



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: 1/25/2024 VisitType: Licensing Study

Arrival: 3:50 PM

Departure: 5:45 PM

CCLC-30691

YBASE at West Chatham Elementary

820 Pine Barren Road Pooler, GA 31322 Chatham County  
(912) 663-7421 joquana.kelson@ymcaofcoastalga.org

Regional Consultant

Connie Boatright

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connie.boatright@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

6400 Habersham St. Suite A  
Savannah, GA 31405

Quality Rated: No

| 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. |
|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 01/25/2024                  | Licensing Study  | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 05/08/2023                  | Monitoring Visit | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 12/15/2022                  | LS POI Follow Up | Good Standing |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|                             |                  |               | <b>Good Standing</b> - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.                                                                                                                |
|                             |                  |               | <b>Support</b> - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting the rules.                                                                                                                      |
|                             |                  |               | <b>Deficient</b> - 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                           | Cafe         | Five Year Olds and Six Year Olds and Over | 2                              | 25       | C    | 0                             | NC           | NA         | NA           | Centers,Outside ,Snack,Transitio ning |
| Main                           | Computer lab |                                           | 0                              | 0        | C    | 28                            | C            | NA         | NA           | Not In Use                            |
|                                |              |                                           | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 28 |          |      | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |              |            |              |                                       |
| Total # Children this Date: 25 |              |                                           | Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 28 |          |      | Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0 |              |            |              |                                       |

| Building | Playground | Playground Occupancy | Playground Compliance |
|----------|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Main     | PG         | 91                   | C                     |

**Comments**

An in person Licensing Study was conducted on this day. Center staff stated no medication is currently administered, no field trips, routine transportation, or swimming activities is provided. There is a total of two staff present and one of the two has a Satisfactory Comprehensive Criminal Records Check determination letter on file and has not been ported to this center prior to being assigned child watchful oversight and supervision. A one-day letter was left with center staff.

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

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](http://www.decalkoala.com) with the user id 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](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

ELEANOR MOURILLON, Program Official

Date

Connie Boatright, Regional Consultant

Date



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.03(8) requires a center to provide individual attention to each child by responding promptly to the child's distress signals and need for comfort. It was determined based on observation that two of two staff did not promptly respond to a child, when a child was standing on a cafeteria seat, children were throwing lego blocks at him, hit the cafeteria floor, and was crying loudly.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide staff training in when and how to respond appropriately to children's distress signals and need for comfort.

Correction Deadline: 1/25/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.03(9) requires center staff to refrain from engaging in, or allowing children or other adults to engage in, activities that could be detrimental to a child's health or well-being, such as but not limited to, horse play, rough play, wrestling, and picking up a child in a manner that could cause injury. It was determined based on observation that one child was observed standing on a cafeteria seat and not removed by staff until he fell. Additionally, other children constantly run around the cafeteria, were sliding on the floor on their stomach, and flipping around on the floor and no staff redirected them.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will review requirements with Staff to ensure that appropriate activities are conducted with children.

Correction Deadline: 1/25/2024

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

Met

Comment

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

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

Center does not provide swimming activities.

|                           |
|---------------------------|
| <b>Children's Records</b> |
|---------------------------|

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**591-1-1-.08 Children's Records****Met****Comment**

Parent agreements observed obtained/completed.

**Comment**

Parent authorizations obtained/completed.

**Comment**

Records were observed to be complete and well organized.

|                 |
|-----------------|
| <b>Facility</b> |
|-----------------|

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**591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms****Met****Comment**

Bathrooms observed to be clean and well maintained.

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

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

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

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

|                     |
|---------------------|
| <b>Food Service</b> |
|---------------------|

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

CACFP Meal Pattern Requirements effective October 1, 2017 will be implemented October 1, 2018: 3 Components for breakfast: Grains, Vegetables, Fruits or both, Milk  
5 Components for lunch – Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, Fruits, Vegetable, and Milk OR Grains, Meat/Meat alternates, 2 different types of vegetables, and Milk  
2 of 5 Components for snack

Provided Updated CACFP Infant Meal pattern and Child/Adult Meal pattern flyers.

The Crediting Handbook for the CACFP can be located on DECAL and USDA's website:

DECAL

<http://decalf.ga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx>

USDA

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-handbooks>

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

Kitchen appears clean and well organized.

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**Health and Hygiene**

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

No children enrolled who require diapering. School age children attend only for after school hours.

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**591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-17(7) requires that children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based on observation that children did not hand wash prior to eating their snack.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will train Staff on required handwashing for children and Staff will ensure children's hands are washed when required. The Director will monitor for compliance.

