

South Carolina Department of Social Services
Office of Child Care Licensing
INSPECTION VISIT FORM FOR LICENSED CENTERS

Date of inspection: 4-20-26
Time of inspection: 10:57/12:24
Type of inspection: Annual Complaint
 Follow Up (Original inspection)
Date: 3/30/26
Reason for Follow up:
 Pending Deficiencies
 Self-Reported Incident

Facility Name: Universal Leadership & STEAM Academy
Permit #: 25995
Address: 220 North Royal Drive IRMO, SC 29063

Telephone #: 803-233-9299 Any changes in contact info (Phone/Email/Fax)? Yes No

Center Director/Designee: Nikka Darby

Change in Ownership or Director? Yes No If yes, Name: _____

Maximum number of children: 103

Maximum number of infants: 17

Items posted in public view: License Menu Ratio Chart (All classrooms)

ABC Quality: Yes

Hours of Operation: M- 7:00AM- 6:00PM T- 7:00AM- 6:00PM W- 7:00AM- 6:00PM Th- 7:00AM- 6:00PM F- 7:00AM- 6:00PM

MANAGEMENT, ADMINISTRATION & STAFFING 114-503 **SUPERVISION 114-504**

	C	N	N/A		C	N	N/A
Staff files are in compliance H(1-7)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Adequate supervision throughout facility A(1-2)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Training hours up-to-date K(5)(b-c)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Facility following tracking of children procedures A(3)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
At least 1 person with CPR & 1st Aid on the premises K(5)(h)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ratios adequate in all classrooms and on playground B, C	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

HEALTH, SANITATION & SAFETY 114-505

	C	N	N/A		C	N	N/A
Children's faces/hands are clean B(1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Proper diaper changing practices were observed F(1-16)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Medicine and harmful items labeled and stored properly D(2)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Proper handwashing practices were observed G(4)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
First Aid kit in facility and in vehicle if transport E(1), I(1)(g)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No smoking, consumption of alcoholic beverage A(3)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Current Emergency Preparedness Plan H(3)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Emergency Medical Plan C(1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

PHYSICAL SITE 114-507

BUILDING	C	N	N/A	PLAYGROUND	C	N	N/A
Ventilation and lighting & sufficient A(2)(a-d), (4)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Playground equip. safe & firmly anchored B(7)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No strangulation/choking/suffocation hazards A(5)(g)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Adequate cushioning material; at least 6ft fall zone B(9)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceiling, floors, windows doors free from hazards A(5)(d)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fencing/safety barriers 4ft. in height, in good repair B(4)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Building(s) temp between 68-80°F A(7) If no, close in 4 hrs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Outdoor space free from hazards and litter B(2)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Facility free from pest problems (insects, rodents) A(8)(b-c)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RESTING	C	N	N/A
All potentially harmful items including cleaning supplies, flammable products, poisonous, toxic, hazardous and materials are labeled and stored in locked area out of children's reach. Bio-contaminants are disposed of properly. A(5)(c), (e), A(8); E(1), (4)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Play Pens observed C(4)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Electrical outlets are securely covered A(11)(c)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cribs meet federal standards (reviewed certificate) D(1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sink area has running water A(12)(d)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cots, mats, cribs labeled or charted for each child D(2)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Soap and disposable towels available at sink A(12)(i)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PROGRAM 114-508	C	N	N/A
Furniture, toys & equipment are clean and in good repair C(1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Written, planned, daily program of activities that is developmentally & age appropriate observed A(1-3)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Furniture, toys & equipment meets the CPSC standards C(2)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Positive, non-abusive discipline practice B(1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Healthy animals, not permitted if allergic E(4)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other environmental allergies (Policy #120)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

MEAL REQUIREMENTS 114-508

	C	N	N/A		C	N	N/A
Meals & snacks in compliance with USDA A(1)(b)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Round, firm foods are not offered to children under 4 yrs. old, unless properly cut to prevent choking risk A(3)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clean, wholesome unspoiled, properly labeled food A(4)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Food stored & handled properly D(1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Food preparers have proper hair restraints B(5)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	All cleaning & poisonous items stored away from food D(8)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Refrigerators have thermometers, temp under 45°F D(2-3)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prevention and response to food allergies A(9-10)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

INFANT CARE 114-509 **TRANSPORTATION 114-505 I**

	C	N	N/A		C	N	N/A
Infants are placed on their back to sleep A(5)(a)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vehicle has proper safety restraints & in good repair I(1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No bottles propped or given in cribs or on mats A(3)(c)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Checklist for loading/unloading children reviewed (2)(d)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Food for toddlers cut in pieces 1/2 inch or less A(3)(k)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Driver's (valid) driver's license reviewed (1)(f)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Food for infants cut in pieces 1/4 inch or less A(3)(l)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Crock pots, bottle warmers are inaccessible to children. No microwaving of beverages observed A(3)(d)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	C-Compliant with Regulation			
Cups and bottles labeled with child's name & used only by that child A(3)(a)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N-Noncompliant with Regulation			
				Violations noted at the time of visit: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
				Any violations corrected onsite: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
				DSS Form 2910 needed: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

Signature of Director/Operator/Designee: *Nikka Darby*

Date: 04-20-2026 Refused to sign

Signature of Child Care Licensing Specialist: *[Signature]*

Date: 4/20/2026 Revised February 2025

Division of Early Care and Education
Deficiency Correction

NAME OF PROVIDER/OPERATOR Universal Leadership & Steam academy/ Nikka Darby
PERMIT # 25995

Deficiency Cited	Corrective Action Needed	Expected Date of Correction
114-503 H(1-7)	Center shall ensure Director, Assistant director, or designee is able to access staff files at all	04/24/2026
114-503 F(1)	Center shall ensure staff is answering the door for parents	04/24/2026
114-503 K(3)(b)	Center shall ensure Director, Assistant director or designee is present at all times	04/24/2026
114-502 C(3)	Center shall ensure staff is complying with all DSS investigations and inspections	04/26/2026

Providers/Operators are required by regulations and statutes to be in compliance at all time.

Licensing Specialist Aliya M. Her Date 05/04/2026