



Child Care Updates

Kim Hahn, Regulatory Program Manager

June 18, 2025

Topics

[Iowa Administrative Rules 441.109](#) and Iowa Code 237A Changes

Guidelines for Licensed Child Care Centers

Consumer information

Professional development

Child Care Assistance (CCA) forms and CCA Pilot

CCA technical assistance supports

Next up: child development homes and child care homes

Administrative Rule 441.109 Changes-Licensed Centers

Engaged with CCR&R, Iowa Afterschool Alliance, HHS team members, and child care facility directors

Applies to licensed child care centers only

Provides clarification and reduces complicated language

Removes contradictory and duplicative regulations

Primary Changes to 441.109

16 and 17-year-old staff are able to provide supervision:

- During structured nap hours for children aged 2-5
- For brief periods of absence, not to exceed 5 minutes

HHS licensing consultants have flexibility to approve combinations of children outside of what is regulated if appropriate and can ensure needs of the children are met, in unique circumstances

Provides clarification for centers that serve school aged children in school buildings and explains exceptions that apply to this space

HF390 Child Care Provider Physical Examinations

No longer has to be
"pre-employment"

Physical within 6
months after hire or
start date

Delayed physicals risk
being out of compliance



Iowa Department of Health and Human Services
Child Care Provider Physical Examination Report
Child Care Center Personnel • Child Development Home Providers

Name:	Date of Exam:
-------	---------------

Child Care Providers:

- Have frequent contact with children (infant through school-age) in care.
- Are responsible for children's physical care and social development day or/and nighttime hours.
- May need to lift children, bend, and stand for long periods of time.

Immunization Status:

All child care employees and providers shall consult with their physician regarding the receipt of age appropriate immunizations in accordance with the current Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended immunization schedule. Individuals involved in the provision of child care often come in contact with very young children, whom may or may not be fully immunized against vaccine-preventable diseases. It is essential every child care employee and provider discuss with their physician the benefits and risks associated with receiving or not receiving all ACIP age appropriate immunizations before becoming involved in a child care setting.

(Physician Must Check One)

- ☐ Patient's immunization history was reviewed and patient is current with all ACIP recommended immunizations.
- ☐ Patient received consultation regarding the receipt of age appropriate immunizations in accordance with the current ACIP recommended immunization schedule and declined the following recommended vaccinations:

Tuberculosis Screening:

All child care staff/providers are required to receive a baseline screening for Tuberculosis. Baseline screening shall consist of two components:

1. Assessing for current symptoms of active TB disease.
2. Screening for risk factors associated with TB.

NOTE: ONLY perform a TST or IGRA if the patient has an identified risk factor and/or current symptoms of TB disease. Do not test individuals with previous past positive test results.

(Physician Must Complete - Check And Date)

- ☐ TB signs/symptoms assessment and TB risk factor screen completed Date: _____
- ☐ TST or IGRA test completed (if indicated) Date: _____

** Tuberculosis medical consultation and TB medications can be accessed by calling the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services, Tuberculosis Control Program at 515-281-8636 or 515-281-7504.

HF299

Immunization Exemptions

Adds language in Iowa Code for Child Care Facilities (237A.3C)

Child Care Facilities shall include information regarding exemptions in any communication related to immunizations.

Guidelines for Licensed Child Care Centers-Comm. 204

Development Partners

- ▶ HHS Child Care Policy
- ▶ HHS policy experts in other divisions, such as Public Health
- ▶ Healthy Child Care Iowa
- ▶ Child Care Resource and Referral

Changes

- ▶ Complete re-write
- ▶ Simplifies information and expectations to meet regulatory requirements
- ▶ Removes duplication of information or out of date information
- ▶ Links to important tools and resources

Consumer Information

New Annual Inspection Report Templates for home and center-based providers will be used after July 1, 2025

All report templates will look the same across program types

Reports will also have the option to add “addendums” if further information is obtained

Checklists from inspections will also be added to website



Child Care Annual Evaluation

Business Name:

Provider Name:

Provider No.

