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

Name of Center: Early Learners CDC on Duggan **Enrollment:** 47 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 18202

Street: 610 Duggan Dr **City:** Dubuque Iowa **Zip** 52003 **County:** Dubuque

Mailing Address: 3223 Lake Ridge DR UNIT C, Dubuque, IA, 52003

Director's Name: Amy Perry-Block **Phone Number:** 563-556-8160

On-Site Supervisor(s): none **E-Mail:** elcdconduggan@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 02-22-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

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

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

Date Inspected: 10-06-2023

Comments :

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 Other X 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	19	10	22	12	63
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 04-01-2023 to 04-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Heidi Hungate **Date:** 02-28-2024

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced off year visit was completed at this center on 2/22/24. Present was the center director, Amy Perry-Block, along with other staff. Amy accompanied the licensing consultant throughout the visit. This center has been owned and operated by Holly Kamm for many years. Holly was not present on the day of this visit. The center does provide school age care on non school days and before school. The center does not participate in the Iowa Voluntary Preschool Grant program.

The center consists of two levels. The main level is divided into two separate areas, one side used for 18 months through two years of age and the other used for infants age zero through 23 months. It is noted that since the last licensing visit, the center has switched these rooms again. Each portion of this level has an adjacent restroom area and a diaper station nearby to the restroom area where the hand washing sink is located. The lower level has three areas. The smaller room (side room) is used for older two year old and younger three year old children and includes a diaper station and hand washing sinks in the room as well as an adjacent restroom area. The main (largest) area (preschool room) is currently being used by the three to five year old children, and also frequently school age children have been mixed with this group, though the center has been reminded that three year old children may not be mixed with school age children. This room also has an adjacent restroom area and hand washing sinks located within the classroom. The "new addition" room is a school age room. Children in this room have to travel out of the room for restroom and hand washing activities. Each room was adequately furnished with furniture and accessible materials to support the scheduled activities. All program space was observed.

The center serves breakfast, morning snack, lunch, and afternoon snack all prepared in the kitchen on site. The center participates in the CACFP. The kitchen area continues to be clean and very organized.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center is bright with windows on both levels. Children's crafts and projects are posted in the program rooms and in the hallway areas. Program rooms are generally well supplied and are bright and colorful with postings on the wall at child level. Staff were again observed to be highly engaged with the children in all program rooms. Several staff have been with the center for many years, and staff and director continue to work very well together at this center. The center routinely participates with the local AEA to borrow program materials from the AEA library. Since the last licensing visit new fencing and new decking ramp has been installed at the front of the building which has provided for an updated look to the center. The DHS licensing binder continues to be highly organized. Staff and child files were found to be highly organized. The center director is using a tracking system to ensure file compliance.

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

STAFF FILES:
109.7(1): All staff(within first 3 months of employment)Two hours of approved training FOR the mandatory reporting of child abuse.At least one hour of training regarding universal precautions and infectious disease control.Certification in American Red Cross, American Heart Association, American Safety and Health institute or MEDIC First Aid infant, child,

and adult cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) OR equivalent certification approved by the department. A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained.Certification in infant, child, and adult first aid that uses a nationally recognized curriculum or is received from a nationally recognized training organization including the American Red Cross,American Heart Association, American Safety and Health Institute or MEDIC First Aid or an equivalent certification approved by the department.A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained.Minimum health and safety trainings, approved by the Department. If significant changes occur to content, the Department may require the training be renewed.
1. _1_ staff file reviewed did not have the first aid and cpr trainings completed within the first three months of employment as required.

CHILD FILES:
109.9(3) Signed and dated Iowa immunization certificates are on file for each child enrolled.
1. Two immunization certificates reviewed not valid. Valid certificate required be on file on site before the child can attend the center (IDPH form signed and dated by appropriate medical personnel as noted on the form).

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Consultation has been provided to the center regarding the updated rules regarding combining different age groupings of children and what is allowed and when. Two year old children may not be combined with four year old children, and three year old children may not be combined with school age children unless under the very specific rule 109.8(2)h for the very beginning and/or end of the day with only the number of children and staff present at the center as defined by the rule. The center will need to ensure they are in compliance with this moving forward.

It is noted that the two main floor rooms have switched functions since the last licensing visit. The total license capacity has not changed. The individual room capacities are as follows:

Main Level:
Infant room (right side, cribs) = 6 children
Transitional room (left side, no cribs) = 13 children

Lower Level:
Twos Room (small room, left side) = 10 children
Preschool Room (main room at bottom of stairs) = 22 children
School Age Room (back/addition room) = 12 children

1. Ensure gate to kitchen area (both) are kept closed at ALL times so that children may not access this area.
2. Label diaper waste can for this material only in the transition room.
3. Door at the bottom of the stairway needs to be repaired so that it closes properly. It should be kept closed.
4. Ensure the start times of meals and snacks are no less than two hours and no more than three hours apart. Posted schedules should also reflect this for all rooms.
5. Improve storage and handling of food service items in the three year old room and in the school age room. Items should be stored separate from other miscellaneous items and should not be located on surfaces with other clutter, only use surfaces that have been properly cleaned and sanitized immediately prior, and should be protected from contamination (closed containers or cabinets).

Concerns are again noted for the location of hand washing sink in the infant and transitional rooms. Staff have to actually step out of the program areas and into a restroom areas to use the hand washing sinks. If it is determined that ratio is a concern with this, then it will become a requirement for the center to install at least one hand washing sink within the program room. Otherwise, extra staff will need to be on hand at the center in order to assist in the room while staff step into restroom areas to assist with restroom and hand washing activity. This was discussed with the center director and staff.

This center will continue with a full license. The center is directed to correct the items cited and the items noted above in this section of the report and to submit a written summary to the licensing consultant as to how and when those corrections are/will be completed. The written summary shall be submitted within 30 days of receipt of this evaluation. Thank you.

*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.