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

Name of Center: Cadence Academy Preschool - Clive **Enrollment:** 73 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 25879

Street: 14300 Hickman RD **City:** Clive Iowa **Zip** 50325 **County:** Polk

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

Director's Name: Crystal Sebben **Phone Number:** 515-987-2137

On-Site Supervisor(s): Darci Kuhns **E-Mail:** director.heartland@cadence-academy.com

Date(s) of Visit: 04-24-2024

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:** 03-25-2024

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

Date Inspected: 06-17-2022

Comments :

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 X 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	16	12	50	24	102
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 05-01-2024 to 05-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV **Date:** 05-05-2024

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 4-24-24. The Director was present throughout the visit as was the OSS at times.

This center opened in 1997 and was a part of the Apple Tree organization which has centers located throughout the metro area. In 2013 these centers were purchased by Phoenix Children's Academy which is now called Cadence Education. The center name has changed to Cadence Academy Preschool.

Each center has a director that meets the 100 point requirements, and every assistant director/on-site supervisor meets the 75 point requirement. Crystal Sebben has been with this center since 1998, and became a director in 2006. She has her CDA and is working toward obtaining a Bachelor's degree in Early Education. Darci Kuhns has been with this center since 2004, and became an on-site supervisor in 2016. She has a degree in Communications.

This center continues to operate in a wing of the Heartland Presbyterian Church. They rent the space from the church; there is no religious affiliation or financial support from the church, however they have a strong partnership. Hours of operation are 6:30 am-6:00 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/activities: Six enclosed classrooms are used for the child care program. This center is using the Ascend Curriculum along with the Kambu application to communicate with parents. Staff are in ratio and maintained good structure in the rooms while responding appropriately to the children. The classrooms offer a variety of age/developmentally appropriate centers/toys. The rooms are nicely arranged and clean. The program uses bleach water/soapy water to clean/sanitize. New sinks are set to be installed in the pre-k/Pre-school jack and Jill restroom. Discussion took place to have cleaning chemicals moved up as there was a step-stool in the bathroom for the sink; this would be until the new sinks are installed as they are adjusted lower and no step-stool would be needed.

Nutrition Practices: There is an on-site kitchen and dedicated kitchen staff. The center is following CACFP guidelines in the menus, that are crafted by the director and corporate, rotating seasonally. The kitchen was clean. Storage was clean. Menus were posted. There was a missing thermometer from a fridge and the director replaced during this visit.

Health/Safety: Medication is kept in a lock box in the kitchen. Handwashing signs are posted. There are first aid kits in the rooms. Tornado/Fire emergency plans/diagrams were posted. Drills were documented as completed. Radon, tested in 2021, with results below 4.0, is now due again in 2026. The church maintains the HVAC which appears to be either a heat pump similar. There is a carbon monoxide detector in all classrooms.

Playground: This playground is divided by ages; and enclosed with chain link and wood-privacy fencing. There are shade structures which the director indicated may soon be replaced. Play structures appear in good repair. Surfacing in wood chips and a new load of wood chips was due to be delivered later on this date. Playground safety checks are documented completed.

Transportation/Field trips: NA

Administrative review: Fliers for mandatory reporter; handbook, consultant contact, license, fire/tornado plans, and non-smoking signs were posted. Seven child files were reviewed and contained all necessary information; Five staff files were reviewed, one missing documentation of completed essentials training. Discussion took place regarding another employee having not provided a physical upon hire, rather about a year after. Employee physicals are currently required to occur PRIOR to hire (within six months PRIOR).

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center has their NAEYC accreditation, and just went through the re-accreditation process. The center has been NAEYC accredited for over twenty years.

Most classrooms have a lead teacher who has a CDA, an AA degree, or a four year college degree.

The center has many long term staff; with staff at the center for 20+, 15+ etc years.

The children who attend pre-school at this center are prepared and ready for Kindergarten.

The center partners with the TEACH program.

The center has a secure entrance.

The staff have T-shirts with the name of the center that they can wear, making them more easily identified as staff.

The director and on-site supervisor have worked together at this center for over 15 years and have worked as the administrative team for eight years, they work well together and are a strong leadership team.

The center now has cameras in every classroom that record.

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

109.7(3): During their first three months of employment, all staff shall receive the following training:Two hours of Iowa's training for mandatory reporting of child abuse.At least one hour of training regarding universal precautions and infectious disease control.Certification in American Red Cross, American Heart Association, American Safety and Health Institute or MEDIC 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, approved by the department.

-One employee file absent Essentials certificate

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing is now due every five years if testing is under 4.0 cutoff. The last radon testing was completed between February and April of 2021 and all rooms tested fell below the 4.0 cutoff.

The menus reflect the center is following CACFP guidelines.

*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.