

441—109.2(237A) Licensure procedures.**109.2(1) Application for license.**

a. Any adult or agency has the right to apply for a license. The application for a license must be made to the department on a department-provided application for a license to operate a child care center.

b. Requested reports, including the fire marshal's report and other information relevant to the licensing determination, will be furnished to the department upon application and renewal.

c. A center must submit all required fingerprints to the department of public safety before the issuance or renewal of the center's license.

d. When a center makes a sufficient application for an initial license, the center may operate for a period of up to 120 calendar days from the date of issuance of the form granting permission to open without a license, pending a final licensing decision. A center has made a sufficient application when it has had an on-site visit and has submitted the following to the department:

(1) An application for a license.

(2) An approved fire marshal's report.

(3) A floor plan indicating room descriptions and dimensions, including location of windows and doors.

(4) Information sufficient to determine that the center director meets minimum personnel qualifications.

e. Applicants must submit the regulatory fee as specified in subrule 109.2(5) to the department.

f. Applicants must be notified of approval or denial of initial applications within 120 days from the date the application is submitted.

(1) If the applicant has been issued a form granting permission to open without a license, the applicant must be notified of approval or denial within 120 calendar days of the date of issuance of the form.

(2) No full or provisional license will be issued before payment of the applicable regulatory fee as determined pursuant to subrule 109.2(5).

g. The department will not act on a licensing application for 12 months after an applicant's child care center license has been denied or revoked.

h. When the department has denied or revoked a license, the applicant or person is prohibited from involvement with child care unless the department specifically permits involvement through a record check decision.

109.2(2) License.

a. An applicant showing compliance with center licensing laws and these rules, including department approval of center plans and procedures and submission of the regulatory fee as specified in subrule 109.2(5) to the department by the date due, shall be issued a license for 24 months. In determining whether or not a center is in compliance with the intent of a licensing standard outlined in this chapter, the department will make the final decision.

b. A new license must be applied for when the center moves, expands, or the facility is remodeled to change licensed capacity.

c. A new license must be applied for when another adult or agency assumes ownership or legal responsibility for the center.

d. A provisional license may be issued or reduced pursuant to Iowa Code section 237A.2.

109.2(3) Denial. Initial applications or renewals will be denied when:

a. The center does not comply with center licensing laws and these rules in order to qualify for a full or provisional license.

b. The center is operating in a manner that the department determines impairs the safety, health, or well-being of children in care.

c. A person subject to an evaluation has transgressions that merit prohibition of involvement with child care and of licensure, as determined by the department.

d. Information provided either orally or in writing to the department or contained in the center's files is shown to have been falsified by the provider or with the provider's knowledge.

e. The center is not able to obtain an approved fire marshal's certificate as prescribed by the state fire marshal or fails to comply in correcting or repairing any deficiencies in the time determined by the fire marshal or the fire marshal determines the facility is not safe for occupancy.

f. The regulatory fee as specified in subrule 109.2(5) is not received by the department within 60 calendar days from the due date on the invoice.

109.2(4) *Revocation and suspension.* A license will be revoked or suspended if corrective action has not been taken when:

a. The center does not comply with center licensing laws or these rules.

b. The center is operating in a manner that the department determines impairs the safety, health, or well-being of the children in care.

c. A person subject to an evaluation has transgressions that merit prohibition of involvement with child care and of licensure, as determined by the department.

d. Information provided to the department or contained in the center's files is shown to have been falsified by the provider or with the provider's knowledge.

e. The facility is not able to obtain an approved fire marshal's certificate as prescribed by the state fire marshal, fails to comply in correcting or repairing any deficiencies in the time determined by the fire marshal or the fire marshal determines the facility is not safe for occupancy.

f. The regulatory fee as specified in subrule 109.2(5) is not paid in full due to insufficient funds to cover a check submitted to the department for the fee.

109.2(5) *Regulatory fees.* A fee based upon center capacity is due to the department at the time of issuance of the license in accordance with this subrule.

a. *Fee structure.* The amount of the fee is based on the capacity of the center as indicated below:

<u>Center Capacity</u>	<u>Fee Amount</u>
0 to 20 children	\$50
21 to 50 children	\$75
51 to 100 children	\$100
101 to 150 children	\$125
151 or more children	\$150

b. *Determination of capacity.* The licensing consultant must determine center capacity by dividing the amount of usable space by the amount of space required per child as specified in subrule 109.11(1). Upon approval by the department, the final determination of center capacity may include evaluation of other factors that influence capacity, as long as physical space requirements per child as defined in subrule 109.11(1) are maintained.

c. *Notification.* Upon final determination of center capacity by the licensing consultant, the licensing consultant or designee must sign and provide the child care center licensing fee invoice to the center.

d. *Payment.* The center must return the child care center licensing fee invoice to the department with the licensing fee payment within 60 calendar days from the date on the invoice. Regulatory fees are nonrefundable and nontransferable.

109.2(6) *Adverse actions.*

a. Notice of adverse actions for a denial, revocation, or suspension and the right to appeal the licensing decision will be given to applicants and licensees in accordance with 441—Chapter 7 and 441—subrule 16.2(3).

b. A letter received by an owner or director of a licensed center initiating action to deny, suspend, or revoke the facility's license must be conspicuously posted at the main entrance to the facility. The letter will remain posted until resolution of the action to deny, suspend, or revoke the license. If the action to deny, suspend, or revoke is upheld, the center must return the license to the department.

c. If the center's license is denied, suspended, or revoked, the department will notify the parent, guardian, or legal custodian of each child for whom the facility provides child care.

d. The center must cooperate with the department in providing the names and addresses of the parent, guardian, or legal custodian of each child for whom the facility provides child care.

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