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 Stair Steps Enrichment Center	Program Number 2180019084	Program Type Child Care Center
Address 18482 Lakeshore Blvd. Cleveland OH 44119		County CUYAHOGA

Inspection Information			
Inspection Type Annual	Inspection Scope Full	Inspection Method On-site Inspection	Inspection Notice Unannounced
Inspection Date 08/03/2026	Begin Time 10:20 AM	End Time 4:29 PM	Reviewer: RENADA FITCH

Summary of Findings			
No. Requirements Verified 67	No. Requirements with Non-compliances 11		No. Requirements Compliant 51
No. Serious Risk 0	No. Moderate Risk Findings 2	No. Other Non-compliance Findings 9	No. Technical Assistance Provided 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)		5	0	5
Young Toddler		8	0	8
Total Under 2 ½ Years	28	13	0	13
Older Toddler		4	0	4
Preschool		21	0	21
School Age		31	0	31
Total Capacity/Enrollment	76	56	0	69

Ohio Department of Children & Youth

Staff-Child Ratios at the Time of Inspection				
Group	**Age Group/Range**	**Ratio Observed**	**Compliance**	**Comment**
Pink/Infants	0 to < 12 months	1 to 2	In Compliance	2:20 pm
Pink/Infants	0 to < 12 months	2 to 3	In Compliance	10:23 am
Red/ Toddlers	12 months to < 18 months	1 to 9	Out of Compliance	10:25 am/ ratio observed out (1 teacher took majority of class outside)
Red/ Toddlers	12 months to < 18 months	2 to 11	In Compliance	12:45 pm
Red/ Toddlers	12 months to < 18 months	1 to 11	Out of Compliance	2:20 pm/ ratio observed out due to 1 infant visiting the class for the day/ nap
Yellow/ Ps	3 years to < 4 years	2 to 18	In Compliance	10:30 am
Yellow/ Ps	3 years to < 4 years	1 to 18	In Compliance	2:20 pm/ nap
School Age	School-Age to < 11 years	2 to 14	In Compliance	10:20 am
School Age	School-Age to < 11 years	1 to 14	In Compliance	2:20 pm

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.

Domain: **01 Ratio & Supervision**

Rule: 5180:2-12-18 Ratio

Requirement: The program is required to maintain the appropriate staff to child ratio for each group served.

Finding: During the inspection, required staff/child ratios were not maintained for the same group on multiple occasions, as noted below:

The ratio determined for the Red/ Toddler group was 1 Child Care Staff Member(s) for 9 children. Additionally, a ratio of 1 Child Care Staff Member(s) for 11 children was determined for the Red/ Toddler group.

Additional staff members must be hired or current Child Care Staff Members must be rescheduled to maintain compliance. 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: 09/02/2026

Domain: **08 Staff Files**

Rule: 5180:2-12-09 Background Check Requirements

Requirement: The program is required to have all staff request background checks as required and receive a DCY 01176 or preliminary approval from DCY prior to allowing an individual to engage in assigned duties or be near children.

Finding: In review of the staff records, it was determined that background checks did not meet the requirements of the rule for the person(s) listed on the Employee Record Chart.

The following was observed: 1176 was not updated.

Submit the program's corrective action plan, which includes a copy of the DCY 01176, or a copy of the preliminary approval or a statement that the individual(s) are no longer engaged in assigned duties and are not near children until the preliminary approval has been received, to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 09/02/2026

Other Non-Compliances

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

Domain: 01 Ratio & Supervision

Rule: 5180:2-12-18 Attendance Records

Requirement: The program is required to have a method for tracking the children in each group. The tracking method must be updated throughout the day and kept with the group at all times.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that the method for tracking children in each group did not meet the requirements of the rule.

The following was observed: the tracking method was not updated when children left the group/ program.

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 09/02/2026

Domain: 02 Safe & Sanitary Environment

Rule: 5180:2-12-20 Cots and Napping - Equipment and Environment

Requirement: The program is required to not block pathways or exits with furniture or materials while the children are resting, napping, and/or sleeping.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that the placement of cots or mats in the Purple/ School Age nap room did not meet the requirements.

