



**BRIGHT FROM THE START**  
Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning  
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, SE, Suite 754, East Tower, Atlanta, Georgia 30334  
(404) 656-5957

**Nathan Deal**  
GOVERNOR

**Amy M. Jacobs**  
COMMISSIONER

June 18, 2018

Re: Important Updates to CAPS Income Limits

Dear CAPS Child Care Provider,

We are excited to announce that DECAL has recently expanded eligibility income limits for CAPS families. As a result, more families will qualify to receive CAPS, and more families will be able to remain in CAPS as their income rises.

- Effective May 30, 2018, the maximum income limit for the **families with very low income priority group** was expanded to 100% of the federal poverty guidelines. This means that families with income at or below the poverty guidelines (\$25,100 for a family of four) meet priority status for CAPS if other eligibility requirements are met.

*Previously, the maximum income limit for the families with very low income priority group was 50% of the federal poverty guidelines (\$12,300 for a family of four).*

- Effective March 26, 2018, the maximum income limit at **annual redetermination** was increased to 85% of the state median income. This means that, as long as families continue to meet other eligibility requirements, they remain eligible for CAPS unless their income exceeds 85% of the state median income (\$60,060 for a family of four).

*Previously, the maximum income limit at annual redetermination was 50% of the state median income (\$35,330 for a family of four).*

For more information on CAPS policy, visit [www.CAPS.dec.al.ga.gov](http://www.CAPS.dec.al.ga.gov).

We appreciate all that you do to provide quality child care environments for our families. **As of May 2018, 80% of CAPS Quality Rated-eligible providers are participating in the Quality Rated program!** This includes 39% of providers that have earned a one, two, or three star rating and 41% of providers that have started the process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elisabetta Kasfir".

Elisabetta Kasfir  
Assistant Commissioner for Federal Programs  
Department of Early Care and Learning