

# Pre-K Updates

August 27, 2021



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

# Today's Agenda

back to  
School

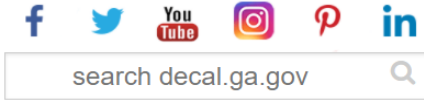


- Communication
- 2021-2022 Instructional Model
- Pre-K Rosters and Payments
- Staffing the Classroom
- Supporting Teachers
  - Resources
  - Training
  - Work Sampling Online
  - Employment Terms Document
  - Pre-K Specialist Support and Visits
- Important Dates
- Questions

# Communication



# Communication



Menu / Georgia / Project Directors



- 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

## PROJECT DIRECTORS

Project directors are responsible for appropriately implementating 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

# 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 are open.
- 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@dec.al.ga.gov](mailto:panda.teachers@dec.al.ga.gov)

Pre-K	<b>PROJECT DIRECTORS</b>
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)	<b>Project Director Resource List:</b>
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	- PANDA Roster: Change Request Forms, Tips Sheets, Webinars, and Other Resources
FAQ	Roster Tips: Moving Students to Another Class
GA's Pre-K At Home	Roster Tips: Moving Teachers to Another Class
Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards	Pre-K Roster Correction Request Form
Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health	Roster Tips: Correcting Student Data and Teacher Gap Reporting
Operating Guidelines	Creditable Years of Experience Change Request Form
Pre-K Forms	Tips for Entering Roster 1 Student Data
Pre-K Supports	Panda Roster System Student Data Entry Roster 1 Webinar
Professional Learning	PANDA: Uploading Student Documents
Project Directors	PANDA Student Data Training Document
Search for Pre-K	PANDA Teacher Data Entry Training Document
Starting a Pre-K Program	

# Roster 1

## 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](mailto: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](#)

- Count date is September 3<sup>rd</sup>.
  - Only enter enrolled students on your roster.
  - Make sure that you have confirmed each child's attendance in the classroom.
- Roster 1 must be submitted by September 13<sup>th</sup> for all classrooms.
- PANDA Resources
  - PANDA Student Data Entry Training Document*
  - Roster Tips*
- Need help? Email [panda.rosters@decal.ga.gov](mailto: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



search decal.ga.gov

Agency Programs Families Teachers Providers Contact Us

/ Georgia's Pre-K / Project Directors

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

Search for Pre-K

## PROJECT DIRECTORS

Project directors are responsible for appropriately implementating 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

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)

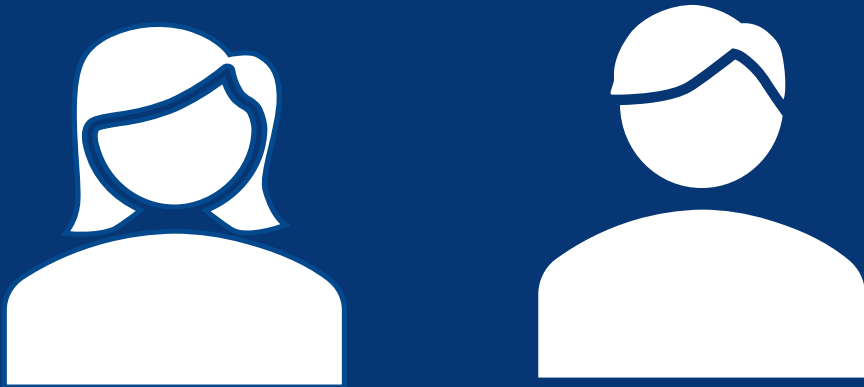
# Payments

2021 - 2022

- Pre-K payments will be processed by the 14<sup>th</sup> of each month or the next business day.
- The August and September payments will be based on the Grant Agreement.
- Roster 1 data will be reviewed to determine if payments will be prorated based on student enrollment after the September payment.



# 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 or assistant teacher position with a sufficiently credentialed teacher can request a waiver of teacher credential.
- Salary information is provided on the waiver form.
- *Request for Waiver of Teacher Credential* form is posted under the Project Director Resource List.
  - Submit the form to your Pre-K Specialist for review and approval.
- Currently working on new DECAL Scholars supports for Pre-K teachers on a waiver. **More information coming soon!**

# 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.

# 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](mailto:prek@dec.al.ga.gov).



# Pre-K Visits

2021 - 2022

## Program and Roster Verification Visits

- Will begin after September 13<sup>th</sup> (first roster).
- Conducted virtually at this time
- 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](mailto: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)
- Training registration is now open.



# New Director Training

2021 - 2022

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

- **Training Registration is now open for Pre-K Basics:** This training will focus on the *Pre-K Providers' Operating Guidelines* and *is required for new project directors and optional for site directors.*
  - *Register for one session only*
    - *Live webinars on September 1 and September 2*
    - *Online Self-Paced*
- **2020-2021 Georgia's Pre-K Year End Reconciliation Report:** The webinar recording from the August 11<sup>th</sup> reconciliation report training is posted on the Project Directors' webpage under the *Webinars/Presentation Slides* tab.

