

Georgia's Summer Transition Program

Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning, Bright from the Start's [Rising Pre-K](#) and [Rising Kindergarten](#) Summer Transition Programs (STP) are **intensive five-week academic programs** to support children and prepare them for pre-k and kindergarten.

Rising Kindergarten Summer Transition Program

Eligibility Requirements for Rising Kindergarten:¹

1. Child did not attend a Georgia's Pre-K or Head Start program during the 2021-2022 school year, **OR**
2. Child attended a Georgia's Pre-K or Head Start program, but did not attend the entire school year, **OR**
3. Child attended a Georgia's Pre-K or Head Start program the entire school year and falls into one of the following priority groups:
 - Child identified as needing additional academic support
 - Dual language learner (home language is a language other than English)
 - Foster care placement
 - Child's family is without permanent housing (homeless as defined by McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act)
 - Child has an Individualized Education Program (IEP)

2021-2022 Participation²

3,816 children at **237** locations in **61** counties which operate **315** classes

These programs are located in both public school systems (**35%**) and private centers (**65%**).

Program Structure³



Maximum of 12 kids per classroom



Full day program



A lead and assistant teacher per class



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

Transition Coach⁴

Summer transition program requires a half-time transition coach for every class, who is responsible for:



Identifying students who would benefit from the program and meet the enrollment requirements



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-Kindergarten Summer Transition Program

Eligibility Requirements for Rising Pre-Kindergarten:⁹

1. Child is attending Georgia's Pre-K or Head Start in Fall 2022, **AND**
2. Child's home language is Spanish

2021-2022 Participation⁵

720 children at **57** locations in **20** counties which operate **72** classes

These programs are located in both public school systems (**26%**) and private centers (**74%**).

Program Structure⁴



Maximum of 10 kids
per classroom



Instruction is provided in
both English and Spanish



Teacher training to work
with Dual Language
Learners (DLL)



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

Dual Language Learners

An estimated **24%** of Georgia's **3 & 4-year-olds** are DLLs, with the vast majority speaking Spanish.⁷

Research from the Frank Porter Child Development Institute indicated that:⁸

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 **increased independence.**
4. While children made significant gains, **a meaningful gap remained between DLLs and their peers.**

In 2022, the Rising K and Pre-K Summer Transition Programs combined hosted:

4,536 children at **294** locations

The total budget* for both Summer Transition Programs is: \$10.8 MILLION.



Approximately
\$2,380



being spent
PER CHILD

*budget funded by the Georgia Lottery and federal dollars

Sources for Georgia's Summer Transition Program

- 1 Department of Early Care and Learning. "Summer Transition Program – Rising Kindergarten Frequently Asked Questions". Accessed November 23, 2020. http://www.decal.ga.gov/documents/attachments/STP_FAQ.pdf.
- 2 Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning, professional communication, May 2022.
- 3 Department of Early Care and Learning. "Summer Transition Program – Rising Kindergarten Frequently Asked Questions". Accessed November 23, 2020. http://www.decal.ga.gov/documents/attachments/STP_FAQ.pdf.
- 4 Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning. "Summer Transition Program – Transition Coach Webinar". Accessed November 23, 2020. http://www.decal.ga.gov/Video/2017-05-18_STPTCTraining.mp4.
- 5 Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning, professional communication, May 2022.
- 6 Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning. "Summer Transition Program - Rising Pre-Kindergarten." Accessed November 23, 2020. https://www.decal.ga.gov/documents/attachments/STP_PK_FAQ.pdf.
- 7 Migration Policy Institute. "Dual Language Learners: A Demographic and Policy Profile for Georgia. Accessed November 23, 2020. <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/publications/DLL-FactSheet-GA-FINAL.pdf>.
- 8 University of North Carolina, Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute. "Children's Pre-K Outcomes and Classroom Quality in Georgia's Pre-K Program: Finding from 2013-2014 Evaluation Study." Accessed November 23, 2020. <https://fpg.unc.edu/publications/childrens-pre-k-outcomes-and-classroom-quality-georgias-pre-k-program-findings-2013>.
- 9 Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning, professional communication, May 2022.