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 SMALL SCHOLARS UNIVERSITY INC.	Program Number 000000305776	Program Type Child Care Center
Address 1901 North Ridge Road Lorain OH 44055		County LORAIN

Inspection Information			
Inspection Type Annual	Inspection Scope Full	Inspection Method On-site Inspection	Inspection Notice Unannounced
Inspection Date 11/10/2026	Begin Time 8:15 AM	End Time 12:45 PM	Reviewer: Brittani Aloi

Summary of Findings			
No. Requirements Verified 64	No. Requirements with Non-compliances 11		No. Requirements Compliant 50
No. Serious Risk 0	No. Moderate Risk Findings 4	No. Other Non-compliance Findings 10	No. Technical Assistance Provided 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)		3	0	3
Young Toddler		2	0	2
Total Under 2 ½ Years	14	5	0	5
Older Toddler		3	0	3
Preschool		6	0	6
School Age		0	13	13
Total Capacity/Enrollment	55	9	13	27

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Staff-Child Ratios at the Time of Inspection				
Group	**Age Group/Range**	**Ratio Observed**	**Compliance**	**Comment**
Infants	12 months to < 18 months	1 to 1	In Compliance	8:15AM
Infants	12 months to < 18 months	1 to 1	In Compliance	12:00PM
Toddlers	18 months to < 30 months	1 to 9	Out of Compliance	8:15AM Toddler/Preschool/School age combined
Toddlers	18 months to < 30 months	1 to 5	In Compliance	12:00PM
Preschool	3 years to < 4 years	1 to 5	In Compliance	9:45AM Preschool/SA combined
Preschool	3 years to < 4 years	1 to 5	In Compliance	12:00PM Preschool/SA combined

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

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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, a ratio of 1 child care staff member(s) for 9 children was determined to have occurred for the combined mixed age group of Toddler/Preschool/School age.

The following was observed: two or more groups were combined, and the program did not follow the ratio for the youngest child in the group.

Additional child care 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: 12/10/2026

Domain: **04 Indoor/Outdoor Space**

Rule: 5180:2-12-11 Outdoor Play Equipment

Requirement: 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.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that equipment on the outdoor play space posed an imminent risk of harm to a child.

The following was observed: the climber was not anchored.

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: 12/10/2026

Domain: **04 Indoor/Outdoor Space**

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

Requirement: The program is required to provide adequate fall surface for the outdoor play space.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that the playground did not have adequate shock-absorbing surface under and around playground equipment.

Any equipment designed for climbing, swinging, bouncing, or sliding should not be placed over, or immediately next to, hard surfaces such as asphalt, concrete, dirt, grass, or flooring covered by carpet or gym mats not intended for use as surfacing for climbing equipment. Submit the program's corrective action plan, which includes written verification of the discontinued use of this equipment until corrections are made along with a description of the shock-absorbing surface added, to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 12/10/2026

Domain: **09 Children's Files**

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

Requirement: The program is required to have a completed DCY 01236 or equivalent form on file at the program for any child having a health condition and must implement and/or follow instructions on the plan. The program is required to have staff trained to perform the procedures on the form present at the program when the child requiring the procedure is onsite. Only staff who have been trained shall be permitted to perform the procedures listed on the form.

Finding: In review of the children's records, it was determined the program did not meet the requirements for caring for at least one child, indicated on the Children's Records Review, with a condition that requires a DCY 01236 "Health Care Plan Documentation & Permission to Administer Medication" or equivalent form.

The following was observed: no plan was on file; medication listed in the procedures was not onsite and alternate instructions for this situation were not included on the plan

Provide staff training. Submit the program's corrective action plan, which includes a copy of the completed DCY 01236 or equivalent form, to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 12/10/2026

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 maintain a record of the arrival and departure of each child. The program is also required to retain the original attendance record at the center 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: attendance records did not accurately reflect the number of children present in the group.

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 12/10/2026

Domain: **02 Safe & Sanitary Environment**

Rule: 5180:2-12-12 Safe Equipment

Requirement: 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.

