



Funding and Other Resources for Child Care Programs in Georgia

This document provides a list of resources (including funding and other support services) for child care and early education providers in Georgia. The list includes local, state, and national organizations/agencies that provide grants to eligible applicants. **Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning** (Bright from the Start) provides this list as a courtesy only and makes no assurances regarding responses from other organizations/agencies.

This list is not all-inclusive but it does provide a starting place for child care programs seeking assistance. For detailed information on funds provided through organizations/agencies other than Bright from the Start, inquire directly to that organization/agency. To receive the most recent information on funding opportunities available through Bright from the Start, visit the department's website www.decal.ga.gov frequently. The website is updated regularly and sometimes includes information on resources other than those offered by Bright from the Start.

Grants/Funding Opportunities for Existing Programs

The Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) – The Georgia Department of Community Affairs administers the CDBG, a federally funded grant opportunities program. Matching grant funds are available to city or county governments to use for eligible activities that include developing child care facilities.

Contact: Interested city or county governments in metro Atlanta counties should contact their county Community Development Board for information on the application process. Interested city or county governments located outside metro Atlanta should contact the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. Website: www.dca.state.ga.us.

Georgia Children and Elderly Fund – The Georgia Department of Human Services administers the children's portion of this grant program open to organizations/programs providing services to preschool children with disabilities. Yearly funding levels depend on voluntary contributions from Georgia state income tax filings.

Contact: Delores Anyaehie, Division of Public Health, Two Peachtree St., NW, Suite 11-205, Atlanta, GA 30303. Phone: 404-463-3478, Fax: 404-657-2763.

Georgia's Pre-K Program – Bright from the Start administers this nationally recognized program for four year olds. Georgia's Pre-K Program operates through a public/private partnership with programs in public schools and private child care centers. All Pre-K programs must follow the same regulations and standards as outlined in the *Pre-K Providers' Operating Guidelines*. These standards reflect best practices in program administration, learning environments, instruction, and curriculum. Programs receive payment for their services directly from Bright from the Start. To apply for Pre-K, private programs must meet space requirements and have a history of compliance with Child Care Licensing and CACFP rules and regulations. Applicants to the Pre-K program must be able to identify a need for this

service in the community they wish to serve; identified need is one of the factors considered in decisions regarding the funding of new programs and in the expansion of existing programs.

Applications for Pre-K are available each year in January unless otherwise posted and may be downloaded from the Bright from the Start website: www.dec.al.ga.gov.

Contact: Georgia's Pre-K, Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr., SE, Suite 754 East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334. Phone: 404-656-5957 or 1-888-442-7735. Fax: 404-651-7184.

United Way - In many communities **The United Way** funds projects related to child care. Please consult your local telephone directory for the United Way office nearest you or call **211** to learn what is available in your community.

Grants to Existing Programs that include School Age Children

The Title IV Part B: 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program was established by Congress to award grants to communities to establish or expand activities that provide opportunities for educational enrichment; to offer students an array of additional services such as drug and violence prevention; or to provide opportunities for literacy and related educational development to the families of children served. Collaboration with local agencies/organizations that serve school age children is encouraged. All programs must operate within the confines of a public elementary, middle or secondary school building.

Contact: E-mail questions to CCLC@doe.k12.ga.us or call Susan White, Program Manager, at 404-232-1197.

FRESH (Fulton Roundtable Expanded Service Headquarters) was created to expand or enhance the existing services of youth activity programs that provide structured activities for children in Fulton County only. It is administered by the Fulton County Human Services Department. Non-profit, incorporated 501(c)3 organizations serving children aged birth to 18 may apply. Governmental agencies are not eligible for this funding. The Fulton County Human Services Department also administers funds for Services to Children and Youth.

Contact: Office of Grants and Community Partnerships, Fulton County Human Services Department, 137 Peachtree Street, SW, Atlanta, GA 30303. Phone: 404-613-7944.

