Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: University Community Childcare Inc

Provider No.: 16802

Address: 2623 Bruner DR, Ames, IA, 50010

County: Story

Director's Name: Stacy Lehman

On-Site Supervisor: Angi Esser/Tracy Yetter/Laura Martin

Phone Number: 5152949838

E-Mail: univcc@iastate.edu

HHS Visit Date: 03/06/2026

Licensing Period: 03/01/2026 to 03/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 04/22/2024

Comments: Fire Inspections due at least every three years; completed by Ames Fire Dept--Jason Ziph

Report Visit Type:

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

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

Quality Rating: 5

- [ ] 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
- [X] School Age
- [ ] All Ages

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	41	18	47	19	125
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced licensing visit was completed 3/6/26; and the assistant director was present for the visit.

University Community Childcare first opened in 1971 and moved to this location that was built specifically for child care in 2004. It is a center for the child care needs of Iowa State University faculty and staff and also for Iowa State students and for the community. They also offer a separate preschool program for families in the community. UCC is a year round center that provides care for infants up to and including school age children.

Hours of operation are 7:00 am-5:30 pm.

Stacy Lehman is the director. Stacy has a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education as well as Sociology. Stacy has been a director at another center and has several years experience in a daycare setting. Angi Esser is the assistant director and has worked in childcare several years, as well as having prior experience as a CCR&R consultant.

Room observations: The center uses the Creative Curriculum and the pro-care application to sign-in, however maintains point sheets for the children to communicate with parents. The classrooms offer a variety of age appropriate toys and learning centers. The children appeared content and staff engaged and attentive. The center plans to re-open a classroom for additional infants to be enrolled that is a part of the active license.

Nutrition Practices: The center has a newly remodeled kitchen where meals are prepared fresh on-site daily. The center offers breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack. The center is in enrolled in CACFP healthy guidelines for eating. The children have meals and snack family style in their classrooms.

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Playground: The playground is enclosed with chain link fencing and surfaced with grass, cement and wood chips. There is natural shade and small play structures. The playground is divided into separate play areas by age.

Transportation: This center utilizes CyRide for field trips.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The center has been NAEYC accredited since 2000. The center has attained Level 5 on IQ4K (Iowa Quality for Kids (IQ4K®) is Iowa's new Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) for Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) licensed Child Care Centers and preschools, registered Child Development Homes and programs operating under the authority of an accredited school district or nonpublic school. IQ4K® provides five levels of quality (building blocks) that programs can achieve and continue to improve on).

The center has been involved with the TEACH program and Wages program. Child Care WAGE$® Iowa (WAGE$) is a salary supplement program offered by Iowa AEYC. WAGE$ works hand-in-hand with TEACH Early Childhood® Iowa.

TEACH (Teacher Education and Compensation Helps) is a comprehensive scholarship program that provides the early childhood workforce access to educational opportunities and is helping establish a well-qualified, fairly compensated and stable workforce for our children.

The center has many long term staff, including staff that have obtained associates or bachelor's degree.

The staff work well together and are professional and the center has a strong working relationship and partnership with the university.

The center will close two days during the year for Professional Development days for staff.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

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.

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

109.9(1)c: All files contain documentation to indicate that staff training requirements are met and up to date; There were two staff files reviewed with expired CPR. The assistant director indicated that the center has a group CPR/first aid training set for 3/10/26 and the assistant director or director will forward the completion certificates to the licensor. No other follow up at this time.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

The center participates in the CACFP (food program) and their menus reflect they are following the guidelines.

Radon testing was completed 1/29/25 , with results all below 4.0.

The furnace is inspected yearly by the University.

Date: 03/06/2026

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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**.