





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), e-mail the following information to [CCSRefutations@dec.state.ga.us](mailto:CCSRefutations@dec.state.ga.us).

- 1) Facility name, license number and visit date
- 2) Your name, title/relationship to the facility, e-mail address & up to two phone number(s) where you can be reached
- 3) Specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, along with your concerns or questions regarding the rule citation

Refutations must be submitted to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

A sample form for submitting a refutation can be found at: <http://dec.state.ga.us/ChildCareServices/RefutationInformation.aspx>

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 New Deadlines:**

Your program must be Quality Rated by December 31, 2020 in order to continue to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS).

Get started today! Sign up by completing a short online application: <https://qualityrated.dec.state.ga.us/>  
Request free technical assistance to help you earn your star rating by contacting the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us)

LaKisha Adams, Program Official

Date

Melyn Smith, Consultant

Date



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:** 1/9/2020      **VisitType:** Licensing Study      **Arrival:** 9:00 AM      **Departure:** 10:40 AM

**FR-39780**

**Adams, LaKisha M**

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The following information is associated with a Licensing Study:

### Activities and Equipment

**290-2-3-.12 Equipment and Supplies(CR)** **Met**

**Comment**

A variety of equipment and toys were observed.

**Comment**

Toys and equipment observed to be clean and safe from hazardous conditions.

**290-2-3-.19 Infant-Sleeping Safety Requirements(CR)** **N/A**

**Comment**

Currently the provider is not caring for infants. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

**290-2-3-.07 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)** **N/A**

**Comment**

Home does not provide swimming activities.

**Comment**

There is no pool on the property

### Facility

**290-2-3-.11 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)** **Not Met**

**Finding**

290-2-3-.11(2)(c) requires that documentation of drills required by these rules shall be maintained in the Home. The Home shall conduct drills for fire, tornado, and other emergency situations. The fire drills will be conducted monthly and tornado and other emergency situation drills will be conducted every six months. The Home shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined, based on review of records, that the provider did not have documentation for conducting drills for fire, tornado, and other emergency situations for 2019, when it was required for the provider to maintain documentation for two years.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Provider will develop and implement a plan and schedule for conducting the required drills, completing the documentation, keeping the documentation on file for two years.

**Correction Deadline: 2/8/2020**

**Comment**

No hazards observed accessible to children on this date.

**290-2-3-.13 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical(CR) Met**

**Comment**

The Home appears clean and free from hazards.

**290-2-3-.13 Playgrounds(CR) Met**

**Correction Deadline: 8/15/2019**

**Corrected on 1/9/2020**

.13(2)(a) - Previous citation corrected, based on observation, in that the outdoor play area was observed to be clean and free of hazards on this date.

**Health and Hygiene**

**290-2-3-.11 Children's Health and Hygiene(CR) Met**

**Comment**

Proper hand washing observed throughout the Home.

**290-2-3-.11 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR) Met**

**Comment**

Proper diapering procedures observed.

**290-2-3-.11 Medications(CR) N/A**

**Comment**

Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed

**Licensure**

**290-2-3-.04 Application Requirements(CR) Met**

**Comment**

Appropriate number of children observed in Family Child Care Learning Home this date. The provider was observed to provide care for five unrelated children for pay and one related child for no pay on this date.

**Safety and Discipline**

**290-2-3-.11 Animals Met**

**Comment**

Appropriate vaccination records were available on this date.

**290-2-3-.11 Discipline(CR) Met**

**Comment**

Age-appropriate discussion and/or redirection observed.

**Comment**

The provider and/or the home's employee were observed to maintain a positive learning environment on this date.

**290-2-3-.11 Transportation(CR)****N/A****Comment**

The provider does not provide routine transportation.

**Staff Records****290-2-3-.21 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

290-2-3-.21(1)(a) requires the Home to ensure that the Provider, every actual and potential Employee(including residents age 17 and older) and Provisional Employee of the Family Child Care Learning Home has submitted both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site. It was determined, based on review of records, that the Home did not have evidence of submitting both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site for Staff #1, a recent 17-year-old resident. A one-day letter and affidavit verifying completion of background check video units was left on this date.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Home will ensure that every actual and potential Provider, Employee and Provisional Employee of a Family Child Care Learning Home submit both a Records Check Application to the Department and Fingerprints to an authorized fingerprinting site as required. The provider 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 Home will ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

**Correction Deadline: 1/10/2020****Finding**

290-2-3-.21(1)(c) requires every Employee to have a current and valid satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Home while any child is present for care or before residing in the Home if age 17 or older. 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 review of records, that the Home did not have a satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file for Staff #1, a recent 17-year-old resident. A one-day letter and affidavit verifying completion of background check video units was left on this date.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

IMMEDIATE CORRECTION - The Home will ensure that every Employee has a valid and current satisfactory Comprehensive Records Check Determination on file prior to being present at the Home while any child is present for care or before an individual age 17 or older resides in the Home. 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 provider 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 Home will ensure the CRC rules are maintained.

**Correction Deadline: 1/10/2020****290-2-3-.07 Staff Qualifications(CR)****Met****Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

## Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision

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### 290-2-3-.07 Staff:Child Ratios(CR)

Met

#### Comment

Appropriate ratios were observed on this date.

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### 290-2-3-.07 Supervision(CR)

Met

#### Comment

The Provider was observed directly supervising and being attentive to the needs of the children.