Governor's Safe & Drug Free Schools and Communities Grants – These funds are used to establish programs for drug abuse education and prevention and are coordinated with related community efforts and resources. Funds may be used to serve children, youth, and young adults through age 21. Substance Abuse Prevention Allocation Block Grant funds are to be used primarily for alcohol, tobacco, or drug abuse prevention strategies including information dissemination, education, alternative approaches to protect youth, problem identification and referral, and community based programs. Funding availability is contingent upon Congressional reauthorization.

Contact: Office of Grants Management, Georgia Department of Human Services, Division of Public Health, 404-657-2700 or for most current information, visit the Georgia Division of Public Health website: www.health.state.ga.us.

Contracted Services and Subsidies Available to Existing Programs

877-ALL-GA-KIDS – The Statewide Child Care Referral Service helps families seeking accessible, affordable, quality child care connect with child care providers in their area who are licensed, convenient

to work and home and within the family budget. Callers will speak with trained staff from Quality Care for Children, an independent, not-for-profit organization with whom Bright from the Start has contracted to provide free referral services, information and advice on how to select a qualified child care provider. Call 1-877-ALL-GA-KIDS (1-877-255-4254) or access the searchable database at www.allgakids.org.

Accreditation Facilitation Services – Child care programs wanting to earn or renew national accreditation can receive services funded by Bright from the Start to help them prepare for and complete the application or renewal process. Accreditation facilitation services, provided free of charge to child care programs, include site visits to assess the program's readiness to participate; assistance to help each program develop an improvement plan; on-site technical assistance; and coaching to help program staff develop skills to achieve and sustain program improvement goals. Services include assistance with the cost of self-study materials, accreditation fees, and materials necessary for the program to meet accreditation standards. A list of agencies providing accreditation facilitation services is available at: www.dec.ga.gov/ChildCareServices/OpportunitiesforAssistanceinSeekingNationalAccreditation.aspx.

Helping child care learning centers statewide earn or renew National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) accreditation are:

- Georgia Association for Young Children, 404-222-0014, e-mail: gaycdirector@algxmail.com, website: <http://gayconline.org>.
- Quality Assist, Inc., 404-325-2225, e-mail: info@qassist.com, website: <http://qassist.org>.

Child care resource and referral (CCR&R) agencies help child care learning centers, group day care homes, family day care homes, and school-age care programs in their regions earn or renew national accreditation:

- Region 1- Child Care Resource and Referral Agency of North Georgia-Quality Care for Children, Inc., 770-387-0828 or 1-800-308-1825, website: <http://www.qualitycareforchildren.org>.
- Region 2 - Child Care Resource and Referral Agency of Metro Atlanta-Quality Care for Children, Inc., 404-479-4200 or 1-877-722-2445, website: <http://www.qualitycareforchildren.org>.
- Region 3 - Child Care Resource and Referral Agency of the Central Region at Macon- Georgia Health and Sciences University, 478-751-3000 or 1-877-228-3566, website: <http://www.georgiahealth.edu/pediatrics/ccrr/>
- Region 4 - Child Care Resource and Referral of Southwest Georgia at Albany-Darton College, 229-317-6834 or 1-866-833-3552, website: <http://ccrr.darton.edu>.
- Region 5 - Child Care Resource and Referral Agency of Southeast Georgia at Savannah - Savannah Technical College, 912-443-3011 or 1-877-935-7575, website: <http://www.ccrrofsoutheastga.org/>.
- Region 6 - Child Care Resource and Referral Agency of East Georgia-Quality Care for Children, Inc., 706-543-6177, website: <http://www.qualitycareforchildren.org>.

The Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS) subsidizes child care costs for income eligible parents through its local or county offices. Parents may choose to have child care provided by a child care center, child care group day care home, family day care home, a friend, relative or neighbor. Parents must apply directly to the local DFCS office. Child care providers bill the DFCS for the approved portion of the cost of care.

Contact: The local county DFCS office. Phone numbers for local DFCS offices can be found in the blue pages of the phone directory. Visit the state DFCS website at www.dfcs.dhr.georgia.gov to obtain additional information. From the menu in the upper left corner, click on “Services,” then “Subsidized Child Care.” To locate the DFCS office in your county, click on “County Offices.”

