



THE COST OF CHILD CARE, AFTERSCHOOL, AND SUMMER LEARNING

Quality early care and education (ECE), afterschool, and summer learning environments are crucial to child development, developing workforce skills in youth, supporting working families, generating jobs, and growing Georgia's business economy. Over the past few years, federal pandemic funding has supported these programs. Unfortunately, that support is coming to an end.



Early Care and Education¹
serves children ages birth through preschool

≈340,000 children
5,380 providers
Operating in all 159 counties



Afterschool and Summer Learning²
serves children ages kindergarten through high school

≈135,000 children
276 government-funded organizations
Operating 1,570 sites in 115 counties*

*These are government-funded programs in Georgia, but there are many others serving children across the state.

Benefits and Outcomes

For Children and Youth:

Youth who participate in ECE, afterschool, and summer programs tend to have higher academic achievement at age 15, including higher reading comprehension skills and higher math abilities.



ECE programs:

- Promote fine and gross motor skills
- Support cognitive development
- Foster conflict resolution
- Build confidence and peer-to-peer relationships



Afterschool and summer learning programs:

- Improve academic outcomes
- Improve mental health and well-being
- Offer exposure to new skills
- Foster college and career readiness/exploration
- Support working families

For Adults:

Sustainable ECE, afterschool, and summer learning programs also have significant benefits for adults, including:

- Providing safe spaces for the children of working parents and caregivers
- Creating employment opportunities within the ECE and afterschool sector

The Cost of Care for Georgia Families

The weekly cost of care to families depends on numerous factors, including age, level of engagement and skill building activities, activity types, transportation, and program structure. *Note: the following chart represents how much providers charge, not the actual cost of serving a child.*

Infants and Toddlers:

Average monthly cost:

\$680 for family child care homes
\$893 for child care centers

3-5 year olds:

Average monthly cost:

\$649 for family child care homes
\$785 for child care centers

5-18 year olds:

Average weekly cost: **

\$85 for afterschool programs
\$166.60 for voluntary summer programs

**as reported by parents

Child Care, Afterschool, and Summer Learning and Enrichment Programs with Designated Funding and Agency Oversight

Program	Description	Funding Amount	Environment Served	Agency
21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) ⁶	Provides opportunities for academic enrichment and tutorial services	• \$39,348,814 <i>(federal)</i>	Afterschool Summer Learning	GaDOE
 Building Opportunities in Out-of-School Time (BOOST)	Supports the expansion of access to, and improved programmatic quality of, evidence-based afterschool and summer learning programs	• \$85,048,634 <i>ARP, expired September 2024 (federal)</i>	Afterschool Summer Learning	GaDOE, in partnership with the Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network
<i>Note: this is a standalone program and not affiliated with Quality Care for Children's Boost Child Care Initiative.</i>				
Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS) ⁷	Provides scholarships via the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) to assist families with low incomes with the cost of childcare while they work, go to school, receive training, or participate in other work-related activities.	• Approximately \$280 million <i>(includes federal Child Care and Development Funds and a \$9.27 million FY25 state budget increase)</i>	Early Care and Education School-age child care (ages 6-12, up to age 17 for children with disabilities)	DECAL
<i>Note: The CAPS program was able to temporarily expand with the support of \$48 million in federal pandemic funds, which have now ended.</i>				
Georgia Pre-K Program ⁸	A voluntary, free pre-kindergarten program available to all four-year-olds in Georgia	• \$489,997,949 <i>(FY25 state budget, including the \$97,633,884 FY25 increase)</i>	Early Care and Education	DECAL
 Learning Loss Grants ⁹	Funds programming to reduce learning loss for Georgia's youth	• \$2 million <i>(state)</i> <i>There have been significant reductions since 2022</i>	Afterschool Summer Learning	DFCS, in partnership with the United Way of Greater Atlanta
Out-of-School Services Program ¹⁰	Provides funding to organizations serving communities with low-to-moderate incomes and the foster care system when kids are not in school.	• \$15.5 million via TANF (federal)	Afterschool Summer Learning	DFCS

Key: **ARP:** American Rescue Plan Act
CARES: Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act
CRRSA: Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations
GaDOE: Georgia Department of Education
DECAL: Department of Early Care and Learning
DFCS: Division of Family and Children Services
TANF: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

 Program in danger of not being funded

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