The following was observed: the mats were not spaced out enough.

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 09/02/2026

Domain: **02 Safe & Sanitary Environment**

Rule: 5180:2-12-12 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(s) or condition(s) which may threaten their health, safety, or well-being.

The following was observed: stacked chairs, peeling paint and a baseboard that was in disrepair.

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: 09/02/2026

Domain: **02 Safe & Sanitary Environment**

Rule: 5180:2-12-13 Handwashing Requirements

Requirement: The program is required to have all staff and children wash their hands as outlined in rule.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that handwashing requirements were not followed as required in rule.

The following was observed: a staff member wiped noses without washing their hands, children nor staff washed their hands when returning to the classroom after outdoor play, children did not wash their hands after being diapered.

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 09/02/2026

Domain: **04 Indoor/Outdoor Space**

Rule: 5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Play Fall Zones

Requirement: The program is required to provide fall zones around equipment to prevent injury if a child were to fall.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined the fall zone under and around equipment designated for climbing, swinging, balancing and sliding did not meet the requirements.

The following was observed: fall surface was not adequate around all pieces of equipment.

The program is required to provide adequate fall zones under and around outdoor play equipment at all times. Submit the program's corrective action plan to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 09/02/2026

Domain: **07 Diapering & Infant Care**

Rule: 5180:2-12-20 Cribs - Safe Environment and Practices

Requirement: The program is required to have the mattress support in the lowest position and crib rails in the highest position in all cribs.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined the mattress support was not maintained at the lowest position for all cribs when in use, as required. Except when infants are being placed in cribs, removed from cribs, or being soothed, the sides should remain in the highest position. Submit the program's corrective action plan to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 09/02/2026

Domain: **08 Staff Files**

Rule: 5180:2-12-08 Orientation Training & Whistle Blower Protection

Requirement: The program is required to have staff complete the online staff orientation training.

Finding: In review of the staff records, it was determined that child care staff member(s) did not meet the requirements for completing the online orientation training.

The following was observed: not all applicable staff completed orientation.

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 09/02/2026

Domain: **08 Staff Files**

Rule: 5180:2-12-07 Administrator Responsibilities/Requirements

Requirement: The program administrator is required to maintain current employee records in the Ohio Professional Registry.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined employment records in the Ohio Professional Registry (OPR) were not created or maintained.

The following was observed: some of the staff member's roles and group assignments were not kept current.

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 09/02/2026

Domain: **09 Children's Files**

Rule: 5180:2-12-15 Child Health Care Plans

Requirement: The program is required to use a health care plan form that is equivalent to content to the DCY 01236

Finding: In review of the children's records, it was determined that the DCY 01236 "Health Care Plan Documentation & Permission to Administer Medication" or equivalent form did not meet the requirements of the rule.

The following was observed: plan was not updated.

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 09/02/2026

Domain: **01 Ratio & Supervision**
Rule: 5180:2-12-18 Attendance Records
Requirement:The program is required to have a method for tracking the children in each group. The tracking method must be updated throughout the day and kept with the group at all times.
Findings:During the inspection, it was determined that the method for tracking children in each group did not meet the requirements of the rule.
The following was observed: the tracking method was not updated when children left the group/ program.

Submit the program's corrective action plan to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.
Corrective Action Plan Due: 09/02/2026

Domain: **02 Safe & Sanitary Environment**
Rule: 5180:2-12-20 Cots and Napping - Equipment and Environment
Requirement:The program is required to not block pathways or exits with furniture or materials while the children are resting, napping, and/or sleeping.
Findings:During the inspection, it was determined that the placement of cots or mats in the Purple/ School Age nap room did not meet the requirements.

The following was observed: the mats were not spaced out enough.

Submit the program's corrective action plan to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.
Corrective Action Plan Due: 09/02/2026

Domain: **02 Safe & Sanitary Environment**
Rule: 5180:2-12-12 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.
Findings:During the inspection, it was determined that children were not protected from item(s) or condition(s) which may threaten their health, safety, or well-being.

The following was observed: stacked chairs, peeling paint and a baseboard that was in disrepair.

