Department of Children & Youth

Family Child Care 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 Steps Ahead	Program Number 000000935406058	Program Type FCC - Type B Home
Address 2007 TERRAN WAY COLUMBUS OH 43219		County FRANKLIN

Inspection Information		
Inspection Type Compliance	Inspection Scope Full	Inspection Notice Announced
Inspection Date 04/24/2026	Begin Time 7:30 PM	End Time 8:50 PM
Reviewer: Melinda Irwin		

Summary of Findings				
No. Rules Verified	No. Rules with Non-compliances	No. Serious Risk	No. Moderate Risk	No. Low Risk
68	8	0	1	8

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)		0	0	0
Young Toddler		0	0	0
Total Under 2 Years	3	0	0	0
Older Toddler		0	0	0
Preschool		1	0	1
School Age		0	0	0
Total Capacity/Enrollment	6	1	0	1

Staff-Child Ratios at the Time of Inspection			
Group	**Age Group/Range**	**Ratio Observed**	**Comment**
Steps Ahead	Mixed Age Group	1 to 0	7:30 PM

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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 5101:2-12-03 and 5101:2-13-03 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: 02 Safe & Sanitary Environment

Rule: 5180:2-13-12 Safe Environment
Code: The program is required to protect children from any items and conditions which threaten their health, safety, and well-being.

Findings: Children in care shall be protected from any items and conditions which threaten their health, safety, and well-being. During the inspection, it was determined the program did not protect children from an unsafe items due to the following numbers 15, 18 and 19 below:

1. Pull cord(s) on the window blind(s).
2. Extension cord(s); electrical cord(s) attached to an object that could result in a severe injury if pulled.
3. Stacked tables.
4. Folding tables.
5. Matches and/or a lighter.
6. Power tool(s).
7. Live wires.
8. Stove(s) that are either on or able to be turned on by a child.
9. Asbestos.
10. Traffic.
11. A body of water.
12. A well.
13. Environmental hazard(s) confirmed by local authorities having jurisdiction over the hazard.
14. A crockpot used to heat bottles.
15. Immediate access to a knife.
16. Large or heavy pieces of shelving units are not securely anchored to the wall.

17. Marijuana was accessible to children.
18. Cleaning supplies under the kitchen sink.
19. Peroxide under the sink in the bathroom.
Any hazardous equipment must be removed, replaced, or repaired and any hazardous condition must be corrected and must be made inaccessible to children. Provide staff training. Submit the program's corrective action plan, which includes a statement that the item or condition has been removed and a statement that training was provided, to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 05/24/2026

Low Risk Non-Compliances

Domain: 00 License & Approvals

Rule: 5180:2-13-02 Information in OCLQS
Code: The provider is required to keep their information current in OCLQS.

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined the information in number 5 below was not up to date in the Ohio Child Care Licensing and Quality System:

1. Mailing Address;
2. Telephone Number;
3. Email Address;
4. Days and Hours of Operation;
5. Services Offered;
6. Name of Program, If applicable.
7. Private pay rates.

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 05/24/2026

Domain: 01 Ratio & Supervision

Rule: 5180:2-13-18 Attendance
Code: The program is required to maintain a record of the arrival and departure of each child. The program is also required to retain the original attendance record at the program for a period of one year.

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Findings: During the inspection, it was determined the program did not meet the requirements for keeping an attendance record as listed in number 1 below:

1. No attendance record was being maintained.
2. The attendance record was not being consistently completed.
3. The record did not include the name of at least one child.
4. The record did not include the birth date of at least one child.
5. The record did not include the assigned group.
6. The record did not include the child's weekly schedule.
7. The record did not include the time (hours and minutes) of each child's arrival and departure to the program, including transportation by the program.
8. The original attendance record was not kept at the program for a period of one year.

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 05/24/2026

Domain: 02 Safe & Sanitary Environment

Rule: 5180:2-13-12 Safe Environment
Code: The program is required to have running water below the temperature of 120 degrees Fahrenheit.

