



What's new in CAPS and Quality Rated?

November/December 2017

Angela Melton, Ed.S., CCR&R Contract Manager

Melissa Cole, CCR&R Director of Southeast GA



Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning



Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

www.dec.state.ga.us

CAPS Updates

- 2014 – Reauthorization
- August 2016 – Funding restrictions put in place
- October 2016 – New CCDF State Plan in effect
- Increased requirements for GA DECAL related to supporting quality in child care settings
 - Expanded Priority Groups
- Late 2016- Early 2017 – DECAL gathering feedback from advisory group, from CAPS survey respondents, from community meetings, and from families who participate in CAPS program
- June 2017 – New policies resulting from stakeholder feedback were communicated
- Late 2017 – Transfer of eligibility from DFCS to DECAL

CAPS Eligibility Transition

- Eligibility for families to participate in CAPS has previously been completed via a contract with Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS)
- A transfer of the eligibility function is underway to bring all components of the CAPS program to DECAL
- We are in the process of growing CAPS at DECAL from a staff of six to a staff of nearly 200
- We anticipate the transition will be complete by late 2017

Re-envisioning the CAPS Program...

- To be a stronger component of the early childhood education system
 - Changing perceptions of CAPS to extend beyond financial assistance to an ECE program
 - Certificates become “Scholarships”
- Increasing family support to help families as they navigate their children’s early years
- Expanding access to high quality

New CAPS Organizational Structure

- The new CAPS organization structure will have three functional areas:
 - **Scholarship Administration** - Determine eligibility for families to receive child care subsidy
 - **Program Administration** - Program operations, such as policy & process, QA & training, systems & data
 - **Family Support** - Provide information, resources, guidance, and support to families participating in the CAPS program

In December 2016, the DECAL Advisory Committee adopted the following:

*Quality Rated eligible providers must be star rated **by 12/31/2020** in order to continue to receive Child Care and Parent Services (CAPS) funding.*

Today's meeting will review the supports available to you today to help you earn your Quality Rated star rating by the deadline.

