Department of Children & Youth

Center Licensing Inspection Full Report

All licensed child care programs are inspected at least once each year. Non-compliances are documented and grouped as Serious, Moderate or Low risk violations. Documenting statements and supplemental information may be included in this report. Licensing inspection reports from the previous three years can be viewed on the child care website at http://jfs.ohio.gov/CDC/childcare.stm. This includes complaint investigation reports with substantiated allegations. For any other child care records, please contact the Child Care Help Desk at 1-877-302-2347, option 4.

Program Details			
Program Name BRILLIANT START ACADEMY	Program Number 000000307463		Program Type Child Care Center
Address 901 LIBERTY BELL DRIVE AMHERST OH 44001			County LORAIN
Building Approval Date 03/11/2008	Use Group/Code E	Occupancy Limit 197	Maximum Under 2 ½
Fire Inspection Approval Date 10/16/2025	Food Service Risk Level Level III		

Inspection Information		
Inspection Type Annual	Inspection Scope Full	Inspection Notice Unannounced
Inspection Date 12/29/2025	Begin Time 8:45 AM	End Time 12:10 PM
Reviewer: Brittani Aloi		

Summary of Findings				
No. Rules Verified	No. Rules with Non-compliances	No. Serious Risk	No. Moderate Risk	No. Low Risk
58	5	0	1	4

License Capacity and Enrollment at the Time of Inspection				
Age Group	License Capacity	Enrollment		
	Totals	Full Time	Part Time	Total
Infant (Birth to < 18 m)		9	0	9
Young Toddler		10	0	10
Total Under 2 ½ Years	37	19	0	19
Older Toddler		5	0	5
Preschool		23	0	23
School Age		0	23	23
Total Capacity/Enrollment	179	28	23	70

Staff-Child Ratios at the Time of Inspection			
Group	**Age Group/Range**	**Ratio Observed**	**Comment**

School age	School-Age to < 11 years	1 to 8	
School age	School-Age to < 11 years	1 to 8	
Preschool	3 years to < 4 years	1 to 7	
Preschool	3 years to < 4 years	2 to 11	
Toddlers	18 months to < 30 months	2 to 7	
Toddlers	18 months to < 30 months	2 to 8	
Infants	0 to < 12 months	1 to 2	
Infants	0 to < 12 months	2 to 4	

Summary of Non-Compliances

If a program disagrees with a licensing finding, the program may request a review of the finding(s). Ohio Administrative Code 5180:2-12-03 and 5180:2-13-03 detail the process for submitting a request for review. The request for review must be submitted within seven business days from the receipt of the licensing report. In addition, if the program is star rated, the rating may be impacted if a serious or moderate risk non-compliance is cited.

Serious Risk Non-Compliances

No Serious Risk Non-Compliances were observed during this inspection

Moderate Risk Non-Compliances

Domain: 09 Children's Files

Rule: 5180:2-12-15 Medical/Physical Care Plans
Code: The program is required to have a completed JFS 01236 "Child Medical/Physical Care Plan for Child Care" on file at the program for any child having a health condition and must implement and/or follow instructions on the plan. The program is required to have staff trained to perform the procedures on the JFS 01236 "Child Medical/Physical Care Plan for Child Care" present at the program when the child requiring the procedure is onsite. Only staff who have been trained shall be permitted to perform the procedures listed on the JFS 01236.

Finding: In review of the children's records, it was determined the program did not meet the requirements for caring for at least one child, indicated on the Children Records Review, with a condition that requires a JFS 01236 "Child Medical/Physical Care Plan" as noted in number(s) 44 below:

1. No plan was on file.
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2. Child's name was missing.
3. Name of the condition was missing.
4. Indication if medication or medical food is required was missing.
5. Signs, symptoms or situations that require staff to take action were missing.
6. Activities, foods, environmental conditions to avoid were missing.
7. Training instructions for procedures for staff to follow were missing or incomplete.

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8. Child's name was missing or not attached.
9. Child's date of birth was missing or not attached.
10. Child's weight was missing or not attached.
11. Name of the medication/medical food was missing or not attached.
12. Dosage of medication/medical food to be administered was missing or not attached.
13. Time for medication/medical food to be administered was missing or not attached.
14. Expiration date for medication/medical food was missing or not attached.
15. Symptoms that require staff to administer medication/medical food were missing or not attached.
16. Specific instructions to administer the medication/medical food were missing or not attached.
17. Actions to be taken if the symptoms do not subside were missing or not attached.
18. Physician's signature was missing or not attached.
19. The date of the physician's signature was missing or not attached.

