

October 29, 2025

CERTIFIED MAIL

Sarah LaGue
1101 South 2nd Street
Princeton, MN 55371-1477

License Number 1116465 FCC

ORDER OF LICENSE REVOCATION

Dear Ms. LaGue:

Based on the recommendation of Mille Lacs County Family Services (Mille Lacs County), the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) is revoking your license to provide family child care at 1101 South 2nd Street, Princeton, MN. Details of our findings are provided below. Our next steps and your options are also detailed.

REASON FOR LICENSE REVOCATION

1. Commissioner's evaluation of program

In determining whether a licensing action is warranted, DCYF evaluated the facts, conditions, and circumstances concerning your program's operation. This includes consideration of the well-being of children served in your program, available evaluations from consumers of your program, and information about the qualifications of caregivers working in your program. Specifically, because you repeatedly failed to bring your family child care program into compliance, and because you failed to respond to a correction order. DCYF has determined that revocation of your license is appropriate based on the violations identified below and the program evaluation.

Legal Authority: Minnesota Statutes, section 142B.10, subdivision 13.

2. Failure to comply with licensing laws and rules

Mille Lacs County determined that you failed to fully comply with the laws and rules that apply to licensed family child care program. DCYF has considered the nature, chronicity, or severity of the violations that led to the revocation of your license.

Legal Authority: Minnesota Statutes, section 142B.18, subdivision 4, paragraph (a), subparagraph (1).

Nature, history and severity of violations

New violations determined

On December 4, 2024, Mille Lacs County received a report regarding your family child care program. The report alleged concerns over conditions in your program. Mille Lacs County made a visit to your program and as a result, on December 9, 2024, your license was issued a temporary immediate suspension.

Subsequently, on March 7, 2025, DCYF placed your license on suspension. The suspension was issued so that you could bring your family child care program back into compliance. The following terms were part of the suspension:

1. Mille Lacs County must complete an inspection of your family child care program and verify that all repairs have been made, your home is free of dirt and in a safe, sanitary condition. You must ensure that all toxins and hazards are inaccessible to children in care as required.
2. A State Fire Marshal inspection may be required. If a fire marshal inspection is required, this would be at the expense of you the license holder and you must correct all violations cited.
3. You must submit a written plan detailing how you will remain compliant with licensing rules and standards. The plan must also include the use of a mentor to help ensure that you gain a better understanding of licensing requirements. The mentor must be approved by Mille Lacs County.

Additionally, Mille Lacs County gave you the following list of items to be corrected to reinstate your family child care license:

- o Post a sign notifying parents that there is cannabis in the program, add a statement to your handbook, and ensure that all cannabis and cannabis products are locked up and inaccessible to children in care.
- o Remove excess garbage from upstairs and basement closets, hallways, and utility room.
- o Ensure that all hazards and toxins such as medications, small beads, and chemicals are inaccessible to children.
- o Ensure that garbage cans have lids and the lids are used to ensure that garbage is inaccessible to children in care.
- o Repair holes in walls in licensed space.
- o Paint areas that have chipped or peeling paint.
- o Remove hanging lights and tacks that are accessible to children.
- o Ensure that children have single use towels for hand washing.
- o Clean bathroom area including around toilet and ensure children do not have access to toxic substances.
- o Ensure all wires and cords are store and inaccessible to children.
- o Ensure all smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors are in working condition and secured to the wall or ceiling.
- o Secure the baby gate at the top of the stairs.
- o Ensure walls are cleaned and free of dirt.
- o Clean windowsills and remove mold.

- Repair or replace the kitchen blinds.
- Ensure that screens are in working order and repaired.
- Remove all excess clutter in the program so it is not a fire hazard.
- Remove sticky fly trap in hallway.
- Mop hard surface floors.
- Shampoo carpets and provide proof of completion.
- Clean and remove all dirt and clutter in entry way of the program.
- Clean all vents in hallway, removing grime and dirt.
- Provide documentation of pet vaccinations.
- Ensure all pet supplies, food, and water is inaccessible to children.
- Supervise all interaction between the puppy and children in care, as biting is an issue.
- Clean and remove all clutter from your outdoor area including a mattress, garbage in various locations, old bike and broken toys.
- Clean and maintain all toys outdoors.
- Ensure all outdoor garbage cans are inaccessible to children.
- Install a fence to ensure the roadway is inaccessible to children.

