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 First Friends Daycare	Program Number 2230028699	Program Type Child Care Center
Address 1418 Moler Road Columbus OH 43207		County FRANKLIN

Building Approval Date	Use Group/Code E	Occupancy Limit	Maximum Under 2 ½
Fire Inspection Approval Date 01/19/2026	Food Service Risk Level Level III		

Inspection Information		
Inspection Type Annual	Inspection Scope Full	Inspection Notice Unannounced
Inspection Date 02/24/2026	Begin Time 8:30 AM	End Time 11:45 AM
Reviewer: AMY HILLARD		

Summary of Findings				
No. Rules Verified	No. Rules with Non-compliances	No. Serious Risk	No. Moderate Risk	No. Low Risk
58	12	0	1	11

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)		8	0	8
Young Toddler		2	0	2
Total Under 2 ½ Years	28	10	0	10
Older Toddler		1	0	1
Preschool		8	0	8
School Age		0	15	15
Total Capacity/Enrollment	65	9	15	34

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

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Schoolage	18 months to < 30 months	2 to 4	8:30 (All Children combined)
Preschool	3 years to < 4 years	1 to 4	9:30
Preschool	3 years to < 4 years	2 to 4	8:30 All children combined
Preschool	3 years to < 4 years	1 to 5	10:30
Toddler	18 months to < 30 months	1 to 3	9:30
Toddler	18 months to < 30 months	2 to 4	8:30 all children combined
Toddler	18 months to < 30 months	1 to 3	10:30
Infants	18 months to < 30 months	2 to 4	8:30 All children combined
Infants	0 to < 12 months	1 to 1	
Infants	0 to < 12 months	1 to 3	10:30

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: 04 Indoor/Outdoor Space

Rule: 5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Play Equipment
Code: The program is required to anchor equipment to the ground as required, to close "S" hooks to prevent the chain from slipping off and prevent strangulation and provide equipment with openings that will not pose a safety risk.

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Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that equipment on the outdoor play space posed an imminent risk of harm to a child as noted in number(s) 1 below:

1. The climber was not anchored. (Preschool playground climber was not securely anchored, lifts when pulled on)
2. The swings were not securely anchored.
3. The slide was not securely anchored.
4. The climbing rope was not securely anchored at both ends.
5. The "S" hooks on the climber were not closed in order to prevent the chain from slipping off the hook and prevent strangulation.
6. The "S" hooks on the swing(s) were not closed in order to prevent the chain from slipping off the hook and prevent strangulation.
7. The [ ] had an opening that was greater than three and one-half inches, but less than nine inches. Equipment openings must be less than 3 1/2 inches or more than 9 inches to avoid the risk of entrapment.

Discontinue the use of this equipment until it has been removed, repaired or replaced. Submit the program's corrective action plan to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 03/26/2026

Low Risk Non-Compliances

Domain: 01 Ratio & Supervision

Rule: 5180:2-12-18 Attendance Records
Code: 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 as noted in number(s) 4, 5 below:

1. There was no method in place;
2. The method did not include each child's name;
3. The method did not include each child's date of birth;
4. The tracking method did not remain with the group at all times;
5. The tracking method was not updated throughout the day as children entered or left the group.

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: 03/26/2026

Domain: 02 Safe & Sanitary Environment

Rule: 5180:2-12-13 Sanitary Equipment and Environment
Code: The program is required to provide equipment and materials that are easy to clean.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that at least one piece of equipment, furnishings, or material at the program was not constructed of materials to facilitate cleaning as noted in number(s) 3 below:

1. The material had a tear.
2. The material was not washable.
3. The material was porous. (cloth cover on changing pad on changing table in toddler classroom, not able to properly sanitize after each use)
4. The surface was cracked.
5. The surface was repaired, but in a manner that still did not facilitate cleaning.
6. Other [ ].

Equipment, furnishings, and furniture shall be constructed of materials to facilitate cleaning. 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: 02 Safe & Sanitary Environment

Rule: 5180:2-12-13 Handwashing Requirements
Code: 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 listed in number(s) 5 below, as required in rule.

1. At least one staff/child did not wash their hands upon arrival for the day.
2. At least one staff/child did not wash their hands prior to departure.
3. At least one staff did not wash their hands upon entry into a classroom.
4. At least one staff/child did not wash their hands after toileting or assisting a child with toileting.
5. At least one staff/child did not wash their hands after each diaper change or pull-up change.
6. At least one staff did not wash their hands after contact with bodily fluids or cleaning up spills or objects contaminated with bodily fluids.
7. At least one child did not wash their hands after contact with bodily fluids.