**Correction Deadline: 1/25/2024**

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

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**Policies and Procedures**

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**591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures****Met****Comment**

Program observed complete emergency drills

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**591-1-1-.27 Posted Notices****Technical Assistance****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.27 - Staff will ensure that each Center to post in a designated area for public viewing near the front entrance the following: the Center's current License or Permit; a copy of these rules; a copy of the current communicable disease chart; a statement allowing Parent(s) access to all child care areas upon notifying any staff member of his or her presence; names of persons responsible for the administration of the Center in the administrator's absence; the dated current week's menu for meals and snacks; emergency plans for severe weather, fire, and other emergency situations; a statement requiring visitors to check in with Staff when entering the Center; no smoking signs; and a notice provided by the Department which advises Parents of their right to review a copy of the Center's most recent licensure evaluation report upon request to the Center Director. The Center shall provide any Parent with a copy of this evaluation report upon request. The staff designee, visitor sign in statement, and parental access statement is missing.

**Correction Deadline: 1/25/2024**

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**591-1-1-.29 Required Reporting****Met****Comment**

Thank you for reporting as required.

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**Safety**

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|----------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.05 Animals</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|----------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Center does not keep animals on premises.

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|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

**Comment**

Please be mindful of voice tone in redirecting children.

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|                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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|                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|---------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation.

|                                         |
|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>Sleeping &amp; Resting Equipment</b> |
|-----------------------------------------|

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|                                                               |            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)</b> | <b>Met</b> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------|

**Comment**

Sleeping/Naps are not required for this program. School age children attend only for after school hours.

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|----------------------|
| <b>Staff Records</b> |
|----------------------|

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|                                                                             |                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)</b> | <b>Not Met</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|

**Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(j) requires that for portability for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training, only the most recently issued determination letter is eligible for portability and must be ported electronically. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. It was determined based on review of all staff files and Koala Outback, that one staff member has a Satisfactory Criminal Records Check letter file with the department which was not ported to this center prior to being assigned child watchful oversight and supervision. A one-day letter and affidavit was left with a staff member.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will immediately ensure that only the most recently issued determination letter is electronically ported for Directors, Employees and Provisional Employees, excluding Students-in-Training. A Center may accept a satisfactory Fingerprint Records Check Determination letter or a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination letter issued by the Department if the Records Check Clearance Date is within the preceding 12 months from the hire date, the individual has not had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, and the Center does not know or reasonably should not know that the individual's satisfactory status has changed. The program's owner or an officer/member of the corporation must view the A to Z Background Check video units pertaining to this records check rule and return the signed affidavit within one week from this visit date. The Center will immediately ensure CRC rules are maintained.

**Correction Deadline: 1/25/2024**

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|                                        |                |
|----------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>591-1-1-.14 First Aid &amp; CPR</b> | <b>Not Met</b> |
|----------------------------------------|----------------|

**Comment**

Complete first aid kits observed in center and on vehicles.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.14(1) requires the Center Director and, at any given time, at least fifty percent (50%) of the caregiver Staff to successfully complete a biennial training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and a triennial training program in first aid. The first aid training must be done by certified or licensed health care professionals or trainers and must deal with the provision of emergency care to infants and children. The Center shall maintain current evidence of the successful completion of such training which shall be available to the Department for inspection. It was determined based on review of staff files that two of two staff had no proof of completing CPR and First Aid.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center Director and at least 50% of the caregiver Staff will complete the needed training. The Director will send written verification to the consultant upon completion and will develop a plan to ensure that at least 50% of the caregiver Staff have completed this training at any given time and that evidence of successful completion of the training is on file available for inspection.

**Correction Deadline: 2/24/2024**

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**591-1-1-.24 Personnel Records****Not Met****Finding**

.24(2) requires Personnel files to also contain daily attendance records or other employee payroll records for the Employee for the preceding six (6) month period which may be stored away from the Center provided that the Center notifies the Department of its intention to store these records off-site, provides the Department with the name, address and phone number of the custodian of these records and allows the Department, at its discretion, to have access to these records at the custodian's location immediately or access at the Center within seven (7) business days of a Department representative's request. The Department may, at its discretion, accept photocopies of the requested records which are provided within seven (7) business days of the Department representative's request for the same;. It was determined It was determined based on review of staff files and a staff member's statement, that one of two staff members did not have an employee file at this center.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

Within seven business days, the Center will submit photocopies of requested records or have these available at the Center for review. The Center will ensure the Department's access to personnel records according to these rules.

