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

Name of Center: Cadence Academy Preschool - Urbandale **Enrollment:** 80 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 27551

Street: 3054 NW 86th St **City:** Urbandale Iowa **Zip** 50322 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 8800 N Gainey Center Dr Ste300Attn: Accounts Receivable , Scottsdale, AZ, 85258

Director's Name: Theresa Anderson **Phone Number:** 515-270-1426

On-Site Supervisor(s): Alicia Pardekooper **E-Mail:** director.urbandale@cadence-academy.com

Date(s) of Visit: 11-20-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 10-30-2024

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

Date Inspected: 12-07-2023

Comments : Fire inspections are due at least every three years. Fire inspector compliance date 12-7-23.

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 X NAEYC NSACA Other NA

Program Serves: X Infants (0-23 mo.) X 2 Years X Preschool-Age 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	32	30	88		150
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 12-01-2024 to 12-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV **Date:** 12-04-2024

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced full licensing visit was completed 11-20-24 and the director, Theresa Anderson was present for the entire visit.

This center is part of the Cadence organization which has centers located throughout the metro area. Each site has a director who meets the 100 points, and an assistant director who meets the 75 point requirement. Theresa Anderson is the director and has been with this company since 1996. Alecia Pardekooper is the On-Site Supervisor, beginning in this position in November of 2021. Alecia has three prior years working in a childcare center. Both Theresa and Alecia meet qualifications for their positions.

This center has sole occupancy of this two-story walk out building. They provide care for infants up to age five. They do not offer school age care. The center hours are from 6:30 am to 5:30 pm.

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

Room observations: Cadence Academy utilizes the ascend curriculum and Kymbu application to communicate with parents. There were ample available age/developmentally appropriate centers and activities. Staff are in ratio and were observed to be engaged and nurturing with the children. The rooms were organized well to provide good supervision. Classrooms over a good variety of toys and play centers. Handwashing posters were hung and staff were observed to model good handwashing technique. Restrooms were clean and had required toiletries available.

Nutrition Practices: There is an on-site kitchen. Menus are in a 4-week rotation and provided by corporate. The menus are in-line with CACFP guidelines (healthy balance). Lunches and snacks are served family-style in the rooms by staff. The kitchen was clean and organized. There is dedicated kitchen staff. Menus were also posted.

Health and Safety- Medication is stored in a locked box in the classroom or in a secure box in the fridge when required. There were first aid kits were in all rooms and readily available. Tornado and Fire emergency plans were posted and drills documented to have been completed monthly. Radon was tested 10/26/23 and all tested below 4.0; this site has a radon mitigation system and will require repeat radon testing every two years. The director indicated the heating, cooling and ventilation system (HVAC) was inspected 10/24 and will send a certificate of inspection to this consultant. There are carbon monoxide detectors on site, throughout the center. This center has an emergency/disaster plan which was reviewed. Staff are trained upon starting employment of the emergency/disaster plan and then reviewed in monthly staff meetings.

Playground: Safety checks for the playground were documented to have been completed monthly. The play area is enclosed by chain link fencing with two play structures and a shad structure. Surfacing was comprised of pea gravel, wood chips and some cement. The center offers two enclosed outdoor play areas, which are utilized according to ages.

Transportation: NA

Administrative Review: Information was posted for mandatory reporter, handbook accessibility, consultant contact, license, fire/tornado drills along with non-smoking signs. Seven child files were reviewed with one missing an annual update and another missing an updated physical exam report. Six employee files were reviewed; and all contained the necessary information.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This center has maintained their NAEYC accreditation, they just went through the re-accreditation process.

This center takes children on a part time basis which is a benefit to families.

Many of the staff have been with this center for several years.

The center continues to partner with the Urbandale school district for the universal preschool program.

The center sends out newsletters monthly and has a Facebook page and a website.

The center uses an app for daily contacts which supports on-going communication with parents.

The center has a secure entrance.

The center participates in the T.E.A.C.H program (T.E.A.C.H. (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).

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

109.9(2): All files are updated at least annually and when a change occurs.

109.10(1)a: 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, PA, Chiropractor or ARNP, and contains health history; present health status including allergies, medications, and acute/chronic conditions; and recommendations for continued care if necessary.
Number not in compliance: 1

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A new two year full license is recommended.

Radon was tested 10/2023 and testing indicated levels below 4.0. In 2015 the center installed a mitigation system and radon testing every two years is required.

Staff were consistently observed from room to room to be engaged with group activities or with diapering/restroom breaks. The children were observed to be content and freely approach staff with their needs.

*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.