



SEEDS for Success Pyramid Model Grant  
Family Child Care Learning Homes  
Application and Operating Guidelines  
2022

## ABOUT THE GRANT GUIDELINES

This document outlines the requirements and regulations for applying for and operating a SEEDS for Success (SEEDS) grant. All SEEDS grant providers must be familiar with and implement these guidelines. The Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL)-Bright from the Start makes all funding decisions for the SEEDS grants. If you have questions about this grant opportunity, please contact [PSSInfo@decals.ga.gov](mailto:PSSInfo@decals.ga.gov).

### 1.0 GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

#### 1.1. Purpose

Through training, resources, and coaching, SEEDS for Success grants equip providers with strategies to promote young children's social emotional development. Specifically, SEEDS grants aim to:

- Increase provider knowledge of young children's social and emotional needs;
- Equip providers with positive behavior support strategies; and
- Enhance providers' use of effective practices to promote young children's social and emotional development.

#### 1.2. Eligibility

To be eligible for participation in the 2022 SEEDS Grant, applicants must:

- Be a licensed Family Child Care Learning Home (FCCLH) provider in good standing with DECAL;
- Have and maintain a 2- or 3-star Quality Rating;
- Have not already participated in SEEDS (FCCLH Cohort One); and
- Not be simultaneously participating in the DECAL LITTLE Grant.

#### 1.3. How to Apply

**Eligible FCCLHs must submit an application in Survey Monkey no later than June 1, 2022.** DECAL will not accept incomplete applications or applications submitted outside of the online portal (via email, mail, etc.). DECAL will announce the grant award winners in early July 2022.

### 2.0. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND GRANT COMPONENTS

#### 2.1. Grant Component Overview

As part of the grant, funded Family Child Care Learning Homes (FCCLH) will receive training, coaching from an Inclusion and Behavior Support Specialist, and materials and technology to support their grant participation. The grant activities will occur between **July 2022 and December 2022**. Each grant component is detailed in the chart below, and the material and technology packages are detailed in the funding section of this document.

Please note, FCCLHs are expected to attend and fully engage in all grant components. DECAL Inclusion and Behavior Support Specialists will document and report provider completion of grant requirements, including attendance at required training institutes and coaching visits. Providers who do not comply

with the SEEDS Guidelines may have the existing grant agreement terminated and may not be eligible for future grants.

<b>Component</b>	<b>When/Where*</b> <i>Please note: dates and locations are subject to change.</i>	<b>Additional Details</b>
<b>Welcome Meeting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Virtually via Zoom</li> <li>• July 20, 2022</li> <li>• Time: 7:00-8:30pm</li> </ul>	Welcome meeting will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detail grant expectations;</li> <li>• Introduce grantees to a foundational framework for social-emotional development; and</li> <li>• Describe the goals and format of coaching.</li> </ul>
<b>SEEDS Training Institutes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Virtually via Zoom</li> <li>• 9:00 am –12:00 pm on the following dates:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Institute #1: August 13</i></li> <li>- <i>Institute #2: September 10</i></li> <li>- <i>Institute #3: October 15</i></li> <li>- <i>Institute #4: November 5</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Institutes will cover the following concepts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nurturing, responsive relationships;</li> <li>• High-quality, supportive environments;</li> <li>• Emotional literacy and regulation skills;</li> <li>• Friendships and social skills; and</li> <li>• Positive behavior support strategies.</li> </ul> <i>Note: Grantees must attend each institute in full (no more than 15 minutes missed) to be counted as attending.</i>
<b>Coaching Visits</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hybrid Format: virtual and onsite coaching</li> <li>• Weekly (except for Institute weeks)</li> <li>• Coaching visits typically last an hour (with one initial visit lasting up to three hours)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grantees must complete ten coaching visits between July 20 -November 18.</li> <li>• Some coaching visits will occur during FCCLH operating hours, and others will entail goal setting/action planning meetings outside of FCCLH operating hours.</li> <li>• DECAL’s Inclusion and Behavior Support Specialists will arrange the schedule based on the needs of the provider.</li> </ul>
<b>Evaluation and Feedback Measures</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Throughout grant period and upon completion of grant activities (November 2022)</li> </ul>	Grantees will participate in activities to evaluate program effectiveness, such as surveys, interviews, and the Checklist of Early Childhood Practices.

## 2.2 Georgia Professional Development System

Georgia PDS combines provider education, experience, and training and assigns all registrants a Career Level. Educators must submit supporting documentation to confirm educational attainment and training. Supporting documents include official transcripts, training certificates, copies of CDA (Child Development Associate) and technical college credentials. The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) reviews transcripts and credentials for the PDS to verify an individual provider’s credentials and degrees.

To attend the SEEDS Institutes and receive a stipend, providers must ensure:

- They are registered in the [Georgia Professional Development System \(GaPDS\)](#);
- They have submitted required documentation to GaPDS; and
- GaPDS has verified the credential.

**Failure to have credentials current and verified in the GaPDS may affect grant payment.**

2.3 Registering for SEEDS Training Institutes

DECAL will register grant participants for SEEDS institutes in GaPDS. Providers must provide DECAL with his/her GaPDS number. For help with additional professional development needs, SEEDS grantees should contact their assigned Inclusion and Behavior Support Specialist or email [inclusion@decals.ga.gov](mailto:inclusion@decals.ga.gov).

**3.0 FUNDING**

Funds available for approved grant activities will be managed by Communities for Children, Inc. (CFC). CFC will purchase and distribute technology packages, materials, and stipend payments. CFC will also correspond with grantees to verify receipt of materials packages by programs. To receive stipend payments, providers may need to submit additional documentation including a signed and sworn affidavit verifying the applicant’s lawful presence in the United States.

3.1 Stipends

Stipends to support participation at trainings will be paid as follows: \$125 per provider participating in the SEEDS Institutes. Stipends will be paid as a lump-sum upon completion of the entire 4-part institute series with proper verification of attendance and completion. Please note, stipend payments are considered taxable income.

Stipend	# of Institutes	Total
\$125 per Institute	4	\$500

3.2 Program Materials

***Social-Emotional Classroom Materials***

To support implementation of the strategies learned through the SEEDS grants, providers will receive a materials package valued at up to \$1,000. Inclusion and Behavior Support Specialists will work with programs to conduct a materials inventory and identify appropriate packages to order. Materials include, but are not limited to, books to promote emotional literacy, play items to promote friendship skills, and tools to teach emotional regulation

***Technology Equipment Package***

A technology package valued at up to \$600 will be provided to support participation in virtual coaching sessions and trainings. Providers that have already received a technology package as part of another grant will not be eligible for an additional package.

***Please note:*** Providers must submit packing slips or other evidence to CFC verifying that they received the materials and equipment packages.