



BRIGHT FROM THE START

Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
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Brian P. Kemp
GOVERNOR

Amy M. Jacobs
COMMISSIONER

October 21, 2019

Dear Child Care Provider:

Thank you for your commitment to delivering excellent care and education to the state's children and families. Every child deserves the chance to participate in a high-quality early learning program that will set them on the path to a bright and successful future, and we appreciate how hard you work to be the best and to provide those opportunities.

The Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) is requiring all providers who participate in the CAPS program to be Quality Rated by December 31, 2020. We are proud to announce that currently more than 90% of providers receiving CAPS Scholarships are now participating in Quality Rated. If you are interested in becoming a CAPS provider, please visit <https://caps.dec.al.ga.gov/en/CAPSProviderHowTo>.

DECAL is preparing to introduce new supports, incentives, and policy changes that will assist all CAPS providers in meeting the 2020 deadline. Multiple opportunities for stakeholder engagement and communication will occur throughout November.

As part of these changes, we will be implementing a new slot-based submission system to submit portfolios and schedule observations. In order to transition to this new system, initial portfolios and re-application portfolios will not be accepted from November 7, 2019 – November 30, 2019. Beginning December 1, 2019, you will be able to submit portfolios by signing up for an observation slot through your Quality Rated account.

To learn more about these plans and the updated streamlined rating process, please join us for a webinar on November 1, 2019, from 12:30 – 1:30 pm. [Register now!](#)

We are excited about implementing our plans to support providers in meeting the 2020 deadline. We are confident that by working together we can ultimately ensure the highest-quality early education experiences for Georgia's youngest learners and their families.

Feel free to contact the Quality Rated Help Desk at 1-855-800-7747 or QualityRated@dec.al.ga.gov if you have questions. Our teams are ready to help.

Once again, thanks for all you do to improve the care, education, and well-being of the children and families you serve.

Sincerely,

Bentley Ponder
Deputy Commissioner of Quality
Innovations and Partnerships (QIP)

Elisabetta Kasfir
Deputy Commissioner for Federal Programs