



# Training Calendar

## February 2026

DATE	TIME	TOPIC	LOCATION	COST
Tuesday February 3	1:00-2:00 PM	Lesson Planning with Purpose: Linking GELDS and Learning	<p>All sessions are online this month</p> <p><a href="#">Register at GaPDS</a></p> <p>Carefully review our Attendance Policy to ensure successful completion of trainings.</p>	<p>All sessions are <b>FREE</b> this month!</p>
Tuesday February 3	6:30-7:30 PM	On TRACK with Music I		
Wednesday February 4	9:00-12:00 PM	Strengthening Business Practices Module 3: Marketing Your Program for Center-Based Child Care		
Thursday February 5	6:00-7:00 PM	The Power of Quality Child Care, Intro to ITERS-3 Part 1		
	7:00-8:00 PM	The Power of Quality Child Care, Intro to ITERS-3 Part 2		
Tuesday February 10	1:00-2:00 PM	Purposeful Practice: Applying Developmental Knowledge in the Classroom		
Wednesday February 11	9:00-12:00 PM	Strengthening Business Practices Module 4: Recruiting and Retaining Staff for Center-Based Child Care Providers		
Thursday February 12	1:00-2:00 pm	Tiny Hands, Big Explorations: Process Art for Infants & Toddlers		
Tuesday February 17	1:00-2:00 PM	On TRACK with Art I		
Tuesday February 17	6:30-7:30 PM	On TRACK with Math I		
Thursday February 19	1:00-2:00 PM	STEM Made Simple: Sparking Curiosity in Preschool Classrooms		
Thursday February 19	6:00-7:00 PM	The Power of Quality Child Care, Intro to ECERS-3 Part 1		
	7:00-8:00 PM	The Power of Quality Child Care, Intro to ECERS-3 Part 2		
Saturday February 21	9:00-11:00 AM	Curriculum that Clicks: Intentional, Playful, & Culturally Responsive Learning for Early Childhood		
Tuesday February 24	1:00-2:00 PM	On TRACK with Science I		
Tuesday February 24	6:30-7:30 PM	On TRACK with Center Play		
Thursday February 26	1:00-2:00 PM	Tiny Scientist: Bringing Everyday STEM to Infant & Toddler Classrooms		

## Training Descriptions for February 2026

<b>Lesson Planning with Purpose: Linking GELDS &amp; Learning</b> Competency: ECE 4.2, 5.1 Participants will sharpen their skills in lesson planning and documentation to support the needs of their children and to align with the Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards (GELDS).	1 Credit Hour
<b>On TRACK with Music I</b> Competency: ECE 4.3, 5.6 Participants will be introduced to the advantages of using music within the Early Childhood Education experience to introduce and support learning, both concepts and behaviors.	1 Credit Hour
<b>Strengthening Business Practices Module 3: Marketing Your Program for Center-Based Child Care</b> 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
<b>The Power of Quality Child Care, Intro to ITERS-3 Part 1 and Part 2</b> Competency: ECE 4.2, 4.3 Early learning professionals in infant-toddler classrooms will learn best practices as defined in the ITERS-3 Tool.	1 Credit Hour each
<b>Purposeful Practice: Applying Developmental Knowledge in the Classroom</b> Competency: ECE 4.3 This interactive session creates space for teachers to reflect on what Developmentally Appropriate Practice (DAP) looks like in their own classrooms and how it guides intentional teaching for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers. Using classroom scenarios, guided reflection, and hands-on activities, participants examine how developmental knowledge informs daily decisions related to curriculum, interactions, routines, and learning environments. Teachers leave with practical, age-appropriate strategies they can immediately apply to support how young children grow, learn, and thrive.	1 Credit Hour New Training
<b>Strengthening Business Practices Module 4: Recruiting and Retaining Staff for Center-Based Child Care Providers</b> Competency: ADM-4 The content and activities of this training module are designed to increase providers' knowledge in these topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand best practices related to recruiting, interviewing, and hiring new employees</li> <li>• Have a framework for building an effective orientation plan for new employees</li> <li>• Be familiar with the components of a staff handbook</li> <li>• Identify strategies for providing feedback to employees</li> </ul>	3 Credit Hours
<b>Tiny Hands, Big Explorations: Process Art for Infants &amp; Toddlers</b> Competency: ECE 1.1, 3.1 The goal of this training is to equip teachers of infants and toddlers to design, implement, document, and reflect on open-ended, developmentally appropriate process-art experiences that support sensory, motor, social-emotional, and language development.	1 Credit Hour New Training