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined the water temperature was 140 degrees in the program bathroom. This temperature exceeds the requirement of remaining below 120 degrees Fahrenheit. Correct the violation and submit the program's corrective action plan to verify compliance with the requirement of the rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 05/24/2026

Domain: 05 Health & Safety

Rule: 5180:2-13-16 Emergency Drills
Code: The program is required to complete and document the required drills.

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined that the required drills were not completed for item numbers 1, 2 and 3 below:

1. Monthly fire drills
2. Monthly weather emergency drills (March through September)
3. Emergency/lockdown drills in each quarter of the calendar year

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 05/31/2026

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Domain: 05 Health & Safety

Rule: 5180:2-13-16 Communicable Diseases
Code: The program is required to post the Ohio Communicable Disease Chart in a noticeable area.

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined that the Ohio Communicable Disease Chart was not posted as required , as indicated in the number 3 below:

1. In a location readily available to provider, child care staff members, employees, and residents;
2. The chart was not posted.
3. The posted chart was not the current version.
4. The posted chart was not displayed in the size available in the ODJFS forms central to be easily read.

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 05/24/2026

Domain: 05 Health & Safety

Rule: 5180:2-13-16 Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan
Code: The program is required to have a completed emergency preparedness and response plan.

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined the program's written emergency preparedness and response plan did not meet the requirement or was missing the information in numbers 4, 5, 6, 7, 10 and 11 below:
Procedures:
1. The written emergency and preparedness and response plan had not been completed
2. The plan was not provided to all child care staff and employees
3. Weather emergencies and natural disasters which include severe thunderstorms, tornadoes, flash flooding, major snowfall, blizzards, ice storms or earthquakes
4. Emergency outdoor and indoor lockdown or evacuation due to threats of violence which includes active shooter, bioterrorism or terrorism including a designated safe site where staff and children can safely remain when evacuated
5. Emergency or disaster evacuations due to hazardous materials and spills, gas leaks or bomb threats including a designated safe site where staff and children can safely remain when evacuated
6. Outbreaks, epidemics or other infectious disease emergencies
7. Loss of power, water, or heat
8. Other threatening situations that may pose a health or safety hazard to the children in the program
Details:
9. Shelter in place or evacuation, how the program will care for and account for the children until they can be reunited with the parent
10. Assisting infants, toddlers and children with special needs and/or health conditions
11. Emergency contact information for parents and the program
12. Procedures for notifying and communicating with parents regarding the location of the children if evacuated
13. Procedures for communicating with parents during loss of communications, no phone or internet service available

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14. The location of supplies and procedures for gathering necessary supplies for staff and children if required to shelter in place
15. What to do if a disaster occurs during the transport of children or when on a field trip or routine trip
16. Making the plan available to all child care staff members and employees
17. Training of staff or reassignment of staff duties as appropriate
18. Updating the plan on a yearly basis
19. Contact with local emergency management officials
20. The plan was unable to be implemented in that, [ ].

Submit the program's corrective action plan, which includes the missing information, if applicable, to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 05/31/2026

Domain: 08 Staff Files

Rule: 5180:2-13-10 Health Training
Code: The program is required to meet the health training requirements.

Findings: In review of records, it was determined the provider did not have current valid documentation for trainings listed in numbers 1, 4, 10 and 14 below:

1. First Aid - expired training
2. First Aid - did not have verification of the completion of First Aid training
3. First Aid - documentation did not demonstrate the person who provided the training met the trainer qualifications as stated in the rule
4. CPR - expired training
5. CPR - had not taken CPR training
6. CPR - did not have verification of the completion of CPR training
7. CPR - training taken did not include all age groups and developmental levels of all children in care
8. CPR - documentation did not demonstrate the person who provided the training met the trainer qualifications as stated in the rule
9. CPR- audiovisual or electronic media training taken did not include an in-person component of the training
10. Communicable Disease - expired training
11. Communicable Disease - had not taken CD training
12. Communicable Disease - did not have verification of the completion of CD training
13. Communicable Disease - documentation did not demonstrate the person who provided the training met the trainer qualifications as stated in the rule
14. Child Abuse - expired training
15. Child Abuse - had not taken Child Abuse training
16. Child Abuse - documentation did not demonstrate the person who provided the training met the trainer qualifications as stated in the rule

