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

Name of Center: University Community Childcare Inc **Enrollment:** 75 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 16802

Street: 2623 Bruner DR **City:** Ames Iowa **Zip** 50010 **County:** Story

Mailing Address: 2623 Bruner DR, Ames, IA, 50010

Director's Name: Stacy Lehman **Phone Number:** 515-294-9838

On-Site Supervisor(s): Angi Esser/Tracy Yetter/Laura Martin **E-Mail:** univcc@iastate.edu

Date(s) of Visit: 02-08-2024

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:** 02-01-2024

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

Date Inspected: 03-16-2021

Comments : Fire Inspections are due at least every three years.

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 X NAEYC NSACA 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	41	18	47	19	125
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 5

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 03-01-2024 to 03-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV **Date:** 02-19-2024

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced full licensing visit was completed 2-8-24. The director was present for the entirety of the visit.

University Community Childcare first opened in 1971. It is a center for the child care needs of Iowa State University faculty and staff and also for Iowa State students. 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. They moved to this location that was built specifically for child care in 2004.

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. There are two On-Site Supervisors, Tracy Yetter and Laura Martin. Both have several years of experience in a childcare setting. All four meet qualifications for their positions.
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: Aside from the child care program, they also offer a separate preschool program. This is available for the families who do not need child care but would like their children to receive a preschool education. This preschool program is offered only in the mornings, and only during the school year. The center has also participated in the SWVPP. The other five rooms in the center are used for the child care program. Each room has a door that leads directly outdoors to their specific playground area. The new infant classroom has a capacity for 13 children with a square footage of 523 square feet. The fire marshal approved this space for use previously. A fence was added to the already exiting playground to add space for the infants in this classroom. The center uses the Creative Curriculum.

Nutrition Practices: There is an on-site kitchen with dedicated kitchen staff who crafts menus. This center participates with the CACFP food program and menus reflect this participation. The meals/snacks are served family style in the classrooms. The kitchen was clean. Menus were posted; storage was clean and to requirements.

Health and Safety: Medication is stored securely in the office. Emergency medications are in the classrooms stored securely. Handwashing signs are posted. There are first aid kits available. Tornado and Fire emergency exit plans were posted. Emergency drills were documented to have been completed as required. Radon testing was completed by ISU 12/20/23, with results all below 4.0. The university also inspects and maintains the HVAC system (last inspected 12/8/23). There are carbon monoxide detectors located in classrooms and general use areas of the center.

Playground: This 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. This playground was partially covered by snow but appears in good condition. Playground checks had been documented completed as required.

Transportation: NA

Administrative Review: Postings for mandatory reporting; handbook accessibility, consultant contact, license , fire/tornado exit plans and non-smoking signs were as required. Eight child files were reviewed--two were missing annual updates and physical forms. Five employee files were reviewed and contained all the required information. This center has an established policy.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center has been NAEYC accredited since 2000.

The center has been involved with the TEACH program. Currently, there are no staff in the TEACH program, however staff are interested. Staff participate in the WAGES program.

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.

The center has a strong working relationship and partnership with the university.

The center works with other programs and resources for the families and receives funding from other programs. The center partners with United Way. The center receives funding and support from the Government of Student Body. The center offers a Boost scholarship for preschool children.

The center has a good reputation in the community.

The center communicates well with families.

The center has great outdoor playground space for each age group. The playground is separated into five sections.

The center has received grant money through CARE and United Way, they were able to purchase new items for the classrooms, including shelving units and STEM items.

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

The administration team works well together.

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

109.9(2): All files are updated at least annually and when a change occurs.

109.9(2)c: All files contain information regarding the specific health and medical needs of a child including information regarding any prescribed treatment.
For school-age programs in the child’s school, all files include a statement signed by the parent that the immunization information is available in the school file.
Number not in compliance: 2

Files are required to be updated at least annually or when changes occur; and enrollment requires yearly physicals or health statements

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

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

Radon testing was completed 12/20/23 and all results were below 4.0.

The furnace is inspected yearly by the University.

A full two year license is recommended.

*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.