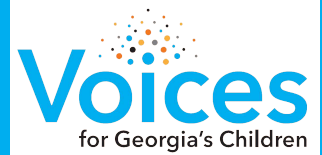


Georgia's Summer Transition Program



Georgia's Summer Transition Program, a six-week intensive academic program, supports high risk children with successful early transitions through the [Rising Kindergarten](#) and [Rising Pre-K Programs](#).

Rising Kindergarten Summer Transition Program

Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) offers the Rising Kindergarten Summer Transition Program to children [registered to enter Kindergarten in the fall](#) who:

1. Did not participate in Georgia's Pre-K Program or Head Start during the school year and/or
2. Need additional help in preparing for Kindergarten and
3. Whose family is at or below 85% of the state median income

This Summer, the Rising K Summer Transition Program serves up to

 **2,496** children  **123** locations  **53** counties which operate **156** classes
of which approximately



30%
are located in a
public school system



70%
are located in
private centers



Rising K Program Has:



Maximum of 16
kids per classroom



A lead and assistant
teacher per class



Full day program
operating for six weeks



Provides/assists in
coordinating care before
and after school as needed
through CAPS

Transition Coach

A notable difference between Georgia's Pre-K Program and the Summer Transition Program is the requirement of a half-time transition coach for every class. The transition coach is responsible for:



Actively seeking out students who would benefit from the program and meet the enrollment priorities



Working with families to collect eligibility documentation



Facilitating at least one family or parent engagement activity per week based on parents' needs



Connecting families with community resources



Planning kindergarten transition activities

Rising Pre-K Summer Transition Program

DECAL runs the Rising Pre-K Summer Transition Program to support children **registered to enter Georgia's Pre-K Program or Head Start** in the fall. To qualify, families must **primarily speak Spanish at home**.

This Summer, the Rising Pre-K Summer Transition Program serves up to



of which approximately



22% are located in a public school system



78% are located in private centers



Although similar to the **Rising K** program, the **Rising Pre-K** Program differs in the following ways:



Maximum of 14 children per classroom



Teacher training to work with Dual Language Learners (DLLs)



Both English and Spanish are used for instruction and behavior management



At least one teacher AND the transition coach must be fluent in Spanish

An estimated

17%

of Georgia's

3 & 4 year olds

are DLLs, with the vast majority speaking Spanish.

Research from the Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute indicated that:

1. Spanish-speaking DLLs are **less likely than their peers to enroll in early care**, directly affecting school readiness skills.
2. Both the **English and Spanish Language skills of participating children increased during the program.**
3. The program helped children become **more comfortable with school routines** and **overcome their shyness and dependence.**
4. While children made significant gains, **a meaningful gap remained between DLLs and their peers.**

Combined, the Rising K and Pre-K Summer Transition Programs are offering:

222 classes at 150 program sites

in Summer 2019.

The total budget* for both of the 2019 Summer Transition Programs are:

\$5.4 MILLION



Approximately **\$1,580**



being spent

PER CHILD

*budget funded by the Georgia Lottery and federal dollars

For more information about Voices for Georgia's Children, go to www.georgiavoices.org/a-solid-start/. For more information about the Summer Transition Program, go to www.dec.al.ga.gov/Prek/SummerTransitionProgram.aspx.



Sources: <https://tinyurl.com/y4g634aq>