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

Name of Center: Iowa Western Early Childhood Educ Center **Enrollment:** 29 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 7186

Street: 2700 College RD **City:** Council Bluffs Iowa **Zip** 51503 **County:** Pottawattamie

Mailing Address: 2700 College RD, Council Bluffs, IA, 51503

Director's Name: Stacy Bauder **Phone Number:** 712-388-6800

On-Site Supervisor(s): Amanda Murley **E-Mail:** sfluckey@iwcc.edu

Date(s) of Visit: 08-28-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

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

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

Date Inspected: 01-06-2022

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 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*	*Summary Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	20	9	45		74
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 3

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 08-01-2024 to 08-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Kathy DeGeorge-Evans **Date:** 08-29-2024

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced licensing visit was made to Iowa Western Early Childhood Education Center on 8-28-2024. The center is on the campus of Iowa Western Community College in Lewis Hall. Lewis Hall also has college class rooms located down the hall they are separated by a locked door. The setting is a unique environment being located on the campus of a community college where a child development degree is offered. College students are in the program rooms as part of the child development curriculum. Child care services are offered to children infant age to preschool age, Monday through Friday 7:00 am to 5:30 pm. There are 29 children enrolled. Stacy Bauder has been the director since 2022 and she has worked at the center for nineteen years. The center has several on-site supervisors: Amanda Murley. Brianna Darnell, Theresa Hill and Heather Sadler.
I met with Stacy during my licensing visit.

Observation of rooms:
The program rooms looked great and have a fun variety of age and developmentally appropriate toys and equipment. Three program rooms were being used at the time of my licensing visit (a pre toddler room and a preschool room aren't being used at this time). All rooms were in ratio, the children were observed during lunch time, nap time and playing.
The children were having fun playing, the preschool children were having water day. The preschool children have a garden.
Creative Curriculum Gold is used. The staff in each room are responsible for the lesson plans/activities.
Staff had excellent interactions with the children, they were positive and attentive to the needs of the children.
The center uses the Brightwheel app for a variety of functions including the daily sheets.
The center has a waiting list.

Nutrition:
Breakfast, lunch and snacks are prepared on the college campus and brought to the center and they are on the federal food program.
The center has a kitchen that is used for cooking activities with the children. Proper food storage was observed.
Menus are posted.

Health and safety:
Monthly fire/tornado drills are practiced and documented.
Radon testing was completed in August 2024, Stacy hasn't received the test results yet.
The center has electric appliances.
The center has emergency preparedness plans/procedures.
Bleach/water is used for sanitizing and disinfecting.

Playground:
Each age group has their own playground area. The outdoor equipment is fun and developmentally appropriate. The areas have an outdoor classroom capability. Rubber mulch is used for surfacing.
Monthly playground inspections are completed.

Transportation:
The program doesn't provide daily transportation services. The college campus offers learning opportunities for the children, they have enjoyed a variety of walking field trips to the different vocations: dental, nursing, art center, first responders - helicopter, radio station, biology department, cafeteria to make their own pizzas and the horticulture department.

Administrative records:
Staff and child files were read and were in good order. Stacy needs a current physical.
Stacy has monthly staff meetings.
Stacy will be hiring more staff (finding staff to hire has been difficult).

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Stacy and the staff are positive and enthusiastic about the center. Stacy is very organized and confident as the director.
The center is an excellent resource for the community.
The center has NAEYC accreditation.
Staff had excellent interactions with the children, they were attentive to the needs of the children.
Monthly newsletters are provided to the parents.
Iowa Western Community College has excellent enrollment in the Early Childhood program.
Some staff have excellent longevity.
The program has a breast feeding room.
Walking field trips are taken to a variety of vocations/departments on campus - dental, nursing, art center, first responders - helicopter, radio station, biology department, cafeteria to make their own pizza's and the horticulture department.
The center has received grants for cubbies, chairs and staff bonuses.
The center participates in IQ4K level 3.

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

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is recommended for 8-1-2024 to 8-1-2026.

(Administrative change 2-2-2022 increase capacity to 74 children. An infant room was added with 567'. The fire marshal gave approval for the new room on January, 6th 2022)

*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.