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20. Child's name was missing.
21. Instructions regarding emergency evacuation, if applicable, were missing.
22. Signature of parent granting permission to implement the plan and verifying training was missing.
23. Date of parent signature was missing.
24. Certified Professional Trainer information was missing.
25. Signature of certified professional who trained the program staff was missing, if parent was not the trainer.
26. Date of trainer signature was missing.
27. Printed name(s)of child care staff member(s) who have received instructions for care and/or have been trained to perform the procedure were missing.
28. Signature(s) of child care staff member(s) who have received instructions for care and/or have been trained to perform the procedure were missing.
29. Date of staff signature was missing.
30. Administrator/Provider signature was missing
31. Date of administrator/Provider was missing.

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32. Child's name was missing.
33. Name of medication or medical food was missing.
34. Date the medication/medical food was administered was missing.
35. Time medication/medical food was administered was missing.
36. Dosage of medication/medical food that was administered was missing.
37. Signature of person administering medication/medical food was missing.
38. The plan was not followed or implemented.
39. The plan was not able to be implemented due to conflicting information.
40. None of the child care staff members trained in the procedures on the JFS 01236 were onsite when a child requiring the plan was present.
41. Child care staff members trained in the procedures on the JFS 01236 were not scheduled to be present the entire the time the child requiring the plan was onsite.
42. None of the child care staff members trained in the procedures on the JFS 01236 accompanied the child requiring the plan during a trip.

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43. A child care staff member who had not been trained in the procedures on the JFS 01236 performed the procedure.
44. Medication listed in the procedures to follow was not onsite available to administer as instructed and alternate instructions for this situation were not included on the plan.

Provide staff training. Submit the program's corrective action plan, which includes a copy of the completed JFS 01236, to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 01/30/2026

Low Risk Non-Compliances

Domain: 04 Indoor/Outdoor Space

Rule: 5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Play Equipment
Code: The program is required to provide equipment that does not pose a safety risk and must follow the manufacturer's guidelines for assembling, installing and using the equipment.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that outdoor play equipment was unsafe or not used as intended as noted in number(s) 9 below:

1. There was rust exposed.
2. There were protruding bolts.
3. There were cracks.
4. There were holes.
5. There was splintering wood.
6. There were sharp edges or points.
7. There were lead hazards.
8. There were toxic substances.
9. There were tripping hazards.
10. There was chipped and/or peeling paint.
11. The sandbox was not covered when the program was closed or during non-daylight hours.
12. Outdoor equipment, [ ] was not developmentally appropriate.
13. Outdoor equipment, [ ], was placed in the main traffic pattern.
14. Outdoor play equipment, [ ], was positioned too closely together, posing a risk of injury if a child were to fall from one piece of equipment into another.
15. Outdoor equipment, [ ], was not securely anchored but did not present a risk of imminent danger of the structure collapsing when children are using the equipment
16. Outdoor equipment, [ ], was 30 inches or more from the ground and did not have a protective barrier that would prevent a child from falling off this piece of equipment.

17. The manufacturer's guidelines for assembly and installation were not followed for the [ ].
18. Functionally linked equipment was used by preschool-age children and the distance between two adjacent pieces of equipment exceeded 12 inches.
19. Functionally linked equipment was used by school-age children and the distance between two adjacent pieces of equipment exceeded 18 inches.
20. Other [ ].

Submit the program's corrective action plan to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 01/28/2026

Domain: 07 Diapering & Infant Care

Rule: 5180:2-12-23 Infant Bottle and Food Preparation
Code: The program staff is required to prepare bottles in a safe and sanitary manner, shake the contents of the bottle, and test the temperature of the bottle before serving. Frozen breast milk must be thawed under cold running water or in the refrigerator.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that a bottle was not prepared appropriately as noted in number(s) 3 below:

1. The bottle was heated in the microwave.
2. The container of water used to warm bottles was heated to a temperature hotter than 120 degrees Fahrenheit.
3. The container used for heating bottles was not emptied and cleaned each day.
4. The bottle was not shaken well before feeding.
5. The temperature of the bottle was not tested before feeding.
6. Frozen breast milk was not thawed under cold running water or in the refrigerator.
7. Other [ ].

Technical assistance was provided at the time of the inspection, and as discussed, please correct this rule noncompliance. A written response for this rule noncompliance is not required at this time.

