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Pre-K and Instructional Supports



# Georgia's Pre-K

- Voluntary, universal program for four year olds
- Funded through the Georgia Lottery for Education
- Began in 1992
  
- 2015 – 2016 School Year:
  - % of 4 year olds served: 60%
  - Slots: 84,000
  - Classes: Approximately 3,900
  - Waiting List: Approximately 5,000
  - Cost per child: Approximately \$4,260



# Program Components

- Unique public- private partnership
- Credential requirements for teaching staff
- Approved curricula based on Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards (GELDS)
- School Calendar: 180 days
- School Day: 6.5 instructional hours



# Georgia's Pre-K Longitudinal Study

- Participation in Georgia's Pre-K significantly improved children's readiness skills across most domains of learning.
  - Findings attest to the positive impact of Georgia's program.
  - Findings concerning literacy suggest that foundational reading skills are taught in many Georgia's Pre-K Program classrooms.
- Results attest to the positive impact of Georgia's Pre-K Program and provide evidence that the program is a strong component of the state's K-12 system.

# Summer Transition Program

- Targeted six week school readiness program for income eligible children:
  - *Rising Kindergarten Program*
    - Focused on children who did not attend Georgia's Pre K or attended Georgia's Pre-K or Head Start but need additional support who will attend Kindergarten in the fall
  - *Rising Pre-K Program*
    - Focused on children whose home language is Spanish and who are enrolled to attend Pre-K in the fall
- The overall goal of both the Rising K and the Pre-K summer programs is to support children's transitions and development, particularly their early literacy skills, prior to kindergarten or pre-kindergarten entry.

# Health Connections

- Screening follow up and referral
- Immunizations
- Healthy meals; USDA programs
- Preschool Special Education services
- Inclusive environments
- Supports for social emotional development