On March 20, 2025, Mille Lacs County made an attempt to reach you regarding your progress to reinstate your license. You did not respond to Mille Lacs County.

On March 28, 2025, Mille Lacs County drove by your programs to see if there had been any changes to your outdoor space. At the time the space was more cluttered and hazardous than before.

On June 11, 2025, Mille Lacs County attempted to reach you but got no response.

On September 16, 2025, Mille Lacs County made a visit to your program, but no one answered the door.

On September 18, 2025, Mille Lacs County sent you a text asking for an update on the progress of cleaning up your program. You responded that you had obtained employment and would not be bringing your program back in compliance with licensing requirements and would not be reopening your program.

Previous licensing actions

The following violations summarize the nature of your previous licensing violations. Because these violations are now conclusive, the individual violations are not within the scope of your appeal rights. Please refer to the previously issued correction orders for further details on these violations. If you do not have copies of these orders, contact your Mille Lacs County licensor for assistance. DCYF also considered this history as a factor when it determined that revocation of your license is appropriate.

- March 7, 2025, Indefinite Suspension, for the following violations:
 - You failed to ensure your outdoor space was safe when children had access to:
 - broken toys
 - bikes
 - garbage and clutter

- old mattresses
 - a wagon
 - dog feces
 - chemicals
 - trailer
 - couch
 - broken cable
 - You failed to ensure that the program was clean and sanitary when excessive garbage was throughout the basement and upstairs.
 - You failed to ensure the program was free of dirt when wall vents were dirty, the bathroom floor and toilet were dirty, walls were dirty, and there was mold in a window sill.
 - You failed to ensure that toxins were inaccessible to children in care when children had access to:
 - Chemicals under the sink
 - Cleaning spray on the counter
 - Prescription medication on the counter
 - Pet cleaner
 - You failed to ensure that hazards were inaccessible to children in care when children had access to small beads and craft materials posing a choking hazard.
 - You failed to provide documentation of pet immunization records for a dog in care.
 - You failed to ensure a gate was in place as required.
 - There were holes in the wall and chipped paint.
 - There were broken outlet covers.
 - Cords were accessible to children.
 - Concerns over puppy biting, jumping and scratching during the investigation visit.
 - Trim was missing around doors.
 - Screens were missing or in need of replacing.
 - Kitchen blinds were broken.
- December 9, 2024, Temporary Immediate Suspension, which determined children were at an imminent risk of harm.
 - January 31, 2024, Correction Order, which cited you for failure to correct prior violations in correction order dated December 18, 2023.
 - December 18, 2023, Correction Order, which cited you for the following licensing violations:
 - You failed to provide documentation of current sudden unexpected infant death (SUID) and abusive head trauma (AHT) training as required.

- You failed to submit documentation of 16 hours of ongoing training as required.
- You failed to provide documentation of active supervision training as required.
- You failed to provide documentation of Health and Safety training as required.
- You failed to ensure that combustibles were not within 18 inches of a furnace.
- You failed to ensure the program was clean and free of dirt.
- You failed to ensure that toxins were inaccessible to children in care when children had access to medication and vitamins.
- You failed to ensure that hazards were inaccessible to children in care when children had access to a knife.
- You failed to provide documentation of vaccinations for pets as required.
- You failed to provide documentation of complete admission and arrangement forms for children in care.

Severity of violations

Due to the serious and chronic nature of these violations and the conditions in the program, which impact the health and safety of children served in your care, your license to provide family child care services is revoked.

YOUR RIGHT TO APPEAL

You have the right to appeal the revocation. Your request must be in writing and clearly state that you are requesting a contested case hearing for this matter. Your request must be made before the deadlines provided below. If you do not meet this deadline, you lose your right to an administrative appeal. The timeline to appeal began when you received this order.