Address:

County:

Phone Number:

- ☐ Pre-inspection
- ☐ Approval Date:
- ☐ Annual Visit Date

Program Type:

- ☐ Registered Child
- ☐ Registered Child
- ☐ Registered Child
- ☐ Registered Child
- ☐ Non registered

Program Population:

- ☐ Infant (0-<24 months)
- ☐ Toddler
- ☐ Preschool
- ☐ School age
- ☐ All ages



Child Care Center Annual Evaluation

Name of Center:

Provider No.

Address:

County:

Director's Name:

On-Site Supervisor(s):

Phone Number:

E-Mail:

Pre-inspection Date:

Permission to Open Date:

Annual inspection Visit Date:

Licensing Period:

Fire Inspection:

Date inspected:

Comments:

License Type:

- ☐ Full
- ☐ Provisional

Quality initiative:

- ☐ IQ4K
- ☐ Accreditation

Program Duration:

- ☐ Year-Round
- ☐ School Year
- ☐ Summer Only

Program Population Served:

- ☐ Infant (0-<24 mos)
- ☐ Toddler
- ☐ Preschool
- ☐ School age
- ☐ All ages

Professional Development (PD)

- ▶ Starting July 1, 2025
- ▶ Coaching PD hours can be provided by PD organizations that are contracted by HHS to provide coaching:
 - CCR&R
 - Child Care Nurse Consultants
 - Child Care Collaborative of Iowa's financial management coaches
 - First Children's Finance
- ▶ Coaching hours can only be used to fulfill half of regulatory or IQ4K PD hours requirements
- ▶ Removes 5-year limit from earning professional development hours for training
- ▶ Updated Professional Development Organization Approval Process

Child Care Assistance Applications

CCA Family Eligibility Form

- ▶ Reviewed by HHS team members and recent family applicants
- ▶ Easier for parents to use
- ▶ Provides improved directions
- ▶ Meets ADA accessibility requirements

CCA Provider Agreement

- ▶ Reviewed by HHS and some child care facility owners/directors
- ▶ Simplifies the “rates table” to determine reimbursement rate
- ▶ Provides improved directions
- ▶ Meets ADA accessibility requirements

Child Care Assistance (CCA) Pilot

Allows child care workforce to apply for CCA for their own children

- No family income limit
- All other CCA eligibility requirements must be met
- Families are assigned copays based on family income

[Full-day continuum of care grants and statewide fund article](#)

[Child Care Funding Opportunities](#)

[Child Care Assistance \(CCA\) for the Child Care Workforce FAQ](#)

CCA Pilot will continue another year

Success in workforce recruitment and retention

In April 2025, we served 931 families and 1,538 children on this pilot

CCA Technical Assistance

HHS is updating “Tips for Timesheets” for those completing paper timesheets & “Tips on Portal Billing” for those who submit billing online.

[Hosting “open office hours”](#) each 1st Tuesday of the month for Child Care Provider Registration beginning on July 1st, 2025 from 1:00 PM- 2:00 PM

[Hosting “open office hours”](#) each 1st Thursday of the month for CCA Subsidy Billing beginning on July 3rd, 2025 from 1:00 PM– 2:00 PM Opportunity for home child care providers to connect with the registration & payment teams to discuss different topics.

Opportunity for center directors to connect with the registration & payment teams about provider agreements & billing.

Statewide Child Care Solutions Fund

► What is it and how do I apply?

- A fund held under the Iowa Economic Development Authority Foundation for corporations to invest
- A competitive grant will be released to communities after corporate funds are invested
- Communities that want to, or have developed a local child care solution fund
- Technical assistance for local economic development offices
- Conversations with investors on investment options

► What providers can do

- Reach out to the local economic development or chamber office

Next Steps

“Red Tape Review” of Child Development Home and Child Care Home Administrative Rules

Updates to Guidelines for Child Development Homes and Child Care Homes

12-18 month timeline

Will engage HHS partners, stakeholders, and child care providers



Questions

Child Care Policy Team
askchildcare@hhs.iowa.gov



Health and
Human Services