Training Calendar
January 2026

DATE	TIME	TOPIC	LOCATION	COST
Tuesday January 6	1:00-2:30 PM	Connected Teams: Bridging Generations for Collaborative Success	All sessions are online this month Register at GaPDS	All sessions are **FREE** this month!
Wednesday January 7	9:00-12:00 PM	Strengthening Business Practices Module 1: Budgets, Projections, and Planning for Center-Based Child Care Providers		
Wednesday January 7	12:00-1:00 PM	Better Together: Building a Culture of Belonging in School-Age Care		
Thursday January 8	1:00-3:00 PM	Beyond Compliance: Elevating Program Quality Through Developmentally Appropriate Practice		
Saturday January 10	9:30-10:30 AM	RECHARGE-Growth Mindset		
Saturday January 10	10:45-11:45 AM	The Heart of Connection: Self-Care for Meaningful Relationships		
Tuesday January 13	1:00-2:00 PM	You First: Reclaiming Balance in Leadership		
Tuesday January 13	6:30-7:30 PM	RECHARGE: Boosting Teacher Well-Being: Control & Commitments		
Wednesday January 14	9:00-12:00 PM	Strengthening Business Practices Module 2: Financial Reports and Internal Controls for Center-Based Child Care Providers		
Wednesday January 14	12:00-1:00 PM	Connection Over Correction: Guiding Behavior with Heart in School-Age Care		
Thursday January 15	1:00-2:00 PM	Stronger Together: Balancing Teaching and Co-Teaching Roles in Early Childhood Settings		
Tuesday January 20	6:30-7:30 PM	RECHARGE – Boosting Teacher Well-Being: Introduction to Burnout and Secondary Traumatic Stress		
Wednesday January 21	9:00-12:00 PM	Strengthening Business Practices Module 3: Marketing Your Program for Center-Based Child Care		
Wednesday January 21	12:00-1:00 PM	Curious Minds at Play: Inspiring Choice and Creativity		
Thursday January 22	1:00-2:00 PM	Leading with Impact: Diverse Leadership Styles in Early Childhood		
Tuesday January 27	1:00-3:00 PM	GELDS Foundations		
Wednesday January 28	9:00-12:00 PM	Strengthening Business Practices Module 4: Recruiting and Retaining Staff for Center-Based Child Care Providers		
Wednesday January 28	12:00-1:00 PM	Feel It, Name It, Tame It: Growing Emotional Smarts in School-Age Care		
Thursday January 29	1:00-2:30 PM	You've Got This! The Resilient Educator's Path to Calm Confidence		

Carefully review our Attendance Policy to ensure successful completion of trainings.