If you are mailing your request, it must be sent by certified mail and postmarked within 10 calendar days from when you received this order. Please send it to:

Commissioner, Department of Children, Youth, and Families
Office of Inspector General
Legal Counsel's Office
Attention: Licensing Legal Unit
PO Box 64953
St. Paul, MN 55164-0953

If your request is being personally delivered, it must be received by DCYF within 10 calendar days from when you received this order. Please bring it to:

Commissioner, Department of Children, Youth, and Families
Office of Inspector General
Legal Counsel's Office
Attention: Licensing Legal Unit
444 Lafayette Road North

St. Paul, MN 55155

Upon DCYF's receipt of your timely appeal, your case would be scheduled for a contested case hearing in front of an Administrative Law Judge. Following this hearing, the Commissioner of DCYF will issue a final order. If you do not appeal or if the order is affirmed by the Commissioner following a hearing, DCYF is prohibited from issuing you a license for five years. In addition, any additional licenses held by you shall also be revoked.

Legal representation at the contested case hearing:

You do not need a lawyer to appeal. However, a lawyer can help you with your appeal. The state or county will not get you a lawyer and will not pay for a lawyer. If you cannot afford a lawyer, you may be able to get free legal advice or help with your appeal. To find out if free help is available, contact: Volunteer Lawyers Network at 612-752-6677; Central Minnesota Legal Services at 612-332-8151; Southern Minnesota Legal Services at 651-222-4731; or go to www.lawhelpmn.org to find a local legal services program that may be able to help you.

You can also find information on contested cases from the Office of Administrative Hearings website at <https://mn.gov/oah/self-help>. Click on Administrative Law Overview, then click on Administrative Law Contested Case Hearing Guide for a list of frequently asked questions.

Operating the program pending the outcome of the appeal:

On December 9, 2024, DHS issued an Order of Temporary Immediate Suspension on your family child care license. Because the immediate suspension of your license remains in effect, if you appeal the revocation, you continue to be prohibited from operating pending a final order from the Commissioner of DCYF.

Questions about CCAP

If you are a provider registered to receive Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) payments, this revocation order could impact your ability to receive CCAP funding. If your CCAP registration is closed or denied as a result of this Licensing action, you will get a separate notice(s).

If you have questions about:

- Your CCAP registration, and you get a notice telling you your registration is being closed or denied, contact the agency that sent the notice.
- Billing or payments for specific children, contact the county or CCAP agency where the children get CCAP.

Prohibition against providing legally unlicensed child care

On December 9, 2024, DHS issued an Order of Temporary Immediate Suspension to your family child care program, which disqualified you from providing legally unlicensed child care. You remain prohibited from providing legally unlicensed child care even if you appeal this order.

Posting of this Licensing Action

You are required to place this Order of License Revocation in a place that is clearly noticeable to the people receiving services and all visitors to the facility for two years, even if you appeal.

Legal authority for this licensing action

- This action is taken under Minnesota Statutes, section 142B.18, subdivision 4, which describes under which conditions DCYF may revoke a license.
- Minnesota Statutes, section 245.095 defines which programs administered by DCYF are included in the exclusion provision, and further defines "excluded," "individual," and "provider."
- License holders have a right to appeal licensing actions and request a contested case hearing, under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 14, Minnesota Rules, parts 1400.8505 to 1400.8612, and Minnesota Statutes, section 142B.20.
- Under Minnesota Statutes, section 142B.10, subdivision 14, paragraph (d), subparagraph (3), the commissioner shall not issue or reissue a license if the applicant, license holder, or controlling individual has had a license issued under this chapter or chapter 245A revoked within the past five years.
- Under Minnesota Statutes, section 142B.10, subdivision 14, paragraph (d), when a license issued under this chapter is revoked under clause (1) or (3), the license holder and controlling individual may not hold any license under chapter 142B or chapter 245A for five years following the revocation, and other licenses held by the applicant, license holder, or controlling individual shall also be revoked.
- Minnesota Statutes, section 142B.05, subdivision 4, provides that child care provider who has received a license revocation that has not been reversed on appeal may not provide unlicensed child care to non-relatives. Operating a prohibited unlicensed family child care is a misdemeanor under Minnesota Statutes, section 142B.05, subdivision 5.
- The requirement to post this order in a clearly visible location is required under Minnesota Statutes, section 142B.18, subdivision 6.

Questions

If you have any further questions regarding this matter, you may contact Beth Donahue, Supervisor at 651-431-6565.

Sincerely,



Alexandra Keys, Family Child Care Unit Manager
Licensing Division
Office of Inspector General

cc: Makayla Wilcox, Mille Lacs County Family Services