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8. At least one child did not wash their hands after returning inside after outdoor play.
9. At least one staff did not wash their hands after cleaning or sanitizing or using any chemical products.
10. At least one staff/child did not wash their hands after handling pets, pet cages or other pet objects that have come in contact with the pet.
11. At least one staff did not wash their hands before eating, serving or preparing food or bottles or feeding a child.
12. At least one child did not wash their hands before eating or assisting with food preparation.
13. At least one staff did not wash their hands before and after completing a medical procedure or administering medication.
14. At least one child did not wash their hands after water activities.
15. At least one staff/child did not wash their hands when visibly soiled (must use soap and water).
16. Other [ ].

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 03/26/2026

Domain: 02 Safe & Sanitary Environment

Rule: 5180:2-12-12 Safe Environment
Code: 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 as noted in number(s) 8 below:

1. Surge protectors/outlets did not have childproof receptacle covers.
2. Open pull cords that are not closed loop.
3. Toys or other items small enough to be swallowed were present in the space where infants and/or toddlers were in care.
4. Electrical/extension cords attached to an object that would not likely result in a severe injury if pulled.
5. Stacked chairs.
6. Employee(s) purse(s).
7. Diaper bags.
8. Television not securely anchored. (infant classroom)
9. Small or lightweight pieces of shelving units are not securely anchored to the wall.
10. Smoke detector needing batteries replaced.
11. An area rug did not have a nonskid backing.
12. An area rug presented a tripping hazard.
13. A floor surface that was unsafe in that [ ].
14. No platform was provided for the sink or toilet in the [ ] classroom.
15. The platform provided for the sink or toilet in the [ ] classroom was not sturdy.
16. The platform provided for the sink or toilet in the [ ] classroom posed a safety hazard in that [ ].

17. Telephone cords.
18. Staff member stepped over a barrier/gate while holding a child.
19. Emergency exits were blocked by the following classroom furniture: [ ].
20. A mercury thermometer was being used to take a child's temperature.
21. Methods of ventilation used did not provide protection from rodents, insects, or other hazards.
22. Other [ ].

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: 03/26/2026

Domain: 05 Health & Safety

Rule: 5180:2-12-22 Safe Food Handling/Storage
Code: The program is required to refrain from serving food on bare tables.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that food was served on bare tables for the infant group (cereal/puffs on infant table no plate or napkin). 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: 05 Health & Safety

Rule: 5180:2-12-16 Emergency Drills
Code: The program is required to complete fire drills, weather drills, and emergency/lockdown drills appropriately.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that the required drills were not completed for item number(s) 2 below:

1. Monthly fire drills.
2. Monthly weather emergency drills (March through September). (no record of tornado drills)
3. Emergency/lockdown drills in each quarter of the calendar year.

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: 03/26/2026

Domain: 05 Health & Safety

Rule: 5180:2-12-16 First Aid/Standard Precautions
Code: The program is required to have a first aid kit onsite.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined first aid kit(s) at the program had missing, or expired, items that are required by appendix A of this rule to be contained in a first aid kit, as noted in number(s) 9 below:

1. The program did not have a first aid kit [onsite, on the vehicle, on a field trip].
2. One roll of hypoallergenic first-aid tape.
3. Individually wrapped sterile gauze squares in assorted sizes.
4. Sterile adhesive bandages in assorted sizes.
5. Tweezers.
6. Gauze rolled bandage.
7. Triangular bandage.
8. Rounded end scissors.
9. Tooth preservation system or fresh chilled liquid milk in which to transport a lost permanent tooth, including a written reference indicating location of the refrigerator/freezer where milk is stored if a tooth preservation system is not part of the first aid kit (for programs serving school age children only).
10. A working digital thermometer.
11. Disposable non-latex gloves.
12. A working flashlight.
13. An instant cold pack that has not been activated or ice, including a written reference indicating location of the refrigerator/freezer where the ice is stored if an instant cold pack is not part of the first aid kit.
14. Sealable leak-proof plastic bags in assorted sizes or double bagged plastic bags that can be securely tied for materials soiled with blood or bodily fluids.
15. Pocket mask or face shield, appropriate for all ages of children in care, for cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) administration.
16. Soap or waterless sanitizer (field trip or transporting away from the program only).
17. Bottled water (field trip or transporting away from the program only).