Correct the violation and submit the documentation of current certification with the program's corrective action plan to verify compliance with the requirement of the rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 05/31/2026

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Domain: 09 Children's Files

Rule: 5180:2-13-15 Child Medical and Enrollment Records
Code: The program is required to have a completed medical on file for each child.

Findings: In review of of the children's records, it was determined that completed medical statements were not on file, as required, for children listed on the JFS Children's Record Review For Child Care as indicated in number 1 below:

1. No medical was on file for at least one child
2. Medical(s) on file was not updated every 13 months
3. Medical(s) were missing child's name and date of birth
4. Medical(s) were missing the date of the medical examination
5. The date of the exam was more than 13 months prior to the date the form was signed
6. Medical(s) were missing a statement that the child has been examined and is in suitable condition for participation in group care
7. Medical(s) were missing the signature, business address and telephone number of the physician, physician's assistant(PA), advance practice nurse (APN) or certified
nurse practitioner (CNP) who examined the child
8. Medical(s) were missing a record of immunizations the child has had specifying month, day and year
9. Medical(s) were missing a statement from the physician, PA, APN, or CNP that the child has been immunized or is in the process of being immunized against the diseases
required by division 5104.014 of the Revised Code and found in appendix A to this rule
10. Medical(s) were missing a statement from the child’s parent or guardian that he or she has declined to have the child immunized against the disease for reasons of
conscience, including religious convictions
11. Other [ ]

Submit the program’s corrective action plan to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.
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Corrective Action Plan Due: 05/24/2026

Rules In-Compliance/Not Verified

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable

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5180:2-13-02 Voluntary Temporary Closure	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-02 License Visible	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-02 Change of Location	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-02 Provider Medical	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-03 Inspection Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-04 Building Requirements for Type B Homes	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-04 Fire Safety for Type B Homes	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-04 Flammable and Combustible Materials in a Type B Home	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-04 Heaters in a Type B Home	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-07 Staff Records	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-07 Provider Responsibilities	Compliant	

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Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13 Written Policies and Procedures	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-07 Type B Provider - Foster Parent	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-08 Employee Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-08 Child Care Staff Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-08 Whistle Blower	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-09 Background Checks	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-10 Professional Development	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-11 Indoor Space	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-11 Outdoor Space	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-11 Outdoor Equipment	Compliant	

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Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-11 Fall Zone	Compliant	

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

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-12 Carbon Monoxide Detectors - Type B Only	Compliant	

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

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-13 Clean environment and equipment	Compliant	

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

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

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

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-14 Requirements for Field and Routine Trips	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-14 Ratio and Supervision for Field and Routine Trips	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable

5180:2-13-14 Driver Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-14 Vehicle Inspections	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-14 Vehicle Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-15 Health Conditions	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-15 Child Records Retention and Confidentiality	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-16 Medical, Dental, and General Emergency Plan	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-16 First Aid Kit/Standard Precautions	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-16 Incident/Injury	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-17 Programming	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-17 Materials and Equipment	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-18 Group Size and Ratios	Compliant	

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Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-19 Supervision	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-19 School Age Supervision	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-21 Evening and Overnight Care	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-20 Sleep and Nap Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-19 Child Guidance	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-20 Crib and Playpen Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-21 Sanitary Environment and Hygiene	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-22 Meals and Snacks	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-22 Food Handling	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-22 Fluid Milk	Compliant	

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Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-23 Infant Daily Care	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-23 Infant Bottle and Food Preparation	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-23 Diapering	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-24 On-site Pools	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-24 Swimming Sites	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-24 Parent Permission for Swimming	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-25 Medication Requirements	Compliant	