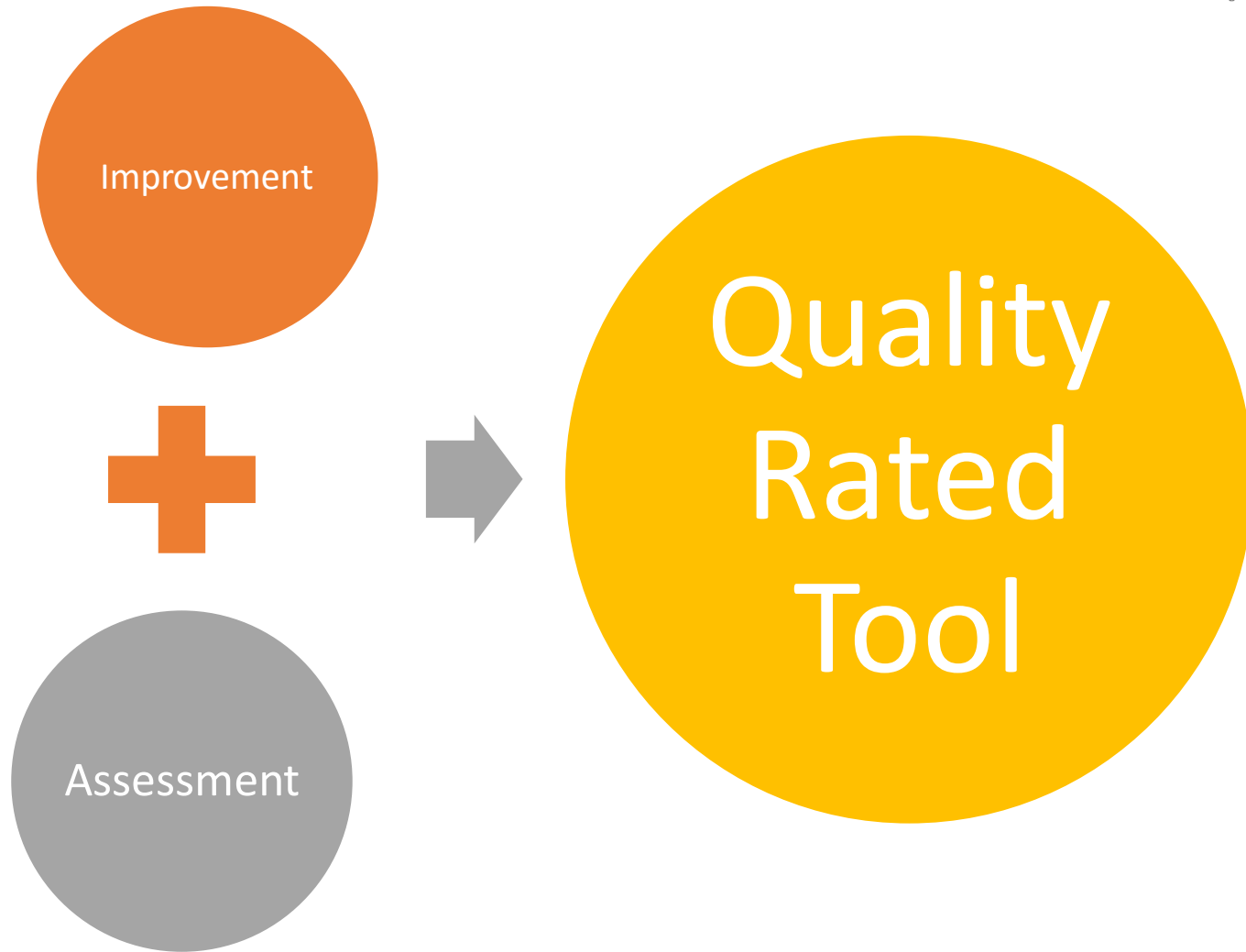
Quality Rated 101



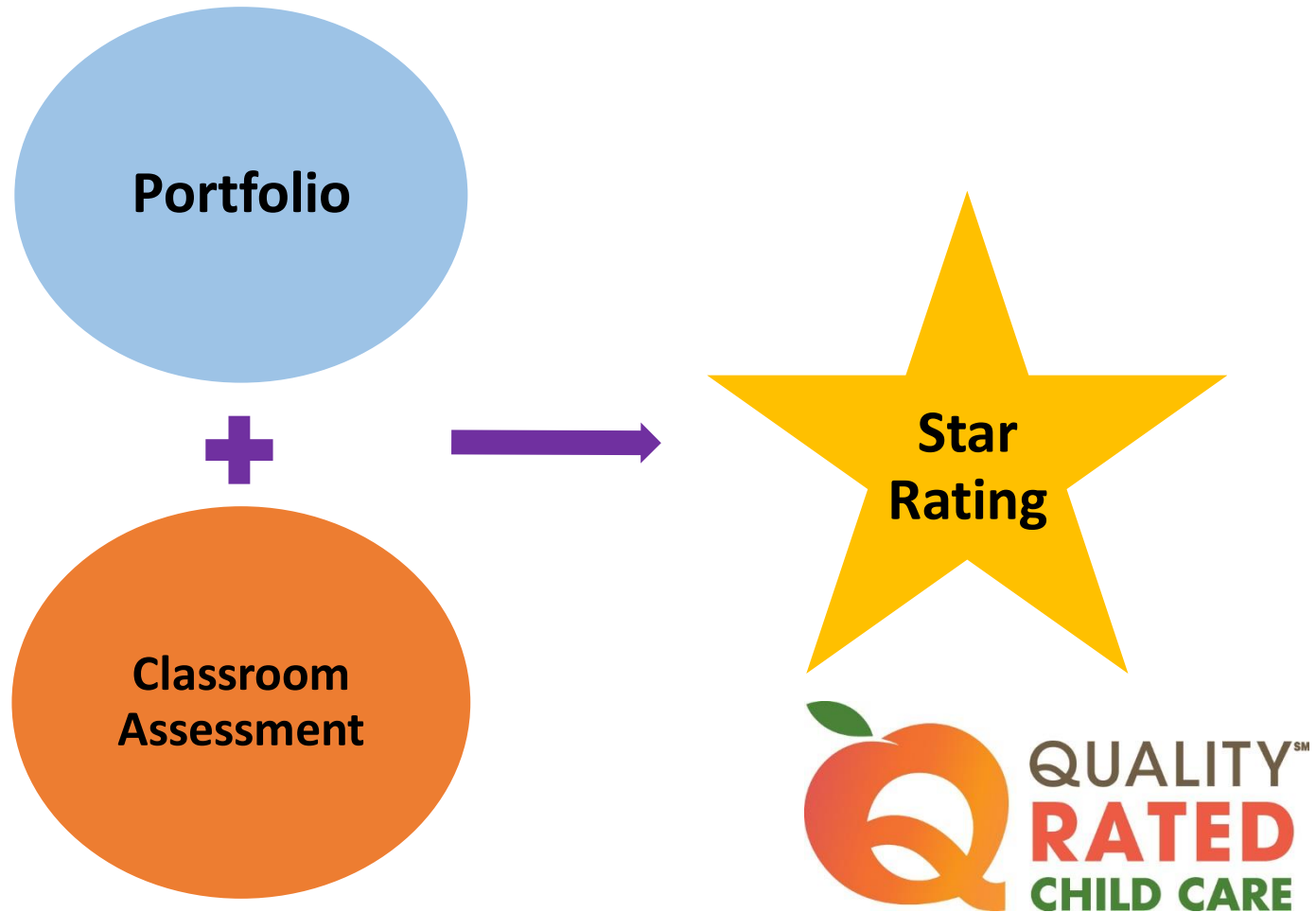
Taking the mystery
out of child care.



The Big Picture



Child Care Program Rating Process



Now being seen across Georgia...



SAPORTAREPORT

Valued voices share insights about Atlanta and beyond

Home Respected Voices Latest Reports Photo Picks Thought Leaders Topics About Us



MARIA DAVID ELEANOR TOM SABA JAMIL LANCE GUESTS

GUEST COLUMN

Quality Rated Child Care is great for children – and benefits our entire community

August 7, 2016, 9:34 pm / 9 Comments

Share this:



TON J. LITTLE, Jr., president and chief executive officer of the United Way of Greater Atlanta, all I have ever wanted is the reassurance that my children – and now my three grandchildren – have a successful future.

