



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: 2/19/2026 VisitType: Monitoring Visit

Arrival: 11:30 AM Departure: 1:45 PM

CCLC-46758

Mini Miracles Daycare

1016 Mill Street Ext. Elberton, GA 30635 Elbert County
(706) 522-2334

CCS Coordinator

Margarita Collier

Phone: (770) 342-7934

Fax: (678) 891-5989

margarita.collier@dec.al.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.
02/19/2026	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
10/30/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
04/29/2024	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
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	A- 1L/1's and 2's	One Year Olds and Two Year Olds	1	7	C	11	C	NA	NA	Lunch,Outside,T ransitioning
Main	B- Middle - 3 and up	Three Year Olds	1	6	C	9	C	NA	NA	Circle Time,Story,Art
Main	C- 1R - 6wks to 18 months	Infants and One Year Olds	2	3	C	5	C	NA	NA	Nap
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 25			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							
Total # Children this Date: 16			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A- Left - 2 and up	72	C
Main	B- Right/6wks- 18 months	19	C

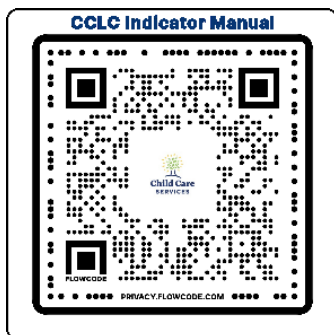
Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
4	3	4	6	0	0	3

Comments

The Consultant discussed the following with the Director:

- Chop, Look, and Listen information.
- Updated Child Care Services Indicator Manual.
- Updated Child Care Weather chart.

Plan of Improvement: No Plan Developed



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.decal.ga.gov/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.decal.ga.gov/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.decal.ga.gov/> 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.al.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



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Summary Report

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

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

Met

Comment

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center on this date.

Comment

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

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

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

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)

Not Met

Technical Assistance

Discussed monitoring the back-left side of the floor leading to the playground exit located in classroom B-Middle-3 and up for normal wear and tear.

Correction Deadline: 3/21/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.25(13) requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. It was determined based on observation that several plastic bags and a bottle of disinfectant spray were observed stored underneath the diaper changing table located on the back-left side of classroom A-1L/1's and 2's. The items were observed to be accessible to the children present for care.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will identify all hazardous items and keep them in a locked area inaccessible to children. The Center will inform all Staff about hazardous items and the safe storage of those items. The Center will further ensure that no hazardous items (i.e., plastic bags, disinfectant spray, etc.), are not stored underneath open diaper changing storage shelves.

Correction Deadline: 2/19/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based on observation that a three to eight inch gap was observed in the middle fence between playground A-Left-2 and up and B-Right/6wks-18 months creating a potential entrapment hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 2/19/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based on observation that two blue and red mats were observed to be torn with exposed foam located on the front-left entrance of playground B-Right/6wks-18 months.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters. The Center will remove the mats from the playground area and replace them with new mats.

Correction Deadline: 3/1/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.26(8) requires climbing and swinging equipment to have a resilient surface beneath the equipment and the fall zone from such equipment must be adequately maintained by the Center to assure continuing resiliency. It was determined based on observation that the green, turquoise, orange, and yellow sliding structure located on the front-right side of playground A-Left-2 and up did not have any mulch surrounding the fall zones of the sliding structure. Six inches of resilient surface was required. Further, the yellow, turquoise, green, and white swing did not contain any mulch surrounding the fall zones. Six inches of resilient surface was required.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will add additional resilient surfacing to the fall zones where needed and check daily, adding resilient surfacing as needed to maintain adequate resiliency. The Center will monitor all fall zones of equipment on playground A-Left-2 and up and B-Right /6wks - 18 and re-fluff as needed.

Correction Deadline: 3/1/2026

Finding

591-1-1-.26(9) requires the playground to be kept clean, free from litter and free of hazards, such as but not limited to rocks, exposed tree roots and exposed sharp edges of concrete. It was determined based on observation that exposed tree roots were observed on the right side and exposed brown and black tarp was observed around the green slide and swing structure located on playground A-Left-2 and up. It was further determined that exposed tarp was observed next to the yellow and blue seesaw located on the back-left side of playground A-Left-2 and up. The exposed tarp created a potential tripping hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will remove any litter and fix or remove hazards from the playground and will routinely monitor the playground and remove litter and hazards. The Center will re-fluff the resilient surface to ensure the tarp is covered and prevents potential tripping hazards.

Correction Deadline: 2/19/2026

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

Staff stated proper knowledge of diapering procedures.

Technical Assistance

Discussed monitoring diaper changing pads for normal wear and tear. Further discussed usage of diaper changing pads (i.e., no quilted diaper changing pads).

Correction Deadline: 2/19/2026

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-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

Discussed updating the Center's policies and procedures to include the program's practices regarding the expulsion and suspension of children enrolled for care within the description of behavior management and discipline actions used by the Center. Also discussed to ensure a description of the practices followed by the Center to prevent shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma in children up to five years of age that includes the following information: how to recognize, respond to, and report the signs and symptoms of shaken baby syndrome and abusive head trauma; strategies to assist staff members in understanding how to care for infants and how to cope with a crying, fussing, or distraught child; strategies to ensure staff members understand the brain development of children up to five years of age; and a list of prohibited behaviors when dealing with children.

Additional information can be found in the CCLC Indicator Manual found on DECAL's website at:

<https://www.decal.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx> or through the Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome found at: <https://dontshake.org/>.

Correction Deadline: 2/24/2026

Safety**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-.36 Transportation(CR)**N/A****Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

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

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Comment

The correct number of mats, sheets and blankets were observed on this date. Cleaning and disinfecting of mats was discussed with the director on this date.

Staff Records**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Technical Assistance****Comment**

The Director provided three files for staff members hired since the previous visit was conducted on October 30, 2024. The Consultant observed three of three newly hired staff members to have evidence of a current satisfactory comprehensive determination letter on file.

Technical Assistance

The consultant discussed the following criminal record check reminders with the provider:

New records checks will be required to be completed if a staff member experiences a six month break in service from the childcare 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 satisfactory comprehensive records check clearance.
- Facilities are required to use DECAL KOALA for Criminal Records Checks, including to verify portability of an employee. A re-check maybe needed under the following circumstances:
- When the family childcare learning home knows or reasonably should know that a provider, Employee or Provisional Employee, Resident has been arrested or charged for any covered crime.
- When there is a lapse of employment from the childcare industry that lasted for 180 calendar days (6 months) or longer.
- When the Department so requests.

Correction Deadline: 2/19/2026

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

At least one staff person with current and valid pediatric first aid and pediatric CPR observed in each classroom where children were present.

591-1-1-.33 Staff Training**Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

Discussed that all Employees, including volunteers, independent contractors, students-in-training, etc. should have a completed initial program orientation form on file.

Correction Deadline: 2/19/2026

Technical Assistance

Discussed that effective July 1, 2025, all staff are required to obtain at least two hours in evidence based, developmentally appropriate language and literacy practices and at least two hours in on-going child development and health and safety related topics as part of their 10 hours of annual training.

Correction Deadline: 3/21/2026

591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)**Technical Assistance****Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Technical Assistance

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

Correction Deadline: 2/19/2026

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**

Staff observed to provide direct supervision and be attentive to children's needs.