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Appropriations

Revenue Estimating Conference to Meet October 16

The state's Revenue Estimating Conference will hold its next meeting on October 16, at 11 AM. This meeting will revise the fiscal estimate for the current budget (FY 2026) and make an initial revenue estimate for Fiscal Year 2027. The meeting will also revise the estimate for funding going into the Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund.

This meeting will be held in the Supreme Court Chamber (Room 103). As with previous meetings, it is expected that the meeting will be livestreamed on the Legislative Services Agency's YouTube page, <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZSUBZgLYtz9BgYlmlfW5Q>.

Gambling Tax Collections Rise in August

Gambling tax collections are beginning Fiscal Year 2026 with stronger performances than what the state experienced in the previous year. This happens at a time when the tax rate states assess on sports wagering continues to be an issue around the nation.

For August, state casinos paid \$28.1 million in gaming tax. This is an increase of almost \$600,000 million when compared to August 2024. For the first two months, gaming tax has come in over \$400,000 higher than the same period in Fiscal Year 2025. This is a solid start to the year, especially compared to what the Revenue Estimating Conference has projected. In March, the REC expected casino tax revenue to fall by \$11.9 million in Fiscal Year 2026.

Sports wagering tax collections also significantly higher through the first two months of the fiscal year. The state collected \$1.483 million in taxes on sports bets last month, which is \$425 thousand more when compared to August 2024. And for the new fiscal year, sports wagering has generated \$2.7 million in revenue for the state. This is already \$700,000 ahead of last year's collections for the first two months of the fiscal year. For all of FY 2025, the state took in \$16.2 million in sports wagering tax.

As sports wagering continues to grow in Iowa, the rate of taxation for this form of gambling remains an issue. Iowa taxes the profits made by sportsbooks on the bets made in the state. The rate is 6.75 percent, which is tied with Nevada for the lowest tax rate on sports wagering. Iowans are not alone in discussing this issue.

In Kansas, the Legislature is now looking to change its tax rate on sports wagering. That rate is 10 percent of the sportsbooks profits, which generated \$16 million in the last fiscal year. Last week, the Kansas Legislature began holding public hearings on the taxation rate.

Other states have already taken action on their tax rate. Illinois enacted a new tax that assesses a per bet fee. New Jersey raised its tax on sports wagering profits to 19.75%, while Louisiana raised their tax rate to 21 percent and dedicated the increase in collections to provide funding to the state's public universities for their athletic departments to fund revenue sharing with student-athletes.

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Agriculture

ISU Extension & Outreach: New Iowa Farm Poll Report Finds Growing Awareness, Mixed Views on Nutrient Reduction Strategy

On Wednesday, September 24, 2025, Iowa State University (ISU) Extension and Outreach issued a press release concerning a new report from Iowa State University Extension and Outreach that examines [awareness and attitudes among Iowa farmers regarding the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy INRS](#). The report draws on data from the [Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll](#), an annual survey of Iowa farmers. The 2024 Farm Poll, which surveyed close to 1,000 farmers, repeated questions that were first asked in the 2014 survey, allowing a decadal comparison of farmer awareness and attitudes related to the INRS.

Key findings

- **Awareness:** Nearly 90% of farmers reported some knowledge of the INRS in 2024, up from 80% in 2014. The farm press, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, government agencies and commodity groups were the most common sources of information.
- **Water Quality Concerns:** While 70% of farmers remained concerned about agriculture's impact on Iowa's water quality, this marked a slight decline from 76% in 2014. Just under 50% agreed that nutrients from Iowa farms contribute to Gulf hypoxia, with 44% uncertain about the connection.
- **Support for Conservation:** Support for the INRS and related conservation actions appears to have softened slightly over the past decade. Seventy-four percent of respondents agreed farmers should do more to reduce nutrient and sediment runoff, down from 84% in 2014. Sixty-three percent would like to improve conservation practices on their land, and 52% believe ag retailers should do more to help address nutrient losses.
- **Barriers to Action:** The most cited barriers to nutrient loss reduction were landlords' reluctance to invest in conservation (53% agreement) and short-term pressures to make profit margins (53% agreement). Twenty percent agreed that further nutrient loss reduction would be too costly, and 58% indicated uncertainty.
- **Uncertainty About Effectiveness:** Forty-one percent of respondents agreed that the INRS has made major strides in reducing nutrient loss, but nearly half were uncertain about progress.