Today, many families seeking to supplement the care they are providing to their children are looking for developmental expertise look at a variety of child care options. The research shows that children who receive high-quality early care and education have better language and cognitive skills than children who do not.

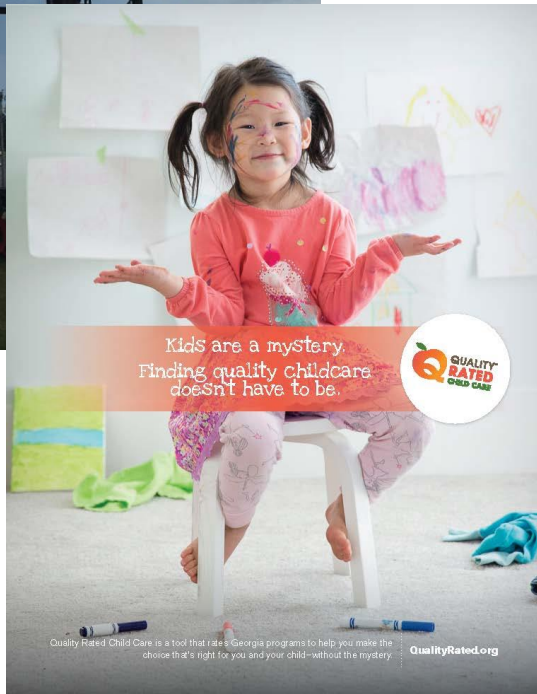
In my experience, the benefits of quality early care and education are not limited to the routine. Early care and education can provide a foundation for a child's future success. The key to identifying quality early care and education is to look for programs that are licensed and accredited by the Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning.

