

A TWO-GENERATION APPROACH TO SUPPORTING STUDENT PARENTS

The Importance of Georgia's CCAMPIS Programs for Student Parents and Their Children



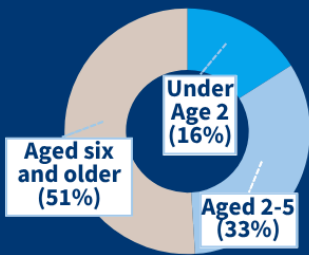
Child Care Access Means Parents in Schools (CCAMPIS) is the only federally funded program designed to help student parents afford child care while enrolled in higher education. Higher education institutions can apply for CCAMPIS grants to provide comprehensive child care services, such as campus-based child care, subsidized child care costs, and before and after-school programming, for Pell-eligible student parents. Beyond child care, CCAMPIS funding supports student parents with wraparound supports, such as career services and tutoring. Since its inception in 1999, the program has received bipartisan support, benefiting students, their children, and the state of Georgia as a whole.¹ **Despite this, the current Administration's federal FY26 budget proposal calls for the program's elimination.**²

There are 3.1 million undergraduate student parents in the U.S., making up nearly **one-fifth (18%)** of the U.S undergraduate population.³



NATIONAL SNAPSHOT OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT PARENTS³

Most Student Parents have Multiple, Often Younger, Children



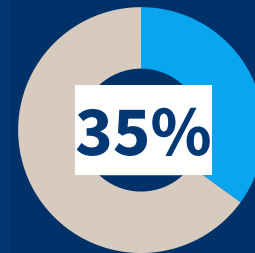
Age of Youngest Child

- 55% of student parents have more than one child.
- Nearly half (49%) of student parents' youngest child is aged five or under.

Student Parents are More Likely than their Peers to be:

- First-Generation
- Women
- Veterans
- Older
- People of Color
- Low Income

Student Parents are More Likely to Struggle Financially

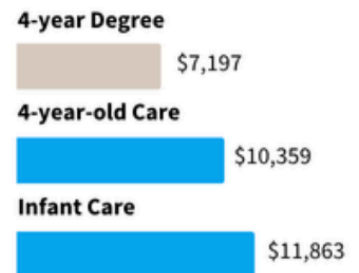


of student parents live at or below the federal poverty level (e.g., \$32,150 for a family of four).⁴

Student parents face unique barriers, including access to affordable child care, to successfully completing postsecondary education. **Only 18% of student parents nationally received a degree within six years of enrollment,** compared to 54% of non-parenting students.⁵

High-quality child care services help parents enroll in and successfully complete postsecondary education.⁶ However, access to affordable child care is out of reach for many student parents. Without access to quality child care, many student parents struggle to maintain enrollment on top of the demands of coursework and, often, employment.

ANNUAL COST IN GEORGIA⁷



A December 2024 survey of Georgia parents with children ages birth to five found that:

1 IN 3

turned down an opportunity to enroll in school or work training because of child care challenges.

1 IN 10

have been dropped from a class roster or a work training program because they missed too many days due to child care issues.⁸

CCAMPIS PLAYS AN ESSENTIAL ROLE IN HELPING STUDENT PARENTS AND THEIR KIDS SUCCEED.

CCAMPIS is a **two-generation program**, meaning it builds pathways to economic prosperity for student parents and their children by connecting them to quality postsecondary and early childhood education. Research indicates that CCAMPIS is associated with higher retention rates, completion rates, and improved academic performance among participating students.⁹ Research also shows that children who receive a quality early childhood education tend to have better economic mobility later in life.¹⁰

Two-generation programs like CCAMPIS produce a **high return on investment for society as a whole, with parents paying more in taxes** and less likely to need government assistance through better jobs.¹¹

EVERY \$1 INVESTED in programming to support student parents yields

\$5.36 IN PUBLIC RETURNS resulting in ...

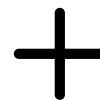
\$1.86 BILLION in net taxpayer benefits by 2035.



BENEFITS OF 2-GEN PROGRAMS

Kids access high-quality early childhood education necessary for healthy brain development.

Student parents access time and support crucial to reach their goals.



IMPROVED FINANCIAL & EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES



FOR BOTH GENERATIONS

CCAMPIS GRANTS PROVIDE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION WITH FLEXIBILITY TO MEET THE UNIQUE NEEDS OF THEIR STUDENT PARENTS.

