Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: CAEI-Muscatine Head Start

Provider No.: 21166

Address: 148 Colorado St, Muscatine, IA, 52761

County: Muscatine

Director's Name: Lisa Raya

On-Site Supervisor: Rachel Smith

Phone Number: 5633243236

E-Mail: tcritten@caeiowa.org
lraya@caeiowa.org

HHS Visit Date: 04/28/2026

Licensing Period: 03/01/2026 to 03/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 02/23/2026

Comments: Does Comply.

Report Visit Type:

- [ ] PTO
- [X] Licensing Visit
- [ ] Drop In
- [ ] Administrative Change

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

Quality Rating: 3

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

- [X] Year-Round
- [ ] School Year
- [ ] Summer Only

Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	7:30 AM to 2:00 PM		
Tuesday	7:30 AM to 2:00 PM		
Wednesday	7:30 AM to 2:00 PM		
Thursday	7:30 AM to 2:00 PM		
Friday	7:30 AM to 2:00 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

- [X] Infant(0-<24 Months)
- [X] Toddler
- [X] PreSchool
- [ ] School Age
- [ ] All Ages

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	24	20	20		64
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

This worker arrived at CAEI-MUSCATINE HEAD START – 21166 for an annual visit on 4/28/2026. The fire inspection was completed on 2/23/2026. The center is nonprofit. The center is in two commercial buildings. One building has an infant room, one-two year old room, kitchenette, and large motor room. The second building has a three-year-old room and four year-five-year-old room, offices, and kitchen. Infant room and toddler room is open year around. Preschool rooms are open during school year only. The hours of operation are 7:30am to 2:00pm. The center provides care for infant-preschool aged children. The center has 16 children enrolled.

The director is Lisa Raya. Lisa has a Bachelor's Degree. She started with CAEI in 2002.

The on-site supervisor is Rachel Smith. Rachel has an Associate's Degree in Early Childhood Education. She started with CAEI in 2002.

This worker observed all programming space in the center and outdoor area to ensure that the environment was safe, sanitary and hazard free. This worker observed the toddler classroom. One staff was cleaning up after lunch, and another staff was actively engaged with the children that were not sleeping. This worker observed the infant room staff both infant room staff were observed sitting on the floor with the children. They were comforting the children so that they would prepare for naptime.

Health and safety practices were also reviewed including handwashing, medication management, appropriate cleaning/sanitizing/disinfecting, excluding ill children/staff, incident reports, and first aid kits. This worker observed safe sleep practices during my visit.

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Nutritional practices and food safety were observed. The center is on the Child and Adult Care Food Program. The center offers breakfast and lunch.

This worker reviewed required postings. This worker checked staff files and child files. The licensing notebook including emergency drills, first aid supplies, playground checklist, radon testing, HVAC testing and policies were reviewed.

The center does communicate with parents via in-person conversations, daily sheets (children under two years old), text messages/phone calls, and group messages through Child Plus.

The center's curriculum is Frog Street. The center does not offer transportation or field trips.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

-The center is on the Child and Adult Care Food Program.
-The center accepts Child Care Assistance.
-The center has done an excellent job of maintaining child care staff.
-The child files, staff files and licensing notebook were in full compliance.
-Classrooms are clean, nicely decorated and welcoming to those who enter.
-The center is a secured facility parents and staff enter via doorbell. Staff have swipe cards. Cameras are in classrooms, hallways and outside.
-Staff did an excellent job of being engaged with the children.
-The director reads and implements the emails HHS sends her.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

The center was in full compliance on the date of my visit.

4. Any corrective action plans, provisional license, and safety plans-steps to get into compliance

N/A

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

Based upon the annual visit, it is recommended that this center remain in full licensing status. If citations were issued please ensure that they are corrected as soon as possible. It is important that the director and all staff review the updated Iowa Code 109 https://ccmis.dhs.state.ia.us/providerportal/DocumentViewer.aspx?ID=19 and Comm. 204: https://hhs.iowa.gov/media/6489/download?inline

This worker encourages all centers to work with Child Care Resource and Referral Consultant and their Child Care Nurse Consultant.

Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) Agencies play a vital role in supporting the quality of child care across Iowa by offering both on-site and virtual consultation services to licensed preschools, Child Care Centers, nonregistered Child Care Home providers and registered Child Development Home (CDH) providers. CCR&R agencies assist providers in complying with state regulations by offering expert consultation, training, and professional development opportunities to enhance the quality of care they provide. A key focus is supporting providers in achieving high performance within the Iowa Quality for Kids (IQ4K®) system https://hhs.iowa.gov/programs/programs-and-services/child-care/iq4k, which aims to improve child care quality across the state. In addition to supporting providers, CCR&R agencies also offer parent referral services and consumer education, helping families navigate the child care system and find quality care options.

Child Care Nurse Consultants (CCNCs) are registered nurses who have early childhood training and are experts in child health, child care, and child safety. CCNC services are available statewide and are part of the Healthy Child Care Iowa program. ECE providers may call or email questions to their local CCNC about health and safety policies, health records, health resources, and specific child health or safety concerns. To contact your local CCNC go to https://hhs.iowa.gov/programs/programs-and-services/child-care/hcci and click on the "CCNC Local Services Map."

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Date: 04/29/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Heidi Brown

Non-compliance with any of the mandated regulatory requirements listed above may lead to the cancellation or revocation of your Child Care License. Please take steps necessary to completely address each of the violations noted above.

Child Care Resource and Referral is an excellent resource for providers to access training options and support in your area. You can reach Child Care Resource and Referral at **https://iowaccrr.org**.