Training Descriptions for January 2026

Connected Teams: Bridging Generations for Collaborative Success Competency: ECE 6.3 Participants will explore the defining traits, values, and communication styles of Baby Boomers, Gen X, Millennials, and Gen Z, gaining insights into how these impact workplace interactions. Through interactive discussions and practical exercises, they'll learn strategies to overcome communication barriers, promote mutual understanding, and enhance teamwork across generations.	1.5 Credit Hours New Training!
Strengthening Business Practices Module 1: Budgets, Projections, and Planning for Center-Based Child Care Providers Competency: ADM-8 The purpose of this training is to strengthen child care providers' foundational knowledge of fiscal terms, concepts, and practices. It encourages providers to realize the importance of fiscal planning to the sustainability of their business operations. It supplies tips and best practices to help break down fiscal processes into manageable steps. This training is part one of a series, Strengthening Business Practices for Child Care Programs, which addresses basic concepts in fiscal and operational management of center-based child care programs.	3 Credit Hours
Better Together: Building a Culture of Belonging in School-Age Care Competency: ECE 1.2, 4.1 Discover how to build a group culture that values every child's voice. Participants will learn to foster belonging, strengthen peer connections, and design daily routines that nurture belonging.	1 Credit Hour New Training!
Beyond Compliance: Elevating Program Quality Through Developmentally Appropriate Practice Competency: ADM-2, ADM-9 Administrators do more than ensure compliance—they set the vision for quality in early childhood programs. In this interactive virtual session, participants will explore how to elevate practice beyond checklists through Developmentally Appropriate Practice (DAP). Together, we'll unpack what DAP looks like, how leaders can create systems that support it, and strategies for coaching teachers toward child-centered excellence. Participants will engage in real-world scenarios, reflection, and discussion, leaving with a DAP Administrator Checklist and actionable steps for their own programs.	2 Credit Hours New Training!
RECHARGE: Growth Mindset Competency: ECE 5.4, 6.2 This highly interactive and practical training will guide professionals as they explore and develop a growth mindset perspective and approach which lead to improved well-being for themselves and their young learners.	1 Credit Hour
The Heart of Connection: Self-Care for Meaningful Relationships Competency: ECE 1.3, 6.3 Learn how prioritizing your own well-being enhances your ability to build meaningful relationships with children, families, and colleagues. Participants will learn practical strategies to integrate self-care into their daily routines, fostering resilience and emotional presence in the classroom.	1 Credit Hour New Training!
You First: Reclaiming Balance in Leadership Competency: ADM-4, ADM-9 Leadership often requires giving so much to others; teams, organizations, families, that they forget to give to themselves. This session emphasizes the importance of reclaiming balance by prioritizing self-care and intentional habits. Through interactive activities, participants will explore how caring for themselves first creates more effective, resilient, and inspiring leadership.	1 Credit Hour New Training!
RECHARGE - Boosting Teacher Well-Being: Control and Commitments Competency: ADM-1, ECE 6.1, 6.2 Being able to exercise a healthy balance in how you commit your time impacts your well-being both personally and professionally. This training discusses the concept of "locus of control", providing a working definition, discussing each person's perception of how much control they have over their day, and the impact that has on well-being.	1 Credit Hour
Strengthening Business Practices Module 2: Financial Reports and Internal Controls for Center-Based Child Care Providers Competency: ADM-8 The purpose of this training is to strengthen child care providers' understanding of financial reports and their use in fiscal management. The training also introduces the concept of internal controls and how they can strengthen the fiscal health of a child care program. Participants must complete Strengthening Business Practices Module 1 before registering for Module 2.	3 Credit Hours
Connection Over Correction: Guiding Behavior with Heart in School-Age Care Competency: ECE 1.4, 6.1 Shift from managing behavior to guiding it through relationships. This session explores how connection, calm responses, and co-created expectations help children make better choices and feel emotionally secure. The goal of this training is to equip educators with positive, relationship-based strategies to guide behavior by meeting needs rather than managing misbehavior.	1 Credit Hour New Training!

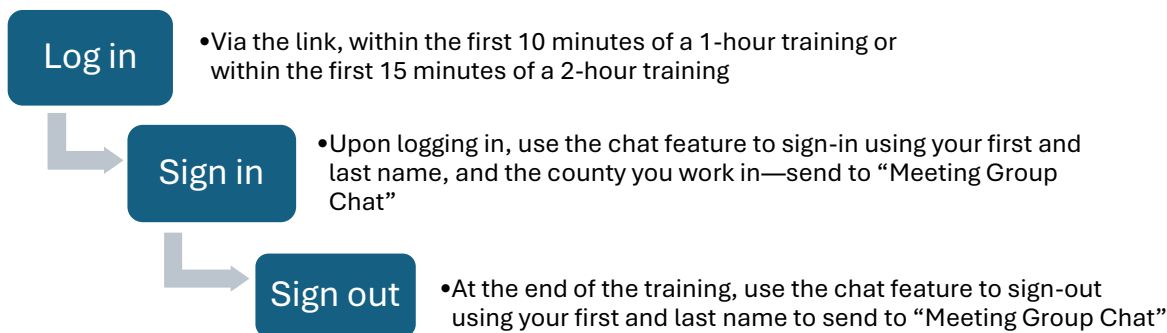|	
Stronger Together: Balancing Teaching and Co-Teaching Roles in Early Childhood Competency: ECE 6.1, 6.3 Effective co-teaching is more than sharing a classroom—it's about building a true partnership that supports children, families, and educators alike. In this interactive session, participants will explore the foundations of co-teaching, learn practical models for shared instruction, and discover strategies to balance roles and responsibilities with a teaching partner. Through real-life scenarios and reflection, educators will leave with tools to strengthen collaboration, improve communication, and create a more positive classroom environment.	1 Credit Hour New Training!
RECHARGE - Boosting Teacher Well-Being: Introduction to Burnout and Secondary Traumatic Stress Competency: ECE 6.1, 6.2 This training introduces a set of resources and a training series focused on helping ECE Professionals find the resources they need to learn to live healthy lives while continuing to provide quality care and learning experiences.	1 Credit Hour
Strengthening Business Practices Module 3: Marketing Your Program for Center-Based Child Care Competency: ADM-3 This training helps child care administrators improve their ability to develop a marketing plan and use marketing tools to build relationships with families to improve retention and referrals. Topics include identifying audiences for marketing, communicating the features and benefits of the program, and the use of marketing tools.	3 Credit Hours
Curious Minds at Play: Inspiring Choice and Creativity Competency: ECE 4.3, 5.4 Children in after-school care thrive when they can explore interests, make choices, and create. This session helps providers design engaging, flexible activities that foster creativity, autonomy, and learning through play. Keep curiosity alive by integrating choice, creativity, and meaningful play into your daily program. Educators will learn how to plan flexible, interest-based activities that spark excitement and cooperation.	1 Credit Hour New Training!
Leading with Impact: Diverse Leadership Styles in Early Childhood Education Competency: ECE 6.2, 6.3 Effective leadership shapes the culture of an early childhood program, influencing staff collaboration, family engagement, and children's learning experiences. In this interactive session, lead teachers and administrators will explore common leadership styles, analyze real-world case studies, and reflect on their own approaches to leading teams. Participants will leave with practical strategies to adapt leadership styles to different situations, strengthen staff relationships, and create positive, thriving learning environments.	1 Credit Hour (Intermediate) New Training!
GELDS Foundations Competency: ECE 5.1 This training introduces early learning workforce professionals to the Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards (GELDS) by explaining what the standards are, why we use them, and their relationship to developmentally appropriate practice. It provides an overview of the organizational structure and language of the GELDS.	2 Credit Hours New Training!
Strengthening Business Practices Module 4: Recruiting and Retaining Staff for Center-Based Child Care Providers Competency: ADM-4 The content and activities of this training module are designed to increase providers' knowledge in these topics: • Understand best practices related to recruiting, interviewing, and hiring new employees • Have a framework for building an effective orientation plan for new employees • Be familiar with the components of a staff handbook • Identify strategies for providing feedback to employees	3 Credit Hours
Feel It, Name It, Tame It: Growing Emotional Smarts in School-Age Care Competency: ECE 1.4, 4.1 Emotional intelligence is key to school and life success. This session equips educators with tools to help children identify emotions, practice calming strategies, and strengthen empathy through everyday routines and conversations.	1 Credit Hour New Training!
You've Got This! The Resilient Educator's Path to Calm Confidence Competency: ECE 4.1, 6.1 Teaching young children is rewarding—but it can also be challenging, stressful, and emotionally draining. This interactive 90-minute training helps early childhood educators strengthen their self-efficacy, resilience, and mental well-being. Participants will reflect on personal stressors, identify protective factors, and practice practical strategies for maintaining confidence and calm in the classroom. Through guided activities, peer discussions, and action planning, educators will leave with tools to manage stress, build professional confidence, and nurture a thriving classroom environment.	1.5 Credit Hours (Intermediate) New Training!

