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

Name of Center: Triad Kids Campus **Enrollment:** 68 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 28302

Street: 2202 SE Creekview Dr **City:** Ankeny Iowa **Zip** 50021 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 2202 SE Creekview Dr, Ankeny, IA, 50021

Director's Name: Tracey Lukehart **Phone Number:** 515-963-0215

On-Site Supervisor(s): Heidi Etchinson **E-Mail:** tlc@triadkidscampus.com

Date(s) of Visit: 04-30-2024

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:** 04-30-2024

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

Date Inspected: 03-13-2024

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

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.) 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		10	24	21	55
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 4-30-24. The Director was present throughout the visit.

This program is located in the Triad Gymnastics building and started in 2005 when this building was constructed. The owners offer competitive gymnastics training to children of all ages. They had some empty classrooms that were available during the day, and when approached about having a preschool program, they agreed. The program has grown to where they have a preschool program for two year old children, and also offer after school care to school age children and summer programming to school age children as well. The program and Triad has a new owner since September of 2017, Brian Hough, as well as a 10% co-owner, Daniel Miller. Brian, however, is the main owner.
Tracey Lukehart became the director in 2015. She has a degree in Social Work. She had previously been a preschool teacher with Triad, plus had experience working at another child care program. She meets the qualifications to be director. Heidi Etchison became the On-Site Supervisor in May of 2022. Heidi has a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and 5 years of experience as a preschool teacher. Heidi meets qualifications for this role.

The preschool sessions offered are:
2 year old children:
M-F 9:15 am- 11:15 am, parents can choose their days

3 year old children:
M/W am 9:00 am -11:30 am
T/Th am 9:00 am -11:30 am
T/TH pm 12:00 pm - 2:30 pm

4 year old children:
M/W/F 9:00 am -11:30 am
M/T/Th/F 9:00 am - 1:30 pm

5 year old children:
M-F 11:45 am - 2:45 pm

Many of the school age children participate in the gymnastics training program. Their practices begins at 4:00 pm. At that time, they switch from being under the supervision of the child care program, to the supervision of the gymnastics program. The gymnastics program also offers a lunch bunch program for 3-8 year old children which allows the children to be at Triad for a full day on the days it is offered; M/W/F from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. The lunch bunch program is under the supervision of the gymnastic program and not the childcare program.

In 2012 they started offering a summer enrichment preschool program that is offered in two sessions that are each for four weeks, for children age two through five. Also during the summer they offer full day child care for school age children from 7:00 am-6:00 pm.

Room observations/activities: The center is now using gym space for programming space for two year old children during the day and school age children after school. This area is 756 square feet with a capacity of 21 children. This brings the total program capacity for the center up to 55 from 34. The space was inspected by the fire marshal on 5/2/2018. The center communicates with parents through email and news letters. Staff are in ratio and maintain good structure in the classrooms.

Nutrition Practices: The children bring snacks for the group. Staff ensure the snacks are on the healthy side. Snacks are served in the classrooms , family style.

Health/safety: Handwashing posters were hung. Some fire/tornado emergency exit plans/diagrams were missing and the director would replace those as soon as possible. There is a first aid kit in all classrooms. Fire/Tornado Drills were documented completed. Radon was completed 3/2022 with results under 4.0; testing is due again in 2027. HVAC is professionally inspected/maintained. There is a Carbon Monoxide detector in the back classroom.

Playground: This center utilizes a large gym area as described above. The director indicated there is a "safety check designee" that routinely looks over the gym for areas of concern.

Transportation/Field Trips: The center has four 15-passenger vans.

Administrative review: Fliers for mandatory reporter, handbook, consultant contact, license, non-smoking signs were posted. Four staff files were reviewed with all the necessary information; Six child files were reviewed with containing all required information.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This is a unique program that is located in a gymnastics training building. The children get time every day to play in the gym, and many of the children participate in the gymnastics training program.

The feedback they receive from the schools shows these children are prepared with the required skills for kindergarten.

The local Heartland AEA will refer families to this program as they feel the children would benefit from the curriculum and structure of the program.

There are many long term staff at this center, with two staff at the center since 2009, one since 2011 and once since 2017. The staff care about what they are doing and view this as a career, not just a job. The staff work well together as a team. The staff know the children and families well.

There is good communication with the families. A newsletter is sent to families once a month.

Parent teacher conferences are held once a year with the four and five year old children.

The center has cameras in the classrooms and outside of the cubby area.

The director and on-site supervisor work on building staff morale and letting them know they are valued and appreciated.

The director and on-site supervisor work well together and compliment each other strengths; they are a strong team.

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

109.10(15)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.
Some fire/tornado emergency exit plans/diagrams were missing and the director would replace those as soon as possible.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing is now required every five years if the testing is under 4.0. The last radon test was completed in March of 2022 and all rooms fell below the 4.0 cutoff.

The center does not have outside playground equipment, however has outdoor green space with age appropriate toys for the children as well as shade and a basketball hoop.

*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.