

01/22/2025

Melissa Sauer
500 Locust ST
La Porte City, IA 50651

Dear Child Care Provider:

This letter is in regards to the compliance visit at your Registered Child Development Home B conducted on 01/22/2025. Iowa Code Chapter 237A and 441 Iowa Administrative Code, Chapter 110, describes specific requirements that must be met by a Registered Child Development Home. You are not a participant in the voluntary Quality Rating and Improvement System. The following areas were out of compliance at the time of the visit:

441 IAC 110.8(1) **Facility Requirements**

441 IAC 110.8(1)“ d” Approved safety gates at stairways and doors shall be provided and used as needed.

441 IAC 110.8(1)“ i” Smoking and the use of tobacco products shall be prohibited at all times in the home and in every vehicle in which children receiving care in the home are transported.
Smoking and the use of tobacco products shall be prohibited in the outdoor play area during the home's hours of operation. Nonsmoking signs shall be posted at every entrance of the child care home and in every vehicle used to transport children.
All signs shall include:

1. The telephone number for reporting complaints, and
2. The Internet address of the department of public health (www.iowasmokefreeair.gov)

441 IAC 110.8(1)“ n” Providers shall inform parents of the presence of any pet in the home.

1. Each dog or cat in the household shall undergo an annual health examination by a licensed veterinarian. Acceptable veterinary examinations shall be documented on Form 470-5153, Veterinary Health Certificate. This examination shall verify that the animal's routine immunizations, particularly rabies, are current and that the animal shows no evidence of endoparasites (roundworms, hookworms, whipworms) and ectoparasites (fleas, mites, ticks, lice).
2. Each pet bird in the household shall be purchased from a dealer licensed by the Iowa department of agriculture and land stewardship and shall be examined by a veterinarian to verify that it is free of infectious diseases. Acceptable veterinary examinations shall be documented on Form 470-5153, Veterinary Health Certificate. Children shall not handle pet birds.
3. Aquariums shall be well maintained and installed in a manner that prevents children from accessing the water or pulling over a tank.
4. All animal waste shall be immediately removed from the children's areas and properly disposed of. Children shall not perform any feeding or care of pets or cleanup of pet waste.
5. No animals shall be allowed in the food preparation, food storage, or serving areas

during food preparation and serving times

441 IAC 110.8(3)**Medications and Hazardous Materials**

441 IAC 110.8(3)“a” All medicines and poisonous, toxic, or otherwise unsafe materials shall be secured from access by a child

441 IAC 110.9

Files

441 IAC 110.9(1)**A provider file is maintained and shall contain the following:**

441 IAC 110.9(1)“a”

A physician's examination report for the provider and all members of the provider's household aged 18 years or older. Acceptable physical examinations shall be documented on Form 470-5152, Child Care Provider Physical Examination Report. All children residing in the household must have medical documentation outlined in 110.9(4) “d”, 110.9(4) “f”, and 110.9(4) “g”

441 IAC 110.9(2)

An individual file is maintained for each staff assistant and contains:

1. Documentation from the department confirming the record checks required under subrule 110.11(3) have been completed and authorizing or conditionally limiting the person's involvement with child care
2. A completed Form 470-5152, Child Care Provider Physical Examination Report. The examination shall include any necessary testing for communicable diseases; a discussion of recommended vaccinations; completed no more than six months prior to approval to assist or be a household member; completed by a licensed medical doctor, doctor of osteopathy, physician assistant or advanced registered nurse practitioner; and repeated at least every three years.
3. Certification of two hours of approved training related to identification and reporting of child abuse as required by Iowa Code section 232.69 within 3 months of employment.

441 IAC 110.9(3)

An individual file is maintained for each substitute and contains:

1. Documentation from the department confirming the record checks required under 441 IAC 110.9(1) “a” have been completed and authorizing or conditionally limiting the person's involvement with child care.
2. A completed Form 470-5152, Child Care Provider Physical Examination Report. The examination shall include any necessary testing for communicable diseases; a discussion of recommended vaccinations; completed no more than six months prior to approval to assist or be a household member; completed by a licensed medical doctor, doctor of osteopathy, physician assistant or advanced registered nurse practitioner; and repeated at least every three years.
3. Certification of two hours of approved training related to identification and reporting of child abuse as required by Iowa Code section 232.69 within 3 months of employment.
4. Certification in infant and child first aid
5. Certification or other documentation that minimum health and safety training has been completed within 3 months or prior to providing substitute care, whichever occurs first.