# Resources



# Teacher Resources

2021 - 2022

[Home](#) [Agency](#) [Programs](#) [Families](#) [Teachers](#) [Providers](#) [POWER](#) [Contact Us](#)



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



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](#)

[GA's Pre-K At Home](#)

## 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

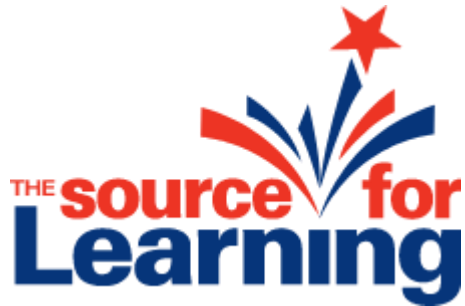
2021 - 2022



[Molly Wright: How every child can thrive by five | TED Talk](#)



Podcast: Planting SEEDS for a Successful School Year:  
<https://decaldownload.buzzsprout.com>



Document: [COVID-19: Support for Early Childhood Educators](#)



## • October 4 – 8 VIRTUAL Celebration!

- Video recordings of legislators and community leaders reading a book will be posted in a video library and made available on the Voices for Georgia's Children website.
- A daily activity for children and families will be featured on the Voices website.
- Pre-K Specialists will contact programs to schedule virtual visits to read to classes.
- Invite your local leaders and community "heroes" to post a video recording of themselves reading a book for your social media platforms.

**Stay tuned for additional info and steps for registering your program for Georgia's Pre-K Week!**

# Off to a Good Start Lesson Plans (OTAGS)

2021 - 2022

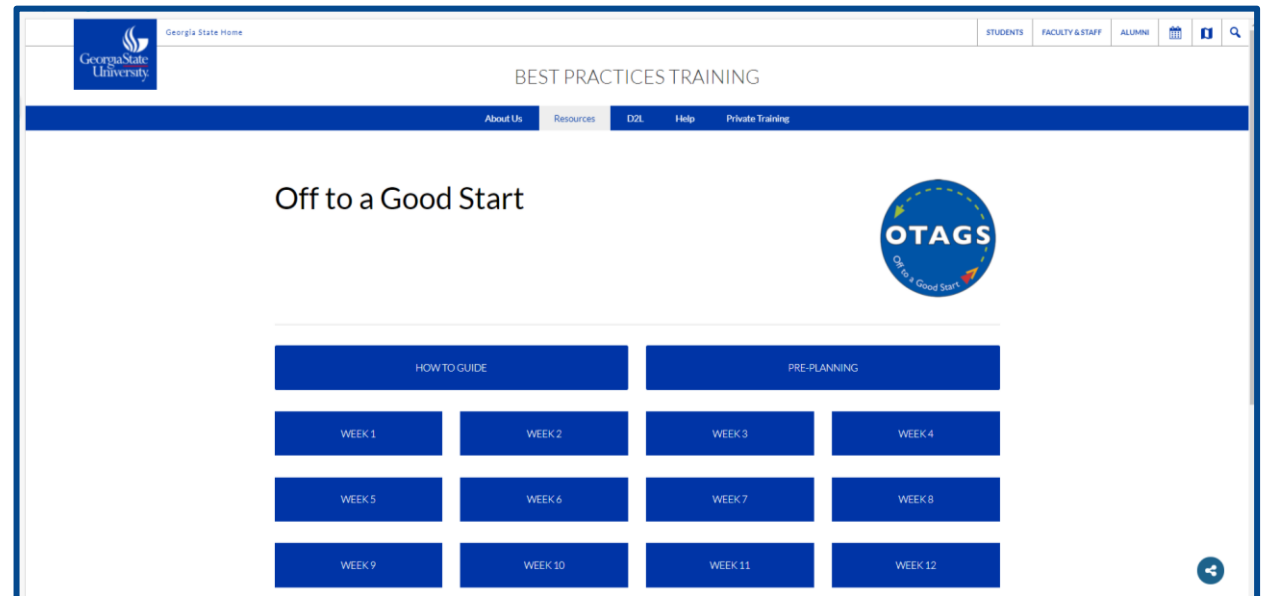
- **OTAGS**

- 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.

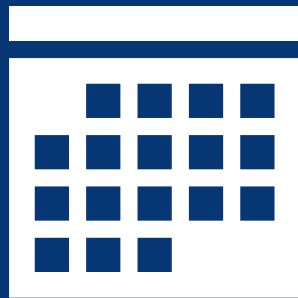
<https://bestpractices.gsu.edu/resources/otags/>  
<http://dec.al.ga.gov/PreK/Teachers.aspx>

- **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



**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



**Questions**  
Email  
**[prek@dec.al.ga.gov](mailto:prek@dec.al.ga.gov)**

