Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Marshalltown YMCA-YWCA

Provider No.: 18076

Address: 705 S Center ST, Marshalltown, IA, 50158

County: Marshall

Director's Name: Ashley Nelson

On-Site Supervisor: TBD

Phone Number: 6417528658

E-Mail: ashley.nelson@ymca-ywca.org

HHS Visit Date: 07/10/2026

Licensing Period: 08/01/2025 to 08/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 04/02/2025

Comments: Fire inspections due at least every three years; completed by Marshalltown FD, FF Jason Johnston

Report Visit Type:

- [ ] PTO
- [X] Licensing Visit
- [ ] Drop In
- [ ] Administrative Change

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

- [X] Year-Round
- [ ] School Year
- [ ] Summer Only

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	7:15 AM to 5:30 PM		
Tuesday	7:15 AM to 5:30 PM		
Wednesday	7:15 AM to 5:30 PM		
Thursday	7:15 AM to 5:30 PM		
Friday	7:15 AM to 5:30 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

- [ ] Infant(0-<24 Months)
- [ ] Toddler
- [X] PreSchool
- [X] School Age
- [ ] All Ages

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General			40	202	242
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced full licensing visit was completed 7/10/26. Ashley Nelson, director, was present throughout the visit.

Marshalltown YMCA-YWCA child care center has been in operation for over ten years. They provide childcare and preschool for ages 3-5, year round and after school care for school age children from 3:45 to 5:30 PM Monday through Friday. Fully-day programming is available in the summer for school-aged children. The program runs in the Y Cultural Building on the Marshalltown YMCA-YWCA property. There are no recreational programs held in this building during the hours of child care. Child care is also provided to school-age children when school is not in session.

Ashley Nelson is the director over the child care programs. She has an AA degree in Child development. She worked in a child care center for two years before starting to work at the Y Preschool program. In 2008 she was promoted to director. The center is working to establish an new on-site supervisor.

Observation of each room: The center uses creative curriculum and "remind" application to communicate with parents. The pre-school rooms are on the main floor and were observed to be clean, offering a variety of toys and play centers. The children were resting when this visit took place, and staff were closely supervising. The school-aged program occupies the Gym and has access to two rooms on the lower level. The school age program was playing in the gym getting ready for a field trip. The children were engaged and content. With staff that maintained good structure and were responsive to the children.

Nutritional Practices: The on-site kitchen is not utilized in the summer. The center enjoys a strong partnership with the community school; such that lunch is prepared and provided to the center by the school during the summer; whose menu is

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regulated by the Dept of Education and similar to that of CACFP. The center provides snack items and appear to be in-line with CACFP guidelines. During the school year, the program has access to an on-site kitchen and dedicated staff that prepare snack and lunches in line with CACFP guidelines. The on-site kitchen is located on the second floor of the building; No children are on the 2nd floor, so food is prepared and served family style by staff in the classrooms during the school year.

Health and Safety: Some staff are certified medication passers. The medication is kept secure with staff access by key and record of administration kept with the medication for the child. The facility has restrooms on the ground and lower level for program use. Emergency exit plans were observed to be posted conspicuously and drills were documented to have been completed. Radon testing was completed in September of 2023 and all was under the required safe level. The HVAC is inspected/maintained by the YMCA-YWCA facilities management. The center employs a professional pest control that treats the facility regularly. The center is situated to have pick-up and drop-off monitored and there are cameras in halls to assist.

Playground: The playground is located adjacent to the preschool rooms. There has been recent renovation to the playground decking. The playground is surfaced with rubber matting. The playground was observed with natural and building shade and to be in good condition. Playground checks were documented to have been completed timely.

Center Transportation: Transportation is provided by a school bus and school bus driver, when needed.

Administrative Records: The center has conspicuously posted information on mandatory reporting, handbook accessibility, consultant contact, license; with fire/tornado emergency plans also posted. Non-smoking signs were posted. Five child files were reviewed and contained all required information; Five staff files were reviewed with one new employee that had passed 3 months of employment however had not completed CPR/First aide or mandatory reporter training (this is unusual for this center; the center has many new staff for this summer).

The center continues to have a Board of Directors.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The center is able to use other programs offered through the Y such as swimming, dance.

The center offers a fun environment and their enrollment strong.

The center continues to have a strong relationship with the school district.

The center is considering applying for IQ4K (quality assurance) programming offered by the state of Iowa, the director is working to address some various criteria that make it difficult for this program to qualify, namely the pool located just adjacent to the program space, albeit in another building.

The center offers flexibility for parents to accommodate work schedules. The center offers part time care as well as drop in care.

The director was observed to be supportive and responsive to staff and children alike. The staff maintained good structure and the children were content.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.10(13)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.

4. Any corrective action plans, provisional license, and safety plans-steps to get into compliance

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--One classroom was missing a tornado/fire evacuation diagram posting; the director stated that she would locate a diagram and post right away.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

A full two-year license is recommended.

The center last completed testing in September of 2023, all levels below 4.0 safety cut off.

The HVAC is inspected/maintained by the YMCA-YWCA facilities management.

Targeted Assessment: Behavior Management
I discussed with the center director their oversight of behavior management related to helping childcare staff: 1) Understand expectations, 2) managing frustrations, 3) monitor performance. The director indicated that the center staff work as a team and with outside resources such as AEA or CCRR if needed for behavioral management techniques.

Date: 08/09/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV

Non-compliance with any of the mandated regulatory requirements listed above may lead to the cancellation or revocation of your Child Care License. Please take steps necessary to completely address each of the violations noted above.

Child Care Resource and Referral is an excellent resource for providers to access training options and support in your area. You can reach Child Care Resource and Referral at **https://iowaccrr.org**.