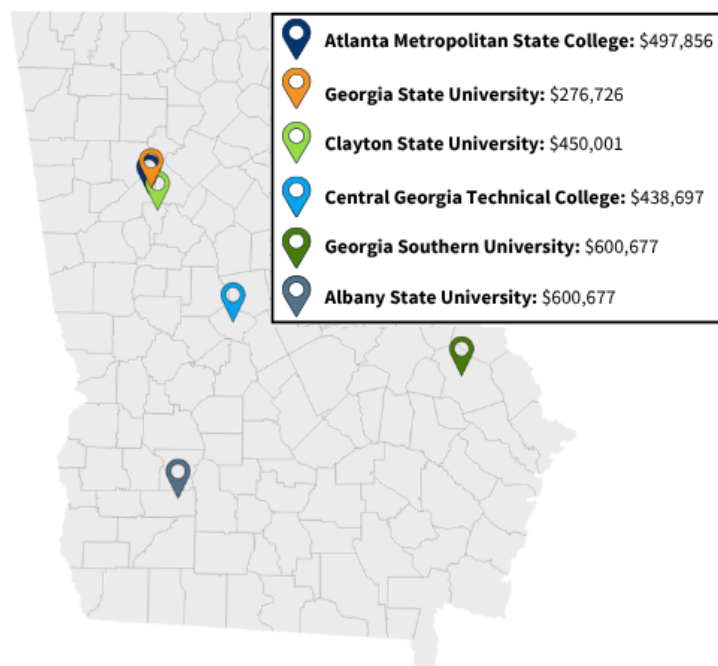
CCAMPIS funds four-year projects designed to support or establish on-campus child care and help student parents succeed. Each campus receives CCAMPIS funding based on 3% of its total Pell grant funding from the previous year. Georgia currently has six grantees that receive a total of \$2.9 million in federal funding.¹²

All six Georgia grantees use their funds primarily to provide child care to eligible students—either through on-campus child care or by subsidizing care to nearby child care providers.¹³

TYPICAL CCAMPIS ELIGIBILITY

- Pell grant recipients or Pell-eligible
- At least part-time enrolled at a participating university
- Have children aged 8 weeks - 5 years
- Minimum GPA requirement¹³

Most campuses also offer students additional support services such as mentoring, workshops, and family engagement activities. Several grantees also focus on expanding the capacity of on-campus child care centers.¹³



CCAMPIS PAYOFFS IN GEORGIA



establishing and expanding on-campus child care



subsidizing costs of quality child care



supplementing student support services

CCAMPIS IS NOT DUPLICATIVE—IT HELPS BRIDGE THE GAP IN FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR GEORGIA’S STUDENT PARENTS.

The Administration’s proposal asserts that CCAMPIS is duplicative of the federal Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG),² which primarily funds the Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS) Program in Georgia. The CAPS Program plays a critical role in supporting access to child care by providing scholarships to help some low-income families afford child care; however, many are unable to access CAPS as:

- 1 The demand for CAPS far exceeds its capacity, with only 15% of income-eligible, working families receiving CAPS in Georgia due to limited funding.**¹⁴ The end of federal relief funding means the number of CAPS scholarships will further decrease from 72,000+ to 50,000.¹⁵
- 2 Many student parents struggle to meet the rigid work and income thresholds set by the Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning for CAPS. At least 9,280 student parents were denied CAPS subsidized child care since 2022—representing 58% of applicants.**¹⁶ Enrolling as a student is a hard feat to accomplish if you have no child care support, and most student parents also work. CCAMPIS doesn’t have as rigid income and work-hour requirements, making it much easier for student parents to access child care aid.

CAPS & Student Parents

To be eligible for CAPS, parents and caregivers must meet income requirements and participate in 24 hours per week of allowable activities, such as work or education. Each credit hour for a class counts as two hours towards the activity requirement. In addition to meeting activity and income requirements, families must be a member of a priority group (e.g., children with disabilities) due to limited funding.¹⁷

