



Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

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**Nathan Deal**  
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### **Changes in CAPS Funding Based on Priority Group**

**Beginning August 1, 2016**, Georgia instituted a statewide funding restriction for the Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS) program. As of that date only new applicants who meet eligibility requirements **AND** who are a member of a priority group as defined in CAPS policy will be approved to receive child care assistance. CAPS policy defines priority groups as people who demonstrate the greatest need for child care assistance. A list of priority groups and the eligibility requirements can be viewed at [www.CAPS.decal.ga.gov](http://www.CAPS.decal.ga.gov).

Georgia is instituting the funding restriction to ensure that the state is following federal guidelines mandated by the reauthorization of the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG). To maintain the state's prescribed CAPS funding without terminating child care assistance to families currently participating in the program, it is necessary to **prioritize** new families enrolling in CAPS based on specific needs.

Families currently participating in CAPS will continue to be served as long as eligibility requirements are met.

For additional information, visit [www.CAPS.decal.ga.gov](http://www.CAPS.decal.ga.gov) and read the Frequently Asked Questions about priority group based funding.