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

Name of Center: ACPC-Main Center **Enrollment:** 82 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 16803

Street: 920 Carroll Ave **City:** Ames Iowa **Zip** 50010 **County:** Story

Mailing Address: 920 Carroll Ave, Ames, IA, 50010

Director's Name: Nancy Krause **Phone Number:** 515-233-2901

On-Site Supervisor(s): Brittney Kavorik/Allison Sorensen **E-Mail:** director@acpc-childcare.org

Date(s) of Visit: 04-09-2025

Licensing Visit X **Unannounced Visit** X **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: 05-28-2024

Comments : Fire Inspections are due at least every three years. By Ames Fire Department--Jason Ziph

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 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	12	28	110	40	190
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 04-01-2024 to 04-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV **Date:** 04-15-2025

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced visit to review files was completed 4-9-25 and an unannounced visit to view the classrooms was completed 4-10-25. Director Nancy Krause, Brittney Kovarik and Allison Sorensen were present during different parts of the visit.

The ACPC Child Care Program first started in 1968 and serve children ages 12 months up to preschool age, having some school age children at times during the summer for overflow from the school sites. Once children become school age they may attend one of the school site programs also operated by this organization.

The hours of operation are 7:00 AM -6:00 PM. The center is the sole occupant of the building with the classrooms all located on ground level.

Nancy Krause is the executive director, beginning 2025. Nancy has a Master of Social Work and many years of child care experience. Brittney Kovarik became the on-site supervisor in March of 2023 . Brittney has an Associate's degree in Early Childhood Education and 14 prior years of experience at ACPC as a lead teacher. Brittney is the Assistant Program director. Both meet the points required for their positions. Allison Sorensen is the Associate Director of the center. All meet the criteria for their positions.

Room observations/Activities: The center uses Teaching Strategies Gold with the Creative Curriculum, as well as an emotional and social component to the curriculum. The center uses the Bright Wheel application to communicate with parents. Classrooms were in ratio when observed. Staff were actively engaged in either leading a group activity or with meeting individual needs. The children appeared content. Staff were observed to work well with one another and maintained good structure in the rooms. The classrooms offered a good variety of age/developmentally appropriate play centers and toys.

Nutrition Practices: There is an on-site kitchen with a chef. The program is enrolled in and participates with CACFP meal guild Lines. Menus reflect adherence to CACFP. The kitchen was clean and had menus posted. The kitchen and food storage were clean and nicely organized.

Health/safety: Medication is stored securely in back packs with first aid kits in each room. Handwashing signs were posted in the restrooms and by sinks as required. Emergency exit diagrams were posted in all rooms. Fire/Tornado drills were documented completed monthly as required. HVAC was inspected 10-8-24.. There are several carbon monoxide detectors throughout the center. The center has an off site evacuation plan in place if needed; where employees are trained upon hire and annually.

Playground: The center playground is divided by ages and each area offering a good amount of space. There is natural shading and shade structures. There are play structures and toys available for children's access. The playground has cement, grass and wood chips as safety surfacing. Part of the playground is utilized for community access with set hours. Staff monitor on-going for needed maintenance. This playground is in good condition.

Transportation/Field trips NA

Administrative review: Fliers for mandatory reporter; handbook accessibility, consultant contact, license, and non-smoking signs are posted. Six staff files were reviewed; with one employee physical completed after employment (physicals are required within six months PRIOR to hire and then every three years after); and one staff that had exceeded three months since hire and had not yet completed CPR/First Aid. The assistant program director indicated the center has a CPR/first aid class scheduled for this to be completed. Eight child files were reviewed with one file needing an updated physical form.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center has strong ties with the community and receives community support. The center has a good reputation and there is a waiting list for children to enroll.

The staff are invested in the center and committed to providing quality care. The quality of teachers is high and they take ownership and pride in their classrooms.

The center has strong partnerships in the community, including United Way, the University, Raising Readers program, the school district and AEA.

The center has a Facebook page and a website.

The center is able to employ students from the local University and this brings a nice mix of staff with longevity and staff in the academic culture.

The center communicates well with families and has strong relationships with their families.

The staff are trained in PBIS.

The center participates in the TEACH program.

The center has strong support from their board, the board wants what is best for the center and for the teachers and families. The board supports the teachers.

The center offers a library for young readers and a food pantry for families that was well stocked with necessities.

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

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: 1
*physical is required within 6 months PRIOR to hire; and then every three years.

109.9(1)e: All files contain documentation to indicate that ongoing staff training requirements are met, including current certifications in first aid/CPR and mandatory child abuse training.
Number not in compliance: 1
*First Aid/CPR is required to be completed within 3 months of hire.

109.10(1)b: School-age (for children five years and older and enrolled in school): Annual statement of health status signed by parent is submitted prior to admission, certifies that the child is free of communicable disease, and lists allergies, medications and acute/chronic conditions.
Number not in compliance: 1

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing is now due every five years if testing is under the 4.0 cutoff. The center completed radon testing in April of 2022 and all rooms tested fell under the 4.0 cutoff.

The menu's reflect the center is following CACFP guidelines. The center is on the food program.

The classrooms were observed to be nicely organized with a variety of toys and play centers. The staff were observed to work well together and maintain good structure while offering nurturing for the children.

*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.