



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: 4/3/2025 **VisitType:** Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 11:50 AM **Departure:** 12:50 PM

CCLC-12198
APEC Learning Center
 1099 Cascade Road, SW Atlanta, GA 30311 Fulton County
 (404) 758-6081 MDutch@APECprep.com

Regional Consultant
 Earlene Huston
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Mailing Address
 1099 Cascade Rd
 Atlanta, GA 30311

Quality Rated: ★

<u>Compliance Zone Designation</u>			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.
04/03/2025	Complaint Investigation & Monitoring Visit	Good Standing	
01/23/2025	Licensing Study	Good Standing	
06/05/2024	Incident Investigation Closure	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
I	A- Downstairs		0	0	C	64	C	89	C	Not In Use
I	A- upstairs 1R	Infants and One Year Olds	2	9	C	12	C	NA	NA	Nap
I	B- Mid(Dining)	Four Year Olds and Five Year Olds	1	13	C	11	NC	NA	NA	Lunch
I	B upstairs 2 R	Three Year Olds and Four Year Olds	1	11	C	14	C	NA	NA	Circle Time,Art,Lunch
I	C upstairs 1L	Two Year Olds and Three Year Olds	2	16	C	16	C	NA	NA	Lunch
I	D-upstairs 3R		0	0	C	17	C	NA	NA	Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 134			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 184							
II	Pre-K		0	0	C	25	C	NA	NA	Breakfast,Not In Use
Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 25			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 184							
Total # Children this Date: 49			Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 159							
			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 184							

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
I	PGR	72	C
I	Playground	72	C
II	Paved Surface	8	C

Enrolled Children						
Under 1 years	1 years	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years (Prekonly)	5 years and older
1	7	17	16	13	0	0

Comments

The purpose of the visit was to complete the monitoring visit and follow-up to the corrections of the previous citations.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date

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.decga.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

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@decga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

Records Reviewed: 14

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/01/2013

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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

Met

Comment

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

Comment

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

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

Met

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities.

Facility

Records Reviewed: 14

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/01/2013

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

Comment

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

Comment

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

Comment

Please secure cleaning tools (i.e., broom, plunger) out of reach of children.

Technical Assistance

591-1-1-.25(13) - requires that potentially hazardous equipment, materials and supplies be stored in a locked area inaccessible to children. Please be mindful that hazardous items are to be stored Out of Reach of Children. "Dawn" sitting at a hand washing sink is hazardous. It states of the back of the bottle "Keep Out of Reach of Children". Brooms, mops, vacuum, dust mops, plastic bags, bottles with disinfectant spray printed on them and sweepers are to be stored out of children reach. Please refer to the rule in reference to storing hazards inaccessible to children at all times.

Correction Deadline: 4/3/2025

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

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair.

Health and Hygiene

Records Reviewed: 14

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/01/2013

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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

Hand washing requirements for diapering were discussed with the director on this date.

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

Staff were observed to remind children to wash hands.

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

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

Safety

Records Reviewed: 14

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/01/2013

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)**Met****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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

Center does not provide routine transportation.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment**Records Reviewed: 14****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/01/2013

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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

Pleasant naptime environment observed.

Staff Records**Records Reviewed: 14****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1**

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/01/2013

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)**Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(a) requires that a Center ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site. It was determined that the director present at the facility lacked a current criminal records check. The director's criminal record check expired March 5, 2025.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will regularly review each staff persons criminal background check to ensure that every actual and potential Director, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Child Care Learning Center submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site as required. 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 review the Rules for Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 4/3/2025**Finding**

591-1-1-.09(1)(c) requires the Center to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. It was determined based on the review of staff records the director criminal records check expired on March 5, 2025.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will routinely check staff criminal background to ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Center while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Center. The Comprehensive Records Check Determination must have a Records Check Clearance Date that is no older than the preceding 12 months of the hire date; provided, however, if the Employee has had a lapse of employment from the child care industry that lasted for 180 days (6 months) or longer, a new satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination is required. 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 ensure the Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks rules are reviewed to ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 4/3/2025

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 records that the Comprehensive Records Check Determination for Staff # 3 hire date 9-15-24 was not ported to the current license. Staff #3 was in the classroom engaging with the students on the floor while being supervised by another staff with a satisfactory CBC. It was determined based on review of records on this date that the Registered Behavior Technician had not been ported over to the current license.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Center will routinely monitor the expiration dates of all staff in order to 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 view the records check training videos, sign and return the affidavit by the due date listed on the affidavit to ensure CRC rules are maintained.

Correction Deadline: 4/3/2025

Recited on 4/3/2025

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.

Staffing and Supervision

Records Reviewed: 14

Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 1

Staff # 4

Not Met

Date of Hire: 08/01/2013

"Missing/Incomplete Components"

.09-Criminal Records Check Missing

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

Met

Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

Comment

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.