

CHILD CARE IN GEORGIA FACTS AND FIGURES

CAPS program eligibility is set at 50% of state median income, one of the lowest in the nation.



Under this policy, only 14.8% of income-eligible children receive the child care subsidy.¹



The cost of child care for an infant or toddler in Georgia exceeds the cost of annual tuition at an in-state public college or university.²



The cost of child care for a single child exceeds 40% of the earnings in a low-income family.³



Parents who do not have access to child care for their children are often unable to work.



Children who do not have access to quality child care are often cared for in unhealthy, unregulated settings.

Access to high-quality, comprehensive early learning, birth to five, yields a 13% return on investment through better outcomes in education, health, social behaviors, and employment.⁴



THE OBJECTIVES OF THE INFANT-TODDLER COALITION FOR QUALITY, AFFORDABLE CHILD CARE IN GEORGIA

Work with DECAL to identify strategies to:

1

Adequately fund CAPS with a combination of state and federal dollars to serve the needs of low-income families.

2

Support the infant-toddler workforce by expanding scholarships and other supports.

3

Ensure that the social-emotional needs of infants and toddlers are supported in child care programs.

CAPS: Georgia's Child Care Subsidy Program
DECAL: Department of Early Child Care + Learning
CCDF: Child Care + Development Fund

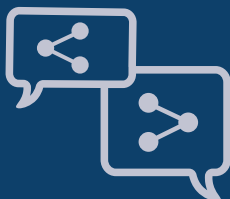


GEEARS
GEORGIA EARLY EDUCATION
ALLIANCE FOR READY STUDENTS



HOW WE CAN WORK TO MEET OUR OBJECTIVES FOR QUALITY, AFFORDABLE CHILD CARE IN GEORGIA

IMPROVE DATA SHARING



on how families of infants and toddlers are accessing early learning, including the CAPS program.

INCREASE

the infant and toddler reimbursement rate to reflect lower ratios in care.

RE-EXAMINE

the funding needed to reduce the infant and toddler ratios as rates go up.



Add \$10 million to the state CAPS budget to allow for



OVER **1,500**
NEW INFANTS +
TODDLERS TO
BE SERVED

Build a strategy around the use of the new CCDF funding that

**PRIORITIZES
INFANTS +
TODDLERS**



EXPAND
CAPS ELIGIBILITY TO

65%

OF STATE
MEDIAN INCOME
to enable additional
children to access the
subsidy.

INCREASE

the tiered reimbursement rate so that 3-star rated programs are reimbursed at

75%

of the market rate.



Align the reimbursement rates with current market rates by 2020.

Advocate for the establishment of a

**STATE FUND
FOR CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENTS**

rewarding child care facilities dedicated to improving quality.



**PARTNER
WITH LOCAL
SCHOOL SYSTEMS**

to increase coordination and understanding of infant and toddler needs.



¹Ullrich, R., Schmit, S., & Cosse, R. (2019, April). Child Care Aware. *Inequitable Access to Child Care Subsidies*.

²Economic Policy Institute. (2016, April). The cost of child care in Georgia.

³Johnson, M. (2016, July). Georgia Budget and Policy Institute. *Help Needed to Meet Georgia's Laudable Child Care Goals*.

⁴Garcia, J., Heckman, J., Leaf, D.E., & Prados, M.J. (2017, May). Quantifying the Life-cycle Benefits of a Prototypical Early Childhood Program.