

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

Name of Center: Riceville Community Daycare Inc **Enrollment:** 60 **License ID No.** 39637
(Reapplications)

Street: 912 Woodland Ave Suite A **City:** Riceville Iowa **Zip** 50466 **County:** Howard

Mailing Address: 912 Woodland Ave Ste A, Riceville, IA, 50466

Director's Name: Kacie Koenigs **Phone Number:** 641-985-2161

On-Site Supervisor(s): **E-Mail:** director.rcd14@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 09-10-2020

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

LICENSING VISITS

New Application X **Re-Application** NA

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** NA **Date Signed:** 03-30-2020

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

Date Inspected: 04-24-2019

Comments :

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

Financial Type: Profit X Non-Profit NA

Accreditation: Accredited NAEYC NSACA Other X NA

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

 Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: X Year-round School-Year Summer Only

HOURS:	<u>Year-round</u>	<u>School-Year</u>	<u>Summer Only</u>		
LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	18	21	21	22	82
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	FULL license from 04-01-2020 to 04-01-2022
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCAION of license

Licensing Consultant: Raymond Salsbury

Date: 09-13-2020

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced annual visit was made to the Riceville Community Daycare Inc. where I met with the center director, Kacie Koenigs. Ms. Koenigs became the director on 01/07/19. Ms. Koenigs has previous experience in a child care center and in-home child care. The program is located in the Riceville Community School but is overseen by a separate board of directors. The center provides full range programming to infants through school age children. There are currently 60 children enrolled in the center.

The program operates out of four rooms determined by age group. Each room was observed to be clean with no immediate concerns noted due to maintenance. Each room has windows along the exterior walls that provide ample natural light, a view of the outdoors, and ventilation. Three of the rooms have secondary exits that provide direct access to the playground. The other classroom makes use of one of the windows for secondary egress. Each room had sinks available in the classroom to facilitate hand washing. Bathrooms are located off the main corridor and children are escorted to the bathroom as needed. Each room has a small dorm size refrigerator present in the classroom. It was observed that each is located on a counter and these should be secured with a bracket, strap, or by some other means to reduce the risk of being a topple hazard.

Each room is divided in to activity areas through the use of furniture, shelving, and play structures. The rooms are decorated with the children’s art projects, and commercially produced learning concepts posters. The centers were arranged in a manner that allowed the children room to move and play without creating any blind areas. Each center was stocked with a good variety of materials that were appropriate to the ages of the children present and were observed to be in good repair. Copies of the daily schedule and lesson plans were present. Although the children were laying down for nap time good interactions were observed with the teachers sitting next to children rubbing their backs to sooth them, or otherwise attending to their needs. Each room was observed to be in ratio and when a teacher needed to leave another staff member would step in to take their place.

Good health and safety practices were observed with the center having implemented temporary requirements in response to the current Coronavirus pandemic. This includes limiting access, conducting health screening of children and visitors, removal of plush toys and dramatic play clothes, and enhanced cleaning practices. There were no children taking any medications, or who had a diagnosed allergy at the time of my visit but the center does have policies in place should it become necessary in the future. First aid kits are maintained in the classrooms and were generally stocked with materials necessary to address most common first aid needs. Kits should be labeled either with signage posted where they are stored, or on the kits. I was not able to observe a diaper change during the time of my visit but copies of the procedures were posted by all changing stations. Evacuation notices that include both diagram and written instructions for fire and tornado evacuation were not posted by all exits from each classroom as required. The center does make use of evacuation cribs in the infant room and during the visit it was observed that items were being stored in the evacuation crib that was designated by the reinforced design. Evacuation cribs must be kept clear of obstructions being stored in or under them so that they are readily available for use at all times.

Meals are prepared by the school and a copy of the menu was posted.

The playground was observed and includes a variety of equipment including some preschool sized climbing structures. Rubber mulch is used for fall surfacing and the depth of material is insufficient with it being displaced in areas to the point that the geo-cloth barrier was exposed in fall zones. The playground is fully enclosed by fencing. Mature trees provide shade. The program does have access to other school facilities and large grassy areas.

In reviewing administrative records all required notices were posted in an area readily accessible to all parents and visitors though it was noted that the consultant contact notice was for the prior consultant and a new posting was sent to the center. Staff and child files were not reviewed during this visit as it is understood that some information would be out of date or missing due to general economic shutdowns related to the Coronavirus pandemic with some vendors not providing services for training, physicals, and FBI background checks. The center does have the Pro Care app which is used for daily contact with parents and is looking into the option of using that system to maintain administrative records. All required inspection logs were available and current.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The program has participated in the Quality Rating System (QRS) which seeks to implement best practice recommendations. That certificate expired in January of this year and the center has not been able to renew that certification due to shutdowns related to Coronavirus.

The program has a video surveillance system that also has the ability to record in each room.

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

109.10(15)b: Emergency instructions, phone numbers, and diagrams for fire, tornado, and flood shall be visibly posted and documented at least once a month for fire and tornado. Records shall be maintained for current and previous year.

-- Evacuation notices with both diagram and written instructions for fire and tornado evacuation were not posted by all exits from each classroom.

109.10(15)d: Daily checks to ensure all exits are unobstructed.

-- Items were stored in the designated evacuation crib. These must remain clear of obstruction at all times.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. Adequate indoor and outdoor space is provided. The outdoor area shall include safe play equipment and area of shade. Sufficient space provided for dining. Sufficient lighting shall be provided. Sufficient ventilation. Sufficient heating. Sufficient cooling. Sufficient bathroom and diapering facilities. Equipment, including kitchen appliances, are maintained so as not to result in burns, shock, or injury to children. Sanitation and safety procedures for the center are developed and implemented to reduce risk or injury or harm to children and reduce transmission of disease.

-- The outdoor playground has insufficient fall surfacing in fall zones with the rubber mulch having been displaced such that the geo-cloth barrier was exposed. Material shall be added or raked back into place to ensure a proper depth for the fall height of the equipment as established by the ASTM certifications of the manufacturer.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is recommended at this time. Please provide a written response to the licensing consultant identifying a plan of action to correct and maintain those aspects cited as not meeting licensing standards and identifying an anticipated date of compliance. At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year.

*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.