



**Bright from the Start Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning  
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, 670 East Tower  
Atlanta, GA 30334**

Phone: (404) 657-5562 WWW.DECAL.GA.GOV

**Cover Sheet**

**Date:** 12/22/2021 **VisitType:** Initial Licensing Study **Arrival:** 10:00 AM **Departure:** 12:00 PM

**CCLC-55055**

**Brilliant Minds Academy of Georgia L.L.C.**

2408 Bemiss Road Valdosta, GA 31605 Lowndes County  
(678) 628-6771 brilliantminds1984@gmail.com

**Regional Consultant**

Angela Byrd

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angela.byrd@decals.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** No

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
12/22/2021	Initial Licensing Study	Good Standing

**Compliance Zone Designation** - A summary measure of a program's 12 month monitoring history, as it pertains to child care health and safety rules. The three compliance zones are good standing, support, and deficient.

**Good Standing** - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.

**Support** - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.

**Deficient** - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.

**Ratios/License Capacity**

Building	Room	Age Group	Staff	Children	NC/C	Max 35 SF.	35 SF. Comp.	Max 25 SF.	25 SF. Comp.	Notes	
Main	Front Area near Room A		0	0	C	7	C	NA	NA		
Main	Room A		0	0	C	6	C	NA	NA		
Main	Room B		0	0	C	5	C	NA	NA		
Main	Room C		0	0	C	6	C	NA	NA		
Main	Room D		0	0	C	4	C	NA	NA		
Main	Room E		0	0	C	6	C	NA	NA		
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:						34	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:				0
Total # Children this Date: 0			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.:			34	Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.:				0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	Playground A	31	C

**Comments**

An Administrative Review was conducted on December 21, 2021. Staff files, training, and background checks were all reviewed. An in person Initial Licensing Study was conducted on December 21, 2021. The exit conference was conducted virtually on December 22, 2021, with the Director. Permission to Operate issued on this date. Facility does not carry Liability Insurance. The license capacity is limited to 18 due to the zoning department.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed

Any rule violation which subjects a child to injury or life-threatening situation or any rule violations previously cited but not corrected, may result in the imposition of an adverse enforcement action. Serious or continued noncompliance may also jeopardize participation in one or more DECAL program(s).



Please refer to the website, <http://www.dec.state.ga.us/CCS/Regulations.aspx> , for information regarding October 1, 2018 rule changes about Criminal Records Checks that may affect your facility. In summary,

- New records checks will be required to be completed if a staff member experiences a six month break in service from the child care industry
- New clearance is required at least once every five years
- Any staff member solely responsible for supervising children will be required to have completed a comprehensive background clearance
- All staff members are required to have completed at least a national fingerprint based clearance check
- Any staff member with only the national fingerprint based clearance, must be under constant and direct supervision of a staff member with a satisfactory comprehensive records check clearance
- Facilities are required to use DECAL KOALA for Criminal Records Checks, including to verify portability of an employee



### Important New Deadlines:

Due to the ongoing COVID restrictions, the deadline to become Quality Rated for programs who want to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS), has been extended to at least December 31, 2021.

Get started today! Sign up by completing a short online application: <https://qualityrated.dec.state.ga.us/>  
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us)

You have received permission to operate and the form received with this report is intended to serve as a temporary license which is **valid for thirty(30) days**. Your actual license/ will be emailed to you upon receipt of the licensing fee. You may pay the licensing fee either online at <http://www.dec.state.ga.us/> or by certified check or money order mailed to: Bright from the Start, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Suite 670 East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334

O.C.G.A. Section 42.1.12(i)(2) requires Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning to notify licensed child care programs on accessing and retrieving from the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's (GBI) website a list of the names and addresses of all registered sexual offenders. Please see GBI's website located at <http://gbi.georgia.gov> to access the Georgia Sex Offender Registry.

