



In The Know: Trainer Newsletter

Happy Spring Trainers!

I hope your year has gotten off to a great start and that you have exciting plans for the upcoming spring and summer seasons. As you're thinking about how to support the programs you serve, I'm sure you're thinking about how teachers can incorporate themes of spring into their daily lesson plans. Don't forget to direct them to our Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards (GELDS) resources for great activity ideas that connect to all learning domains. By the way, did you know we have GELDS Facebook and Twitter accounts? Follow us to keep up-to-date about what's going on in the GELDS world.

As always, thanks for you all you do on behalf of Georgia's youngest learners. We're happy to walk alongside you in this important work!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Christi Mace'.

Professional Learning Spotlight

Newly Revised Workforce Knowledge and Competencies Released

DECAL is excited to announce the release of the newly revised Georgia's Workforce Knowledge and Competencies (WKC), which replace the Early Care and Education (ECE) and the School Aged Children (SAC) competencies. The WKC serve as a framework and guide for the development of quality professional learning opportunities for Georgia's early learning professionals.

The new WKC are significantly different from the ECE and SAC competencies you have been accustomed to using in your trainings and these revisions will affect all currently approved trainings as well as any new trainings that are submitted for approval. DECAL is making every effort to ensure all trainers and training organizations are aware of the changes so trainings can be updated by the end of this year. If you missed our informational webinars, you can [click here to view the webinars](#). The Professional Learning Unit and Georgia Training Approval (GTA) stand ready to support you in transitioning to the new WKC. Feel free to contact us with any questions you have and keep an eye on your inbox for continued announcements about the rollout. If you're not getting our emails, please log into your GTA account and make sure we have the correct contact information so you won't miss a thing.

What's up at DECAL?



DECAL Launches New Online Child Care Search Features

DECAL recently rolled out new features at qualityrated.org to give families new tools in their search for child care and early learning options. The Quality Rated website now allows families to search for child care programs based on location, including along travel routes from home to work. Families can also view multiple years of health and safety inspection reports, curriculum information, hours of operation, and any special activities or services offered by the program.

Sponsors Needed for Summer 2018 Food Service Program

DECAL is looking for eligible organizations to sponsor the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) in their communities in 2018. The SFSP, funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, provides healthy meals to children during the summer months when school is not in session. DECAL administers the SFSP in Georgia.

The following entities can qualify as sponsors: public or private nonprofit schools; universities, colleges or camps; units of local and state government; and private nonprofit organizations, including faith-based organizations considered tax exempt by the IRS. For more information about the SFSP, please click the link: [Summer Food Service Program](#)



Getting to Know the Professional Learning Unit

The newest member of the Professional Learning Unit is Alexis-Breanna (Nikki) Jefferson, our intern. Nikki is a recent graduate of Auburn University. She plans on pursuing a career in teaching children with disabilities. She is eager to learn more about the Professional Learning's functionality with an emphasis on its indirect impact on children. Her favorite part of being an intern in the Professional Learning Unit is getting acquainted with the various roles that are fundamental in providing quality trainings.



News You Can Use

The [AARP](#) Foundation provides funding to businesses to help upgrade current employees' skills through training. Learn more about this program by clicking [here](#).



Upcoming Dates:

The Board of Early Care and Learning meets quarterly to support DECAL's mission and vision and help guide the department's work. Board meetings, which are open to the public, begin at 9:00 AM. For more information, visit <http://www.dec.al.ga.gov/BftS/BoardOfEarlyCareAndLearning.aspx>

2018 Board Meeting Schedule:

May 10, 2018

August 16, 2018

November 15, 2018

5th Statewide Family Child Care Conference:

March 24, 2018

Savannah, GA

NAEYC 2018 Professional Learning Institute:

June 10-13, 2018

Austin, TX

DECAL Sponsored Events

Facebook Live for Developmental Monitoring Starter Kits

March 26, 2018 at 3:30 pm

Look Again event at the Capitol:

May 29, 2018; Time TBA

Follow us on Social media for more information on these upcoming events



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STAY CONNECTED

