



Advanced ChildFirst™ Georgia: Your Role In the Judicial Process
July 27 - 30, 2026
University of Georgia School of Law - Athens, Georgia

Eligible Participants: Forensic Interviewers and Investigators who conduct forensic interviews who have previously taken ChildFirst GA or another nationally recognized 40-hour forensic interview training.

This advanced course is an intense, hands-on learning experience. The course focuses on increasing the knowledge and skills needed to provide effective testimony in cases of child abuse. ALL PARTICIPANTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO REVIEW MATERIALS prior to the training and PROVIDE MOCK TESTIMONY during the course.

PRIOR to the training, participants will be provided with pre-course reading materials on a mock child abuse investigation case. PRIOR to the training, participants will also be required to watch a mock forensic interview that was conducted by an experienced forensic interviewer with a professional actor. A link will be sent for the forensic interview video at least one week prior to the training.

Once the training begins, the group will dissect and process information revealed during the forensic interview and identify any potential challenges to the interview that might be posed during legal proceedings. Facilitators will engage participants in discussion regarding the various investigative and child protective factors associated with the case.

Discussion also takes place regarding the investigative and protective information collected post-interview, and what additional investigative steps should be taken as the case moves forward. Participants also explore various factors related to the prosecution of the case.

Faculty members will provide lectures on various judicial proceedings that may take place if the case is accepted for prosecution. Faculty will also provide lectures on additional topics including suggestibility, manipulative grooming, relevant research, and qualifying and testifying as an expert witness.

Participants will participate in multiple skill-building exercises to enhance their testimony skills. Participants will also have the opportunity to see various faculty members providing mock testimony.

ALL participants will then “take the stand” and provide testimony as witnesses in their respective roles. Following each participant’s testimony, faculty and peers provide constructive feedback regarding the testimony.

There is a \$175 registration fee for this course. IF accepted to the course, you will receive a link to submit payment. Participants are responsible for their own lodging, meals and travel expenses.

***Athens is very busy this time of year. If you choose to make travel arrangements prior to your acceptance to the course, make sure they are refundable in the event you are not accepted.

Schedule for Advanced ChildFirst: Your Role in the Judicial Process

Monday, July 27, 2026	12:30 PM to 5:00 PM
Tuesday, July 28, 2026	8:30 AM to 5:00 PM
Wednesday, July 29, 2026	8:30 AM to 5:00 PM
Thursday, July 30, 2026	8:30 AM to 5:00 PM

Students must be present for the entire training session.

APPLICATIONS FOR COURSE MUST BE SUBMITTED BY ****June 17, 2026****

Please submit completed application to childfirst@cherokeechildadvocates.org or fax to (678) 445-7778.

The course is limited to 18 participants. Applicants will be notified of the status of their application by June 19, 2026

See next page for training application.

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Applicant and Agency Information

My primary role in child abuse investigations: (Please check ALL that apply)

Forensic Interviewer

Law Enforcement Investigator/Detective Who Conducts Forensic Interviews Department: _____

DFCS Investigator Who Conducts Forensic Interviews

Applicant:

Last First Middle Initial Job Title

Applicant E-Mail Address

Applicant Cell Number

Agency
Information:

Agency Name

Agency Street Address

City/State

Zip Code

Agency Phone

Agency Fax

County AND Judicial Circuit

Forensic Interview Training Experience - Please select all that apply, must select at least one:

I have attended a ChildFirst Forensic Interview course. Year of attendance: _____

I have attended another nationally recognized forensic interview course.

Name of course and year of attendance: _____

Approximately how many video-recorded forensic interviews have you conducted? _____

Testimony Training:

Have you previously attended a course to assist you in developing testimony skills? (for example, Zero Abuse Project's "Forensic Interviewer at Trial")

No Yes If yes, name of course _____

Have you testified in court in cases regarding charges of **crimes against children**? Yes No

If YES, approximately how many times have you testified in cases of crimes against children? _____

By the signature below, I verify that this applicant has my approval to attend the 3 ½ day Advanced ChildFirst course.

Agency Head and Title

Agency Head Email

Signature

Date

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