Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Sugar Babies Learning Center

Provider No.: 53018

Address: 5623 Northwest 86th ST STE 100, Johnston, IA, 50131

County: Polk

Director's Name: Janiya Breckinridge

On-Site Supervisor:

Phone Number: 5154280082

E-Mail: sugarbabiesacademyabc123@gmail.com

HHS Visit Date: 02/24/2026

Licensing Period: 03/01/2026 to 03/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 09/15/2025

Comments:

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	5:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Tuesday	5:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Wednesday	5:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Thursday	5:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Friday	5:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	32	30	88		150
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

Sugar Babies Learning Center is located in a secured building that opened in October 2025. The center serves children from ages infancy through young school age. Lenae Arku is the owner of this center. Lenae is also the owner of Sugar Babies South in Des Moines, Sugar Babies Academy and Smarty Pants Childcare in Des Moines. Janiya Breckinridge is the director of this center. Janiya had director experience at other centers prior to this center.

The center uses BrightWheel. Mandatory postings are in place at the center's entrance. The center is currently using three classrooms. Each classroom had a schedule posted. The classrooms for the 1's and 2's had a monthly theme posted. The center uses a it's own learning curriculum. Children's belongings are kept in individual cubbies.

An unannounced visit was completed on 2/24/26 and 3/20/26. All classrooms were observed. There is an infant classroom, a 1's classroom and a 2's classroom that are currently open. All the classrooms were within ratio during both visits. Children were observed in classrooms. The 2's classroom was also observed on the playground.

The center has a full kitchen. Menus were reviewed and showed compliance with CACFP requirements. The center serves breakfast, morning, lunch and afternoon snack. The menus are on a four rotation. Janiya is currently serving as the cook for the center.

There are two outdoor playground areas that have fencing. There is poured rubber for surfacing material.

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2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The director has several years of experience working in the child care field and director experience.
This center is one of the several centers under the same ownership. The centers share administrative handbooks and staff have assisted other centers when needed.
The building is secured.
The building was used as a child care center prior to this center moving into the space.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.7(1): All staff (within first three months of employment):Iowa’s training for the mandatory reporting of child abuse.At least one hour of training regarding universal precautions.Certification in First Aid infant, child, and adult cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) or equivalent certification approved by the Department. A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained.Certification in infant, child, and adult first aid that uses a nationally recognized curriculum or is received from a nationally recognized training organization including the American Red Cross, American Heart Association, American Safety and Health Institute, or MEDIC First Aid or an equivalent certification approved by the Department. A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained.Minimum health and safety trainings, (Essentials) approved by the Department. If significant changes occur to content, the Department may require the training be renewed.
A few staff need to take First Aid/CPR training.
A class is scheduled for the end of March.

109.9(2)i: Preschool (for children five years and younger not enrolled in school): Physical exam report submitted within 30 days of admission, was obtained no more than 12 months prior to admission, is signed by a licensed MD, DO, Chiropractor, PA, or ARNP, and contains health history; present health status including allergies, medications, and acute/chronic conditions; and recommendations for continued care if necessary.
At the first visit, majority of the children's files were missing physicals. Enrollment forms were also missing. At the second visit, there were a few children's files missing physicals.

109.10(7): First aid kit: The center shall ensure that a clearly labeled first aid kit that is sufficient to address minor injury or trauma is available and accessible to staff at all times when children are:In the center.In the outdoor play area.On field trips (away from the center).
The first aid kits were not complete and didn't have all recommended items. A first aid checklist will be sent to the center to ensure the center has all the required items.

109.11(2)a: The center will provide sufficient and safe indoor play equipment, materials, and furniture. It must meet the developmental, activity and special needs of the children.
There was a wood slide play structure in the 2's classroom. The structure requires a fall zone surfacing mat due to the height and the structure was on a rug.
The center said they would remove the structure from the classroom and this structure was removed by the second visit.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that:Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free.Sufficient lighting shall be provided.Sufficient ventilation.Sufficient heating.Sufficient cooling.Equipment placed in the program area is maintained so as not to result in injury to the children.
In the infant classroom, there was a TV placed on a stand. The cord from the TV was hanging down and accessible to the children, creating a safety hazard. This was observed in the first visit and the center was told they needed to ensure the cord was out of children's reach. This worker suggested a few options to resolve the issue. At the second visit, the TV on the same stand had been moved to a different area in the room, with the TV cord still hanging down, in children's reach. This was addressed again. Janiya said this safety hazard would be taken care of.

109.12(1): Program structure that uses developmentally appropriate practices and written program of activities planned to the developmental needs of children served.Program complements but does not duplicate school curriculum.Schedule of program is posted in a place visible to parents.
There was a circular area in the 1's classroom that was separated with fencing. There was some toys in this area and a rug.

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This worker observed one child in this area playing. Staff stated this child bites and that's why the child was in that area. Children were involved in child directed play at the time. There were two staff in the room and six toddlers. There were no children crying at the time, the child in the circular area was not crying but simply playing by oneself. This approach is not an appropriate way to address biting in a classroom. This worker talked with Janiya about this approach needing to be discontinued and a referral to CCR&R to do some training, observations and possible classes for staff to take to support them with managing the classroom.

109.12(4)e: The provider shall follow safe sleep practices for infants under one year of age:Infants shall always be placed on their backs for sleep.Infants shall be placed on a firm mattress with a tight fitted sheet.Infants shall not be allowed to sleep on a bed, sofa, air mattress or other soft surface.No child shall be allowed to sleep in any item not designed for infant sleeping, including but not limited to an infant seat, car seat, swing, or bouncy seat.No toys, soft objects, stuffed animals, pillows, bumper pads, blankets, or loose bedding shall be allowed in the sleeping area with the infant.No co-sleeping shall be allowed.Sleeping infants shall be actively observed by sight and sound.If an alternate sleeping position is needed, a signed physician or physician assistant authorization with statement of medical reason is required and an expiration date. The crib sheets were observed to be loose at the time of the first visit. Staff were aware and said the owner had matching sheets at all the centers and was going to buy different ones or have these sheets altered. At the second visit, the cribs sheets were still loose. Staff showed this worker some straps that had been purchased that tighten crib sheets but they were still in packages.

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

The first licensing visit was one on 2/24/26. A second visit, one 3/20/26, was needed as administrative records were not complete at the time of the first visit. The majority of staff files were not available. Children's files were missing physicals. There was improvement made with these records by the second visit.
A referral was made to CCR&R due to concerns with the center having some challenges being ready for the licensing visit and licensing violations. One visit has been done by the center's CCR&R consultant.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

The center has a full license.

Date: 04/07/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Melinda Larson, Child Care Licensing Consultant

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**.