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

Name of Center: YMCA Childcare-Findley Elementary **Enrollment:** 55 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 39516

Street: 3025 Oxford ST **City:** Des Moines Iowa **Zip** 50313 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: PO Box 370, Waukee, IA, 50263

Director's Name: Lauren Slinker **Phone Number:** 515-975-8762

On-Site Supervisor(s): Desirae Burkett **E-Mail:** Melissa.williams@dmymca.org
Lauren.Slinker@dmymca.org

Date(s) of Visit: 03-24-2025

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 02-24-2024

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

Date Inspected: 08-12-2022

Comments : Des Moines Fire Marshal. Fire Marshal inspections are due at least every three years for HHS licensing. Another inspection will be needed by the end of 8/2025.

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: Infants (0-23 mo.) 2 Years 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				60	60
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: Nate Knepper **Date:** 03-25-2025

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An off-year visit was conducted on 3/24/25. The on-site supervisor and the YMCA behavioral specialist were both present for this visit. The director's supervisor, was also present for portions of this visit.

All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, ratios, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review.

YMCA Childcare - Findley Elementary opened in 2012. The majority of programming is held in the school's gym, cafeteria, and the outdoor playground area. The center serves school age children who attend this school. During the school year, the center operates after school from 2:30pm - 6:00pm. During the summer months, programming is 8:30am - 4:00pm. If there is no school, there is no programming during the school year.

The new director of this program is Laura Slinker. Laura is also the director over several other YMCA programs. Laura as a Bachelor's degree as well as past experience working in child care and before/after school programs. The new on-site supervisor as of 1/2025 is Desirae Burkett. Desirae has past experience working in child care.

During the visit, all children and staff present were outside on the playground. Staff were spaced out among the different groups of children. Some children were playing soccer. Some children were using the climbing structures. Other children appeared to be in smaller groups and visiting with each other. Staff and children gave specific information on where they relocate to for monthly fire and tornado drills. Children stated they washed their hands frequently and specifically after using the restroom and before eating.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Enrollment remains steady.

There is a lot of open space for the center to use.

The center has a good working relationship with other school personnel including the school nurse, school principal, and a school behavioral liaison.

Children are offered large motor play on a daily basis.

There are different agencies/programs both externally and internally that come into the center weekly to offer such things are tutoring, art and things of that nature.

The director and on-site supervisor believe the program has a good working relationship with the families they serve.

The new director and new on-site supervisor are both experienced working in child care. Both individuals also appear to be organized.

All YMCA programs that provide child care to children operate in a similar fashion.

The YMCA programs have a behavioral specialist.

There are weekly meetings between supervisors, directors, on-site supervisors, and behavioral specialists.

There is a good system in place for tracking and monitoring children during field trips away from the center.

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

109.4(3)a: Postings are required for: The certificate of license. Notice of exposure to communicable disease. Notice of decision to deny, suspend, or revoke center license or reduce to provisional status. All postings shall be conspicuously placed at main entrance of center.
An old, expired licensing certificate was posted.

109.9(1)b: All files contain: A signed copy of DHS criminal history record check or any other permission form approved by the Department of public Safety for conducting an Iowa or national criminal history check. A copy of Request for Child Abuse Information. Copies of the results of Iowa records checks conducted. Copies of national criminal history check results. Any Department-issued documents sent to the center related to records check.
Number not in compliance: 1 staff file needs to have the SING check completely finished. This was sent back by the HHS Record Checks Evaluation unit for update .

109.9(2)b: All files contain sufficient information and authorization to allow the center to secure emergency medical and dental services at any time child is in center's care.
Number not in compliance for medical: 1
Number not in compliance for dental: 1
Information lacking: All children, regardless of age, need to have listed a doctor and a dentist. The information needed is the names, addresses, and phone numbers. It was noted that one child file reviewed was missing both the doctor and the dentist.

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: 1 child file was missing the annual health update.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. Adequate indoor and outdoor space is provided. The outdoor area shall include safe play equipment and area of shade.
There are still bolts along the fence, gate, and fence backstop that need to be cut/capped so that no more than two threads are showing. THIS IS A REPEAT ISSUE FROM LAST YEAR.

109.15(2): Center shall follow minimum CACFP menu patterns for meals and snacks. Menus planned one week in advance, made available to parents, and kept on file with substitutions noted. Avoid foods with high incident rate of causing choking.
The weekly food menu was not complete past Monday of this week.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The center is exempt from environmental testing because they only serve school-age children and in a school building.

The center contracts with the school district to take a bus for field trips and/or they have a YMCA bus and driver. Field trips are only being taken during the summer months. They also sometimes bring in presenters for children.

I-Power was discussed at the visit. It appears all staff have profiles and training hours are being uploaded. Any staff no longer with the program should be unlinked from the center.

Hand washing signs should be posted in both the boys restroom and the girls restroom.

Parents shouldn't leave any sections of their child's forms blank.

This consultant's most current posting was emailed to the center after the visit concluded.

The center's most current licensing certificate was emailed to the center after the visit concluded.

An Asthma Action Plan was emailed to the center after the visit concluded.

*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.