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 Steps Early Learning Center	Program Number 2250032222	Program Type Child Care Center
Address 8553 Herrick Drive Chesterland OH 44026		County GEAUGA

Building Approval Date 06/11/2025	Use Group/Code E	Occupancy Limit 100	Maximum Under 2 ½
Fire Inspection Approval Date 06/05/2025	Food Service Risk Level Level III		

Inspection Information		
Inspection Type Provisional	Inspection Scope Full	Inspection Notice Unannounced
Inspection Date 10/14/2025	Begin Time 10:50 AM	End Time 1:45 PM
Reviewer: Kathryn Noftz		

Summary of Findings				
No. Rules Verified	No. Rules with Non-compliances	No. Serious Risk	No. Moderate Risk	No. Low Risk
58	3	0	0	3

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	3	3
Young Toddler		1	3	4
Total Under 2 ½ Years	90	1	6	7
Older Toddler		0	0	0
Preschool		2	1	3
School Age		0	3	3
Total Capacity/Enrollment	90	2	4	13

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

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Infant	0 to < 12 months	2 to 4	Infant/Toddler combined playground
Infant	0 to < 12 months	1 to 2	
Toddler	18 months to < 30 months	1 to 2	
Toddler	18 months to < 30 months	1 to 2	
Preschool	3 years to < 4 years	1 to 2	
Preschool	3 years to < 4 years	1 to 2	

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

No Moderate Risk Non-Compliances were observed during this inspection

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Low Risk Non-Compliances

Domain: 02 Safe & Sanitary Environment

Rule: 5180:2-12-12 Safe Equipment
Code: The program is required to use equipment, that is safe and hazard free, according to the manufacturer's guidelines. Fans, air conditioners, heat pumps, and space heaters must be inaccessible to children. The program is required to refrain from using trampolines, ball pits and inflatable equipment intended for climbing and bouncing, including but not limited to slides and bounce houses.

Finding: During the inspection, equipment was determined to be unsafe, hazardous to children, or in need of repair as noted in number(s) 3 below:

1. Manufacturer's guidelines for the [ ] were not followed in that [ ].
2. The straps were missing on the [ ].
3. The straps were attached, but were not used on the changing pad.
4. The straps were attached and were used, but were not used in a safe manner.
5. The equipment had sharp points or corners.
6. The equipment had splinters.
7. The equipment had protruding nails.
8. The equipment had loose or rusty parts.
9. The equipment had paint which contains lead or other poisonous materials.
10. The equipment had hazardous features.
11. A fan was unstable and could easily tip over.
12. A fan had openings a finger could enter.
13. The pipes from the heat pump felt hot to the touch
14. A space heater felt hot to the touch
15. The position of a space heater was a tripping hazard
16. The air conditioning unit was not enclosed and was accessible to children on the playground.
17. A ball pit, trampoline, inflatable bounce house, inflatable slide, or inflatable equipment used for climbing and bouncing was used.
18. Other [ ].

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 11/13/2025

Domain: 02 Safe & Sanitary Environment

Rule: 5180:2-12-13 Handwashing Requirements

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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.
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: 11/13/2025

Domain: 07 Diapering & Infant Care

Rule: 5180:2-12-23 Infant Bottle and Food Preparation
Code: The program staff is required to label and store bottles with breast milk following the requirements in rule.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that breast milk provided by the parent was not stored appropriately as noted in number(s) 1 below:

1. Not labeled with infant's name, date pumped, and date prepared;
2. Not immediately refrigerated or frozen;
3. Stored at room temperature longer than eight hours;
4. Stored at the program for more than five days after it was expressed;

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5. Stored longer than two weeks in the freezer compartment of the refrigerator;
6. Stored longer than six months in the refrigerator/freezer;
7. Stored longer than twelve months in the deep freezer;
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: 11/13/2025

Rules In-Compliance/Not Verified

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-16 Written Disaster Plan	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Annual training of the written disaster plan was completed by staff.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-02 License Posted	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 6-5-26.

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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: 0026989,3-1-26.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Space Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The outdoor play area is separated from traffic and other hazards by a fence.

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

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

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

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Play Fall Zones	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The protective material used under outdoor equipment was mulch and rubber mulch.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-12 Safe Environment	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Cleaning supplies were viewed stored out of the reach of children.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-13 Sanitary Equipment and Environment	Compliant	Documenting Statement: During the inspection, the equipment was observed clean and in good repair.

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

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-14 Transportation and Field Trip Procedures	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The program uses the DCY sample trip permission form for routine trips to secure written permission from parents or guardians.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-15 Child Medical and Enrollment Records	Compliant	Documenting Statement: In review of 25% of the records, at the time of the inspection, children's medical statements were complete and on file, as required by the rule.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-15 Medical/Physical Care Plans	Compliant	

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

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

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
5180:2-12-18 Attendance Records	Compliant	

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

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

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-17 Materials and Equipment	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Sufficient equipment was observed in all categories.

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
5180:2-12-19 Supervision	Compliant	

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-24 Swimming and Water Safety Requirements	Compliant	

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

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

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