:
 - Schedule the visit
 - Discuss information required for the visit
 - Provide a list of any documents that should be uploaded to PANDA or emailed to the specialist prior to the visit

Inclusion and Behavior Support

Call the Helpline anytime you:

- Need assistance with addressing challenging behavior
- 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

- “Planting the SEED for a Successful New School Year”
- Behavior Tip Tuesdays
- Teacher Testimonials and Specialist Spotlights
- Resources – SEEDS Quick Tips, Inclusive Practice Tips and more
- Social emotional contest and provider prizes!

Pre-K Training



- Annual training is required for lead teachers, assistant teachers, and NEW directors.
- New teachers will need to register for Virtual Live sessions this fall (2 days).
 - Virtual live means that teachers must participate in-person during the session.
- Returning teachers have several options:
 - Virtual live
 - Self-paced online
 - Face to face (after January)
- New directors will register for virtual live or self-paced sessions.



Teacher Training

2021 - 2022

- The Pre-K Teacher Training Guide is posted.
 - New Teacher Training (2 days)
 - Virtual **live** trainings
 - Returning Teachers (1 day) can choose from:
 - Virtual **live** training
 - Self-paced training
 - Face to face training (beginning in January)
- An email will be sent when training registration opens.
- Training sessions begin on August 24th.



New Director Training

2021 - 2022

New Director training offered by virtual live sessions or self-paced sessions.

- **Pre-K Basics:** This training will focus on the *Pre-K Providers' Operating Guidelines*.
- **Supporting a Quality Pre-K Program:** This training will focus on the Grant Requirement Checklist and program monitoring.
- **Pre-K Financial Basics:** Topics include financial and accounting responsibilities, expenditure requirements, record keeping, and reporting requirements.
- **Georgia's Pre-K Year End Reconciliation Report:** Topics include completing the 2021-2022 Reconciliation Report and supporting documentation providers must maintain.
- **WSO for Administrators:** This training will walk through the steps of Work Sampling and how administrators can screen teacher classes to support them.

An email will be sent when training registration opens.

Resources



Teacher Resources

2021 - 2022


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




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

 [General Information](#)

 [Pre-K Instructional Models](#)

 [Schedule and Lesson Plan Templates](#)

 [Virtual Learning Resources](#)

 [Social and Emotional Tools](#)

 [Family Engagement and Resources](#)

[Resource List](#)

[Lead Teacher Credential/Salary](#)

[Assistant Teacher Credential/Salary](#)

[Webinar](#)

Resources for Returning to School

2021 - 2022

Webinar: *Preparing for the Return of Children After Isolation*

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/894966588824508687>



Podcast: *COVID Considerations for Returning to School*

<https://decaldownload.buzzsprout.com/>

Document: *Back to School Checklist*

http://www.dec.ga.gov/documents/attachments/SEEDS_BacktoSchoolChecklist.pdf



Off to a Good Start Lesson Plans (OTAGS)

2021 - 2022

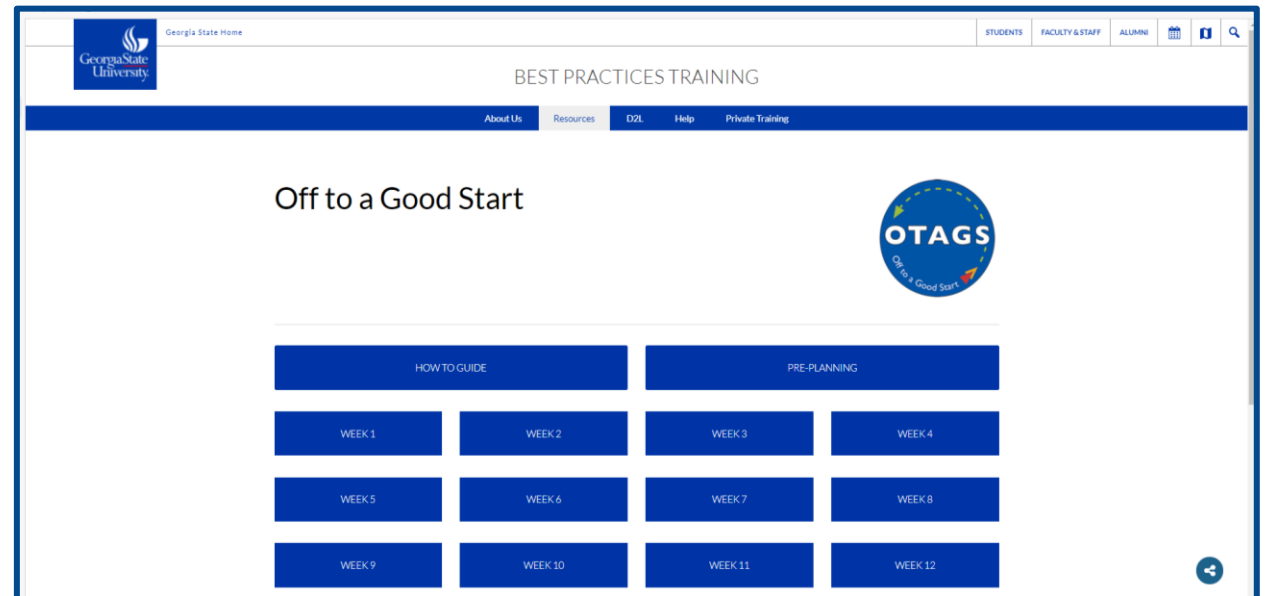
- **OTAGS**

- 12 weeks of comprehensive lesson plans in a digital format.
- Includes links to podcasts, songs, books, and resources teachers may download and use to supplement classroom materials.
- Teachers can customize the plans and arrange the slides according to their daily schedule.

<https://bestpractices.gsu.edu/resources/otags/>
<http://dec.al.ga.gov/PreK/Teachers.aspx>

- **Pre-Planning**

- Links to podcasts to help teachers prepare for the school year.
- Virtual classroom link helps teachers create a supportive classroom environment.



Important Dates



July 26: Teacher information screen opens

August 2: Roster 1 opens

August 10: WSO opens for teachers

August 30: Reconciliation Report due for private providers

September 3: Roster Count Date

September 13: Roster Due Date

September 30: Reconciliation Report due for school systems



Reminders



- Prepare for 2020 - 2021 Pre-K Reconciliation Reports:
 - Email notification when report is ready in PANDA
 - Webinar training in August
 - Due dates
 - Private- August 30th
 - Public School- September 30th



Questions

