Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Riverview Early Childhood Center

Provider No.: 16138

Address: 705 Odell St, Webster City, IA, 50595

County: Hamilton

Director's Name: Rosann Messerly

On-Site Supervisor: Kristy Stertz

Phone Number: 5158329240

E-Mail: riverviewearlychildhood1988@gmail.com

HHS Visit Date: 06/29/2026

Licensing Period: 09/01/2025 to 09/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 09/22/2022

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

- [ ] PTO
- [X] 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	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Tuesday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Wednesday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Thursday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Friday	6:00 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	14	22	30	32	98
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced annual visit was made to the Riverview Early Childhood Center on 06-29-26 where I met with center director Rosie Messerly. Rosie has been with this center since 1998 and is wall qualified for the position based on her experience and on-going professional training in early childhood care. Kristy Stertz is the assistant director and is also well qualified based on her experience and on-going training. The center is located in the old Riverview Elementary school building in Webster City and is operated as a non-profit program. The community school district does rent space and operates a 4 year old preschool program in one classroom which is exempt from licensing under Department of Education guidelines during the school year, but the daycare does make use of the space during the summer months. The center provides daycare and preschool programming to infants through school age children. The center did make a change to their programming and will cap child enrollment and will discontinue care to children once they turn 10 years of age based on enrollment patterns that there are very few children attending after that age and allowing the center to provide additional programming to younger age groups. The center has approximately 137 children enrolled in the center served by 35 staff. The center did merge with another daycare center in the community combining all children at the Riverview location while the other facility is fully renovated at which point the programming will move to that location. All aspects of the program subject to licensing were reviewed during this visit.

The physical facilities remain the same as in prior visits. The center did make a change with making use of the gym, and another space that have been previously approved for occupancy to expand the available programming space to accommodate additional children from the merger with the other daycare. The gym is used to provide space for school age children, and the other space to provide room for infants 1-2 years of age. Each classroom has a traditional school room floor plan with a toilet and sink accessible directly from the room. Each room has large banks of windows along the exterior walls that provide natural light, ventilation, and a view of the outdoors. With the exception of the birth to 1 year old

infant room which has its own direct exit door each room makes use of evacuation windows. Exits were maintained so as to be clear of obstruction and opened easily and freely. Each room was observed to be clean. There were some minor maintenance issues such as cabinet door hinges that were loose, and a loose door knob to a school age room but nothing that rose to the level of being an immediate concern. The birth to 1 infant room does have a small mobile fence and gate barrier used to separate the play area from the sleeping area. During the visit staff were observed to use the gate when passing between the two areas. Each classroom makes use of furniture, and play structures to define activity centers which were arranged so as not to create any blind areas.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Interaction & Programming
Each classroom had a copy of the daily schedule and planned curriculum posted. The curriculum identified a general learning focus theme, with specific special planned activity such as a craft project, book, or event. With the more relaxed atmosphere of summer programming much of activities in the classrooms involved self-directed center play. Accommodations were made to the schedule for engaging in outdoor play early in the morning before forecasted temperatures rose to the level of being uncomfortable. The staff were attentive to the children during the visit with talking with the children, assisting with diapering and feeding, and addressing behavioral issues. The center does use positive behavior supports to encourage appropriate behavior. There were no significant behavioral concerns observed on the day of my visit and those minor issues that did arise were effectively resolved using simple redirection. Ratio was maintained in the classrooms as required by age, including when leaving for off-site activities with one additional staff accompanying the school age children that went to the pool.

Health & Safety
Good health and safety practices were generally observed though handwashing practices do need to be reviewed. During the visit I was able to observe diaper changes in several classrooms. Required procedures were followed in some, but staff in two classrooms did not wash the child's hands immediately following the diapering. In another classroom not all children's hands were washed prior to snack service with the teacher noting that all of the children had washed their hands when coming in from playing outside. While that may have been the case all of the children had been observed to be engaging in center play and other activities before snack was served and should have had their hands washed. Good cleaning practices were observed with staff using bleach water and a three step method, waiting for children to be out of the area before using chemical cleaners, and sanitizing tables both before and after snack service. Chemical cleaners, medications, personal belongings, and other materials that could pose a safety risk to children were stored in areas where they were not readily accessible to children. The center maintains first aid kits in each classroom and additional materials and supplies in the office. Good safe sleep practices were observed in the infant room for infants under 1 year of age. Older age children made use of cots with appropriate bedding. Children were posited in an upright manner when being fed. Toys and materials in the classrooms were in good repair and appropriate to the ages of the children in the room though it was noted that one toy in the older infant room had small parts which could pose a choking risk if broken off and this was removed immediately during the visit.

Playground
The center has two playground areas with one for toddlers and the other for preschool and school age children. Both had climbing structures and/or swings and made use of pea gravel for fall surfacing. The pea rock in both areas had developed a layer of hardpan and need to be aerated. The equipment in the toddler playground area was observed to be in good repair. The preschool/school age playground has a climbing structure which was observed to have a couple connecting bolts that were loosed and need to be reseated. While these did not impact the structural integrity such that the unit needed to be removed from service maintenance does need to be provided. Both areas are enclosed by chain link fencing which was observed to be in good condition. Large mature trees are present and provide shade in both areas.

Meal Service
The center has a full kitchen and meals are prepared on-site. The kitchen was observed to be clean. Good food storage practices were observed in both the kitchen and classrooms for refrigerated and dry pantry items. A copy of the menu is posted and provides a good variety of nutritious meal options. Meals are served in the classrooms and good food handling and service practices were followed. Staff were observed to wash their hands before serving foods, and many of the staff used food service gloves and measured scoops to portion food. Supervision was provided at the tables while children ate.

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Administration & Documentation
In reviewing administrative records all required notices for No Smoking, License Certificate, Consultant Contact, and Mandatory Abuse Reporting were posted in an area readily accessible and visible to parents and visitors. A random sample of child and staff files were selected for review and compared to the self-audits maintained by the center which were found to be accurate. The self-audit identified all child files contained current and updated information with the exception of 6 files that needed an updated physical. Response plans were present and posted in classrooms for children with identified allergies and medical concerns. Infant daily sheets do prompt staff to document all required information. Staff files were found to contain all required information and documentation. All inspection logs and certificates were current and valid, and documentation of service was maintained for a center owned vehicle. The center does not have a radon mitigation system and measured levels were within acceptable limits. The center parent handbook was reviewed and found to contain all required written policies however some were identified as needing to be expanded to include all required information.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.10(6): Children’s hand washing: Center shall ensure staff assist children in personal hygiene.
-- Children's hands were not washed following diapering. Children's hands were not washed immediately prior to meal service.

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

It was noted that classrooms did have postings of when children and staff are required to wash their hands and Rosie stated she would review those requirements with all staff.

Those policies that need to be expanded were identified and a list of all required written policies with recommendations for implementation was provided to Rosie.

Rosie did provide notice that following the visit she had contacted the individual that provides maintenance services for the fall surfacing of the playground and made arrangements to have the material aerated.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

A full will remain in effect at this time. Please provide a plan of action to correct and maintain those aspects cited as not meeting licensing standards and an anticipated date of compliance. At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year.

Date: 06/30/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Ray Salsbury

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**.