





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!**

Antoinette Martin, Program Official

Date

Jessica Johnson, Consultant

Date



Corrected on 4/12/2023

.08(1) - Citation corrected. Consultant discussed with the Provider updating Child #1's doctor contact information.

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.08(1) - Consultant discussed with the Provider updating Child #1's doctor contact information.

Correction Deadline: 4/12/2023

**Facility**

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

**Comment**

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center.

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

**Comment**

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

Correction Deadline: 12/26/2022

Corrected on 4/12/2023

.25(3) - Citation corrected. No hazards observed.

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR) **Not Met**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26(4) - Consultant discussed with the Provider adding a pool noodle to the bottom of the entrance gate to the playground.

-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----

Correction Deadline: 4/12/2023

**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 resilient surface around the swings measured at three inches when six inches of resilient surface was required. It was further determined based on observation that no resilient surface was observed around the climbing dome. Six inches of resilient surface was required.

-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----

Correction Deadline: 4/26/2023

**Food Service**

**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://decalfga.gov/CACFP/Handbook.aspx>

USDA

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

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

**Finding**

591-1-1-.18(2) requires the Center to have a designated space for food preparation separate from rooms used by children and in an area not used for diaper changing. The area shall be kept clean and free of accumulation of dust, dirt, food particles and grease deposits. Food preparation surface areas shall be nonporous with no unsealed cracks or seams. It was determined based on observation that food was prepared in classroom A-2ndleft.

-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----

**Correction Deadline: 4/14/2023**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.18(8) - Consultant discussed with the Provider that containers of food shall be stored above the floor on clean surfaces protected from splash and other contamination.

-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----

**Correction Deadline: 4/12/2023**

**Health and Hygiene**

**591-1-1-.07 Children's Health**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.07(5) requires Center Staff to not permit children to wear around their necks or attach to their clothing pacifiers or other hazardous items. It was determined based on observation that a six-month-old infant was observed sleeping in the crib with a bib around their neck.

-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----

**Correction Deadline: 4/12/2023**

---

**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**

Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the Provider on this date.

---

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

**Comment**

The Provider currently does not dispense/administer medication.

**Policies and Procedures**

---

**591-1-1-.21 Operational Policies & Procedures Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.21(3) requires that the Center 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 Center shall maintain documentation of the dates and times of these drills for two years. It was determined based on a review of records that there were no current documentation for the drills for fire, tornado and other emergency situations on file on this date.

-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----

**Correction Deadline: 4/17/2023**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.21(1)(p) - Consultant discussed with the Provider updating the Emergency Preparedness Plan.

-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----



**Finding**

591-1-1-.30(2) requires the Center to provide a safe sleep environment in accordance with American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) recommendations as listed in these rules for all infants. Center Staff shall place an infant to sleep on the infant’s back in a crib unless the Center has been provided a physician’s written statement authorizing another sleep position for that particular infant that includes how the infant shall be placed to sleep and a time frame that the instructions are to be followed. When an infant can easily turn over from back to front and back again, Staff shall continue to put the infant to sleep initially on the infant’s back but allow the infant to roll over into his or her preferred position and not re-position the infant. Sleepers, sleep sacks and wearable blankets that fit according to the commercial manufacturer’s guidelines and will not slide up around the infant’s face may be used when necessary for the comfort of the sleeping infant. Swaddling shall not be used unless the Center has been provided a physician’s written statement authorizing its use for a particular infant that includes instructions and a time frame for swaddling the infant. Center Staff shall not place objects or allow objects to be placed in or on the crib with an infant such as but not limited to toys, pillows, quilts, comforters, bumper pads, sheepskins, stuffed toys, or other soft items and shall not attach objects or allow objects to be attached to a crib with a sleeping infant, such as, but not limited to, crib gyms, toys, mirrors and mobiles. It was determined based on observation that a six-month-old child was observed sleeping in the crib with a cloth bumper around the crib.

-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----

**Correction Deadline: 4/12/2023**

**Recited on 4/12/2023**

**Staff Records**

---

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

**Comment**

Criminal record checks were observed to be complete.

---

**591-1-1-.14 First Aid & CPR Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.14(2) requires a Staff member who is trained in CPR and first aid to be on the premises and on any field trip whenever any child is present. In addition, Staff who provide direct care to children must satisfactorily obtain certification in first aid and CPR by December 29, 2016 if employed prior to September 30, 2016 and within 90 days of their hire date if employed after September 30, 2016. It was determined based on a review of records that staff # 1, staff #2, staff #3, and staff #5 did not have a current first aid and CPR certification on file on this date.

-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----



-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
**Correction Deadline: 4/13/2023**

**Recited on 4/12/2023**

**591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)**

**Not Met**

**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 a two-year-old child was observed to use a potty chair in the hallway while the teacher stood between the hallway and classroom B-1st Left.

-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----

**Correction Deadline: 4/12/2023**