<b>On TRACK with Art I</b> Competency: ECE 5.6 This introduction to visual arts in the ECE setting will equip and motivate teachers to engage children through practical and educational creative expression and discovery experiences.	1 Credit Hour
<b>On TRACK with Math I</b> Competency: ECE 5.6 This introduction to math in the ECE setting will equip and motivate teachers to engage children through practical and educational experiences.	1 Credit Hour
<b>STEM Made Simple: Sparking Curiosity in Preschool Classrooms</b> Competency: ECE 5.6 Preschoolers are natural scientists; touching, testing, building, asking "why?" all day long. What if you could take those curious moments and turn them into powerful STEM learning without adding more to your plate? This session will show you how everyday materials, simple questions, and playful exploration can spark big thinking in little learners. Whether you feel confident with STEM or not, you will leave with practical ideas you can use tomorrow, clarity on what STEM really looks like in early childhood, and strategies that make learning richer, easier, and more joyful for you and your students.	1 Credit Hour New Training
<b>The Power of Quality Child Care, Intro to ECERS-3 Part 1 and Part 2</b> Competency: ECE 4.2, 4.3 Early learning professionals in preschool classrooms will learn how to power up everyday decisions to raise quality and strengthen their positive impact on young lives.	1 Credit Hour each
<b>Curriculum That Clicks: Intentional, Playful, &amp; Culturally Responsive Learning for Early Childhood</b> Competency: ECE 4.3, 5.1 This 2-hour interactive virtual workshop helps preschool and toddler teachers translate developmentally appropriate standards into daily, playful curriculum that centers children's culture and curiosity. Participants leave with prototype lesson structures, observable learning outcomes, and assessment tools they can use the very next day.	2 Credit Hours New Training
<b>On TRACK with Science I</b> Competency: ECE 5.6 This introduction to science in the ECE setting will equip and motivate teachers to engage children through practical and educational discovery experiences.	1 Credit Hour
<b>On TRACK with Center Play</b> Competency: ECE 4.1, 4.3 This introduction to the ECE setting will equip and motivate teachers to engage children through practical and educational discovery experiences. Participants will consider how to prepare centers for child engagement, and the teacher's role throughout center play.	1 Credit Hour
<b>Tiny Scientist: Bringing Everyday STEM to Infant &amp; Toddler Classrooms</b> Competency: ECE 1.2, 5.6 Infants and toddlers are natural scientists—touching, banging, dropping, watching, and discovering how the world works. This beginner-friendly training helps early childhood educators recognize and intentionally support the STEM learning already happening in daily routines and play. Participants will explore simple, developmentally appropriate ways to embed science, technology, engineering, and math into caregiving moments using GELDS. With hands-on demonstrations, practical strategies, and ready-to-use materials, this session empowers teachers to confidently spark curiosity, problem-solving, and early thinking skills in even the youngest learners. Perfect for infant and toddler teachers who want to elevate everyday moments into meaningful STEM experiences.	1 Credit Hour New Training

## **Training Registration Policy and Details**

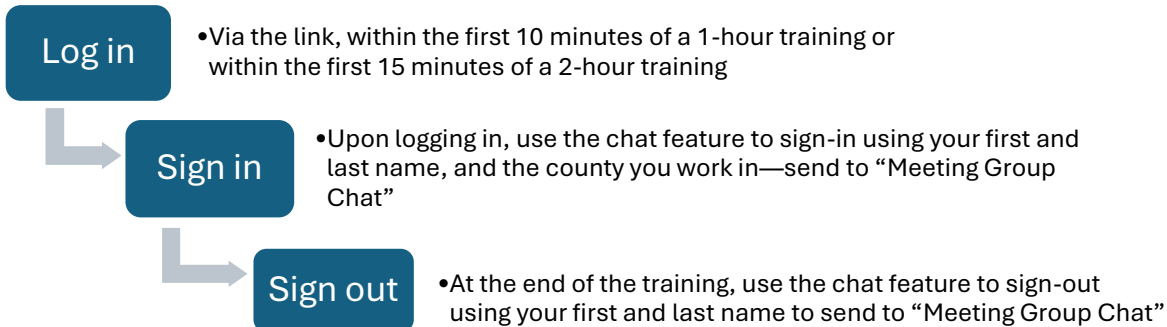
### **Free Online Training Registration**

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](mailto: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:



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](mailto: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](http://leapccrr.org/downloads).



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