Head Start is a federally funded program that provides quality child development services to low-income families and children with disabilities. Head Start programs serve three and four year olds primarily but in

certain communities may also serve infants and toddlers. Government, public, and private agencies that desire to operate a Head Start program must apply to the Administration for Children and Families for award and funding. For information on the application process and how to bring a Head Start program to your community, visit www.ach.hhs.gov.

Contact: Families interested in enrolling their children in Head Start programs can locate the Head Start program serving their community by calling the Statewide Child Care Referral Service at 1-877-255-4254 or by contacting the Georgia Head Start Association. Belva Weathersby, President, Georgia Head Start Association, c/o Easter Seals of North GA, 1200 Lake Hearn Dr., NE, #250, Atlanta, GA 30319-1454. Phone: 404-943-1070, x 117. E-mail: bweathersby@esng.easterseals.com. Website: www.georgiaheadstart.org.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Child and Adult Care Food Program is administered in Georgia by Bright from the Start. This federally funded program subsidizes the cost of food in eligible child care learning centers, group day care homes, and family day care homes.

The USDA Summer Food Service Program is also administered in Georgia by Bright from the Start. This federally funded program subsidizes nutritious meals for children in low income areas when schools are closed for summer vacation.

Contact: Falita Flowers, Nutrition Services Program Manager, or Marissa Hamm, Nutrition Services/Nutrition Education Manager, Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr., SE, Suite 670 East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334 Phone: 404-656-5957 or 1-888-442-7735. Fax: 404-651-7430. Website: www.dec.al.gov.

Education and Professional Development Opportunities

INCENTIVES - The INCENTIVES program rewards teachers of young children birth through five years old, for staying on the job, and for increasing their education by earning a credential or degree in early childhood education or child development. This program is open to center-based and family child care providers in Georgia that meet the program eligibility requirements. This program, funded by Bright from the Start, is administered by Care Solutions, Inc.

Contact: Care Solutions, Inc. to request an application or to obtain more information. Phone: 1-800-227-3410 (toll-free) or 770-642-6722 or website www.caresolutions.com.

The HOPE Scholarship and Grant Program, administered by the Georgia Student Finance Commission, offers academic scholarships, non-academic based grants, and forgivable loans for tuition and other educational expenses for students to attend HOPE-eligible, two- and four-year institutions and technical colleges. You must be a legal resident of Georgia to qualify for a grant or scholarship.

Contact: The financial aid office of the institution you plan to attend, or The HOPE Scholarship and Grant Program, 2082 East Exchange Place, Suite 100, Tucker, GA 30084 for more information. Phone: 770-724-9000 or 1-800-505-GSFC (toll-free) or website www.gsfc.org/HOPE/index.cfm.

SCHOLARSHIPS is a statewide educational assistance program for early care and education professionals pursuing credentials or degrees in early childhood education or child development. SCHOLARSHIPS helps approved applicants with tuition and mandatory fees not covered by HOPE or Pell funds. Approved applicants may enroll in any of Georgia's technical colleges or any SACS-accredited and HOPE-eligible public or private institution. All applicants must be employed a minimum of 25 hours a week in a licensed or registered child care setting and work with children birth through five years old. This program, funded by Bright from the Start, is administered by Care Solutions, Inc.

Contact: Care Solutions, Inc. to request an application or to obtain more information. Phone: 1-800-227-3410 (toll-free) or 770-642-6722 or website www.caresolutions.com.

Corporate Funding Sources

Office Depot – Caring and Making a Difference – Office Depot provides cash grants or one-time product donations to nonprofit organizations that directly impact the health, education, and welfare of children. Funds provided by Office Depot must directly assist children, and the organization requesting funding must have an established track record of community advocacy and a clear direction for its future initiatives. Requests for less than \$2,000 are accepted on an ongoing basis. Check the website for information on requests for grants of more than \$2,000.

