

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

Name of Center: Children's Imagination Station **Enrollment:** 83 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 14144

Street: 1826 3rd Ave South **City:** Denison **Iowa** **Zip** 51442 **County:** Crawford

Mailing Address: 1826 3rd Ave South, Denison, IA, 51442

Director's Name: Amanda Musfeldt **Phone Number:** 712-263-7100

On-Site Supervisor(s): **E-Mail:** director@denisoncis.org

Date(s) of Visit: 03-12-2025

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: 03-15-2024

Comments :

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

Financial Type: Profit X Non-Profit NA

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	25	24	63	34	146
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	FULL license from 06-01-2024 to 06-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Kathy DeGeorge-Evans

Date: 03-17-2025

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 Children's Imagination Station in Denison Iowa on 3-12-2025. The child care center is located in a residential area (the center opened in 2001). Denison Head Start I and II are also located in this building. Amanda Musfeldt became the interim director in August 2024, she will meet all of the director qualifications in April 2025. Amanda will complete her associates degree in general studies in May 2025 and then she plans to get her bachelors degree.

Child care services are offered to infant age children to to eleven years old children Monday through Friday 5:30 am to 6:00 pm. I met with Amanda Musfeldt during my licensing visit. There are 83 children enrolled.

Observation of rooms:

There are seven program rooms, all program rooms looked nice and were in ratio. Most program rooms were observed during nap time. Staff were positive and attentive to the needs of the children. The school age children were in school at the time of my visit. The program rooms had a fun variety of age and developmentally appropriate toys and equipment. The daily sheets looked good, the teachers in each room are responsible for their lesson plans/activities. During the summer the school age program has weekly themes.

The Brightwheel child care app is used.

Nutrition:

The center receives their meals from Treat America/Company Kitchen. Monthly menus are posted. Proper food storage was observed, and thermometers are in the refrigerators/freezers. The center participates in the federal food program.

Health and safety:

The center follows the medication management procedures when children are prescribed medication. Fire/tornado drills are practiced and documented monthly. Radon testing was done in April 2024, seven tests were completed and all test results were under a 4.0 pCi/L. Please refer to your handbook for information on radon as the rules have changed and the frequency of testing has changed. It was reported that the building has all electric appliances, therefore a fuel burning inspection isn't required.

Bleach water is used for sanitizing and disinfecting. Amanda reported that the bleach/water is mixed for each room daily and they are following the three step bottle procedure - one set for sanitizing and one set for disinfecting. 1. Soap/water for cleaning, 2. Water for rinsing and 3. Your EPA and child care approved product for sanitizing and disinfecting. If you are using bleach/water you will need to follow the directions on the specific bottle of bleach you are using for mixing instructions for sanitizing and disinfecting - if the information isn't on the bottle you will need to go to the website listed on the bottle. Bleach/water needs to be mixed daily. I am recommending that you discuss other product options for sanitizing and disinfecting with your child care nurse consultant Jennifer Chapman.

Amanda said they use the dishwasher for sanitizing hard surface toys.

Playground:

The center has playground areas for each age group of children. Monthly playground safety inspections are completed.

Transportation:

The center doesn't provide daily transportation services. During the summer the school age program goes on field trips.

Administrative records:

The center has the required postings on the parent board. The center has the required policies and procedures.

The center employs 20 staff.

Child files were read and were in good order. Anna maintains the child and staff files.

A staff person needed a record check evaluation and another staff needed a national record check - fingerprinting. Please review all staff files and make sure all files have current record checks, evaluation if needed and meets all other DHHS requirements. The Field print location in Denison is used for the national record check (fingerprinting - hand scan)

Amanda will have her early childhood class completed in April 2025.

Staff will be attending a training conference in April 2025.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Amanda Musfeldt is very enthusiastic and proud of the center she has been working very hard to learn the licensing rules. The center is a wonderful resource for the community.

Staff were attentive to the needs of the children, many staff have excellent longevity.

The center is working on IQ4K. The center receives various grants and has fundraising events throughout the year. Grants have been received for painting, flooring, playground renovation etc.

The center has an intercom system which allows communication between staff - this is extremely helpful if a staff person needs to leave the room, emergency issues, or if more staff are needed in a room.

The center has a supportive board.

Amanda has been working with Child Care Resource & Referral worker, Bailey Hill monthly and she has been working with the child care nurse consultant Jennifer Chapman.

Amanda maintains daily communication with staff, and has quarterly staff meetings and she provides weekly staff notes.

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

109.6(6)d Center repeats national criminal history checks at a minimum of every four years or when aware of additional history that occurs.

109.9(1)b: All files contain: A signed copy of DHS criminal history record check or any other permission form approved by the Department of public Safety for conducting an Iowa or national criminal history check. A copy of Request for Child Abuse Information. Copies of the results of Iowa records checks conducted. Copies of national criminal history check results. Any Department-issued documents sent to the center related to records check.

A staff person needed a record check evaluation and another staff needed a national record check - fingerprinting. Please review all staff files and make sure all files have current record checks, evaluation if needed and meets all other DHHS requirements.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is recommended for 6-1-2024 to 6-1-2026.

Off year licensing visit 3-12-2025.

*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.