Domain: 08 Staff Files

Rule: 5180:2-12-08 Medical Statement
Code: The program staff's medical statements are required to be completed and on file at the program.

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Finding: In review of the staff records, it was determined that the medical statements for the employees listed on the Employee Record Chart did not meet the requirements as listed in number(s) 6(a) below.

1. A medical statement was not on file for at least one employee;
2. The medical statement(s) on file did not have a date of examination within 12 months of the employee's first day of employment;
3. Date of examination was missing;
4. Signature, business address, or telephone number of the licensed physician, physician assistant, advanced practice nurse, certified midwife, or certified nurse practitioner who completed the examination was missing;
5. A statement was missing that verifies the employee is:
a. Physically fit for employment in a program caring for children;
b. Immunized against Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (Tdap);
c. Immunized against Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR);
6. Tuberculosis (TB) screening/test information was missing:
a. Documentation of the screening process to determine if the employee resided in a country identified by the world health organization as having a high burden of TB and arrived in the United States within the five years preceding the date of application for employment.
b. Results of a TB test for employees meeting both criteria in 6a.
c. Results of additional testing for employees with a positive TB test.
d. Written statement, signed by a representative of the TB control unit, that the employee's TB is no longer infectious or the individual is receiving a TB treatment regimen for employees with a positive TB test.

Submit the program's corrective action plan, which includes a copy of the completed employee medical statement, or TB results/documentation, to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 01/28/2026

Domain: 09 Children's Files

Rule: 5180:2-12-25 Medication Administration
Code: The program is required to remove all medication, medical foods and topical products that are no longer being administered or have expired. The program is also required to maintain current documentation to administer medications, medical foods and topical products.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that medication, medical foods and/or topical products did not meet the requirement(s) for administering medication, medical foods, and/or medical products as noted in number(s) 2 below:

1. The medication, medical food, or topical product was no longer needed and had not been removed from the program.
2. The medication, medical food, or topical product had expired and had not been removed from the program.
3. The prescription label had expired.

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Submit the program's corrective action plan to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 01/28/2026

Rules In-Compliance/Not Verified

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-16 Written Disaster Plan	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Annual training of the written disaster plan was completed by staff.
Rule: 5180:2-12-16 Written Disaster Plan	Compliant	Documenting Statement: No changes have been made to the written policies and procedures since it was last approved by this Department.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-02 License Posted	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-04 Building Department Inspection	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-02 Current Information	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-03 Inspection Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-04 Fire Inspection	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Please Note: Documentation of a fire inspection

		without any uncorrected violations must be secured for the program. Secure a new fire inspection by 10/16/26.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-04 Food Service Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The food service license was observed posted. Following is the audit number and date of expiration: CRAS-DEGMB9, 3/1/26.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-07 Administrator Qualifications	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-07 Administrator Responsibilities/Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-07 Written Program Policies and Procedures	Compliant	Documenting Statement: No changes have been made to the written policies and procedures since it was last approved by this Department.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-08 Child Care Staff Member Educational Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-08 Orientation Training & Whistle Blower Protection	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-09 Background Check Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-10 Health Training Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-10 Professional Development Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable

5180:2-12-11 Indoor Space Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-11 Separation of Children Under 2 1/2 Years	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Space Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-12 Safe Equipment	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Play Fall Zones	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-12 Safe Environment	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-13 Sanitary Equipment and Environment	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-13 Handwashing Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-13 Smoke Free Environment	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-15 Child Medical and Enrollment Records	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-16 Medical, Dental, and General Emergency Plan	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-16 Emergency Drills	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Documentation for completed fire, weather, and emergency/lockdown drills was verified during this inspection.

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Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-16 First Aid/Standard Precautions	Compliant	Documenting Statement: During the inspection, the program had complete first aid kits available as required.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-16 Management of Communicable Disease	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-16 Incident/Injury Reporting	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-17 Materials and Equipment	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-17 Daily Schedule	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-18 Attendance Records	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-18 Group Size	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-17 Daily Outdoor Play	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-18 License Capacity	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-18 Ratio	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Staff/child ratios observed during the inspection were in compliance.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-20 Cots and Napping	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable

5180:2-12-19 Supervision	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-19 Child Guidance	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-20 Cribs	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-22 Meal and Snack Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-22 Safe Food Handling/Storage	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-22 Fluid Milk Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-23 Infant Daily Care	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-23 Diapering and Toilet Training	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Appropriate diaper changing procedures were observed during the inspection in the infant/toddler room(s).