### Refutation Process:

You have the right to refute any of the citations noted in this report with which you disagree. To refute a citation(s), e-mail the following information to [CCSRefutations@dec.state.ga.us](mailto:CCSRefutations@dec.state.ga.us).

- 1) Facility name, license number and visit date
- 2) Your name, title/relationship to the facility, e-mail address & up to two phone number(s) where you can be reached
- 3) Specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, along with your concerns or questions regarding the rule citation

Refutations must be submitted to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

A sample form for submitting a refutation can be found at: <http://dec.state.ga.us/ChildCareServices/RefutationInformation.aspx>

Your refutation will be forwarded to the appropriate CCS manager, who will follow up with you about your concerns. If you have any questions about this process, contact our office at 404-657-5562.

Bright from the Start recommends that all licensed child care providers carry liability insurance coverage sufficient to protect its clients. If you do not have this liability insurance, you are required to post a notice with ½ inch letters in a conspicuous location in the program, notify the parent or guardian of each child in care in writing, obtain their signature to acknowledge receipt and maintain this written acknowledgment on file at the program at all times while the child attends the program and for 12 months after the child's last date of attendance. (O.C.G.A. Section 20-1A-4)

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Danielle Chappell, Program Official

Date

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Angela Byrd, Consultant

Date



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### Findings Report

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The following information is associated with a Initial Licensing Study:

### Activities and Equipment

**591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured on this date.

**Correction Deadline: 12/22/2021**

**591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities. No pool observed on site.

### Facility

**591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

The program has a capacity limitations of 18 occupants based on the zoning department.

**591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Center appears clean and well maintained on this date.

**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair on this date.

### Health and Hygiene

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**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Met****Comment**

There were no children enrolled in the program on this date. Proper diaper facilities were observed with warm running water and proper ventilation.

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**591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)****Met****Comment**

There were no children enrolled on this date. Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the director on this date.

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**591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)****Met****Comment**

Discussed proper medication documentation and procedures on this date.

<b>Safety</b>
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**591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)****Met****Comment**

There were no children enrolled on this date. The center's discipline policy was reviewed on this date. Regulations regarding proper discipline were discussed with the director on this date.

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**591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)****Met****Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation or field trips. Consultant discussed transportation requirements if/when the facility decides to incorporate transportation. The center will contact their regional consultant and complete the required two (2) hours transportation training prior to transporting children.

<b>Sleeping &amp; Resting Equipment</b>
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**591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)****Met****Comment**

Three (3) cribs observed were present meeting safety compliance with Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society of Testing and Materials International (ASTM) safety standards as they were manufactured in 2021.

**Correction Deadline: 1/1/2022**

<b>Staff Records</b>
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**Records Reviewed: 5****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 1

Met

Date of Hire: 12/21/2021

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 2

Met

Date of Hire: 12/21/2021

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 3

Met

Date of Hire: 12/21/2021

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

**Records Reviewed: 5****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Staff # 4

Met

Date of Hire: 12/21/2021

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired

Staff # 5

Met

Date of Hire: 12/21/2021

Reminder - Health & Safety training is required within 90 calendar days of hired**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 2****591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Met****Comment**

Five (5) staff records were observed to have comprehensive satisfactory Criminal Background Check determination letters on file.

**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)****Met****Comment**

Discussed that all lead staff must enroll in an approved education program within 6 months of hire and complete degree within 18 months.

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations on this date.

**Staffing and Supervision****591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)****Met****Comment**

There were no children enrolled on this date. Proper ratios and classroom capacities were discussed with the director on this date.

**591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)****Met****Comment**

A supervision plan was created on this date for classroom B, C, and E restroom.

A teacher will be in place to assist children during restroom breaks. Director will also assist children during restroom breaks. Director will take children from the room to the restroom and from the restroom back to the room.

**Comment**

There were no children enrolled on this date. Proper supervision of children, including being prompt to children's needs, was discussed with the director on this date.