



CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

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Steven Stack, MD
Secretary

Tricia Steward
Inspector General

August 11, 2025

Morgan Rittenberry
Easter Seals Child Development Center
801 North 29th Street
Paducah, KY 42001

via Personal Service

Received By: Morgan Rittenberry
Printed Name: Morgan Rittenberry
Date: 8/11/25

REVOCATION OF CHILD-CARE CENTER LICENSE EASTER SEALS CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER LICENSE NUMBER L356054

Dear Ms. Rittenberry:

You are hereby notified that the Office of Inspector General, Division of Regulated Child Care (DRCC) has made the decision to revoke the child-care center license of Easter Seals Child Development Center, Paducah, Kentucky. This decision is based upon the child-care center's failure to comply with 922 KAR 2:090, Section 17(1)(a), which states, "The cabinet shall deny, suspend, or revoke a preliminary or regular license in accordance with KRS 199.896 if the applicant for licensure, director, employee, or a person who has supervisory authority over, or unsupervised contact with, a child fails to meet the requirements of this administrative regulation, 922 KAR 2:120, 922 KAR 2:280."

The Division of Regulated Child Care (DRCC) initiated an investigation (inspection 345098, investigation 234607) on April 16, 2025. That investigation determined a three (3) year old child was left unsupervised in the toddler's room for twelve (12) minutes on April 14, 2025. This incident resulted in a Directed Plan of Correction (DPOC) issued on May 1, 2025. The DPOC states, "a. All children in care of Easter Seals Child Development Center will be provided with adequate supervision by a qualified staff member, at all times. Each staff member will ensure an infant, toddler, and preschool age child is within scope of vision and range of voice and each school-age child is within scope of vision or range of voice of a qualified staff member...c. When two (2) or more children are transitioning to a different room, outdoor playground or any area on or off the premises, staff members will survey the area that is being departed to ensure no child is left behind."

DRCC initiated an investigation (inspection 346686, investigation 235295) on July 30, 2025. Based on video observation, interview and review of documentation, a thirty-one (31) month old child was left alone and unsupervised in the classroom for approximately ten (10) minutes on July 29, 2025. The responsible staff member and seven (7) children went to the gross motor room at 9:53 am. A staff member was in the shared restroom adjacent to the classroom and heard a crying child. The child walked into the shared restroom with the staff member at 10:04 am. 922 KAR 2:120, Section 2(3)(a), states, "Each center shall maintain a child-care program that assures each child shall be: 1. Provided with adequate supervision at all times by a qualified staff person who ensures the child is: a. Within scope of vision and range of voice; b. For a school-age child, within scope of vision or range of voice. C. Accounted for during movement from one (1) location to another using name-to-face recognition by visually identifying each child."



Additionally, the health, safety, and comfort of the child was compromised while in the care of the center as required by 922 KAR 2:090, Section 8(1), which states, "A licensee shall: (a) Be responsible for the operation of the child-care center pursuant to this administrative regulation, 922 KAR 2:120, and 922 KAR 2:280; and (b) Protect and ensure the health, safety, and comfort of each child." Furthermore, 922 KAR 2:090, Section 17(5)(d), states, "A child-care center's license shall be revoked if: The licensee fails to meet a condition of, or violates a requirement of a directed plan of correction pursuant to Section 16 of this administrative regulation."

Therefore, DRCC has made the decision to revoke licensure of Easter Seals Child Development Center. If you disagree with this decision, you may appeal and request a hearing pursuant to 922 KAR 2:090, Section 19. The request for appeal must be in writing and filed with the Cabinet for Health and Family Services at the following address:

Division of Regulated Child Care
Attn: DRCC Appeal Request
275 East Main Street 5E-F
Frankfort, KY 40621

The request for appeal and administrative hearing must be received within twenty (20) calendar days of the receipt of this notice and must specify whether or not an Informal Dispute Resolution (IDR) is requested pursuant to 922 KAR 2:090, Section 20. If an IDR is requested, the request for an appeal hearing will be held in abeyance pending the conclusion of the IDR process. If you do not request a hearing within twenty (20) calendar days of your receipt of this letter, the revocation shall become final. A copy of the appeal request form is enclosed for your convenience.

Sincerely,



Tricia Steward
Inspector General

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Enclosure

cc: Wesley Duke, General Counsel, Cabinet for Health and Family Services
Melissa Moore, Director, Division of Regulated Child Care
Dayna Hayes, Assistant Director, Division of Regulated Child Care
Felisa Coleman, Western Branch, Division of Regulated Child Care
Janaire Watkins, Western Branch, Division of Regulated Child Care
Andrea Day, Director, Division of Child Care
Phillip Smith, Branch Manager, Division of Child Care
Karen Sipes, Division of Child Care
Shade Chaffin, Division of Child Care
Jessica Cain, Division of Child Care
Janet Johnson, Division of Child Care
Elizabeth Looney, Nutrition and Health Services