Department of Children & Youth

Licensing Inspection Full Report

All licensed early care and education programs are inspected at least once each year. Non-compliances are documented and grouped by risk level. Documenting statements, technical assistance provided and supplemental information may be included in this report. Licensing inspection reports from the previous three years can be viewed on the Department of Children & Youth website at https://childcaresearch.ohio.gov/ . This includes complaint investigation reports with substantiated allegations. For any other early care and education records, please contact the Family and Customer Support Center at 1-844-234-5437.

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 Method On-site Inspection	Inspection Notice Unannounced
Inspection Date 10/13/2026	Begin Time 4:45 PM	End Time 6:55 PM	Reviewer: Angela Staso

Summary of Findings			
No. Requirements Verified 78	No. Requirements with Non-compliances 12		No. Requirements Compliant 65
No. Serious Risk 0	No. Moderate Risk Findings 0	No. Other Non-compliance Findings 13	No. Technical Assistance Provided 0

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)		3	0	3
Young Toddler		0	0	0
Total Under 2 ½ Years		3	0	3
Older Toddler		0	0	0
Preschool		0	0	0
School Age		1	0	1
Total Capacity/Enrollment	6	1	0	4

Staff-Child Ratios at the Time of Inspection				
Group	**Age Group/Range**	**Ratio Observed**	**Compliance**	**Comment**
Steps Ahead	Mixed Age Group	1 to 3	In Compliance	4:45PM-6:55PM

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, 5180:2-13-03, 5180:2-19-10 and 5180:2-20-02 detail the process for submitting a request for review. The request for review must be submitted within ten business days from the receipt of the licensing report. In addition, if the program is Step Up To Quality rated, the rating may be impacted if a serious or moderate risk non-compliance is cited.

Serious Risk Non-Compliances

A serious risk non-compliance is a licensing rule violation that has the potential to lead to a great risk of harm to a child and is observable and/or based on facts.

No serious risk non-compliances were observed during this inspection

Moderate Risk Non-Compliances

A moderate risk non-compliance is a licensing rule violation that has the potential to lead to a great risk of harm to a child and is observable and/or based on facts.

No moderate risk non-compliances were observed during this inspection

Other Non-Compliances

This section includes other rule violations that are observable and/or based on facts.

Domain: **00 License & Approvals**

Rule: 5180:2-13-02 Information in Ohio statewide licensing system

Requirement: The rule requires the program to keep their information current in the Ohio statewide licensing system.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that information was not up to date in the Ohio statewide licensing system.

The following information was not current:

-days and hours of operation

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 11/12/2026

Domain: **01 Ratio & Supervision**

Rule: 5180:2-13-18 Attendance

Requirement: 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.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined the program did not meet the requirements for keeping an attendance record.

The following was observed:

- the attendance record was not being consistently completed

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 11/12/2026

Domain: **02 Safe & Sanitary Environment**

Rule: 5180:2-13-13 Clean environment and equipment

Requirement: The program is required to have all required items in the restroom(s) and keep them sanitary.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that unsanitary conditions were in the program restroom:

The following was observed:

- the toilet cleaning brush was accessible to the children

The restroom(s) must be kept sanitary at all times. Submit the program's corrective action plan to the Department to verify compliance with the requirement of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 11/12/2026

Domain: **02 Safe & Sanitary Environment**

Rule: 5180:2-13-12 Safe Environment

Requirement: The program is required to store cleaning and sanitizing supplies in a place that is inaccessible to children. Cleaning agents, aerosol cans and chemical substances must be stored in their original container or clearly labeled. School-age children may use cleaning supplies and equipment with adult supervision.

Finding: During the inspection, cleaning and sanitizing equipment and supplies were not stored properly.

The following was observed:

- disinfectant wipes were accessible to children in the kitchen area under sink in unlocked cabinet

-other potentially hazardous substance, windex, was accessible to children in the kitchen area under sink in unlocked cabinet

- other: scented plug in in use in bathroom

Provide staff training. Submit the program’s corrective action plan, which includes a statement that the potentially hazardous substance is no longer accessible to children and a statement that training was provided, to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 11/12/2026

Domain: **02 Safe & Sanitary Environment**

Rule: 5180:2-13-12 Safe Environment

Requirement: The program is required to provide an environment that protects the children in care from any items and conditions that may threaten their health, safety, and well-being.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that children were not protected from item or condition which may threaten their health, safety, or well-being.

