Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Elim Children's Center

Provider No.: 16552

Address: 302 W Church ST, Marshalltown, IA, 50158

County: Marshall

Director's Name: April Winkleblack

On-Site Supervisor: Brooke Seymour /Tessa Rundall

Phone Number: 6417528760

E-Mail: director@elimchildrenscenter.org

HHS Visit Date: 10/05/2026

Licensing Period: 10/01/2025 to 10/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 09/17/2024

Comments: Fire inspections are due at least every three years.

Report Visit Type:

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

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

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

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Tuesday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Wednesday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Thursday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Friday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	37	12	24	36	109
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced licensing visit was conducted 10-5-36. Director April Winkleblack was present for the entire visit.

Elim Children's Center has been in existence for almost 30 years and is attached to Elim Church. The center has a board of directors and is a ministry of the church. The center serves newborns up to school age children; Monday through Friday 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

April Winkleblack was named director Sept 2025. April has a bachelor's degree in human services and comes with years of experience in this field. Brooke Seymour is an assistant director/on-site supervisor. Brooke has been with Elim's Children's Center for over 10 years and meets qualifications to be an on-site supervisor. Tessa Rundall has been added as an on-site supervisor as of September of 2022. Tessa has worked at this center for twelve years.

The center now has a curriculum coordinator who had written lesson plans with aspects of creative curriculum still used and pulled from Iowa Early Leaning Standards. The center continues to use the Pro Care Application to communicate with parents. The classrooms were observed to offer a variety of learning centers and toys. Teachers were actively engaged in leading group activities or in meeting individual needs with children that were content. There are cameras in the hallways.

There is an on-site kitchen for this center that shares kitchen space with the church. The center participates in the CACFP food program--healthy eating guidelines. Lunch is prepared in the kitchen and served family-style in the classrooms by staff. .

Playground: The outdoor playground is enclosed with chain-link fencing and has two large new shades providing cover.

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Surfacing is pressed wood chips. Play structures were observed to be in good condition.

For field tips, ELIM contracts with the local school to provide a school bus and school bus driver for transport.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Elim has achieved and maintains a level 3 of IQ4K. (Iowa Quality for Kids (IQ4K®) is Iowa's Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) for Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) licensed Child Care Centers and preschools, registered Child Development Homes and programs operating under the authority of an accredited school district or nonpublic school. IQ4K® provides five levels of quality (building blocks) that programs can achieve and continue to improve on).

The interactions between staff and children continues to be positive and nurturing. ELIM has participated and/or currently participates in TEACH (TEACH (Teacher Education and Compensation Helps) is a comprehensive scholarship program that provides the early childhood workforce access to educational opportunities and is helping establish a well-qualified, fairly compensated and stable workforce for our children;) and the WAGE$ Program (Child Care WAGE$® Iowa (WAGE $) is a salary supplement program offered by Iowa AEYC. WAGE$ works hand-in-hand with TEACH Early Childhood® Iowa.)

The center partners well with outside agencies, such as AEA, CCR&R, and the local school district.

The center interacts well with church members and sets up opportunities for the children to interact with church members.

Both the church and the Board of Directors is a strong support for the center.

The Pastor continues to be involved and participating with center activities.

The center has a secure entrance.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.7(1): All staff (within first three months of employment):Iowa's training for the mandatory reporting of child abuse.At least one hour of training regarding universal precautions.Certification in First Aid infant, child, and adult cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) or equivalent certification approved by the Department. A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained.Certification in infant, child, and adult first aid that uses a nationally recognized curriculum or is received from a nationally recognized training organization including the American Red Cross, American Heart Association, American Safety and Health Institute, or MEDIC First Aid or an equivalent certification approved by the Department. A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained.Minimum health and safety trainings, (Essentials) approved by the Department. If significant changes occur to content, the Department may require the training be renewed.

109.9(1)b: 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.

109.9(2)i: Preschool (for children five years and younger not enrolled in school): Physical exam report submitted within 30 days of admission, was obtained no more than 12 months prior to admission, is signed by a licensed MD, DO, Chiropractor, PA, or ARNP, and contains health history; present health status including allergies, medications, and acute/chronic conditions; and recommendations for continued care if necessary.

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

109.7(1): All staff (within first three months of employment):Iowa's training for the mandatory reporting of child abuse.At least one hour of training regarding universal precautions.Certification in First Aid infant, child, and adult cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) or equivalent certification approved by the Department.

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--A staff file reviewed for a staff member hired late in 2025 did not have a CPR/First Aid training completion certificate.
--The director indicated that this training would be scheduled and completed as soon as possible then inform licensing when completed

109.9(1)b: 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.
--A staff file reviewed was absent a physical exam form
-The director will have staff provide physical exam form or obtain a physical exam and form, placing in the staff's file

109.9(2)i: Preschool (for children five years and younger not enrolled in school): Physical exam report submitted within 30 days of admission, was obtained no more than 12 months prior to admission, is signed by a licensed MD, DO, Chiropractor, PA, or ARNP, and contains health history; present health status including allergies, medications, and acute/chronic conditions; and recommendations for continued care if necessary.
-A child field reviewed contained a physical exam form that was completed more than 12 months prior.
-The director would reach out to the family to have a physical exam form completed and placed in child's file

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

A new two-year license is recommended.

Radon testing was completed on 9/2/23 in classrooms; all tested below 4.0 cutoff; due again 2028

An HVAC inspection on file was dated 2023; the director would obtain an updated HVAC inspection as the child care center is maintained by the church the program operates within.

Targeted Assessment: Behavior Management
I discussed with the center director their oversight of behavior management related to helping childcare staff: 1) Understand expectations, 2) managing frustrations, 3) monitor performance. The director indicated that staff work as a team to help management the classrooms, staff are able to reach out for assistance from the director. The center has also utilized community child care resource and referral, AEA and Early access.

Date: 10/27/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV

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**.