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

Name of Center: New Horizon Academy - Ankeny **Enrollment:** 25 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 52753

Street: 3425 NW State St **City:** Ankeny Iowa **Zip** 50023 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 3405 Annapolis Lane N STE 100, Plymouth, MN, 55447

Director's Name: Amy Baker **Phone Number:** 515-877-3131

On-Site Supervisor(s): Katherine McCloud **E-Mail:** 3008@nhacademy.net

Date(s) of Visit: 05-08-2025

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 02-18-2025

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

Date Inspected: 02-17-2025

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

LICENSE TYPE: X **Child Care** **Preschool (ages 3-5 meets three hours or less per day)**

Financial Type: X Profit Non-Profit NA

Accredition: Accredited NAEYC NSACA X Other 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	48	28	88	30	194
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 02-18-2025 to 02-01-2027
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV **Date:** 05-21-2025

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

NA

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced full-licensing visit was completed 5-8-25. Director, Amy Baker was present throughout 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 daycare 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.

All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review.

Room Observations/Activities: The center uses the Creative Curriculum and the pro-care application. The rooms offer a variety of age/developmentally appropriate toys/activities. The classrooms were organized and clean. Handwashing signs were posted. Restrooms were clean and stocked with necessary toiletries. Staff were observed leading activities for the group or providing for individual needs. The children were content.

Nutrition Practices: There is an on-site kitchen Menus are crafted by the corporate offices, are in a four week rotation, and appear in-line with CACFP guidelines. Meals and snacks are served family-style in the classrooms. The kitchen was very clean and organized. Handwashing signs are posted as required.

Health and Safety: Mediations are stored securely in the office and administered by the director or assistant director. All rooms has first aid kits in backpacks. Tornado and Fire exit plans were posted in the classrooms. The center was designed with carbon monoxide detectors integrated into the fire detectors. This center has one year to complete Radon testing.

Playground: 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. Playground safety checks were documented as completed.

Transportation/Field Trips-NA

Administrative Review: Information regarding handbook accessibility, consultant contact, license, and mandatory reporting

was posted.. Five employee files were reviewed and three were missing employer physical forms; Five child files were reviewed with three missing updated physicals along with one missing immunization records. This center has a well established policy.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

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 center has a secure entrance.

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.

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

109.9(1)a: All files contain statement signed by staff indicating whether they have a criminal conviction or founded child/dependent adult abuse.
Number not in compliance: 3

This center has many newer staff or staff new to this site; files are being updated per the director.

109.9(1)b: All files contain:A signed copy of DHS criminal history record check or any other permission form approved by the Department of public Safety for conducting an Iowa or national criminal history check. A copy of Request for Child Abuse Information.Copies of the results of Iowa records checks conducted.Copies of national criminal history check results.Any Department-issued documents sent to the center related to records check.
Number not in compliance: 1
One Employee file was in need of a documented SING or Iowa background check.

109.9(1)d: All files contain a pre-employment physical exam report completed within six months prior to hire and at least every three years. Physical exams shall be documented on form 470-5152, Child Care Provider Physical Examination Report.
Number not in compliance: 2
Employees are required to have on file a physical performed PRIOR to hire and every three years after.

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: 3

Child files are required to have physical forms. This center is new and is working to update/complete files.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full 2 year license is recommended.

The center has one year to complete radon.

*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.