








# Training Calendar May 2026

DATE	TIME	TOPIC	LOCATION	COST
Tuesday May 5	1:00 – 2:00 PM	When Behavior is Challenging: Partnering with Families for Solutions	<p>All sessions are online this month</p> <p><a href="#">Register at GaPDS</a></p> <div style="border: 2px solid #92d050; border-radius: 50%; width: 150px; height: 150px; margin: 20px auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <p style="color: #0070c0; text-align: center;">Carefully review our Attendance Policy to ensure successful completion of trainings.</p> </div>	<p>All sessions are <b>FREE</b> this month!</p>
Tuesday May 5	6:30 – 7:30 PM	POWER Up! Group Time Play Essentials for Family Child Care		
Thursday May 7	1:00 – 2:00 PM	Positive Family Communications: Family-Teacher Conferences Made Simple and Successful		
Tuesday May 12	6:30 – 7:30 PM	POWER Up! Free Play Essentials for Family Child Care Providers		
Tuesday May 12	1:00 – 2:00 PM	Families Matter: Encouraging Engagement in Early Learning		
Thursday May 14	1:00 – 2:00 PM	Positive Family Communications: Everyday Communication That Builds Trust		
Saturday May 16	9:30 – 10:30 AM	Emotional Regulation-Chapter 3, Teaching and Emotional Literacy		
	10:30-11:30 AM	Emotional Regulation-Chapter 4, Calming Skills		
Tuesday May 19	1:00 – 2:00 PM	Stronger Together: Home-School Connections That Boost Language and Literacy		
Thursday May 21	1:00 – 2:00 PM	Positive Family Communications: Working Toward Shared Goals with Families		
Tuesday May 26	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		
Thursday May 28	12:00 – 2:00 PM	GELDS Foundations		
Thursday May 28	6:00-8:00 PM	Courage to Care: Child Sexual Abuse Prevention		

## Training Descriptions for May 2026

<p><b>When Behavior is Challenging: Partnering with Families for Solutions</b>          Competency: ECE 2.2, 6.3          Challenging behaviors can be difficult for both teachers and families to navigate. This session explores how educators can partner with families to better understand children's behaviors and work together to develop supportive strategies. Participants will learn practical approaches for sharing observations, building trust, and collaborating with families to support positive outcomes for young children.</p>	<p><b>1 Credit Hour</b></p> 
<p><b>POWER Up! Group Time Play Essentials for Family Child Care</b>          Competency: ECE 1.3, 4.3          Improving the quality of care in the classroom doesn't have to be complicated. Making small improvements and changes can have big results. Focusing on large group play for multi-age children, this training will share some tools, tips, and resources to help teachers do more with less effort, while at the same time improving the quality of their efforts and increasing positive outcomes for the children.</p>	<p><b>1 Credit Hour</b></p>
<p><b>Positive Family Communications: Family-Teacher Conferences Made Simple and Successful</b>          Competency: ECE 6.3, ADM-2          Family-teacher conferences are an important opportunity to strengthen partnerships between educators and families. This training provides practical strategies to help teachers prepare for and lead productive conferences that focus on children's strengths, development, and shared goals. Participants will explore ways to organize conference conversations, ask meaningful questions, and communicate with families using positive and supportive language. Educators will leave with simple tools to make conferences more comfortable, collaborative, and successful for both teachers and families.</p>	<p><b>1 Credit Hour</b></p> 
<p><b>POWER Up! Free Play Essentials for Family Child Care Providers</b>          Competency: ECE 4.3          Free play is an essential part of each day for infants and toddlers. This training offers participants the opportunity to reflect on their current practice and explore ways to support the play and development of children in their care by continuous quality improvement.</p>	<p><b>1 Credit Hour</b></p>
<p><b>Families Matter: Encouraging Engagement in Early Learning</b>          Competency: ECE 2.1, 6.3          Family engagement is a key predictor of children's success in early childhood education, yet many teachers face challenges in getting parents involved. Busy schedules, uncertainty about their role, or hesitation can make it difficult for families to participate. This training equips teachers with practical strategies to overcome these barriers, build strong relationships with families, and create a classroom environment where parents are confident, welcomed, and actively engaged in their child's learning.</p>	<p><b>1 Credit Hour</b></p> 
<p><b>Positive Family Communications: Everyday Communication That Builds Trust</b>          Competency: ECE 6.3, ADM-2          Strong relationships with families are built through small, consistent interactions. This training explores simple strategies teachers can use to communicate with families during everyday moments such as drop-off, pick-up, and classroom updates. Participants will learn how positive communication helps build trust, strengthen relationships, and keep families connected to their child's learning experiences. Educators will also explore practical ways to share meaningful updates, use strengths-based language, and create communication habits that support strong partnerships with families.</p>	<p><b>1 Credit Hour</b></p> 

