



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: 3/27/2025 **VisitType:** Initial Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:00 AM **Departure:** 2:40 PM

CCLC-65961

Steps of Excellence Learning Center Llc

1101 Courtland Ave Macon, GA 31204 County
(478) 260-3424 sbrookins@stepsofex.org

Application Services Unit Consultant

Crystal Miller

Phone: (470) 392-4241

Fax:

crystal.miller@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

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.
03/27/2025	Initial 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 Building	Room A 2 year		0	0	C	13	C	NA	NA	
Main Building	Room B Infants		0	0	C	11	C	NA	NA	
Main Building	Room C 1 year		0	0	C	10	C	NA	NA	
Main Building	Room D 3 year		0	0	C	14	C	NA	NA	
Main Building	Room E 4year		0	0	C	21	C	NA	NA	
Main Building	Room F Afterschool		0	0	C	20	C	NA	NA	
					Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 89		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			
Total # Children this Date: 0					Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 89		Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main Building	Playground A Infants to 3 year	25	C
Main Building	Playground B 4 year and up	44	C
Main Building	Playground C 4 year and up	25	C

Comments

Congratulations a license was granted on this date. The Facility does carry liability insurance.

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.al.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.dec.al.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 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.al.ga.gov for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



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

(Findings Report)

Date: 3/27/2025

VisitType: Initial Licensing Study

Arrival: 10:00 AM **Departure:** 2:40 PM

CCLC-65961

Steps of Excellence Learning Center Llc

1101 Courtland Ave Macon, GA 31204 County

(478) 260-3424 sbrookins@stepsofex.org

Application Services Unit Consultant

Crystal Miller

Phone: (470) 392-4241

Fax:

crystal.miller@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address

Same

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.

Correction Deadline: 3/27/2025

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

License was granted on this date. The overall capacity of center is 89.

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

Met

Comment

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

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

Met

Comment

Playground observed to be clean and in good repair. Owner had resilience surface placed on Playground B during inspection visit due to not being enough adequate surface.

Health and Hygiene

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

Met

Comment

Staff stated proper procedures. Sinks with warm running water observed adjacent to proper diapering surfaces in all classrooms approved for diapering.

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 owner on this date.

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

Comment

Discussed medication documentation, administration, and storage.

Safety

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

Comment

There were no children enrolled on this date. Consultant discussed appropriate discipline and guidance techniques with the owner.

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

Comment

Complete documentation of transportation observed.

Sleeping & Resting Equipment

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

Comment

Consultant observed eleven (11) of eleven (11) cribs meeting safety compliance with Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society of Testing and Materials International (ASTM) safety standards manufactured in (2022). Consultant discussed safe sleeping requirements with the owner during the inspection visit.

Staff Records

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

Comment

Ten (10) of ten (10) staff records were observed to have comprehensive satisfactory Criminal Background Check determination letters on file.

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

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

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