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 BRILLIANT START ACADEMY	Program Number 000000307463	Program Type Child Care Center
Address 901 LIBERTY BELL DRIVE AMHERST OH 44001		County LORAIN

Inspection Information			
Inspection Type Annual	Inspection Scope Full	Inspection Method On-site Inspection	Inspection Notice Unannounced
Inspection Date 11/23/2026	Begin Time 8:30 AM	End Time 12:40 PM	Reviewer: Brittani Aloi

Summary of Findings			
No. Requirements Verified 67	No. Requirements with Non-compliances 5		No. Requirements Compliant 54
No. Serious Risk 0	No. Moderate Risk Findings 1	No. Other Non-compliance Findings 4	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)		7	0	7
Young Toddler		6	0	6
Total Under 2 ½ Years	37	13	0	13
Older Toddler		5	0	5
Preschool		28	29	57
School Age		0	0	0
Total Capacity/Enrollment	179	33	29	75

Ohio Department of Children & Youth

Staff-Child Ratios at the Time of Inspection				
Group	**Age Group/Range**	**Ratio Observed**	**Compliance**	**Comment**
PreK 3	3 years to < 4 years	2 to 11	In Compliance	9:00am PreK 3 and SA combined
PreK 3	3 years to < 4 years	1 to 11	In Compliance	11:45AM PreK 3 and SA combined
Toddlers	18 months to < 30 months	1 to 5	In Compliance	9:15AM
Toddlers	18 months to < 30 months	1 to 6	In Compliance	11:35AM
Infants	0 to < 12 months	2 to 5	In Compliance	9:15AM
Infants	0 to < 12 months	2 to 5	In Compliance	11:35AM
PreK 2	3 years to < 4 years	1 to 10	In Compliance	9:30AM
PreK 2	3 years to < 4 years	1 to 11	In Compliance	11:45AM

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

Ohio Department of Children & Youth

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: 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

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: 12/23/2026

Other Non-Compliances

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

Domain: 03 Postings & Equipment

Rule: 5180:2-12-16 Emergency Postings

Requirement: The program is required to post the fire and weather plans.

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined that the fire and/or weather alert plans did not meet the requirement of the rule.

The following was observed: missing details for fire alert plan and weather alert plan.

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 12/23/2026

Domain: **05 Health & Safety**

Rule: 5180:2-12-16 Incident/Injury Reporting

Requirement: The program is required to complete the DCY 01299 "Incident/Injury Report" for injuries and incidents at the program, provide a copy to the person who picks the child up on the day of the incident, and retain a copy of the form onsite at the program for one year.

Finding: In review of the records, it was determined the program did not meet the requirements for completing a DCY 01299 “Incident/Injury Report”.

The following was observed: (the child's birthdate was incomplete on the DCY 01299; the date and/or time of the incident was incomplete on the DCY 01299; whether or not parents were contacted was incomplete on the DCY 01299)

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 12/23/2026

Domain: **07 Diapering & Infant Care**

Rule: 5180:2-12-23 Infant Bottle and Food Preparation

Requirement: 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.

The following was observed: not labeled with the infant's name, date pumped and date bottle was prepared.

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

Corrective Action Plan Due: 12/23/2026

Domain: **10 Written Policies & Procedures**

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

Requirement: The program is required to have an emergency preparedness and response plan (EPRP).

Finding: During the inspection, it was determined the program's emergency preparedness and response plan (EPRP) did not meet the requirement or was missing the information.

The following was observed as missing: procedures for communicating with parents during loss of communications when no phone or internet service is available

Make the necessary revisions to the EPRP. Submit the program's corrective action plan, which includes the revised information, to the Department to verify compliance with the requirements of this rule.

Corrective Action Plan Due: 12/23/2026

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: 02 Safe & Sanitary Environment

Rule: 5180:2-12-13 Sanitary Equipment and Environment

Requirement: The program is to ensure equipment, furnishings, and materials are constructed of materials to facilitate cleaning.

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined the program had equipment or materials or furnishings with material ripped, torn, or not easy to clean 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: 5180:2-12-07 Administrator Qualifications

Requirement: The program administrator is required to complete the rules course review within the defined time period.

Findings: During the inspection, it was determined the program's administrator did not complete the rules review course 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.

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 10/6/27.

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: HMLN-DRUKJG, 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 Responsibilities/Requirements	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-07 Written Program Policies and Procedures	Compliant	Documenting Statement: The written policies and procedures reviewed on the day of the inspection were verified as complete.

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

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

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

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

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-13 Handwashing Requirements	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Staff and children were observed washing hands as required by the rule.

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	Not Applicable	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-14 Transportation - Driver Requirements	Not Applicable	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-14 Transportation - Vehicle Requirements	Not Applicable	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
Rule: 5180:2-12-16 First Aid/Standard Precautions	Compliant	Documenting Statement: During the inspection, the program had complete first aid kits available as required.

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-16 Management of Communicable Disease	Compliant	

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable
5180:2-12-17 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
Rule: 5180:2-12-18 Ratio	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Staff/child ratios observed during the inspection were in compliance.

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
5180:2-12-18 Attendance Records	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 Applicable	

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
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
5180:2-12-21 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 Enrollment Records	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
Rule: 5180:2-12-23 Diapering and Toilet Training - Practices	Compliant	Documenting Statement: Appropriate diaper changing procedures were observed during the inspection in the infant/toddler room(s).

Rule	Status	Documenting Statement(s), If applicable

5180:2-12-23 Diapering and Toilet Training - Supplies	Compliant	

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

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

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