

Professional Development System Overview: Georgia



National Center on Child Care Professional Development Systems and Workforce Initiatives (PDW Center)
Jointly funded by ACF's Office of Child Care and Office of Head Start

State	Georgia	
Professional Development (PD) System	<p>Title: Georgia Early Care and Education Professional Development System</p> <p>Web site: http://www.dec.al.ga.gov/QualityInitiatives/ProfessionalDevelopment.aspx</p>	
Infrastructure/ PD System Governance	<p>Type of Governance: Bright from the Start: GA Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL). DECAL is the regulatory agency for early care and education, administers GA's Pre-K Program, manages the Federal CCDF for subsidized care and quality enhancement, houses the Head Start Collaboration Office, and oversees two Federal nutrition programs.</p> <p>Key Contact: Georgia E. Thomas, PD Manager, DECAL, georgia.thomas@dec.al.ga.gov</p>	
Head Start (HS)/Early Head Start (EHS)	<p>State HS Collaboration Director: Janice Haker, janice.haker@dec.al.ga.gov</p> <p>State HS Early Childhood Manager: Allison Setterlind, allison.setterlind@icfi.com</p>	
Target Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EC educators, school-age (SA) care professionals, and administrators who work with children from birth–13 years 	
Early Learning Guidelines (ELGs)	<p>Ages Included in ELGs and Alignment with K–12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Birth–5 years Align with K–12, HS Child Outcomes Framework, and the Work Sampling System® Assessment 	<p>Notes</p> <p>Title: Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards (GELDS) The GELDS are designed to be flexible enough to support children's individual rates of development, approaches to learning, and cultural context. The GELDS replace the GA Early Learning Standards (GELS) for children birth–3 years and the Pre-K Content Standards, creating a seamless system of standards in GA for children birth–5.</p> <p>Web site: http://www.gelds.dec.al.ga.gov/</p> <p>Information on State ELGs references to dual language learners is available at http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/tta-system/cultural-linguistic/center/state-guidelines/dll_guidelines.html</p>

Core Knowledge and Competencies (CKCs)	Roles	Notes
Workforce Training and Professional Learning	Trainer/Training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Trainer approval ▪ Training approval ▪ Training calendar 	Notes Title: Georgia Training Approval GA ensures the availability of high quality training by vetting and approving both training modules and the trainers who develop them. There are three types of approval: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Trainer Approval</i> for individuals seeking authorization to provide State-approved training ▪ <i>Entity Approval</i> for State agencies and accredited GA institutions of higher education seeking authorization to provide State-approved training ▪ <i>Conference Approval</i> for organizations or agencies that wish to provide the traditional concurrent session, large-audience event, or a smaller PD conference event (6 hours or less) Trainers may be approved to provide beginning, intermediate, or advanced training with one of three trainer designations, each representing a progressively higher level of education, training experience, and personal professional learning. Web site: https://www.training.decal.ga.gov/bfts/whatIsTa.do Title: Training Calendar Lists scheduled training events by subject. Includes competency level and identifies alignment with one or more of the PD Competencies. Web site: https://www.training.decal.ga.gov/bfts/findTraining.do
Workforce Registry/Data System and Career Pathways	System(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Voluntary (individual-based) ▪ Career pathways (lattice/ladder) 	Notes Title: Professional Development Registry (PDR) The PDR provides EC educators, SA care professionals, and those who support them with a seamless credential verification process via links to the GA Professional Standards Commission and DECAL's GA Training Approval. Available services include verifying credentials and State-approved training; determining an individual's career level within the twelve career levels; identifying completed credit-bearing coursework; tracking annual required training; and producing a resume and training history that can be downloaded by registrants for personal use. Web site: https://pdr.decal.ga.gov/ Title: Career Levels Web site: https://pdr.decal.ga.gov/documents/CareerLevels.pdf