Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: New Horizon Academy - Ankeny

Provider No.: 52753

Address: 3425 NW State St, Ankeny, IA, 50023

County: Polk

Director's Name: Amy Baker

On-Site Supervisor: Katherine McCloud

Phone Number: 5158773131

E-Mail: 3008@nhacademy.net

HHS Visit Date: 02/25/2026

Licensing Period: 02/18/2025 to 02/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 01/26/2026

Comments: Fire Inspections due at least every three years; completed by Ankeny Fire Dept--Lt Tyson Hood.

Report Visit Type:

- [ ] PTO
- [ ] 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	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Tuesday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Wednesday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Thursday	6:30 AM to 6:00 PM		
Friday	6:30 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	48	28	88	30	194
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced licensing visit was completed 2/25/26; and Director, Amy Baker was present through the visit.
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New Horizon Academy--Ankeny was given Permission to Open without a license on 2/18/25. New Horizon Academy is based out of Minnesota and has child care centers in several states. This is one of several centers recently constructed by New
Horizon in the metro area.

Kelena Bonnell is the Area Director for all the centers opening in Iowa. Amy Baker is the director for the Ankeny Center. Amy has a Bachelor's degree in Family Services, director experience and several years of child care experience. Katie McCloud, assistant director, has several years of child care experience. Both meet the points criteria for their positions.

The center hours of operation are from 6:30 AM to 6:00 PM, serving children ages 6 weeks to school age.

This center is located in a new building designed specifically for child care.

The center uses the Creative Curriculum and the pro-care application to communicate with parents. The rooms offer a variety of age/developmentally appropriate toys/activities. The classrooms were organized and clean. Staff were observed to be attentive to the children while resting and the children to be content.

New Horizons Academy- Ankeny prepares on site and offers breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack.

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The center has a new playground that is divided by ages; and is enclosed with wrought iron fencing. It offers varying sizes of play equipment and the safety surfacing is artificial turf. Although snow covered during the visit; the center documents completing safety checks at least monthly.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

This center is located in a new building specifically built for child care and offers a great variety of age/developmentally appropriate toys and activity centers.

The rooms are set up well to provide good supervision. The teachers were observed working well as a team; along with the director/assistant director often stepping in rooms when needed to assist.

The center has a secure entrance and has video monitoring in all rooms.

New Horizon Academy offers tuition reimbursement for staff to obtain their CDA, AA, BA and MA.

The center uses an application to support good communication between the center and parents.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.9(1)a: All files contain:Copy of a department criminal history record check form or any other permission form approved by Department of Public Safety for conducting an Iowa or national criminal history record check Copy of a request for child abuse information form, when applicable.Copies of results of Iowa record checks conducted through the SING for review by the department upon request.Copies of national criminal history check results.Any department issued documents sent to the center related to a record check, regardless of findings.

109.9(1)c: All files contain documentation to indicate that ongoing staff training requirements are met, including current certifications in first aid/CPR and mandatory child abuse training.

109.9(2)d: 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.

109.9(2)h: Signed and dated valid Certificate of Immunization, Certificate of Immunization Exemption, or Provisional Certificate of Immunization, provided by the department must be on file for each child enrolled as required by Iowa Administrative Code 641—7.

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.

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

*All Files contain a copy of criminal record checks: One employee file reviewed did not have a copy of national criminal history checks. The director took note, and later provided the national criminal history check as required. No further follow up required at this time.

*All files contain documentation indicating staff have current CPR/First Aid training certifications; and current documentation that staff has completed mandatory child abuse training. Two staff files were missing current CPR/First Aid certificates of completion. One staff was missing documentation that child abuse mandatory reporter training had been completed. The director indicated the CPR/First Aid training had been completed and would provide certificates of completion. One staff file indicated the need for the staff to update CHILD abuse mandatory reporter training as this was expired. The director indicated this staff would be directed to complete an updated training and would send the completion

certificate when finished. After certificates of completion are received; no further follow up required at this time.

*All files contain information necessary to secure emergency medical and dental services for any child in care; one child's file was missing information for emergency dental services; the director would obtain this information from the family and no further follow up required.

*Signed/date immunization or certificate of immunization exemption must be on file for all children enrolled and Physical Exam report submitted and placed on file within 30 days of admission; one child file was missing a physical exam report and immunization/exemption valid certificates; which the director obtained from the family the following day and placed in the child's file. No further follow up required.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

This center completed radon testing 1/2025; all levels were below 4.0 at that time. Radon testing will be due again in five years.

Recommending full licensure continue.

Date: 03/02/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV

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**.