441 IAC 110.9(4)

Children's Files. An individual file for each child shall be maintained and updated annually or when the provider becomes aware of changes. The file shall contain:

- a. Identifying information including, at a minimum, the child's name, birth date, parent's name, address, telephone number, special needs of the child, and the parent's work address and telephone number.
- b. Emergency information including, at a minimum, where the parent can be reached, the name, street address, city and telephone number of the child's regular source of health care, and the name, telephone number, and relationship to the child of another adult available in case of emergency.
- c. A signed medical consent from the parent authorizing emergency treatment.
- d. An admission physical examination report signed by a licensed physician or designee

in a clinic supervised by a licensed physician

1. The date of the physical examination shall not be more than 12 months before the child's first day of attendance at the child development home.
 2. The written report shall include past health history, status of present health, allergies and restrictive conditions, and recommendations for continued care when necessary.
 3. For a child who is five years of age or older and enrolled in school, a statement of health status signed by the parent or legal guardian may be substituted for the physical examination report.
 4. The examination report or statement of health status shall be on file before the child's first day of care
- e. For children under the age of 6, a statement of health condition signed by a physician or designee submitted annually from the date of the admission physical. For a child who is enrolled in school, a statement of health status signed by the parent or legal guardian may be substituted for the physician statement.
- f. For each school-age child, on the first day of attendance, documentation of a physical examination that was completed at the time of school enrollment or since.
- g. A signed and dated immunization certificate provided by the state department of public health. For the school-age child, a copy of the most recent immunization record shall be acceptable.
- h. For any child with allergies, a written emergency plan in the case of an allergic reaction. A copy of this information shall accompany the child if the child leaves the premises.
- i. Documentation that is signed by the parent and names persons authorized to pick up the child. The authorization shall include the name, telephone number, and relationship of the authorized person to the child.
- j. Written permission from the parent for the child to attend activities away from the child development home.
- k. Injury report forms documenting injuries requiring first aid or medical care
- l. If the child meets the definition of homelessness as defined by section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act, the family shall receive a 60-day grace period to obtain medical documentation.

Findings:

An annual compliance check was completed on 1/22/25 and the following was out of compliance:

441 IAC 110.8(1)"d" Approved safety gates at stairways and doors shall be provided and used as needed.

Melissa did not have a safety gate preventing kids from accessing the kitchen where she did have some cleaners in reach of the children. She did report it recently broke, and that she ordered a new one that should be arriving today.

441 IAC 110.8(1)"i" Smoking and the use of tobacco products shall be prohibited at all times in the home and in every vehicle in which children receiving care in the home are transported.

Smoking and the use of tobacco products shall be prohibited in the outdoor play area during the home's hours of operation. Nonsmoking signs shall be posted at every entrance of the child care home and in every vehicle used to transport children.

All signs shall include:

The telephone number for reporting complaints, and

The Internet address of the department of public health (www.iowasmokefreeair.gov)

Melissa did not have no smoking signs at her entrances. She did have new signs to put up but reported they had fallen down from the cold.

441 IAC 110.8(1)"n" Providers shall inform parents of the presence of any pet in the home.

Each dog or cat in the household shall undergo an annual health examination by a licensed veterinarian. Acceptable veterinary examinations shall be documented on Form 470-5153, Veterinary Health Certificate. This examination shall verify that the animal's routine immunizations, particularly rabies, are current and that the animal shows no evidence of endoparasites (roundworms, hookworms, whipworms) and ectoparasites (fleas, mites, ticks, lice).

Melissa's pet exam had expired in February of 2024.

441 IAC 110.8(3)"a" All medicines and poisonous, toxic, or otherwise unsafe materials shall be secured from access by a child.

Melissa did have a few cleaners in the kitchen that were accessible to the children.

441 IAC 110.9(1)"a" A physician's examination report for the provider and all members of the provider's household aged 18 years or older . Acceptable physical examinations shall be documented on Form 470-5152, Child Care Provider Physical Examination Report. All children residing in the household must have medical documentation outlined in 110.9(4) "d", 110.9(4) "f", and 110.9(4) "g"

Melissa's provider health exam had expired last year.

441 IAC 110.9(2) An individual file is maintained for each staff assistant and contains:

A completed Form 470-5152, Child Care Provider Physical Examination Report. The examination shall include any necessary testing for communicable diseases; a discussion of recommended vaccinations; completed no more than six months prior to approval to assist or be a household member; completed by a licensed medical doctor, doctor of osteopathy, physician assistant or advanced registered nurse practitioner; and repeated at least every three years. Certification of two hours of approved training related to identification and reporting of child abuse as required by Iowa Code section 232.69 within 3 months of employment.

Erin is an approved assistant. Her provider health exam had expired last year and her Mandatory Child Abuse Reporter training had expired last year

441 IAC 110.9(3) An individual file is maintained for each substitute and contains:

A completed Form 470-5152, Child Care Provider Physical Examination Report. The examination shall include any necessary testing for communicable diseases; a discussion of recommended vaccinations; completed no more than six months prior to approval to assist or be a household member; completed by a licensed medical doctor, doctor of osteopathy, physician assistant or advanced registered nurse practitioner; and repeated at least every three years.

