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

Name of Center: Little Royals Daycare **Enrollment:** 52 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 52397

Street: 400 E Fenton ST **City:** Marcus Iowa **Zip** 51035 **County:** Cherokee

Mailing Address: PO Box 403, Marcus, IA, 51035

Director's Name: Amber Bruns **Phone Number:** 712-376-1045

On-Site Supervisor(s): Abbey Feller **E-Mail:** littleroyalsdaycare1@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 04-30-2025

Licensing Visit X **Unannounced Visit** X **Off Year Visit** **Administrative Change**

LICENSING VISITS

X **New Application** **Re-Application** **NA**

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 12-14-2023

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

Date Inspected: 12-04-2023

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	30	20	43	25	118
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 1

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 01-08-2024 to 05-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Leann Steinhauer **Date:** 05-07-2025

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

This worker completed an announced visit to the Little Royals Childcare Center in Marcus on 04/30/25. This is a fairly new center which is located at the Marcus Elementary School. Amber Brums is the Director and Abbey Feller is the assistant director. They are currently enrolled in the Lead Pilot Program through the Childcare Resource and referral. I was able to visit with both staff during my visit to the center.

The center has a secure access with the door to the center being inside the school.

The facility has 6 classrooms and an atrium area for preschool/school agers. This area has many windows that give the area a very bright and cheery atmosphere. The center provides programming for ages 6 weeks to school age. Hours of the program are Monday thru Friday 6:00am to 6:00pm. Their capacity is 118 and there are currently 52 children enrolled in the center and 32 at the time of my visit. The daycare has 3 infant rooms (6 months 8 months, 8 months to 1 year old, 1-2year old), 1 - 2yr old room, 1- 3yr old room, 4/5yr room, and a school age room (atrium). The program uses a theme-based curriculum. All the cribs have solid barrier ends to help reduce disease transmission, and some of the cribs have stronger frames and larger wheels to serve as evacuation cribs. The center uses the Bright Wheel App. to where infant daily sheets are maintained and documented. I observed good interaction with staff being down on the floor interacting with the children or otherwise attending to their needs. Staff were able to verbalize the appropriate diapering process. This room is very organized and has good record keeping of each child's formula, diapers and other items. Each child has a cubby for their own supplies. Items such as diaper cream were labeled by child's name. There was a variety of toys and materials were present and observed to be in good repair.

The two- and three-year-old rooms also have sufficient toys and equipment and age appropriate. The four- to five-year-old classroom was observed to be clean with a good design layout. Some children attend preschool programs at the elementary school. The school age program also was observed to be clean with lots of space and likes of activities and toys to keep the children occupied in a positive manner. At the time of the visit the school agers were at school, so the room was empty.

All rooms have a variety of artwork and other visual aids. The center has a very positive environment. In the infant room they recently did an activity with their footprints which was hanging on the walls among other artwork by the children. There are schedules hung in each classroom along with activities for the day.

The program gets their breakfast and lunches from the Marcus Community School who brings the food to the center from the kitchen. The program provides snacks onsite. The school kitchen is equipped to meet the requirements necessary for a childcare center. Meals are portioned out for service while on carts in the classrooms. Food items are stored in a main storage area, as well as limited supplies in classrooms

The center does follow the CACFP guidelines but is not currently on the food program. They are working on connecting with this program. A menu is posted that indicates a good variety of nutritious meal options.

In each room there is a schedule for daily and weekly cleanings which need to be signed by staff when completed.
The center does have established policies and procedures regarding the authorization, administration, documentation, and storage of medications. The center uses both formal medication administration forms for prescription and non-prescription medications. Medications are stored in lock boxes in areas that are not readily accessible to children or the public. There are no children currently on any medication. First aid kits were present in each classroom and stocked with supplies sufficient to address common first aid needs.

Inspection certificates for the fire marshal, and a carbon monoxide detector were current and present in the center. Radon testing was completed and within normal range.

The center does not transport children. The center staff and parent handbooks have been reviewed and found to contain all required policies.

I further observed the playground. The playground equipment is in good order. They have just laid new sod which they are watering.

They have begun the process of obtaining an IQ4K accreditation.

This program has a cell phone policy. When a staff member arrives at the facility, they put their cell phone in a pocket holder until their shift is over. This is a very creative solution for cell phone use in the classroom.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Center is very organized and clean. They use daily and weekly cleaning schedules to ensure regular cleaning occurs of items and areas in the center.

Staff were observed to be very engaged with the children in their care.

Center displays children's artwork in the rooms.

Center uses the Brightwheel Childcare App to communicate with families and what is going on in the program.

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

109.9(2)b: All files contain sufficient information and authorization to allow the center to secure emergency medical and dental services at any time child is in center’s care.
Number not in compliance for dental: 1
Information lacking: There needs to be a dentist identified regardless of the age of the child.

109.10(1)a: 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, PA, Chiropractor or ARNP, and contains health history; present health status including allergies, medications, and acute/chronic conditions; and recommendations for continued care if necessary.
Number not in compliance: 1

109.11(3)d: Record of monthly inspections of outdoor recreation area and equipment shall be kept. Playground inspection was not completed monthly.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is the director to continue to work with CCRR for support and assistance as they worker toward their IQ4K level.

Director needs to email consultant by 07/01/25 confirming that all aspects below standards have been corrected.

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.