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

Name of Center: YWCA of Black Hawk County Child Care **Enrollment:** 50 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 22667

Street: 425 Lafayette St **City:** Waterloo Iowa **Zip** 50703 **County:** Black Hawk

Mailing Address: 425 Lafayette St, Waterloo, IA, 50703

Director's Name: Sherry Davenport **Phone Number:** 319-234-7589

On-Site Supervisor(s): Sherry Davenport **E-Mail:** ywcakids@ywcabhc.org

Date(s) of Visit: 06-10-2025, 06-17-2025

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

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

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

Date Inspected: 11-14-2024

Comments :

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 X Preschool-Age X School-Age

Get-Well Evening Care X 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	0	0	20	47	67
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 08-01-2025 to 08-01-2027
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost **Date:** 07-30-2025

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

I made my first visit to YWCA of Black Hawk County Child Care in Waterloo on 06/10/25 but the children had not started at the program yet. I made a second visit to the program on 06/17/25. I met with Sherry Davenport, the director. She has worked with YWCA since 2021 and was previously an on-site supervisor. Nature Card is the assistant director for the program. She has been with the program since 06/20/24. The program employs fifteen staff members.

The program primarily operates during the summer months. However, this location also cares for children during winter break, spring break, no school days and Fridays for preschool children. The school year program is referred to as "Playdays". It is in the local YWCA building, which is a historic building that is over 100 years old. The summer program operates Monday through Friday from 6:30 am until 6:00 pm and serves children who are in preschool and older. There are currently 50 children enrolled.

The YWCA also offers before and after-school programs and wrap around childcare programs at eleven elementary schools in Waterloo and Cedar Falls during the school year. These programs are also licensed through the Department of Health and Human Services.

The program operates out of two rooms: the Comets (ages six and seven-years-old) and the Aces (eight through twelve-years-old). The children also have use of the gym and the pool. An inspection of each room was completed. Windows provide natural lighting in the rooms.

The centers the program has available include library, blocks/Legos, magnets, table toys, games, puzzles, transportation, art, dramatic play, listening, writing, STEM kits and music. Materials were in good condition. The materials are located at child level, so they are easily accessible to the children. However, I am concerned that there were not very many supplies for all the children enrolled in the program. There were minimal items available, especially craft items. I was informed that the YWCA site and the Lowell site are expected to share supplies. These are two separate programs and each should have adequate supplies to keep their children occupied. When children are not kept busy with fun and varying activities it often leads to behavior issues in the classroom.

During the summer months, the program has the same weekly theme in each room. Each teacher prepares their own lesson plans based on the common theme. The children enjoy swimming at the YWCA every Tuesday and they swim at Burns Park or the Sports Plex every Wednesday. The children also enjoy the YWCA gym.

A daily schedule was not posted in either room and this is required. A lesson plan was available for review in the Comets room, but not in the Aces room. Both rooms should have a written lesson plan available int the room. The lead teacher in the Aces room was able to tell me the plan for the day, she just must put it in writing.

The Comets room has a telephone. Aces have use of the phone in the office and use of cell phones. The emergency numbers and the program's address and phone number were posted in the Comets room but should also be posted in the Aces room and the office. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and evacuation diagrams were posted by the main

program door in the Comets room. The evacuation diagram needs to be posted near the door near the sink in the Aces room.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. In 2024 there were no fire or tornados drills in August. Fire and tornado drills must both be practiced every month. This was cited last year also.

A radon test was completed in September 2023 and is good for five years. Results were within EPA guidelines. The fuel burning inspection was completed and no concerns were noted. A carbon monoxide detector was on site and is in the reception area on the main level and in the Comets room on the lower level. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 11/14/24.

The program does not have a playground but uses local parks. Staff members do check the parks for safety concerns each time they visit. The center also has use of the YWCA pool and gym for activities.

The center does not participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) but you are required to follow the CACFP guidelines. This is not occurring. The program provides breakfast, lunch and an afternoon snack. The program contracts out for breakfast and lunch with the Waterloo School System during the summer months. Currently only two components are being served for breakfast. CACFP requires three components to be served for breakfast. Meals arrive individually packed and disposable products are used so there is no need for dishwashing. The children go through a line cafeteria style to get their meals.

Snack is prepared on site and is provided by the food bank. There were breakfast and lunch menus available for review. You must also have snack menus available for review.

The program has use of two refrigerators in the kitchen and there is a refrigerator in both classrooms. Thermometers were present in all locations.

For Playdays during the school year breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack are provided by the food bank.

The program is using Sani-T to sanitize the food tables.