The following was observed:

-electrical cords attached to an object that would not likely result in a severe injury if pulled

- diaper bags accessible in program room

- stacked chairs in program room

Provide staff training. Submit the program's corrective action plan, which includes a statement that training was provided, to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 11/12/2026

Domain: **05 Health & Safety**

Rule: 5180:2-13-16 Communicable Diseases

Requirement: The program is required to post the Ohio Communicable Disease Chart in a noticeable area.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that the DCY 08087 "Communicable Disease Chart" was not posted as required.

The following was observed:

- the posted chart is outdated.

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 11/12/2026

Domain: **05 Health & Safety**

Rule: 5180:2-13-16 Emergency Drills

Requirement: The program is required to complete and document the required drills.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that the required drills were not completed.

The following was observed as incomplete: fire, weather, & lockdown incomplete

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 11/12/2026

Domain: 06 Program Information

Rule: 5180:2-13-14 Vehicle Inspections

Requirement: The program is required to complete and document weekly vehicle inspections.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that the program had not performed or documented weekly inspections of vehicles used for transporting children.

The following was observed as missing:

-other: weekly vehicle inspections were not being completed and documented

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 11/12/2026

Domain: 06 Program Information

Rule: 5180:2-13-14 Requirements for Field and Routine Trips

Requirement: The program is required to obtain written parental permission before leaving the premises and retain the forms for at least one year from the date of the trip. Routine trip permission forms must be updated annually.

Finding: In review of the program's records, it was determined that requirements for written permission from the parent/guardian for a routine trip were not met.

The following was observed:

-written parental permission was not secured for routine trips off the premises

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 11/12/2026

Domain: **07 Diapering & Infant Care**

Rule: 5180:2-13-23 Infant Bottle and Food Preparation

Requirement: The program staff is required to have all bottles labeled.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that bottles containing formula for a particular infant were not labeled with the child's name and date of preparation. Submit the program's corrective action plan to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 11/12/2026

Domain: **08 Staff Files**

Rule: 5180:2-13-10 Professional Development

Requirement: The program is required to ensure child care staff, including substitutes used more than ninety days annually, complete at least six clock hours of training annually.

Finding: In review of the staff records, it was determined that at least one child care staff member did not meet the annual professional development requirement.

The following was observed:

- the provider had not completed at least six hours of professional development

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 11/12/2026

Domain: **09 Children's Files**

Rule: 5180:2-13-15 Child Enrollment Records

Requirement: The program is required to have a completed DCY 01234 "Child Enrollment and Health Information for Child Care" or equivalent on file on the premises for each child.

Finding: In review of the children's records, it was determined that information had not been secured from the parent/guardian on the DCY 01234 "Child Enrollment and Health Information For Child Care" or equivalent as required.

The following was observed as missing:

-parent/guardian's signature

- enrollment form for at least one child was not signed by the administrator

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 11/12/2026

Domain: **10 Written Policies & Procedures**

Rule: 5180:2-13-07 Written Policies and Procedures

Requirement: The program is required to have policies and procedures for all items listed in this rule.

Finding: On the day of the inspection, the program's written policies and procedures provided to the parents/guardians and employees was missing item(s).

The following was observed as missing:

-transportation policies for trips and emergencies

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 11/12/2026

Technical Assistance Provided

This section documents technical assistance provided to the program when the program demonstrated an overall level of compliance with a rule requirement.

Department of Children & Youth

In Compliance/Not Verified/Previously Verified/Not Applicable

This section documents rule requirements that were assessed as fully compliant, previously verified, not verified during this inspection or not applicable to the program.

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

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-02 Type A Ownership	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 Inspections for Type A Homes	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 Inspections for Type A 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
5180:2-13-07 Staff Records	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-05 Denial, Revocation, and Suspension	Not Applicable	

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 Provider Responsibilities	Compliant	

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

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

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-10 Health Training	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
5180:2-13-11 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	

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
5180:2-13-13 Handwashing	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 Smoke Free	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 Ratio and Supervision for Field and Routine Trips	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 Child Immunization Records	Compliant	

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

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

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-16 Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan	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	

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
5180:2-13-19 Child Guidance	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-20 Cots & Napping - Practices	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 Evening and Overnight Care	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 Fluid Milk	Compliant	

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

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

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-23 Diapering and Toilet Training - Practices	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
5180:2-13-25 Medication Administration Practices	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-02 Voluntary Temporary Closure - No Notification	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-20 Cots & Napping - Equipment & Environment	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-13-15 Child Record Requirements	Compliant	

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

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

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

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

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