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: 07 Diapering & Infant Care

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Rule: 5180:2-12-20 Cribs
Code: The program is required to provide cribs with mattresses in good condition and sheets that are not too large or too small for the crib.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that sheets, mattresses and/or mattress covers did not meet the rule requirement as noted in number(s) 3 below:

1. At least one crib did not have a sheet.
2. At least one sheet was too large.
3. At least one sheet was too small. (mattresses were bowing due to sheets too tight)
4. At least one sheet was torn.
5. The mattress was not at least one and one-half inches thick.
6. The mattress was not firm.
7. There was space between the mattress and the sides and end panels of the crib which exceeded one and one-half inches.
8. The mattress cover was not waterproof.
9. The mattress cover was torn.
10. Other: [ ].

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 03/26/2026

Domain: 08 Staff Files

Rule: 5180:2-12-07 Administrator Responsibilities/Requirements
Code: 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 as noted in number(s) 7 below:

1. At least one administrator, employee or child care staff member (including substitutes) had not created a profile.
2. At least one administrator, employee or child care staff member had not created an employment record for the program on or before their first day of employment.
3. At least one administrator, employee or child care staff member had not updated changes to positions or roles within five calendar days of the change.
4. The administrator had not assigned at least one employee or child care staff member to the program's organization dashboard.
5. At least one individual's schedule was not current.
6. At least one individual's position or role did not include an applicable group assignment.
7. At least one individual's employment had not been end dated.

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8. Other: [ ]

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 03/26/2026

Domain: 08 Staff Files

Rule: 5180:2-12-10 Health Training Requirements
Code: The program is required to maintain a staff schedule with coverage of the required health trainings.

Finding: In review of the staff records, it was determined the program did not have at least one child care staff member present/scheduled to be present during all hours of operation with currently valid documentation for the training(s) listed in number(s) 9 below:

1. First Aid – child care staff members scheduled during the hours of [ ] and [ ] had expired training
2. First Aid – child care staff members scheduled during the hours of [ ] and [ ] did not have verification of completion of First Aid
3. First Aid – trained child care staff member was not present in each building used by the program.
4. CPR – child care staff members scheduled during the hours of [ ] and [ ] had expired training
5. CPR – child care staff scheduled during the hours of [ ] and [ ] had did not have verification of completion of CPR
6. CPR – trained child care staff member was not present in each building used by children
7. CPR – training taken by staff was not appropriate for all ages and developmental levels of the children in care
8. CPR - audiovisual or electronic media training taken by staff did not include an in-person component of the training
9. Communicable Disease – child care staff members scheduled during the hours of 7:00AM and 8:00 AM had expired training
10. Communicable Disease – child care staff scheduled during the hours of [ ] and [ ] had not taken Communicable Disease training
11. Communicable Disease – trained child care staff member was not present in each building used by the program
12. Child Abuse – child care staff members scheduled during the hours of [ ] and [ ] had expired training
13. Child Abuse – child care staff scheduled during the hours of [ ] and [ ] had not taken Child Abuse training
14. Child Abuse – trained child care staff was not in each building used by the program

Refer to the Employee Record Chart for specific details. Submit the program's corrective action plan, which includes verification of complete coverage for any training listed, to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

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Domain: 08 Staff Files

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

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 as noted in number(s) 1 below:

1. The child care staff member(s) had not completed at least six hours of professional development.
2. Documentation did not demonstrate the person who provided the training met the trainer qualifications as stated in the rule.
3. Training topic did not meet the requirements listed in appendix A of this rule.
4. Documentation of training did not meet the requirements of this rule.
5. The substitute(s) had been used more than ninety days annually between July first and June thirtieth and had not completed at least six hours of professional development
6. Other [ ].

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 03/26/2026

Rules In-Compliance/Not Verified

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-16 Written Disaster Plan	Compliant	

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

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable

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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 1/19/26.
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
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: 0024138; 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 Written Program Policies and Procedures	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-08 Medical Statement	Compliant	

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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
5180:2-12-11 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
Rule: 5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Space Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The quarterly playground inspections were completed and documented, as required. The most recent inspection report form was dated 1/6/26.

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
Rule: 5180:2-12-13 Smoke Free Environment	Compliant	Documenting Statement: A notice was observed posted stating that smoking is prohibited at the program.

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

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable

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Rule: 5180:2-12-15 Medical/Physical Care Plans	Compliant	Documenting Statement: At the time of the inspection, there were no children currently enrolled who had health conditions.

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
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
Rule: 5180:2-12-17 Daily Schedule	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Daily schedules were observed posted.

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

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-20 Cots and Napping	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 and Snack Requirements	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
5180:2-12-23 Infant Bottle and Food Preparation	Compliant	

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

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-25 Medication Administration	Compliant	Documenting Statement: There were no children on medication at the time of the inspection; however, the method of storage and practices for the administration were reviewed.