Georgia Early Education Alliance

40 seconds left



“Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready Students offers parents online childcare options”



Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

www.dec.al.ga.gov

Find Child Care Provider x

families.decal.ga.gov

Finding quality child care doesn't have to be a mystery.

QUALITY RATED CHILD CARE

Quality Rated rates Georgia programs so you can feel more confident in your choice.

Find high quality child care or Pre-K programs near you.

Search for

CHILD CARE PROGRAM PRE-K PROGRAM

ADDRESS ADVANCED

☒ Quality Rated Providers Only

Address

metro at

Distance: 5 miles

SEARCH

- Metro Atlanta Chamber Andrew Young International Boulevard Northwest, Atl...
- Metro Atlanta Task Force for the Homeless Peachtree Street Northeast, Atl...
- Metro Atlanta GA, United States
- Metro Atlanta Taxi Service Atlanta, GA, United States

1 2 3

VIEW

Peer Support Network

The Peer Support Network (PSN) was created by child care providers to share ideas, success stories, and lessons learned during the Quality Rated experience.

Goals

- Include Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) as part of the Quality Rated process.
- Cultivate community engagement among Quality Rated providers
- Improve and sustain day-to-day best practices in child care facilities

Ambassadors

- Administrator of 2 or 3-star program
- History of compliance w/ CCS/Pre-K/CAPS
- 5+ years of experience as an administration
- Experience with leading a program through the Quality Rated process

Meetings

- Cohorts meet quarterly
- Free Training hours (ADM)

Topics Covered

- *QRIS challenges and success*
- *Staffing Solutions*
- *Classroom Practices*
- *Director's Role in Building Quality Program*

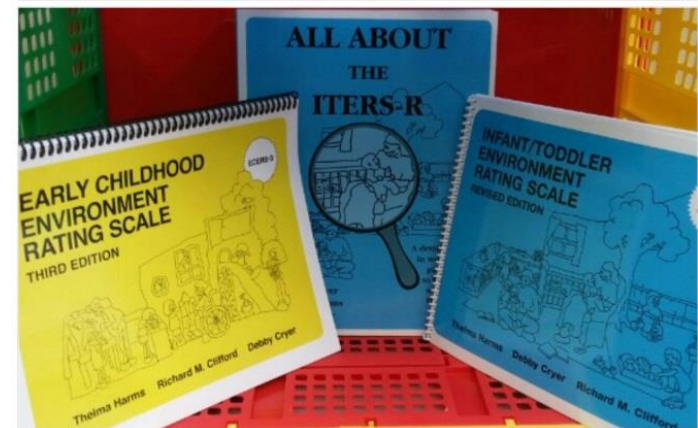
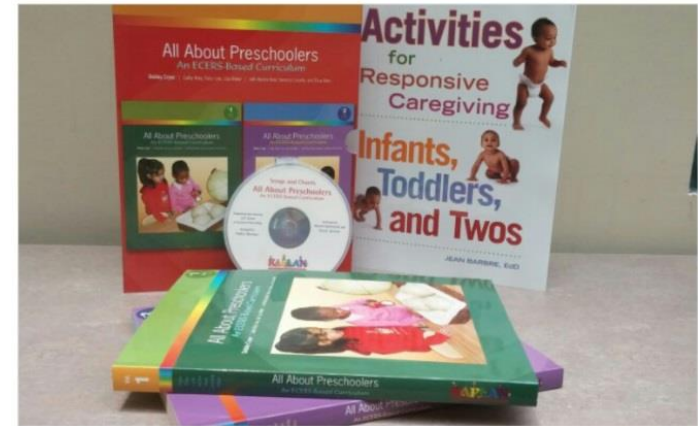
**26 PSN
Ambassadors**

**19 Statewide PSN
Cohorts**

**Provider Driven
initiative**

Quality Rated brings **new financial** investment into your program and helps **ALL** programs begin their high quality journey!