Contact: The Donations Hotline at 1-800-937-3600, ext. 80309. Website: <http://www.community.officedepot.com/local.asp>.

Rosie’s For All Kids Foundation, Inc. was established in February 1997 by Rosie O’Donnell to help support the intellectual, social, and cultural development of at-risk and underserved children throughout the United States. The foundation awards grants to nonprofit organizations dedicated to helping children and their families through child care, early childhood education, literacy, and other essential programs. The foundation’s main focus is child care. First priority is given to established programs serving low-income, urban communities where many families struggle to find affordable, quality child care. Applications are accepted throughout the year and are made online.

Contact: For additional information visit the program’s website at: <http://www.forallkids.org>.

Toys "R" Us Children’s Fund, Inc. – The Toys "R" Us Children’s Fund funds nonprofit organizations that directly benefit the health and well being of children.

Contact: Address all inquiries and requests to: Chairman, The Toys “R” Us Children’s Fund, Toys “R” Us, One Geoffrey Way, Wayne, New Jersey 07470-2030 or visit the Toys “R” Us website at <http://www2.toysrus.com>. Click on “About Us,” then on “Charitable Giving.”

Start-up Funding for Child Care Programs

ACCION USA is a nonprofit, community based organization whose mission is to make access to capital a permanent resource for small business owners.

Contact: Website: www.accion.org

The **Appalachian Regional Commission Business Development Revolving Loan Fund** – The Georgia Department of Community Affairs administers this unique source of funding. Loans are available to private, for-profit businesses in a 35-county North Georgia area only (Fulton and Cobb counties are not included).

Contact: Russ Morrison, Department of Community Affairs, 60 Executive Park South, NE, Atlanta, GA 30329-2231. Phone: 404-679-4825. Website: www.dca.state.ga.us. Click on “Programs,” then on Appalachian Regional Commission Business Development Revolving Loan Fund.”

The **Office of Women’s Business Ownership** in the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) at 800-827-5722 directs callers to local contacts for information on financing child care as a small business opportunity. SBA services include training for women business owners in financial planning through

"meet the lender" sessions. They also sponsor the Women's Network for Entrepreneurial Training (WNET), a one-on-one mentoring program for women who are expanding their businesses; the Women's Pre-Qualification Loan Program; the Low-Doc program; the Small Business Investment Company (SBIC) Program; and the Micro-loan Demonstration Program.

Contact: Additional information about SBA programs is available on the SBA website:

<http://www.sba.gov>

Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS) – This program supports the participation of low-income parents in the postsecondary education system by providing campus-based child care services. An institution of higher education is eligible to receive funding under this program if the total amount of federal Pell Grant funds awarded to students enrolled at the institution for the preceding fiscal year equals or exceeds \$350,000.00.

Contact: To receive information on the CCAMPIS Child Care Provision program, contact the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Programs at 202-502-7734 or 7656 or visit www.ed.gov/programs/campisp/index.html

The **U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)** has two agencies with start-up/expansion funding programs. The Rural Housing Service has facility funding available for nonprofits or local governments that support child care facilities. For more information go to <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rhs/cf/cp.htm> and read about the Community Facilities Direct Loan Program.

The **Rural Business-Cooperative Service**, <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/index.html>, has guaranteed loan programs for small business development available for private, for profit child care programs. To determine eligibility or to apply for any of the programs listed below, contact your state or local Rural Development Office, http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/recd_map.html.

Research & Information Resources

Financing Child Care in the United States is a catalog of financing strategies for communities and states published by the Pew Charitable Trusts. The catalogue is an effective resource for coalitions and policy makers that presents methods for increasing funding for child care services or for increasing the quality of child care.

Contact: Mail, fax, or e-mail your request to the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation Fulfillment Center. Mail: Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, Fulfillment Center, 1932 Linn Street, North Kansas City, MO 64116. FAX: 816-221-0221. E-mail: fplus@swbell.net. The catalogue is also available online.

Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS): This federal government department offers information on the Child Care and Development Block Grant. The DHHS website also links to the Administration for Children and Families website which links to other related sites that focus on early care and education. The **Child Care Bureau** under the Administration for Families and Children is dedicated to enhancing the quality, affordability, and availability of child care for all families. The Child Care Bureau administers federal funds to states, territories, and tribes to assist low-income families in accessing quality care for children when parents work or participate in education or training to prepare them for work. The **National Child Care Information Center** is a service of the Child Care Bureau with information including child care funding sources.

Contact: Access the DHHS website at: www.dhhs.gov. DHHS is a managing partner for the website www.grants.gov which allows organizations to electronically find and apply for more than \$400 billion in federal grants online.

Access the Child Care Bureau website at: www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb. Click on “I’m looking for...Money for my child care business.”

Access the National Child Care Information Center website at: www.nccic.org. At the home page, click on ‘Provider Resources’ under “Help Me Find.” Then scroll through the multipage list of resources for relevant topics.

Small Business Development Center Program (SBDC) – The SBDC program, administered by the U.S. Small Business Administration, provides education, training, and consulting to current and prospective small business owners. The program delivers up-to-date counseling, training, and technical assistance in all aspects of small business management including financial, marketing, production, organization, engineering and technical problems, and feasibility studies.

Contact: The lead SBDC in Georgia is housed at the University of Georgia. Phone: 706-542-6762 or visit the SBA website: www.sba.gov. Type “Small Business Development Center Program” into the website’s search engine.

SCORE – SCORE is a nonprofit, volunteer association sponsored by the U.S. Small Business Administration that matches volunteer business management counselors with current or prospective small business owners. SCORE has experts in virtually every area of business management and maintains a national skills roster to help identify the best counselor for a particular client.

Contact: To locate the SCORE location nearest you, visit the SCORE website: www.score.org

General Foundation Information

Various foundations have funds available for human service projects including the development and improvement of child care services.

The Foundation Center is an independent nonprofit information clearinghouse established in 1956 to foster public understanding of the work of foundations by collecting, organizing, analyzing, and disseminating information on foundations, corporate giving, and related subjects. The Center’s resources are used by grant seekers, grant makers, researchers, policymakers, the media, and the general public. The Center has a wide range of information about possible funding sources and hosts an orientation about its resources twice a month. Call to determine the date, time, and registration process of the next scheduled orientation. Your local library may also have information on foundations and the types of projects they fund.

Contact: Phone: 404-880-0094 or 404-880-0095 or visit the website: <http://foundationcenter.org/atlanta> to obtain more information. The Center is located at 50 Hurt Plaza, Atlanta, GA 30303.

Fundsnet: This online service provides a comprehensive directory of foundations and funding sources accessible through the Internet. Website: www.fundsnet.com.

The Foundation & Grantmakers’ Directory lists foundations and other grant awarding entities that can be accessed at www.foundations.org/grantmakers.html.

The “Philanthropy Journal” is a newspaper that covers nonprofit fundraising, foundations, grants volunteers, and charitable work. Website: www.philanthropyjournal.org.

America's Charities is a nonprofit federation comprised of more than 80 national charities. America's Charities' goal is to provide member charities with the necessary resources to meet human services needs. These charities focus on meeting the needs of families throughout the nation, around the world, and in local communities. Website: <http://charities.org>.

Council on Foundations – The Council on Foundations is an association of foundations and corporations. Website: <http://www.cof.org>.

Foundations OnLine is a directory of charitable grant makers. Visitors may browse the directory, select a foundation from the list, or search any organization's information page. Website: www.foundations.org.

The Grantsmanship Center (TGC) provides information on federal and state grant opportunities. Access additional information through their online subscription service. TGC Online features the most current grant opportunities. Website: www.tgci.com.

See article titled *Federal Grants for Individuals & Small Businesses* in TGC newsletter *{Centered}*, July 2010, Volume 3, No. 7.

The United States Department of Justice – This department of the federal government funds researchers and practitioners engaging in specific criminal and juvenile justice projects. Website: www.ncjrs.org/fedgrant.html.