Elizabeth is an approved assistant and sub. Her provider health exam had expired in 2024.

441 IAC 110.9(4) Children's Files. An individual file for each child shall be maintained and updated annually or when the provider becomes aware of changes. The file shall contain:

An admission physical examination report signed by a licensed physician or designee in a clinic supervised by a licensed physician

The date of the physical examination shall not be more than 12 months before the child's first day of attendance at the child development home.

The written report shall include past health history, status of present health, allergies and restrictive conditions, and recommendations for continued care when necessary.

For a child who is five years of age or older and enrolled in school, a statement of health status signed by the parent or legal guardian may be substituted for the physical examination report.

The examination report or statement of health status shall be on file before the child's first day of care

For children under the age of 6, a statement of health condition signed by a physician or designee submitted annually from the date of the admission physical. For a child who is enrolled in school, a statement of health status signed by the parent or legal guardian may be substituted for the physician statement.

For each school-age child, on the first day of attendance, documentation of a physical examination that was completed at the time of school enrollment or since.

A signed and dated immunization certificate provided by the state department of public health. For the school-age child, a copy of the most recent immunization record shall be acceptable.

Melissa was missing an initial physical for one child, an updated/annual physical for a second child and immunization records for both of those children.

Suggestions/Recommendations:

A re-check is not needed at this time. Corrections need to be made by 2/12/25 and will be reviewed at the next annual compliance check. Please send pictorial verification of the items where specifically noted below.

I encourage you to work with Black Hawk County Child Care Resource and Referral at 319 233-0804 if you have any ongoing compliance or training needs.

Thank you for your service in providing childcare in your community.

Corrective Action Required:

Melissa needs to obtain a safety gate and put it in the doorway leading to the kitchen. She needs to send pictorial verification.

Melissa needs to post no-smoking signs at her exits and send pictorial verification to this worker.

Melissa needs to obtain an updated pet exam on the approved HHS form. She did report that the cat has an appointment at the end of January. She does have the appropriate form for required documentation.

Melissa either needs to move the cleaners in the kitchen so they are not accessible to the children, or obtain the new safety gate to prevent the children from accessing the kitchen. Melissa did report she will be obtaining a new gate today.

Melissa needs to obtain an updated provider health exam on the approved HHS form.

Erin and Elizabeth both need an updated provider health exam on the approved HHS form.

Erin needs to update her Mandatory Child Abuse Reporter training. Melissa needs to send pictorial verification of the training when completed.

Melissa needs to work with parents to obtain any missing documentation that is required for the children's files.

Addendums:

- Addendum1: Melissa's annual compliance check was completed on 1/22/25. At that time she had a few areas where she was out of compliance and she needed to send pictorial verification of compliance.

On 2/24/25 she sent pictorial verification of a safety gate, and this also addressed the kids not having access to chemicals and cleaners in the kitchen. She also verified that no smoking signs were posted at her exits and a current provider health form for herself.

On 6/13/25 this worker followed up as I had not yet received verification of Erin's (assistant/sub) MCART. At that time Melissa indicated that she worked with the Registration unit and Erin was taken off her Registration. This worker did verify that, so the MCART is no longer required.

On 4/1/25 she sent verification of an updated pet exam.

This Addendum is approved by supervisor on 6/13/2025 1:38:31 PM

Non-compliance with any of the mandated requirements listed above may lead to the cancellation or revocation of your Child Development Home Registration. Please take whatever steps are necessary to completely address each of the violations noted above. It is essential you correct all above-mentioned violations.



Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

Kim Reynolds
Governor

Adam Gregg
Lt. Governor

Kelly K. Garcia
Director

Please do not hesitate to contact me at DHS at 319-429-0749 or christy.weber@hhs.iowa.org if you have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Christine Weber

Social Worker II

Sheila Aunspach

Social Work Supervisor

Always Remember:

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 877-216-8481

As you plan your future trainings to meet your 24 hours of training requirement, please remember that you can access the approved training by going to http://www.dhs.state.ia.us/Consumers/Child_Care/Professional_Development.html

You may also access training at: <https://ccmis.dhs.state.ia.us/trainingregistry/>

All providers need to maintain compliance with rules set out in Iowa Administrative Code, Chapter 110, which includes: 441 IAC 110.5(1): Check with the appropriate authorities to determine how the following local, state, or federal laws apply to you: • Zoning code • Building code • Fire code • Business license • State and federal income tax • Unemployment insurance • Worker's Compensation • Minimum wage and hour requirements • OSHA • Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).