**Correction Deadline: 1/26/2024**

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**591-1-1-.33 Staff Training****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.33(3) requires each Staff member with direct care responsibilities to complete health and safety orientation training within the first 90 days of employment. The state-approved training hours obtained will count toward required first year training hours. The training must address the following health and safety topics: prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations); prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices; administration of medication, consistent with standards for parental consent; prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; building and physical premises safety, including identification of and protection from hazards that can cause bodily injury such as electrical hazards, bodies of water, and vehicular traffic; prevention of shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma and child maltreatment; emergency preparedness and response planning for emergencies resulting from a natural disaster or a human-caused event (such as violence at a child care facility); handling and storage of hazardous materials and the appropriate disposal of bio contaminants; precautions in transporting children; recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect; and child development. It was determined based on review of all staff files that two of two staff have no proof of having the required health and safety orientation training on file.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will develop and implement a plan to schedule and track this training for all employees based on their hire dates and will ensure that the training includes all required components as required.

**Correction Deadline: 2/8/2024**

**Finding**

91-1-1-.33(5) requires that every calendar year after the first year of employment, all supervisory and caregiver Personnel, except independent contractors, Students-in-Training and volunteers shall attend ten (10) clock hours of diverse training which is task-focused in on-going health, safety and early childhood or child development related topics and which is offered by an accredited college, university or vocational program or other Department-approved source. The annual ten (10) clock hours of training shall be chosen from the following fields: child development, including discipline, guidance, nutrition, injury control and safety; health, including sanitation, disease control, cleanliness, detection and disposition of illness; child abuse and neglect, including identification and reporting, and meeting the needs of abused and/or neglected children; and business related topics, including parental communication, recordkeeping, etc.; provided however that such business related training shall be limited to no more than two (2) of the required ten (10) clock hours of training. Records of completion of such training shall be maintained, as required by these rules. It was determined based on review of all staff files and GAPDS that one staff member completed 4.5 hours of annual training for the fiscal year of 2023 and one staff member has no proof of completing any hours of annual training for the fiscal year of 2023 where ten hours are required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will plan and schedule the required 10 hours of annual training each year and follow up to ensure the training is completed.

**Correction Deadline: 2/24/2024**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.33(6) - Center staff will ensure that evidence of orientation and training shall be documented in the Personnel file of each Staff member and shall be available to the Department for inspection.

**Correction Deadline: 2/4/2024**

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**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)****Not Met****Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.31(1)(a) - The YMCA Office will ensure that Center to have a Director who is responsible for the supervision, operation and maintenance of the Center. The Director must be on the Center's premises. If the Director is absent from the Center at any time during the hours of the Center's operation, there shall be an officially designated person on the Center site to assume responsibility for the operation of the Center, and this person shall have full access to all records required to be maintained under these rules.

**Correction Deadline: 1/25/2024**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.31(1)(b)2 requires the Director to possess at least one of the sets of minimum academic requirements and qualifying child care experience listed in Rule 591-1-1-.31(1)(b)2.(i-xiii). It was determined based on the consultant's review of record that the center Director's record did not have evidence, on-site, of at least one of the sets of minimum academic requirements, as required for the position.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will ensure that the Director meets the minimum education and work requirements and secure the necessary documentation.

**Correction Deadline: 2/8/2024**

**Recited on 1/25/2024**

|                                 |
|---------------------------------|
| <b>Staffing and Supervision</b> |
|---------------------------------|

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

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.32(7) requires that children be supervised at all times appropriate to the individual age, needs and capabilities of each child. Such supervision must include, but not be limited to, indoor and outdoor activities, mealtimes, naptime, transportation, field trips, and transitions between activities. "Supervision" means that the appropriate number of Staff members are physically present in the area where children are being cared for and are providing watchful oversight to the children, volunteers and Students-in-Training. The persons supervising in the child care area must be alert, positioned to maximize their ability to hear and see the children at all times, and able to respond promptly to the needs and actions of the children being supervised, as well as the actions of the volunteers and Students-in-Training, and provide timely attention to the children's actions and needs. Staff shall be attentive and participating with all children during mealtimes and shall be seated within an arm's length away from children thirty-six (36) months of age and younger. It was determined based on observation that two of two staff were not properly supervision while they were not rotating around the cafeteria allowing children to stand on furniture, throw lego blocks at a child, run about the cafeteria, slide and flip on the cafeteria floor without being redirected.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will train Staff and monitor to ensure they are providing supervision and watchful oversight to the children at all times.

**Correction Deadline: 1/25/2024**