



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

Date: 3/3/2026

VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:15 AM Departure: 12:45 PM

CCLC-51648

Universal Learning Academy

3355 Deans Bridge Road Augusta, GA 30906 Richmond County
(762) 994-1814

Regional Consultant

April Christian

Phone: ()

Fax:

april.christian@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation			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.
03/03/2026	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
08/28/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
02/25/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	

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	A	Infants and One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	3	18	C	25	C	NA	NA	Floor Play, Free Play, Story
Main	B	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	13	C	29	C	NA	NA	Free Play, Story
Main	C	GA PreK	2	15	C	34	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	D		0	0	C	34	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 95			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Playground Limitations				
Total # Children this Date: 46			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 95			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0				

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A	32	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
3	9	9	15	17	0	29

Comments

The Findings on this report were reviewed with the Director on this date.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date



For additional information regarding any licensing topics discussed during this visit, please consult the Rules and Regulations Indicator Manual. This manual provides comprehensive clarification of each rule, including evaluation indicators, related best practices, and relevant considerations to support your program's continued and sustained compliance.

To access the Indicator Manual, please scan the QR code below or visit our website at <https://www.dec.state.ga.us/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx>.

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/RulesAndRegulations.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

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), do the following:

- 1) Log into DECAL KOALA www.decalkoala.com with the userid for your program
- 2) On the home page scroll down to the Inspection Reports and select 'Refute Citation' for the visit report in dispute
- 3) Select the specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, add the reason for disagreement regarding the rule citation, and upload supporting documentation
- 4) Submit the refutation in DECAL KOALA to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

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)

Important Quality Rated/CAPS Update:

As January 1, 2022, child care providers must be Quality Rated to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS). Newly licensed, or new to CAPS providers may be eligible for the new CAPS/QR Provisional Status, allowing for scholarships while working toward a star rating.

Contact the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



Summary Report

Date: 3/3/2026 **VisitType:** Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:15 AM **Departure:** 12:45 PM

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

Please ensure lesson plans are posted and reflect the current weeks activities in each classroom.

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

Technical Assistance

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.12(2) - Please ensure the toilets in Main Room B are free of rust around the bottom base to prevent contamination. There were three out of seven wall mats on the left side of the back room need repair to prevent cushion exposure.

Correction Deadline: 3/3/2026

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

591-1-1-.08 Children's Records

Met

Comment

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Met

Comment

Please monitor bathrooms for necessary supplies.

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

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center on this date.

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

591-1-1-.25(11) - Please ensure that the carpet in the block area of the middle left room are cleaned.

Correction Deadline: 4/2/2026

Correction Deadline: 10/3/2025

Corrected on 3/3/2026

.25(3) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The missing ceiling tiles were repaired to prevent sharp edges.

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**Technical Assistance****Comment**

591-1-1-.26(4) - Please ensure that the small gap on the left side under the fence is filled.

Correction Deadline: 3/3/2026

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.26(6) - Please ensure that the protruding nail on the middle back fence is removed or repaired to prevent sharp edges.

Correction Deadline: 3/13/2026

Food Service**591-1-1-.15 Food Service & Nutrition****Met****Comment**

Center menu meets USDA guidelines.

591-1-1-.18 Kitchen Operations**Met****Comment**

Kitchen appears clean and well organized on this date.

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

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

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

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands on this date.

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**N/A****Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Policies and Procedures**591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting****Met****Comment**

Thank you for reporting as required.

Safety**591-1-1-.05 Animals****Met****Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)**Met****Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

Comment

Staff were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**N/A****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

Complete documentation of transportation observed on this date.

Comment

The vehicle had an approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit on this date.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)**Met**

Correction Deadline: 8/28/2025

Corrected on 3/3/2026

.30(2)(c) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. Upon arrival the Consultant observed an infant sleeping in the safety-approved crib as required.

Staff Records

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)**Met**

Correction Deadline: 9/19/2025

Corrected on 3/3/2026

.09(1)(a) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed satisfactory criminal records check determination letters on file for all staff.

Correction Deadline: 9/19/2025

Corrected on 3/3/2026

.09(1)(c) - The previous citation was observed corrected on this date. The Consultant observed satisfactory criminal records check determination letters on file for all staff.

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records Check(CR)**Met****Comment**

Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR(CR)**Technical Assistance****Comment**

Evidence observed of 50% of center Staff certified in First Aid and CPR.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.14(1)(a) - Please ensure that all staff receive pediatric CPR and First Aid training that includes hands on training within the first 45 days of employment as required.

Correction Deadline: 3/3/2026

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

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staffing and Supervision

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

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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

Adequate supervision observed on this date.