The following was observed: a ball pit, general-use trampoline, personal-sized therapy trampoline larger than forty-eight inches in diameter, inflatable bounce house, inflatable slide, or inflatable equipment used for climbing and bouncing was used.

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 12/10/2026

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: the fall zone was less than 6 feet from the fence for equipment used by children 24 months of age and older; there was not a fall zone of 6 feet in all directions from the perimeter of the equipment used

by children 24 months of age and older; the fall zone was less than 9 feet from each piece of applicable equipment used by children 24 months of age and older

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: 12/10/2026

Domain: **06 Program Information**

Rule: 5180:2-12-14 Transportation and Field Trip Procedures

Requirement: The program is required to have staff trained in CPR, First Aid, and Communicable Diseases on all trips.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that a person trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), first aid and management of communicable disease, had not been present in the vehicle for routine trips as required by the rule:

Secure current training for the area needed or restructure the staff who are currently trained on the vehicle during routine trips and field trips. Submit the program's corrective action plan to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 12/10/2026

Domain: **06 Program Information**

Rule: 5180:2-12-14 Transportation and Field Trip Procedures

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 field trip or routine trip were not met.

The following was observed: permission forms for routine trips were not being updated annually.

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 12/10/2026

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.

Finding: In review of the staff records, it was determined that at least one child care staff member had not completed required health and safety training.

The following was observed: the first aid training was expired; the CPR training was expired

Refer to the Employee Record Chart for the name(s) of the child care staff member(s) who must complete the required health and safety training(s). Submit the program's corrective action plan to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 12/10/2026

Domain: **09 Children's Files**

Rule: 5180:2-12-25 Medication Storage

Requirement: The program is required to store medical foods and topical products out of the reach of children.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that a medical food or topical product, diaper cream, was within the reach of children in the hallway next to the children's restroom. Submit the program's corrective action plan to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 12/10/2026

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: the form had not been updated as needed and at least annually

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 12/10/2026

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.

Finding: In review of 25% of the children's records, it was determined that complete child immunization records were not on file, as required, for children listed on the DCY Children's Record Review for Child Care.

The following was observed: immunization record(s) were not updated no more than every thirteen months

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 12/10/2026

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.

Finding: In review of 25% of the children's records, it was determined that information had not been secured from the parent/guardian on the DCY 01234 "Child Enrollment Form for Early Care and Education Programs" or equivalent form as required.

The following was observed as missing: enrollment form for at least one child was not updated by either the parent or 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: 12/10/2026

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.

Domain: 00 License & Approvals

Rule: 5180:2-12-02 License Visible

Requirement: The rule requires the license to be visible to parents at all times.

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined the program's license is not posted in a visible location 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: 05 Health & Safety

Rule: 5180:2-12-16 Emergency Drills

Requirement: The program is required to complete fire drills, weather drills, and emergency/lockdown drills appropriately.

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined drills are not conducted or are not correctly documented. Technical assistance was offered to support compliance. As discussed, please make the necessary corrections. A written response is not required at this time.

Domain: 05 Health & Safety

Rule: 5180:2-12-16 Management of Communicable Disease

Requirement: The program is required to post the DCY 08087 "Ohio Communicable Disease Chart".

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined the Communicable Disease chart is not posted 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
5180:2-12-03 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 11/25/26.

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: CKNL-DRSJYT, 3/1/27.

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

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-07 Written Program Policies and Procedures	Not Verified	

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 Professional Development 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 Outdoor Space Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-12 Safe Environment	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 Handwashing Requirements	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 - Driver Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-14 Transportation - Vehicle Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: An annual safety check of the vehicle(s), using the DCY 1230 "Vehicle Inspection Report" form, was verified and dated 7/22/26.

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 Incident/Injury Reporting	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-16 Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan	Not Verified	

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

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
5180:2-12-19 Supervision	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 Preparation and Nutritional Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-21 Evening and Overnight Care	Not Verified	

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	Compliant	

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-20 Cribs - Safe Environment and Practices	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	Not Applicable	

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 Diapering and Toilet Training - Supplies	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-25 Medication Administration Practices	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The program's policy was not to administer medication.

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