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

Name of Center: Early Learners CDC on Duggan **Enrollment:** 33 **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: 02-19-2025

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 02-11-2025

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	23	10	22	12	67
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 1

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 04-01-2025 to 04-01-2027
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Heidi Hungate **Date:** 03-11-2025

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced licensing visit was completed at this center on 2/19/25. 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 now one large area used for all infants up through 23 months of age. The room has access to two diaper stations and two restroom areas (each with one toilet and one hand washing sink). The lower level has three areas. The smaller room (side room) is used for two 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 used for three to five year old 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 well managed, and the staff continue to work well together. Some of the staff have been with the center for a number of years. The center has achieved Level One IQ4K certification. Since the last licensing visit, the main floor room has been repainted, the exterior of the building has been painted, a new front door has been installed, and the building has new signage. 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. The center routinely participates with the local AEA to borrow program materials from the AEA library. The DHS licensing binder continues to be highly organized. Staff and child files were again 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:
109.9(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.
1. _1_ staff file reviewed did not have a staff physical.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Consultation has again 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.

The administrative change aspect of the report is completed to reflect the change on the main floor. The room was re-measured in the present arrangement at this visit. The individual room capacities are as follows:

Main Level:
Infant room (cribs and cots) = 23 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 bleach mixture for spray bottles is prepared fresh daily.
2. Improve cot spacing, ensure at least two feet between cots.
3. Replace toilet seat in lower restroom area that is visibly worn so that it can be properly cleaned and disinfected.
4. Ensure vent fans in restroom areas are functioning.
5. Remove items stacked on top of cabinets in the school age room and improve storage of bedding items so that they can be maintained clean and sanitary.
6. No smoking posting is needed outside at the building entrance.

Concerns are again noted for the location of hand washing sink in the infant room. Staff have to actually step out of the program area and into 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. Please address the violation(s) and/or concern(s) noted in the report so that corrections are obvious and ensure that items remain in compliance. This report does not require a written response. 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.