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

Name of Center: Iowa Western Early Childhood Educ Center **Enrollment:** 60 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 7186

Street: 2700 College RD **City:** Council Bluffs Iowa **Zip** 51503 **County:** Pottawattamie

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

Director's Name: Stacy Bauder Interim director **Phone Number:** 712-388-6813

On-Site Supervisor(s): Debbie Pryor and Amanda Murley **E-Mail:** sfluckey@iwcc.edu

Date(s) of Visit: 07-21-2023

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: 01-06-2022

Comments :

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

Financial Type: Profit X Non-Profit NA

Accredition: Accredited X NAEYC NSACA Other NA

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

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: X Year-round School-Year Summer Only

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

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

QRS Rating: 5

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 08-01-2022 to 08-01-2024
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Kathy DeGeorge-Evans **Date:** 08-07-2023

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 Iowa Western Early Childhood Education Center on 7-21-2023. Nora Evans, the new child care nurse consultant accompanied me on this visit. The center is on the campus of Iowa Western Community College in Lewis Hall. Lewis Hall also has college class rooms 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 program 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 60 children enrolled. Stacy Bauder is the the director, she has worked at the center for many years. Debbie Pryor and Amanda Murley are the on-site supervisors.
Stacy was gone on the day of my licensing visit, I talked with her on the phone on 7-21-2023 and on 8-7-2023. I met with Amanda Murley during my visit, Amanda has worked at the center for over twenty years.

Observation of rooms:
All rooms were in ratio, a couple program rooms weren't being used at the time of my visit. The program rooms looked great and have a fun variety of age and developmentally appropriate toys and equipment.
The children were having fun playing, the preschool children were having water day. The preschool children have a garden.
Creative Curriculum Gold is used. The staff in each room are responsible for the lesson plans/activities.
Staff had excellent interactions with the children, they were positive and involved in programming.
The center uses the Brightwheel app. The daily sheets looked good/Brightwheel.

Nutrition:
Breakfast, lunch and snacks are prepared on the college campus and brought to the center. The program follows the CACFP food guidelines.
The center has a kitchen that is used for cooking activities with the children. Proper food storage was observed.
Menus are posted.

Health and safety:
Monthly fire/tornado drills are practiced and documented.
Fourteen radon tests were completed in October 2022, six of those radon tests were in the program rooms and the scores were all under 4.0 pCi/L.
The center has electric appliances.
The center has emergency preparedness plans/procedures.
Bleach/water is used for sanitizing and disinfecting. Nora Evans the child care nurse consultant clarified the amount of bleach to water ratio for sanitizing and disinfecting when mixing for a gallon of water.

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.

Landscaping will be done on the playground.

Transportation:
The program 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 radio station, biology department, cafeteria to make their own pizzas and the horticulture department.

Administrative records:
Staff and child files were reviewed with Stacy over the phone on 8-7-2021. Stacy reported that all staff files have complete information, including current record checks and the required training.
Stacy reported that all child files have the required information, annual child registration was completed in August 2023.
Stacy has monthly staff meetings.
The center is having difficulty finding staff to hire.
On 8-7-2023 I reviewed the noncompliance items from my 2022 license evaluation with Stacy, she said all items have been corrected.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Stacy and the staff are positive and enthusiastic about the center. Amanda was very helpful during my licensing visit. The center is an excellent resource for the community.
The center has NAEYC accreditation.
Staff had excellent interactions with the children, they were 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.
The college campus offers so many learning opportunities for the children, they have gone on a variety of walking field trips to the different vocations - radio station, biology department, cafeteria to make their own pizza's and the horticulture department.
The center has applied for grants.
The center is a level 5 on the Quality Rating System (QRS).
The center will apply for the new Iowa Quality For Kids program (IQ4K).

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

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is recommended for 8-1-2022 to 8-1-2024.
Off year licensing visit 7-21-2023.

(Administrative change 2-2-2022 increase capacity to 74 children. An infant room was added with 567'. The fire marshal gave approval for the new room on January, 6th 2022)

*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.