- When a child care program begins participating in Quality Rated, they receive:
 - **Free** technical assistance and on-site coaching for their teachers and staff
 - \$500/teacher/year
 - **Free** training for their staff
 - \$250/teacher/year
 - **Free** minigrant for educational resources picked especially for their program and their children's needs
 - \$1,000-\$3,000 depending of number of classrooms
 - **Free** educational bonuses and stipends through DECAL Scholars when their teachers complete a postsecondary credential
 - \$1,200 for a CDA to \$2,500 for a Bachelor's or Master's



Quality Rated Bonus Package Deadline

- When a child care program earns their 1, 2, or three star rating, they receive:
 - **Free** bonus packages of classroom supplies, educational materials, and training opportunities to support quality improvement for 1 and 2 star rated programs, and cash bonuses for teachers and directors of programs that earn 3 stars.
- To be eligible for a Quality Rated bonus package, programs must meet **all** of the following guidelines:
 - Participate in Quality Rated by 6/30/18
 - Receive a one, two, or three star rating by 12/31/2020
 - Have received less than three bonus packages
- **Bonus packages will not be awarded after 12/31/2020.** All Quality Rated bonus packages are time limited and may be discontinued at any time.

Quality Rated brings **new financial** investment into your program!

- **When a child care program earns their 1, 2, or three star rating, they receive:**
 - **Free** bonus packages of classroom supplies, educational materials, and training opportunities to support quality improvement for 1 and 2 star rated programs, and cash bonuses for teachers and directors of programs that earn 3 stars.
 - ~\$5,000
 - Benefit of a statewide marketing campaign
 - Over \$2M invested since April 2016
 - Ongoing Tiered Bonus for Child Care Subsidy

Example:

Quality Rated Star Level	Quality Rated Tier Bonus	Average Tier Bonus per Child per Week	Average Total Tier Bonus Per Week
★ Star	5%	\$2.96	\$107.43
★ ★ Star	10%	\$5.99	\$186.52
★ ★ ★ Star	25%	\$17.06	\$273.66

So, for the “average” child care program in Georgia that accepts CAPS, with ten teachers and four classrooms, the value of earning a three star Quality Rated star rating could be:

\$5,225 for teacher coaching and training

\$2,200 for the minigrant

\$5,000 for the bonus package

\$14,230.32/year in CAPS Tiered Bonus

= \$26,655.32 of new financial investment in your Quality Rated program!

We hope you're ready to join us in becoming Quality Rated!

● To get your program started, visit
www.qualityrated.dec.state.ga.us

- Create an account and complete a brief application with demographic information about your program to get started on the path to becoming Quality Rated.
- Select **Create Account** on the left and follow the posted instructions. Confirm your account by completing the directions emailed to you.
- Log into your account to complete the application by entering basic demographic information about your program.
- Register for the Quality Rated Orientation.

Thank you!

Additional Questions about Quality Rated?

1-855-800-7747

QualityRated@dec.al.ga.gov

Additional Questions about CAPS?

caps.support@dec.al.ga.gov

Ready to get started? Your CCR&R is ready to help!



Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

www.dec.al.ga.gov



Child Care Resource & Referral

OF SOUTHEAST GEORGIA

AT SAVANNAH TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Please contact one of our Assistant Directors of Operations:

Terenia Moody

912-4339482

tmooddy@savannahtech.edu

Dana Driggers

912-667-4563

ddriggers@savannahtech.edu



Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

www.dec.state.ga.us