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

Name of Center: Irving Head Start **Enrollment:** 84 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 30164

Street: 710 Iowa St **City:** Sioux City Iowa **Zip** 51105 **County:** Woodbury

Mailing Address: 2700 Leech Ave, Sioux City, IA, 51106

Director's Name: Rachael Ostermyer **Phone Number:** 712-202-0730

On-Site Supervisor(s): Whitney Haberer **E-Mail:** cbeatty@caasiouxland.org

Date(s) of Visit: 04-24-2025

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:** 04-15-2025

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

Date Inspected: 06-10-2024

Comments :

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

Financial Type: Profit X Non-Profit NA

Accredition: Accredited NAEYC NSACA Other X NA

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

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: Year-round X School-Year Summer Only

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General			84		84
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 4

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 05-01-2025 to 05-01-2027
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Leann Steinhauer **Date:** 04-26-2025

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

This worker completed an unannounced visit to the Irving Head Start. They have a secure entry system, and I was let into the building by their family advocate. The director nor the onsite supervisor were there. I did ask who is in charge when these two individuals were not present, and the Family Advocate did not know.

The advocate did attempt to reach both parties but was not able to. She showed me around the building assisting with the location of the rooms that are identified as Head Start classrooms. She continued to try and reach the director or the onsite. The family advocate was able to reach the nurse and then Christina Beaty who both came to assist. Ms. Beatty explained that Ms. Harberer has a sick child today and that she and Rachel were interviewing someone for employement.

Whitney Haberer has been the on-site supervisor since 12-01-22. Ms. Haberer has an associate's degree in early childhood and is working towards her bachelor's degree. Ms. Haberer has worked for several years with children in a childcare center prior to coming to Irving Headstart.

The center utilizes five large rooms (104,105,107,109, and 111). The program has an outside playground located next to the school. An indoor gym is also available to the center. The program serves children ages 3 to 5 years of age. The program operates Mon 8:30am - 2:30pm Tues-Fri 8:30am to 3:30pm school year. They do have extended stay hours which include 6:30am to 8:15am and 2:30pm to 5:30pm on Mondays, and 3:30pm thru 5:30pm Tuesday thru Fridays.
The program has 5 classrooms and 3 additional classrooms the CAA of Siouxland Shared Visions program utilizes. CAA of Siouxland Shared Visions has its own license within the building.

The program has cameras throughout the building.

Staff files have been checked at the main site.

Irving Headstart has 84 children enrolled, which is their capacity. The center utilizes the High Scope Curriculum Gold in their teachings. They have a level 4 rating in IQ4K.

I observed good interaction between the teachers and the children. Staff utilize a program called Kinder Music which helps the children learn through music. There were several different classes that use song to assist when it was time for a bathroom break or for cleanup. Children were very engaged in this type of learning. Each room had many visual learning activities and centers for play. I observed children eating their morning snacks and good hand washing was witnessed... Children assisted in clean up and then brushed their teeth. Each room had a very positive attitude with staff being very supporting to the children in their class. There center displays many items of artwork that the children have completed. There were also pictures of the children with their family on a bulletin board. There is also a learning tool where children can identify how they are feeling today.

I also checked the kitchen area. They are using good storage practice with open items kept in containers that were dated. I checked the freezers and refrigerators, and they are at the appropriate temperatures. There was a thermometer in each

appliance. Meals are obtained through the Sioux City schools central kitchen. Meals and snacks meet the CACFP guidelines. Menus are posted. The tables are sanitized with Purell prior to eating. Staff were observed eating with the children and engaging in conversation. Staff use this time to teach manners about eating.

Medication is stored in a lock box or out of reach of the children. The center follows proper guidelines for administering medication.

There are first aid kits in each room, and they are sufficient to treat minor injuries. I liked that each room had emergency numbers posted by the door. Fire/tornado drills are documented each month.

The center has a functioning carbon monoxide detector. All program areas were observed to be clean and well maintained. Radon levels are within normal limits.

They have a very large fenced-in playground adjacent to the center. The playground has rubber squares around the play equipment. Shade is available on the playground. They also have an indoor gym that they can use when they cannot go outside. They have a variety of toys, balls, balance beams and tricycles in the gym. Inside and outside toys are in good repair.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Head Start programs are well supported and children receive a lot of support from Head Start staff as well as additional professionals to ensure their educational and health needs are being met. They utilize family advocates and complete home visits.

The program is on the IQ4K program level 4 out of 5.

The program has parent/teacher conferences several times a year.

Staff in this program provide a very nurturing environment for children to learn.

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

109.6(3): Another responsible adult is clearly designated as the interim on-site supervisor if the on-site supervisor is temporarily absent from the center.

Director needs to identify the person in charge when both the director and onsite on not at the building.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Please email consultant by 6/01/25 a plan that they have in place for a person who is identified to be in charge in their absence.

A full license is recommended at this time.

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.