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

Name of Center: Sloan Head Start **Enrollment:** 86 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 30189

Street: 2711 South Helen **City:** Sioux City Iowa **Zip** 51106 **County:** Woodbury

Mailing Address: 2700 Leech Ave, Sioux City, IA, 51106

Director's Name: Rachel Ostermeyer **Phone Number:** 712-274-1610

On-Site Supervisor(s): Maggie Butler **E-Mail:** cbeatty@caasiouxland.org

Date(s) of Visit:

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 04-15-2025

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

Date Inspected: 06-29-2022

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 NAEYC NSACA Other X NA

Program Serves: 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*	*Summer Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	0	16	92	0	108
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 4

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 06-01-2025 to 06-01-2027
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Leann Steinhauer **Date:** 05-13-2025

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 05/08/25 I completed an announced visit at the Sloan Head start. I was able to speak with Maggie Butler. Ms. Butler has a bachelor's degree in business with an early childhood endorsement. Ms. Butler has several years' worth of experience working in childcare-related fields and has been with the head start program for 10 years. The center is overseen by a Board. Rachel Ostermeyer is the director of this program as well as other related programs.

The building has 7 rooms, with 2 of them being EHS classroom and 5 HeadStart classrooms. Sloan Head start building has an Early Head Start Program of 2 classrooms ages 6 weeks to 2 years, and 2-3 year olds . The EHS program is a year-round program. The hours of EHS are 6:30am to 5:30pm Monday thru Friday. The Head start hours are from 8:30am to 2:30pm on Mondays, and 8:30am to 3:45pm Tuesday thru Fridays. HeadStart also offers extended childcare hours during the school year which are 6:30am to 8:30am and 3:45 to 5:30pm. HeadStart classes will be completed soon and will resume after Labor Day for the next school year. EHS will continue throughout the summer, however, it will close for 2 weeks in August and resume after Labor Day.

The capacity of this center is 108. There are 100 children enrolled in the program; at the time of the visit there were 86 present. All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review.

I was able to observe each room. There were a sufficient number of toys and equipment for the number of children. Daily schedule of activities was posted. Displayed throughout the room were colors, shapes, five senses, globe of the world, picture schedule for the children, job chart, children's artwork and the alphabet. I observed staff assisting children with a variety of activities, talking to the children throughout my visit, leading the children in exercise, reminding the children about rules, engaging the children in activities, sitting at the tables with the children during meals and reading stories to the children.

In one room they are growing plants and learning about this process. These teachers have a good understanding of the children in their classroom, and they move from activity to activity in good order. The children in the classroom have a routine and a good understanding of the rules. Redirection is done in a positive way. One child was having a hard day today and their solution was for the director to pull him out of the class and read a book to him which worked great. When he returned to class his day was going much better.

The EHS infant rooms also had sufficient number of toys, cribs, highchairs and equipment in the room. Children have access to changing tables. Observed staff feeding the children, playing with them, rocking them to sleep, talking to the children throughout the day and diaper changing. Good staff interaction with the children throughout the day. Staff provide a caring environment for the children. Throughout the center staff are very attentive to the children's needs and concerns. Center Nutrition Practices Observed Lunch, breakfast, and snacks are provided by the Sioux City school system. The program exhibits good food storage practices. The program follows the CACFP guidelines and participates in the CACFP program. Menus were posted. Tables are sanitized prior to children eating. I observed good hand washing procedures by staff and children.

First aid kit is sufficient to treat minor injuries. Fire/tornado drills are documented each month. Radon test and Furnace inspection were completed and kept in their main binder.
The center has a functioning carbon monoxide detector.

I really like that in each classroom located by the first aid kit is all the information needed about each child.

They have a very large fenced-in playground next to the building and an infant/toddler playground too. They also have access to a gym in the building. The playground has a slide, climbing equipment, balance beam, tricycles, tricycle path, paint area, musical equipment, stage and a sand/digging area. There is turf in the infant playground area. Monthly playground inspection completed. Shade is available on the playground. They have playground toys that would be interesting and engaging to children.

All of the required postings were visible. The center's discipline practices consist of talking to the children, redirection, tucker turtle and PBIS. They also use the second step where they talk about social and emotional issues with the children. I liked how in the classrooms, the children identify their feeling of the day by putting their picture under several different pictures of sad, happy, angry and ect. This is a good tool to understand how a child is feeling today and promotes good communication between staff and the children in their care.

Staff files have been reviewed at an early date as they are located at the main office in Remsen.

Children’s annual update is missing in quite a few files. This is because their update is in the month of May. The Director was going to inform staff and staff meeting to ensure this update is completed.

An evacuation drill was held this day and children and staff walked to the church that is nearby.

The center has a website and a Facebook page. The center practices PBIS for children who are having a difficult time adjusting/behaving. Children's artwork was displayed in classrooms. There are two homes visits each year as well as two parent-teacher conferences throughout the year.

The bulletin board in the main lobby of the building has many resources for parents.

The center goals continue to be maintain employees and continue to work on their IQ4K accreditation.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center practices PBIS for children who are having a difficult time adjusting/behaving.

There are two homes visits each year as well as two parent-teacher conferences throughout the year.

Monthly Second Step information on different topics are sent home to parents.

Staff present a positive atmosphere and take time to get to know the children in there care.

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: 2
Information lacking: 2 files are missing dental information.

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

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The program will email consultant 07/01/25 confirming that all aspects below standards has been corrected.

A full license is recommended at this time.

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.