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

Name of Center: Adventure Day Camp **Enrollment:** 80 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 52506

Street: 720 Grand AVE **City:** West Des Moines Iowa **Zip** 50265 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: PO Box 13015, Des Moines, IA, 50310

Director's Name: Owen Ballard **Phone Number:** 515-274-1501

On-Site Supervisor(s): Jocelyn Ricket **E-Mail:** oballard@campfireiowa.org

Date(s) of Visit: 07-07-2025

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:** 04-18-2024

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

Date Inspected: 04-04-2025

Comments : West Des Moines Fire Marshal. For licensing, these inspections are due at least every three years. The City of West Des Moines typically does annual inspections.

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 X Other NA

Program Serves: Infants (0-23 mo.) 2 Years Preschool-Age X School-Age

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: Year-round School-Year X Summer Only

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	0	0	0	100	100
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 08-01-2024 to 08-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 07-08-2025

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

All areas of the program were observed. The 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.

Adventure Day Camp (West Des Moines Campus) is a summer only program for school-age children that is owned by Camp Fire Heart of Iowa. The owners have one other program in/near the Des Moines Metro in addition to this program. This consultant only licenses this program. The director of this program is Owen Ballard. Owen has a Bachelor's degree as well as a Master's degree in Administration. Owen also has past experience working in child care and with school-age children. The on-site supervisor at this location is Jocelyn Ricket. Jocelyn has a Bachelor's degree as well as past experience working in child care. The center uses their own specific lesson planning with children.

There are five classrooms. Room 304, Room 307, and Room 309 all have capacities of 12 children. Room 311 has a capacity of 24 children. Room 313 has a capacity of 40 children. The center also uses room 302 at times.

During the inspection, children were observed having sunscreen applied by staff before going outside to the playground in one classroom. In other classrooms, children were observed in a variety of fine motor and art projects. Staff were spaced out and engaged with children and their activities.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This is a center that meets a need in the community. Enrollment has increased over the past year. This is a more unique program where children can register for a week at a time or multiple weeks as needed.

The director and on-site supervisor believe they have really good staff working at this location. The on-site supervisor has also again received several complements from parents.

The program has a good working relationship with the families they serve.

There are good community partnerships as well as good partnerships with the church and the other preschool program located on a different floor of the building.

This is the second program in the Des Moines area for Adventure Day Camp. The programs can share staff, use the same handbooks, etc.

Good staff/child interactions were observed throughout the inspection.

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

109.9(2)d: 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.
Three children were missing dental contract information. All children enrolled need to have listed a doctor and a dentist. The information needed include the name, address, and phone number of each.

109.10(1): Medications: The center shall have written procedures for dispensing, storage, and authorization, and recording of all prescription and non-prescription medications. Staff must be over 18 to administer medication. All medications shall be stored in original containers with physician or pharmacist directions. Labels should be intact and stored so they are inaccessible to children and public. Nonprescription medications shall be labeled with the child's name. For every day an authorization for medication is in effect and child is in attendance, there shall be a notation of administration including the name of medicine, date, time, dosage, given or applied, and the initials of the person administering the medication or the reason the medication was not given. For ongoing, long term medications, authorization shall be obtained for a period not to exceed the duration of prescription. Staff shall not provide medications to a child if pre-service/orientation training for medication management has not been completed.
There was one expired epipen observed.

109.10(9): Smoking and use of tobacco products shall be prohibited in the center and every vehicle used to transport children. Prohibited in outdoor play area during hours of operation.
A No Smoking sign is needed on the bus.

109.11(8)c: All centers: Annual inspection prior to heating season of all fuel-burning appliances to reduce risk of carbon monoxide poisoning and shall install one carbon monoxide detector on each floor that conforms to UL Standard 2034.
The carbon monoxide detector could not be located on the day of the inspection.

109.13(1 and 2): Center shall serve each child a full, nutritionally balanced meal as defined by CACFP guidelines. Staff shall provide supervision at table during snacks and meals. Children at center two hours or longer shall be offered food of not less than two hours and no more than three hours apart unless child is asleep. Menus shall be made available to parents and kept on file with substitutions noted. Avoid foods with high incident rate of causing choking.
The schedules need to be adjusted some as discussed at the inspection between lunch and PM snack.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing was completed in all classrooms from 8/30/24 - 9/2/24. All classrooms came back with radon levels below the 4.0 cutoff. Because levels were below 4.0, the center can move to testing for radon at least every five years now. So long as radon levels remain below 4.0, they can remain on a five year plan. If at the next testing, levels in any classroom come back 4.0 or higher, the center will have to have a mitigation plan, retest, and at least temporarily move back to testing every two years.

The annual boiler inspection was last completed 12/2024 and expires the end of 12/2025.

The center has their own school bus and their own driver for field trips that are not within walking distance. Regular maintenance is performed on this bus.

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

The most current monthly playground form was emailed to the center after the inspection concluded.

It is recommended that the Emergency Preparedness kit be stored in a container that has wheels for easier transport if ever needed.

Emergency medications shouldn't be locked.

It is recommended outdoor playground mats be purchased and placed at the bottom of slides to help preserve the rubber mulch surfacing depth.

*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.