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.
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Rule: 5180:2-12-13 Handwashing Requirements

Requirement:The program is required to have all staff and children wash their hands as outlined in rule.
Findings:During the inspection, it was determined that handwashing requirements were not followed as required in rule.

The following was observed: a staff member wiped noses without washing their hands, children nor staff washed their hands when returning to the classroom after outdoor play, children did not wash their hands after being diapered.

Submit the program's corrective action plan to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.
Corrective Action Plan Due: 09/02/2026

Domain: **04 Indoor/Outdoor Space**
Rule: 5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Play Fall Zones
Requirement:The program is required to provide fall zones around equipment to prevent injury if a child were to fall.
Findings:During the inspection, it was determined the fall zone under and around equipment designated for climbing, swinging, balancing and sliding did not meet the requirements.

The following was observed: fall surface was not adequate around all pieces of equipment.

The program is required to provide adequate fall zones under and around outdoor play equipment at all times.
Submit the program's corrective action plan to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.
Corrective Action Plan Due: 09/02/2026

Domain: **07 Diapering & Infant Care**
Rule: 5180:2-12-20 Cribs - Safe Environment and Practices
Requirement:The program is required to have the mattress support in the lowest position and crib rails in the highest position in all cribs.
Findings:During the inspection, it was determined the mattress support was not maintained at the lowest position for all cribs when in use, as required. Except when infants are being placed in cribs, removed from cribs, or being soothed, the sides should remain in the highest position. Submit the program's corrective action plan to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.
Corrective Action Plan Due: 09/02/2026

Domain: **08 Staff Files**
Rule: 5180:2-12-09 Background Check Requirements
Requirement:The program is required to have all staff request background checks as required and receive a DCY 01176 or preliminary approval from DCY prior to allowing an individual to engage in assigned duties or be near children.
Findings:In review of the staff records, it was determined that background checks did not meet the requirements of the rule for the person(s) listed on the Employee Record Chart.

The following was observed: 1176 was not updated.

Submit the program's corrective action plan, which includes a copy of the DCY 01176, or a copy of the preliminary approval or a statement that the individual(s) are no longer engaged in assigned duties and are not near children until the preliminary approval has been received, to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.
Corrective Action Plan Due: 09/02/2026

Domain: **08 Staff Files**
Rule: 5180:2-12-08 Orientation Training & Whistle Blower Protection
Requirement:The program is required to have staff complete the online staff orientation training.
Findings:In review of the staff records, it was determined that child care staff member(s) did not meet the requirements for completing the online orientation training.

The following was observed: not all applicable staff completed orientation.

Submit the program's corrective action plan to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.
Corrective Action Plan Due: 09/02/2026

Domain: **08 Staff Files**
Rule: 5180:2-12-07 Administrator Responsibilities/Requirements
Requirement:The program administrator is required to maintain current employee records in the Ohio Professional Registry.
Findings:During the inspection, it was determined employment records in the Ohio Professional Registry (OPR) were not created or maintained.
The following was observed: some of the staff member's roles and group assignments were not kept current.
Submit the program's corrective action plan to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.
Corrective Action Plan Due: 09/02/2026

Domain: **09 Children's Files**
Rule: 5180:2-12-15 Child Health Care Plans
Requirement:The program is required to use a health care plan form that is equivalent to content to the DCY 01236
Findings:In review of the children's records, it was determined that the DCY 01236 "Health Care Plan Documentation & Permission to Administer Medication" or equivalent form did not meet the requirements of the rule.

The following was observed: plan was not updated.

Submit the program's corrective action plan to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.
Corrective Action Plan Due: 09/02/2026

Department of Children & Youth

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.

Domain: 08 Staff Files

Rule: 5180:2-12-08 Child Care Staff Member Educational Requirements

Requirement: The program staff is required to have educational verification on file at the program.

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined the employee's education document verifying completion of high school education is not complete or on file as required. Technical assistance was offered to support compliance. As discussed, please make the necessary corrections. A written response is not required at this time.

Domain: 08 Staff Files

Rule: 5180:2-12-08 Staff Immunization Records

Requirement: The program is required to have every employee provide immunization records.

