



Center or Preschool Level 2

Prior Level Requirements

- The program meets all Level 1 requirements

Nutrition and Physical Activity

- The program (choose ONE):
 - Participates in Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), National School Lunch Program (NSLP) or another departmental approved Child Nutrition Program (CNP)
OR
 - Completes all of the following (as applicable to ages served):
 - Iowa CACFP *Meal Pattern* training - Steps to Success Module 2: lessons 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 15, and 17 only (staff planning the menu and their supervisor)
 - Video *CACFP Child Care Center Infant Staff Training* or Iowa CACFP *Infant Feeding* training - Steps to Success Module 15 (infant lead staff and their supervisor)
 - Video *CACFP Child Care Center Staff Training* or Module – Meaningful Mealtimes (all lead staff responsible for mealtime supervision and their supervisor)
- The program identifies and implements one physical activity goal from the completed action plan in Level 1.

Professional Development

- All staff who administer medication complete the Medication Administration Skills Competency Course (or other training as approved by DHS) and successfully complete a Competency Skills Evaluation Assessment Checklist (or DHS-approved equivalent). There must be one person who meets this criterion present onsite at all times.
- All **Teaching Staff** complete 10 annual training hours of professional development.

Leadership and Administration

- The **Program Administrator** completes and annually updates the Quality Improvement Action Plan.
- All Staff** receive a written evaluation at least once a year.
- The **Program Administrator** has at least 2 years of full-time experience working in the field.

Family and Community Partnerships

- The program offers one conference with each family per year to discuss each child's progress, strengths, and needs in all developmental areas. Assessment information is shared with the family.
- The program completes 1 additional activity annually that promotes partnerships (see Family and Community Partnership Activity Options).

Environment

- The **Program Administrator or Assistant Administrator** completes the Environment Rating Scale (ERS) Training (choose between ITERS, ECERS or SACERS, if applicable) and provides a certificate of completion.
- The program provides an environment supportive to, and encouraging of, culture, age, race, ability, special needs, and gender diversity.
- The program develops and implements a Tobacco-Free/Nicotine-Free policy aligned to the Iowa Department of Public Health's policy guidelines (see resource guide).

Teaching Staff Qualifications

- All **Teaching Staff** meet Tier 1, Step 1 (40 hours of training towards a CDA) or meet a higher Tier qualification on the Iowa Early Care and Education Teaching Roles Career Pathway.

Teaching and Learning

- The program uses a curriculum that is aligned with the Iowa Early Learning Standards, addresses the multiple domain areas, and is specific to the ages of the children the program serves.
- The program develops and implements a policy that eliminates or severely limits expulsion, suspension, punitive or other exclusionary discipline.
- The program develops and implements policies regarding the use of an approved developmental screening tool for all children in care within 60 days of enrollment and at least annually to identify children who may need additional evaluation and/or intervention strategies.