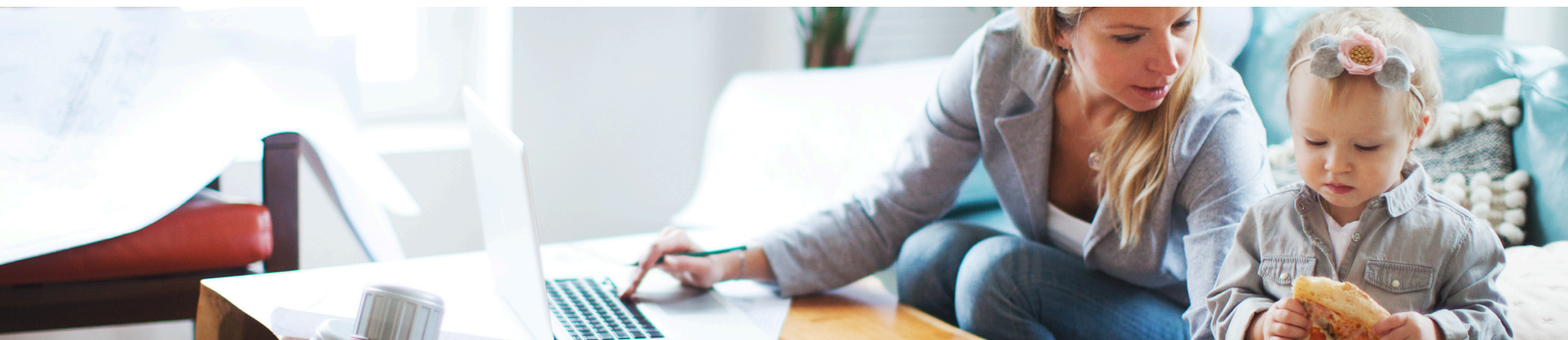
The Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning has improved the accessibility of CAPS for student parents in recent years, adding coursework taken towards a four-year degree to count toward the activity requirement in 2020¹⁸ and student parents as a priority group in 2022.¹⁹

CCAMPIS provides critical funding to low-income students who face significant economic hardships but are unable to receive CAPS.

PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORT STUDENT PARENTS LIKE CCAMPIS SHOULD BE STRENGTHENED, NOT ELIMINATED.

As we work to build the workforce of today and tomorrow, two-generation programs, such as CCAMPIS, are critical to **increasing the number of student parents enrolling in and successfully completing postsecondary education.** At the same time, these programs support the short- and long-term well-being of families with young children, maximizing their ability to contribute to the economy.

CCAMPIS plays a critical role in filling in gaps for helping student parents access child care. In order to maximize the economic and educational outcomes for children and families, programs like CCAMPIS need to be expanded, not defunded.



References: (1) Davis, R., Unlocking the Full Potential of CCAMPIS (2025). <http://newamerica.org/education-policy/edcentral/unlocking-the-full-potential-of-ccampis-for-student-parents/>. (2) Office of Management and Budget, FY 2026 Discretionary Budget Request (2025). <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/Fiscal-Year-2026-Discretionary-Budget-Request.pdf>. (3) Anderson et al., Who Are Undergraduates With Dependent Children (2024). <https://studentparentaction.org/assets/r-file/Who-Are-Undergraduates-With-Dependent-Children.pdf>. (4) Georgia Department of Community Health. 2025 Federal Poverty Guidelines. (5) Yates et al., Student-Parent Data (2024). <https://www.acenet.edu/Documents/Student-Parent-Data.pdf>. (6) Cruse et al., Evaluating the Role of Campus Child Care (2021). <http://bit.ly/3TrC3mk>. (7) Economic Policy Institute, Child care costs in the United States (2025). <http://bit.ly/4kTaiiH>. (8) GEEARS 2024 Parent Survey. (9) Congressional Research Service, CCAMPIS: In Brief (2024). <https://sgp.fas.org/crs/misc/R47422.pdf>. (10) White House Council of Economic Advisers, The Economics of Early Childhood Investments (2014). <https://bit.ly/3HJMyxJ>. (11) Hicks and Anderson, Taxpayer Benefits of Supporting Student Parents (2024). <https://bit.ly/45ZuMBI>. (12) U.S. Department of Education, FY2023 CCAMPIS Grantees. (13) Author’s analysis of Georgia CCAMPIS grantee webpages, accessed June 16, 2025. (14) Cosse et al., Inequitable Access to Child Care Subsidies (2019). <https://bit.ly/4kGBm4t>. (15) Georgia DECAL, CAPS Rate Changes (2024). <https://bit.ly/4kBJZ0j>. (16) Georgia DECAL, CAPS Student Parent 2Gen Pilot (2024). <https://bit.ly/4jUJLJk>. (17) Georgia DECAL, Eligibility Requirements. <https://caps.dec.ga.gov/en/EligibilityRequirements>. (18) Georgia Policy Labs, Expansion of CAPS (2023). <https://bit.ly/4lcoPWA>. (19) Georgia DECAL, Student Parents Added as Priority Group (2022). <https://bit.ly/4kGzPvI>.