Training Registration Policy and Details

Free Online Training Registration
1. Log in to your GaPDS account at https://gapds.decal.ga.gov/Login.aspx
2. Choose "*Trainings/Find Scheduled Training Sessions*"
    a. Search for the training title as listed in the Training Calendar.
3. Register for selected training session.
4. You will receive confirmation and reminder emails from GaPDS.
5. You will receive an email from leaptraining@augusta.edu one day prior to the training with a link to the training.
6. The day of the training, click the link to join us!

> Registration closes 24-hours ahead of the training.

Attendance Policy—Online Trainings
To receive credit for state-approved training with Leap Early Learning Partners, please follow these simple requirements:

Log in
• Via the link, within the first 10 minutes of a 1-hour training or within the first 15 minutes of a 2-hour training

Sign in
• Upon logging in, use the chat feature to sign-in using your first and last name, and the county you work in—send to "Meeting Group Chat"

Sign out
• At the end of the training, use the chat feature to sign-out using your first and last name to send to "Meeting Group Chat"

> You must be able to see and hear the presentation—participation is key to learning!

One participant per device provides the best experience for the learner and the easiest way to confirm attendance. In cases where multiple learners must use one device, we may ask for additional attendance confirmation via chat and/or email. This could include but is not limited to a live webcam view, time stamped photos of the group in the training, and/or signed statement confirming the learner's attendance from a program leader that was present for the training or a member of the group serving as the program leadership representative.

If you have any questions, concerns, or challenges please contact leaptraining@augusta.edu.

Additional Training Opportunities

In addition to trainings offered by Leap Early Learning Partners, there are many approved trainers and trainings throughout the state. The Georgia Professional Development System for Early Childhood Educators maintains a database of all approved trainings and trainers—this is the definitive source for statewide training opportunities.

Cox Campus also offers free online courses for Bright from the Start credit. To access and download Post Training Plans for these trainings, please visit our downloads page at leapccrr.org/downloads.

AUGUSTA UNIVERSITY

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

www.leapccrr.org   leaptraining@augusta.edu   877.228.3566