**Iowa Department of Human Services**
**CHILD CARE CENTER EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE**

**Name of Center:** Iowa Western Early Childhood Educ Center **Enrollment:** 24 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 7186

**Street:** 2700 College RD **City:** Council Bluffs Iowa **Zip** 51503 **County:** Pottawattamie

**Mailing Address:** 2700 College RD, Council Bluffs, IA, 51503

**Director's Name:** Stacy Bauder **Phone Number:** 712-388-6800

**On-Site Supervisor(s):** Amanda Murley **E-Mail:** sfluckey@iwcc.edu

**Date(s) of Visit:** 03-04-2025

**Licensing Visit** X **Unannounced Visit** X **Off Year Visit** **Administrative Change**

**LICENSING VISITS**

**New Application** **Re-Application** X **NA**

**Signed Application (470-0722) Received** **Yes** **No** X **NA** **Date Signed:**

**FIRE INSPECTION** X **State** **Local** **NA** **Is Fire Inspection Approved?** X **Yes** **No** **NA**

**Date Inspected:** 11-07-2024

**Comments :**

**LICENSE TYPE:** X **Child Care** **Preschool (ages 3-5 meets three hours or less per day)**

**Financial Type:** Profit X Non-Profit NA

**Accredition:** Accredited X NAEYC NSACA Other NA

**Program Serves:** X Infants (0-23 mo.) X 2 Years X Preschool-Age School-Age

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

**SCHEDULE:** X Year-round School-Year Summer Only

| **HOURS:** | *Year-round* | *School-Year* | *Summary Only* |
|---|---|---|---|

| LICENSE CAPACITY | Infants | 2 Years | Preschool | School-Age | Capacity |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| General | 20 | 9 | 45 | | 74 |
| Summer | | | | | 0 |

**QRS Rating:** 3

| RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE: | |
|---|---|
| X | **FULL** license from 08-01-2024 to 08-01-2026 |
| | **PROVISIONAL** license from |
| | **DENIAL** of initial application |
| | **SUSPENSION** of license |
| | **REVOCATION** of license |

**Licensing Consultant:** Kathy DeGeorge-Evans **Date:** 03-05-2025

**I. IF CURRENT LICENSE IS PROVISIONAL, IDENTIFY THE CORRECTIVE ACTIONS**

**II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:**

An unannounced off year licensing visit was made to Iowa Western Early Childhood Education Center on 3-4-2025. The center is on the campus of Iowa Western Community College in Lewis Hall. Lewis Hall also has college class rooms located down the hall they are separated by a locked door. The setting is a unique environment being located on the campus of a community college where a child development degree is offered. College students are in the program rooms as part of the child development curriculum. Child care services are offered to children infant age to preschool age, Monday through Friday 7:00 am to 5:30 pm. There are 24 children enrolled. Stacy Bauder has been the director since 2022 and she has worked at the center for twenty years. The center has several on-site supervisors: Amanda Murley. Brianna Darnell, Theresa Hill and Heather Sadler.
Stacy was with the preschool class at a concert on campus during my visit. I reviewed my licensing visit with the Stacy on the phone on 3-5-2025. I met with Theresa during my licensing visit.

Observation of rooms:
The program rooms looked great and have a fun variety of age and developmentally appropriate toys and equipment. Three program rooms were being used at the time of my licensing visit (a pre toddler room and a preschool room aren't being used at this time). The infant and toddler rooms were observed. Infant room - the daily sheets looked good, they are on the Playground child car app. The lesson plans/activities looked good. The children were having fun playing. Staff had excellent interactions with the children, they were nurturing and attentive to the needs of the children. The rooms also had students from the college child development program. The preschool children were on a field trip to a concert on campus.
Creative Curriculum Gold is used. The staff in each room are responsible for the lesson plans/activities.
The center recently began using the Playground child care app.

Nutrition:
Breakfast, lunch and snacks are prepared on the college campus and brought to the center and they are on the federal food program.
The center has a kitchen that is used for cooking activities with the children. Proper food storage was observed.
Menus are posted.

Health and safety:
Monthly fire/tornado drills are practiced and documented.
Radon testing was completed in August 2024. Radon testing information has been updated, please refer to your handbook as the frequency of testing may have changed for your center.
The center has electric appliances.
The center has emergency preparedness plans/procedures.
The center is using Purell Surface for sanitizing and disinfecting - The three step procedure is used 1. Soap/water for cleaning, 2. Water for rinsing and 3. Your EPA and child care approved product for sanitizing and disinfecting.

Playground:
Each age group has their own playground area. The outdoor equipment is fun and developmentally appropriate. The areas

have an outdoor classroom capability. Rubber mulch is used for surfacing.
Monthly playground inspections are completed.

Transportation:
The program doesn't provide daily transportation services. The college campus offers learning opportunities for the children, they have enjoyed a variety of walking field trips to the different vocations: dental, nursing, art center, first responders - helicopter, radio station, biology department, cafeteria to make their own pizzas and the horticulture department.

Administrative records:
Stacy has monthly staff meetings.

**III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:**

Stacy and the staff are positive and enthusiastic about the center. Stacy is very organized and confident as the director.
The center is an excellent resource for the community.
The center has NAEYC accreditation.
Stacy attended the NAC training.
Staff had excellent interactions with the children, they were nurturing and attentive to the needs of the children.
Monthly newsletters are provided to the parents.
Iowa Western Community College has excellent enrollment in the Early Childhood program.
Some staff have excellent longevity.
The program has a breast feeding room.
Walking field trips are taken to a variety of vocations/departments on campus - dental, nursing, art center, first responders - helicopter, radio station, biology department, cafeteria to make their own pizza's and the horticulture department.
The center has received grants for equipment.
The center participates in IQ4K level 3.

**IV. IDENTIFY THE ASPECTS OF OPERATION THAT FALL BELOW THE STANDARDS REVIEWED:**

**V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:**

A full license is recommended for 8-1-2024 to 8-1-2026.
Off year licensing visit 3-4-2025.

(Administrative change 2-2-2022 increase capacity to 74 children. An infant room was added with 567'. The fire marshal gave approval for the new room on January, 6th 2022)

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact your DHS Licensing Consultant to discuss the issue. The child care director may also send a response which will be placed in the licensing file.

*Note: If you are a member of the general public, there may be additional information contained in the public file. You may contact the DHS Licensing Consultant to inquire.