

## **REGISTER NOW! DECAL Thriving Child Care Business Academy Has More Free Content in Second Year**

The enthusiasm among Georgia child care providers for the FREE trainings and resources in the DECAL Thriving Child Care Business Academy over the past 11 months has been tremendous. The Academy team at DECAL is extremely pleased and gratified that many hundreds of you have taken advantage of the live webinars, small study groups, individual coaching, and the online self-study recordings and resources to enhance your skills and strengthen your businesses.

If you are new to the Academy, the team encourages you to visit the [website](#), view the [Trainings Handbook](#), or watch one of the [Information Webinars](#) to learn about all the FREE trainings and resources. Hopefully, you will decide to either begin your skill-building journey or continue your training plan during Year 2. Here's what you need to know:

### **STRENGTHENING BUSINESS PRACTICES:**

The Strengthening Business Practices modules, which offer three (3) training hours and cover basic information on budget planning, finances, marketing, and staff recruitment and retention, begin in late August. Search the Scheduled Trainings at [GaPDS](#) for more information and registration instructions.

### **UGA SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER @ VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY (UGA SBDC)**

The live webinars from Alyssa Foskey of UGA SBDC resume in October. They offer participants two (2) training hours and provide a great introduction to the basics of financial management, recruiting and retaining staff, marketing, and leadership. Search the Scheduled Trainings at [GaPDS](#) for more information and registration steps.

### **CIVITAS TRAININGS**

For now, all small study groups, live trainings, and coaching sessions from Civitas Strategies have been paused. But don't worry. Registration for all Civitas Year 2 offerings opens on September 11, and the trainings, study groups, and coaching sessions resume on October 1. Civitas is adding six (6) new small study group topics and 32 new self-study guides & videos to the training lineup. Everything has been curated by the Civitas experts, who look forward to sharing their knowledge to help you create a thriving child care business. Just like the existing content in the Business Academy, all of the new trainings will be FREE! Here's the list. Email [gacoaching@civstrat.com](mailto:gacoaching@civstrat.com) for more details:

- Navigating CAPS-QR Policy Changes [recommended as a follow-up to the CAPS Webinar Series in July & August]
- Utilizing Technology
- Assessing Your Business
- Financial Planning
- Tax Preparation Strategies
- Building a Strong Work Culture
- **PLUS:** 32 New Bilingual Self-Study Guides & Videos on Various Business Topics

Once you decide where you'd like to start, follow these steps:

- To register for live Civitas large group trainings, UGA SBDC webinars, and Strengthening Business Practices training modules, click the Specialized Search box for [Thriving Child Care Business Academy Scheduled Trainings posted on GaPDS](#).
- To sign up for Civitas study groups and individual coaching **if you are not already registered with Civitas**, download and complete the **Civitas Intake Assessment** which will be available on September 11 and hit the SUBMIT button. Someone from Civitas will contact you to start the process.
- To sign up for Civitas small study groups and individual coaching **if you are already registered with Civitas**, welcome back! There's no need to submit a new intake form. Civitas will send you an email on September 11 containing a link to a document for selecting the tracks you want to add to your training plan.
- To choose a self-study guide or video, view [the list on the Academy website](#) and download them anytime.

The team looks forward to seeing you in an Academy webinar, small study group, or coaching session and working with you to build and sustain a thriving child care business. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email [gacoaching@civstrat.com](mailto:gacoaching@civstrat.com) for help with Civitas trainings, or [thriving@decals.ga.gov](mailto:thriving@decals.ga.gov) for help with everything else.