



Georgia Dept of Early Care and Learning

BRIGHT FROM THE START

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1-833-4GA-CAPS (1-833-442-2277)

Brian P. Kemp
Governor

Amy M. Jacobs
Commissioner

May 28, 2021

Dear CAPS Family Member,

In the letter dated May 7, 2021, you were informed of the exciting new initiative, **ACCESS—Awarding Child Care Education Scholarships Supplements**. The purpose of ACCESS is to temporarily support CAPS families by paying for child care. **CAPS family fees will be waived under the ACCESS initiative from May 17, 2021 through service period ending October 2, 2022.** Families will not pay their provider any tuition related fees or co-payments for child care services. CAPS will pay child care providers their full published rate for the type of care provided, including the family fee, while the ACCESS initiative is in effect. However, the provider may charge families for other costs, such as transportation or meal fees.

We have prepared a short video about the ACCESS initiative and how it impacts you and your family. To view the video, visit the CAPS website at <https://caps.decal.ga.gov/en/>, select **ACCESS** at the top of the page, and then click on the [Supporting CAPS Families through ACCESS video](#). Also, on the ACCESS webpage are [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#) about ACCESS with more detailed information.

Lastly, we have updated families throughout the pandemic about changes to the emergency CAPS policy waivers. **Beginning May 31, 2021**, CAPS will implement a new policy waiver: ***Provider rate charged for children not subsidized by CAPS***. This new policy waiver impacts child care providers, not CAPS families. However, if you want to learn more about this new waiver, visit the CAPS **Updates** page at <https://caps.decal.ga.gov/en/Updates>, click on **Emergency Policy Updates** and then select [CAPS Emergency Policy Memorandum](#).

Call 1-833-4GA-CAPS (1-833-442-2277) if you have questions or need additional information. To learn more about CAPS Policies and Procedures, visit <https://caps.decal.ga.gov/en/>.

Sincerely,

Elisabetta Kasfir
Deputy Commissioner for Federal Programs