<p><b>Emotional Regulation-Chapter 3, Teaching and Emotional Literacy</b>  Competency: ECE 4.2  This interactive training will discuss the teaching process in early childhood care and education settings as well as provide information about teaching emotional literacy, or the vocabulary of feeling, to young children.</p>	<p><b>1 Credit Hour</b></p>
<p><b>Emotional Regulation-Chapter 4, Calming Skills</b>  Competency: ECE 1.4  This interactive training will address how children need to learn calming skills at each major developmental stage of early childhood.</p>	<p><b>1 Credit Hour</b></p>
<p><b>Stronger Together: Home-School Connections that Boost Language and Literacy</b>  Competency: ECE 2.2, 6.3  Families play a powerful role in helping children grow as readers, communicators, and thinkers. This session explores simple, joyful ways educators can partner with families to build language and literacy skills at home. Through practical take home ideas, supportive communication strategies, and collaborative planning, participants will leave with ready to use resources that strengthen the home-school connection and help every child thrive.</p>	<p><b>1 Credit Hour</b></p>
<p><b>Positive Family Communications: Working Toward Shared Goals with Families</b>  Competency: ECE 6.3, ADM-2  Strong partnerships between families and educators help create consistent support for children's growth and development. This training focuses on strategies for building collaborative relationships with families by identifying and working toward shared goals for children. Participants will explore ways to learn about family perspectives, communicate respectfully about children's development, and partner with families to support learning both at home and in the classroom. Educators will leave with practical tools for strengthening family engagement and creating meaningful partnerships that benefit children and their families.</p>	<p><b>1 Credit Hour</b></p> 
<p><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.</p>	<p><b>1 Credit Hour each</b></p>
<p><b>GELDS Foundations</b>  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.</p>	<p><b>2 Credit Hours</b></p>
<p><b>Courage to Care: Child Sexual Abuse Prevention</b>  Competency: ECE 2.3, 4.1, 6.1, 6.2  Courage to Care a child sexual abuse prevention program provides Georgia's youth-serving professionals, with knowledge, confidence, and practical tools needed to keep children safe.</p>	<p><b>2 Credit Hours</b></p>

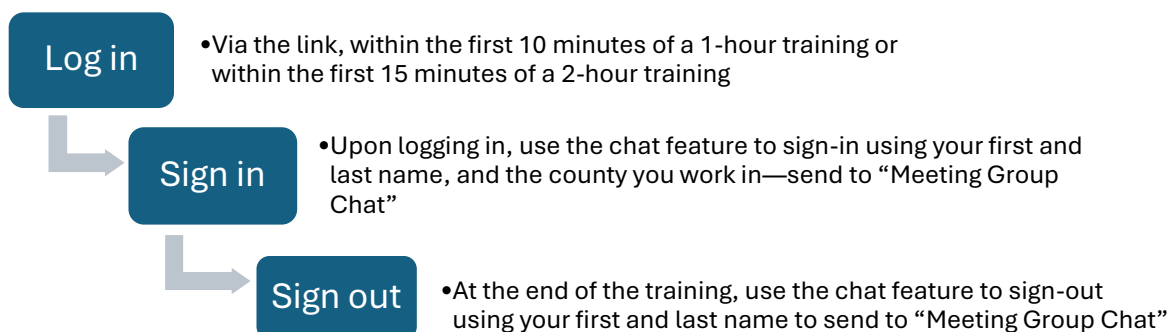
## Training Registration Policy and Details

### **Free Online Training Registration**

1. Log in to your GaPDS account at <https://gapds.dec.state.ga.us/Login.aspx>
2. Choose “*Trainings/Find Scheduled Training Sessions*”
3. Search for the training title as listed in the Training Calendar.
4. Register for selected training session.
5. Registration closes the day before the training.
6. You will receive confirmation and reminder emails from GaPDS.
7. On the day of the training, click the link in your confirmation email to join us!

### **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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