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Findings: During the inspection, it was determined verification of staff immunization was not on file as required. Technical assistance was offered to support compliance. As discussed, please make the necessary corrections. A written response is not required at this time.

Domain: 08 Staff Files

Rule: 5180:2-12-08 Staff TB Screening Requirements

Requirement: The program is required to have every employee provide evidence of tuberculois (TB) screening prior to the first day of employment.

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined verification of TB screening was not on file as required. Technical assistance was offered to support compliance. As discussed, please make the necessary corrections. A written response is not required at this time.

Domain: 08 Staff Files

Rule: 5180:2-12-10 Health Training Requirements

Requirement: The program is required to have all child care staff members complete training in child abuse and neglect recognition and prevention within sixty days of hire. Staff must complete training in first aid and CPR within the first ninety days of hire.

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined staff have not completed health and safety training(s) as required. Technical assistance was offered to support compliance. As discussed, please make the necessary corrections. A written response is not required at this time.

Domain: 08 Staff Files

Rule: 5180:2-12-10 Professional Development Requirements

Requirement: The program is required to ensure child care staff members, including substitutes used more than ninety days annually, obtain at least 6 hours of professional development each state fiscal year.

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined staff did not complete professional development as required. Technical assistance was offered to support compliance. As discussed, please make the necessary corrections. A written response is not required at this time.

Domain: 09 Children's Files

Rule: 5180:2-12-15 Child Enrollment Records

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

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined the child's enrollment form is not complete or updated annually as required. Technical assistance was offered to support compliance. As discussed, please make the necessary corrections. A written response is not required at this time.

Domain: 09 Children's Files

Rule: 5180:2-12-15 Child Immunization Records

Requirement: The program is required to have complete child immunization records on file.

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined child's immunization records were not on file or updated annually as required. Technical assistance was offered to support compliance. As discussed, please make the necessary corrections. A written response is not required at this time.

Domain: 10 Written Policies & Procedures

Rule: 5180:2-12-07 Written Program Policies and Procedures

Requirement: The program's policies and procedures are required to include all topics outlined in rule.

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined the program's policies and procedures handbook does not contain all items as required. Technical assistance was offered to support compliance. As discussed, please make the necessary corrections. A written response is not required at this time.

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
5180:2-12-18 License Capacity	Compliant	

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

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

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-04 Building Department Inspection	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 8/20/26.
Rule: 5180:2-12-04 Fire Inspection	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Although the program had documentation of a current fire inspection without any uncorrected violations at the time of the licensing inspection, the program did not have the fire inspection completed within 12 months from the date of the last fire inspection without any uncorrected violations. Please ensure that fire inspections are completed in accordance with the rule requirements.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-04 Food Service Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-05 Denial, Revocation and Suspension	Not Applicable	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable

5180:2-12-07 Administrator Qualifications	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 Outdoor Space Requirements	Compliant	

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

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

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

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

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-14 Transportation and Field Trip Procedures	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-14 Transportation - Driver Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-14 Transportation - Vehicle Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-16 First Aid/Standard Precautions	Compliant	

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
5180:2-12-16 Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-17 Daily Schedule	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Daily schedules were observed posted.

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 Outdoor Play	Compliant	

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

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-19 Supervision	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Child Care Staff Members were supervising the children and were able to intervene as needed.

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

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

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable

5180:2-12-21 Evening and Overnight Care	Not Applicable

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-23 Infant Bottle and Food Preparation	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
5180:2-12-22 Safe Food Handling/Storage	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-24 Swimming and Water Safety Requirements	Not Applicable	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-16 Emergency Postings	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-16 Emergency Drills	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-21 Mobile Preschools	Not Applicable	

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

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-02 Amendments to the License	Not Applicable	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable

5180:2-12-20 Cots and Napping - Practices	Compliant

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-15 Child Record Requirements	Compliant	

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

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-22 Specialized Diets	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-23 Diapering and Toilet Training - Practices	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-23 2026 Diapering and Toilet Training - Supplies	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-25 2026 Medication Administration Practices	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-25 2026 Medication Documentation	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-25 2026 Medication Storage	Compliant	