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Hours of Operation:
Monday - Friday
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Child Care
Resource &
Referral of
Central East
Georgia



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

FALL 2023

Early Care and Education BULLETIN!

Dear Child Care Professionals of Georgia:

I am very excited to tell you about the new Thriving Child Care Business Academy for child care business owners and administrators. The Academy offers free basic and in-depth training—all online—to help you strengthen your business.

We at DECAL understand that federal COVID-19 relief funding has been crucial to the survival of the child care business in Georgia. We are introducing the Academy as a means to help you sustain your business as the federal funding winds down.

- Planning and Budgeting
- Financial Accounting and Tax Preparation
- Organizational Leadership
- Staff Recruitment and Retention
- Enrollment Management
- Marketing

All of the Academy's courses and resources are offered free of charge to all Georgia child care business owners and administrators. All of the courses have been tailored for the child care business. Topics include:

We have chosen partners with deep expertise in business subjects, small business operations, and child care. You may want to start with the large group one-and two-hour basic trainings offered by Civitas Strategies, a national management consultancy, and the University of Georgia Small Business Development Center at Valdosta State University (UGA SBDC). You may also enroll in training modules on strengthening child care business practices developed by the National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance (NCECQA). These are four three-hour modules that will be delivered by DECAL-approved trainers and the CCR&Rs. You will receive state-approved training hours for trainings you complete.

If you want a deeper understanding of a particular business topic, you can join a small study group led by Civitas trainers with up to nine other providers. Study groups will meet online for a series of four one-hour sessions over eight weeks. Participants who complete a study group will receive state-approved training hours and be eligible for a \$300 stipend.

Civitas coaches will also be available to provide one-on-one technical assistance, and the Academy will include a large resource library of print and video self-study guides on more than 50 business topics in English and Spanish.

It is my hope that the skills you gain from the Thriving Child Care Business Academy will allow you to sustain your business so that you can continue in the mission of getting Georgia's youngest learners ready to succeed in school.

Sincerely,

Bentley Ponder
Deputy Commissioner for Quality Innovations & Partnerships





DECAL Thriving Child Care Business Academy

COMMUNICATIONS TOOLKIT



DECAL Thriving Child Care Business Academy

Introducing the Thriving Child Care Business Academy

DECAL has created an online platform of free training and resources to give owners and administrators the knowledge and tools to enhance their financial management skills with the goal of making their centers and family homes thriving child care businesses.



FREE!

Business Training & Resources to Meet the Needs of Child Care Providers

Live Webinars, Small Study Groups, Individual Coaching, and Self-Study Guides on many business-related subjects, including:

- *finances, budgets, and tax planning*
- *organizational leadership*
- *staff recruitment and retention*
- *marketing*

Participants will earn state-approved training hours & stipends for successfully completing live training*

**Stipends Offered for Small Study Group Series Only*

To Find Out More & To Register for Training
Visit <https://www.dec.al.ga.gov/Thriving>

Clean Water for Georgia Kids

The goal of the Clean Water for Georgia Kids™ Program is to identify and get the lead out of drinking and cooking water where children learn and play across Georgia.

The program is ready to enroll public schools and child care centers across Georgia.

The program is FREE thanks to a federal Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) grant.

Follow the link [here](#) to learn more.



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Georgia Dept of Early Care and Learning



**QUALITY™
RATED
CHILD CARE**

Need child care?
Are you looking for child care that is still open during the COVID-19 crisis?
Visit QualityRated.org, or call
877-ALL-GA-KIDS
 (1-877-255-4254)

Please be informed that our office will be closed on November 23rd-24th in observance of Thanksgiving and December 25th-January 1st in observance of Christmas.

Business will resume on the following business day. For urgent matters, please email us at leapccrr@augusta.edu and someone will get in touch with you immediately upon our return.



For the latest updates on Training, please visit our website at <https://leapccrr.org/events/>.



Congratulations to Central Georgia's Newest Quality Rated Providers

ABC Learning Center	★★★	KinderCare Learning Center #404	★★★
Denise Addison	★★★	Kreative Kids Academy	★
Advance Preparatory Learning Academy	★★★	Lifeline Christian World Academy	★★★
Baby Cakes Learning Academy LLC	★★★	Lifeline Christian World Academy, LLC	★
Briarcliff Day Care Center	★★★	Ekwy Love	★★★
Bright Beginners Academy	★★★	Jacqueline D Major	★★★★★
Danielle Brooks	★★★	McCullough's Creative Child Care	★★★
Burke County Public Schools Early Head Start	★★★★★	Milestone Achievers Academy	★★★
Pamela Campbell	★	Miller Plaza Learning Center	★★★★★
Marilyn Charles	★★★★★	Ms. Pam's Precious Angels Family Child Care Center 2	★★★
Childcare Network #232	★★★	Marla B Nargundkar	★★★
Childcare of Excellence	★★★	Lisa E Newman	★★★★★
Clarian Place Child Care & Learning Center-Scott Boulevard	★	Oak Grove United Methodist Church Christian School	★★★
Clark's Leaning Center	★★★	Peachtree Academy	★★★★★
Beverly Collins	★★★	Carolyn D Pleasant	★★★★★
Cozy Childcare & Learning Center	★★★	Reeve's Daycare	★★★
Creative Image Learning Center	★	Scottdale Early Learning at Midway Woods	★★★
Creative Kidz Korner	★★★★★	Strong Roots Academy	★
Early Learning Scholars	★★★	Teach "O" Rea Preparatory School	★★★
Emmanuel's Kids Academy	★	The Highlander School	★★★
First Steps Child Development Center	★★★★★	The School Kids Club/Whiz Kids	★★★
Guardian Angel Learning Center	★	Megan D Thomas	★★★★★
Hajja's House	★	Universal Love Daycare & Learning Center	★★★
Hoke/McNeal Academy of Higher Learning	★	Voices of Faith Christian Daycare II	★★★
ICare Child Development Center, LLC	★★★	Whitefoord Inc.	★★★★★
Jiminy Cricket Playland	★★★	Lateisha L Williams	★★★
Kiddie Academy of Dunwoody - Chamblee	★	Winters Chapel Kindergarten & Day Care Center	★
Kids 'Kademy, Inc.	★★★	Kids In Motion Academy Tucker	★

Ratings from 07/01/2023 - 09/30/2023

WHO DARES TO
TEACH MUST NEVER CEASE TO
LEARN.