There is a bathroom located on the main floor near the office. The girls' bathroom has two toilets, and two sinks and the boys' bathroom has one toilet and one sink. Handwashing procedures were posted in both locations. There are also bathrooms on the lower level. The girls' bathroom has one toilet, and one sink and boys' bathroom has one toilet and one sink. Handwashing procedures were posted in both locations.

There is a sink outside of the Aces room. Post handwashing procedures in this area. This was cited last year also.

The parent information is in the entrance of the program on a bulletin board near the children's cubbies. The mandatory reporter information, the childcare consultant and the handbook availability were posted. The license is conspicuously posted. A no-smoking sign was posted at the entrance.

There were personal bags belonging to staff members in reach of children in the Comets room. All personal items must be stored out of reach for children.

Staff and children's files were reviewed at the time of the licensing visit. I reviewed eight children files. They were in great condition.

I reviewed two staff files. They need a lot of corrections. Both staff members had outdated Iowa background checks (SING). These must occur every two years. One staff member had outdated first aid and CPR training. Both staff members had outdated universal precautions training. One staff member had an outdated physical and neither staff member had on-going training hours. Both staff members (Emma W. and Kenedie C.) are on-site supervisors during the school year at the school sites and are required to have eight hours of on-going training hours each year. Staff members who are in college can use a transcript that shows they completed a course in education, health and safety to count towards their training hours. Please review ALL staff files and bring them into compliance. With so much director turnover the staff files have been neglected.

The classrooms were well staffed so the children receive a lot of attention. They moved around the space to interact with all the children and provide adequate supervision. The staff members had good teamwork and communication with one another. Staff members throw some educational moments into the day but also realize it is the children's summer break. The program tries to keep the children active and engaged. In one classroom the children were making pasta jewelry and in the other room the children were making aquariums for a craft. Staff members interacted with the children at their level. The children appeared to enjoy their time at the program.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The children enjoy swimming at the YWCA every Tuesday and they swim at Burns Park or the Sports Plex every Wednesday. The children also enjoy the YWCA gym.

The YWCA offers weekly camps so parents can decide week to week if the children will attend. Most children attend all summer.

There are cameras in the classrooms and the reception area.

Ms. Davenport states they work with good parents. They listen to what is happening if there are any concerns.

Ms. Davenport states they accommodate the needs of several children but also set limits. All the children are expected to follow the same rules. If children need a break from the chaos, they do provide noise canceling headphones.

Nature states the children like one another and they are kind to one another and they encourage each other.

Nature states they allow neurodivergent children to advocate for themselves and things are going well.

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

109.6(4)c: Center repeats Iowa record checks at a minimum of every two years or when aware of additional child abuse or criminal history that occurs.
Both staff members had outdated Iowa background checks (SING). These must occur every two years.

109.7(2): Center directors and all staff have the required contact hours of training.
Neither staff member had on-going training hours. Both staff members (Emma W. and Kenedie C.) are on-site supervisors during the school year at the school sites and are required to have eight hours of on-going training hours each year. Staff members who are in college can use a transcript that shows they completed a course in education, health and safety to count towards their training hours.

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.
There was one outdated physical.

109.9(1)c: 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.
One staff member had outdated first aid and CPR training. Both staff members had outdated universal precautions training.

109.10(13)b: Emergency instructions, phone numbers, and diagrams for fire, tornado, and flood shall be visibly posted and documented at least once a month for fire and tornado. Records shall be maintained for current and previous year.
In 2024 there were no fire or tornados drills in August. Fire and tornado drills must both be practiced every month. This was cited last year also. The evacuation diagram needs to be posted near the door near the sink in the Aces room.

109.11(2)a: The center will provide sufficient and safe indoor play equipment, materials, and furniture. It must meet the developmental, activity and special needs of the children.
I am concerned that there were not very many supplies for all the children enrolled in the program. There were minimal items available, especially craft items. I was informed that the YWCA site and the Lowell site are expected to share supplies. These are two separate programs and each should have adequate supplies to keep their children occupied. When children are not kept busy with fun and varying activities it often leads to behavior issues in the classroom.

109.12(1): Program structure that uses developmentally appropriate practices and written program of activities planned to the developmental needs of children served.Program complements but does not duplicate school curriculum.Schedule of program is posted in a place visible to parents.
A daily schedule was not posted in either room and this is required. A lesson plan was available for review in the Comets room, but not in the Aces room. Both rooms should have a written lesson plan available int the room. The lead teacher in the Aces room was able to tell me the plan for the day, she just must put it in writing.

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 center does not participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) but you are required to follow the CACFP guidelines. This is not occurring. Currently only two components are being served for breakfast. CACFP requires three components to be served for breakfast.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is issued. All DHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period.

An administrative change is being made to name Sherry Davenport as the director. She was approved in April 2025.

*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.