Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Iowa Western Early Childhood Educ Center

Provider No.: 7186

Address: 2700 College RD, Council Bluffs, IA, 51503

County: Pottawattamie

Director's Name: Stacy Bauder

On-Site Supervisor: Amanda Murley

Phone Number: 7123886800

E-Mail: sfluckey@iwcc.edu

HHS Visit Date: 06/22/2026

Licensing Period: 08/01/2026 to 08/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 11/07/2024

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

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

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

Quality Rating: 3

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

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

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	7:00 AM to 5:30 PM		
Tuesday	7:00 AM to 5:30 PM		
Wednesday	7:00 AM to 5:30 PM		
Thursday	7:00 AM to 5:30 PM		
Friday	7:00 AM to 5:30 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	20	9	45		74
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced off year licensing visit was made to Iowa Western Early Childhood Education Center on 6/22/26. The center is on the campus of Iowa Western Community College in Lewis Hall. Lewis Hall also has college classrooms located down the hall. They are separated by a locked door. The setting is a unique environment being located on the campus of a community college where a child development degree is offered. College students are in the programming rooms as part of the child development curriculum. Child care services are offered to children infant age to preschool age, Monday through Friday, 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM. There are 39 children enrolled. Stacy Bauder has been the director since 2021, and she has worked at the center since 2005. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Family Science and has her NAC. The center has several on-site supervisors including Amanda Murley, Brianna Darnell, Theresa Hill, and Heather Sadler. I met with Stacy during my licensing visit.

Observation of rooms:
Thirty children were present during my visit. The programming rooms looked great and have a fun variety of age and developmentally appropriate toys and equipment. Three programming rooms were being used at the time of my licensing visit including the infant room, which is infant to two years old, toddler room is for two-year-olds, and preschool room is for three- to five-year-olds. The infant room had three children and two staff. The daily sheets looked good; they are on the Playground child care app. The toddler room had 10 children and three staff. The children were eating lunch and then preparing for naptime while I was present. The preschool room had 17 children and five staff. Three of the staff were interns. The room was finishing lunches and preparing for naptime. Lesson plans/activities were posted in every room and looked good. They are also on the Playground app. Teaching Strategies Gold is used. The staff in each room are responsible for the lesson plans/activities. All of the necessary postings were in each room including diapering procedures, handwashing postings, emergency diagrams, and emergency phone numbers. Staff had excellent interactions with the children; they were

nurturing and attentive to the needs of the children. The rooms also had students from the college child development program. There is a gross motor room for the infants.

Nutrition:
Breakfast, lunch, and snack are prepared on the college campus and brought to the center. The center is on the federal food program. Proper food storage was observed. Menus are posted. There is a dishwasher/sanitizer in the kitchen.

Health and safety:
Monthly fire and tornado drills are practiced and documented. Radon testing was completed in seven rooms in February 2026, and all were in the acceptable range. Radon testing is due every five years if the results are below 4.0 pCi/L. The center has all electrical appliances. The center has emergency preparedness plans/procedures and emergency kits. There is an evacuation bag in each room. There are first aid kits in every room, and it goes along if they leave the facility. They do not take the first aid kit with them when they go outside. Please start taking the first aid kit with you if you go outside to the playground. The center must ensure that a clearly labeled first-aid kit is available and easily accessible to staff at all times whenever the children are in the center, in the outdoor play area, or on field trips. Staff follow the proper medication procedures if a child is prescribed medication. All full-time staff are med certified. The center uses Purell Surface for sanitizing and disinfecting. The center was not using the three-step procedure. Please follow the three-step procedure: 1. Soap/water for cleaning, 2. Water for rinsing, and 3. Your EPA and child care approved product for sanitizing and disinfecting. Stacy was under the impression the three-step procedure was not necessary with the Purell Surface. I checked with the Child Care Nurse Consultant. The three-step procedure must be used with Purell Surface. The nurse consultant was going to follow up with Stacy to make sure they are following the proper procedures.

Playground:
Each age group has their own playground area. The outdoor equipment is fun and developmentally appropriate. The areas have an outdoor classroom capability. Rubber mulch is used for surfacing. Monthly playground inspections are completed.

Transportation:
The center doesn't provide daily transportation services. The college campus offers learning opportunities for the children. They have enjoyed a variety of walking field trips to the different vocations: dental, nursing, art center, first responders - helicopter, radio station, biology department, cafeteria to make their own pizzas, and the horticulture department.

Administrative records:
I reviewed six children’s files. Three were incomplete. Two children had their immunization records on the wrong form, one did not have a dentist listed, and one child’s physical exam was overdue. I reviewed two staff records, and both were in excellent order. Stacy has monthly staff meetings.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Stacy and the staff are positive and enthusiastic about the center. Stacy is very organized and confident as the director. The center is an excellent resource for the community. Stacy has her NAC credential. Staff had excellent interactions with the children; they were nurturing and attentive to the needs of the children. Monthly newsletters are provided to the parents. Iowa Western Community College has excellent enrollment in the Early Childhood program. Some staff have excellent longevity. The program has a breast-feeding room. Walking field trips are taken to a variety of vocations/departments on campus. The center has received grants for equipment. The center participates in IQ4K level 3 and is about to apply for level 4. The center utilizes the TEACH and WAGE$ programs. Stacy identified their strengths as having excellent ratio because they almost always have more staff than required in each room and the staff are well trained.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

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. I reviewed six children’s files. Three were incomplete. Two children had their immunization records on the wrong form, one did not have a dentist listed, and one child’s physical exam was overdue.

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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 center was not taking the first aid kit outside to the playground.

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

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

A full license is recommended for 8/1/26 to 8/1/28.

Targeted Assessment Behavior Management
I discussed with Stacy her oversight of behavior management related to helping childcare staff: 1. Understand expectations, 2. Managing frustrations, 3. Monitor performance. Stacy said all staff have PBIS training. All staff are required to have more training than what is required by HHS licensing standards. Stacy can hear all the rooms from her office and is able to respond if a staff member needs assistance. Due to being over ratio most of the time, staff are able to take a break if they need it.

Date: 06/30/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Tausha Bottorff

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**.