The report highlights a need for renewed efforts to raise awareness and concern about water quality, strengthen positive attitudes toward the INRS and increase adoption of conservation practices.

About the Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll

Conducted annually since 1982, the [Iowa Farm Poll](#) gathers insights from farmers statewide to inform research, extension programs and policy decisions. This report and [previous reports](#) are available through Iowa State University Extension and Outreach. For more information, [access the full report](#) or contact J. Arbuckle at arbuckle@iastate.edu.

Catastrophic Health Plans Available for More Iowans in 2026

Recently, the federal government announced that it is expanding “access to more affordable catastrophic health coverage through HHS’ new hardship exemption guidance. This guidance streamlines access to more affordable catastrophic coverage for consumers who are ineligible for advance payments of the premium tax credit (APTC) or cost-sharing reductions (CSRs).”

“Through these efforts, more Americans will be able to qualify for catastrophic health coverage based on need, beginning November 1st with the start of open enrollment. Catastrophic plans generally have lower monthly premiums, are designed to protect consumers from very high medical costs in the event of serious illness or injury, and are required to cover three primary care visits pre-deductible. Consumers under the age of 30 have always been eligible for catastrophic plans through HealthCare.gov.”

The guidance provided allows individuals above 250% of federal poverty level to qualify for these catastrophic plans if it fits with their health insurance goals, giving more choice for consumers with affordable options. This option will be available for about 50,000 Iowans based on 2025 marketplace data.

Likely also to occur this 2026 open enrollment period for those seeking health insurance on the marketplace is sunsetting of temporary COVID era and Biden era enhanced government subsidies. As shown below, the advanced premium tax credits will move from the IRA caps back to the ACA caps meaning additional cost sharing by individuals seeking health insurance through the marketplace.

Income as % FPL	ACA*	IRA*
100% up to 133%	2.07	0.0
133% up to 150%	4.14	0.0
150% up to 200%	6.52	2.0
200 up to 250%	8.33	4.0
250% up to 300%	9.83	6.0
300% up to 400%	9.83	8.5
More than 400%	No limit	8.5

** Shown at upper limits, not ranges*

About 3.7% of Iowans receive their health insurance coverage through the marketplace. According to the Iowa Insurance Division, in 2025 alone, taxpayers will spend an estimated \$630 million on advanced premium tax credits (APTCs) in Iowa for less than 112,000 Iowans.

(Contact: Natalie Ginty 5-2063)

Economic Growth

Three Rural Iowa Towns Receive Federal Funding to Revitalize Key Neighborhoods

Three Iowa communities are set to transform key neighborhoods with the help of \$5.25 million in federal funding, as announced today by the Iowa Economic Development Authority. Through the 2025 Comprehensive Neighborhood Revitalization Grant fund, Eagle Grove, Manning, and Murray will receive support to upgrade housing, infrastructure, and public spaces — with a focus on areas serving low- and moderate-income households. The initiative, funded through the federal Community Development Block Grant program, is awarding each city \$1.75 million toward its total project cost:

Eagle Grove

Plans call for \$2.67 million in improvements to one of the city's oldest neighborhoods. Projects will include upgraded streets, safer pedestrian pathways, an improved stormwater system to reduce flash flooding and enhancements to Fish Pond Park — such as a revitalized walking and biking path, new playground equipment, and a new basketball court. These updates will also support housing growth tied to the city's expanding workforce needs.

Manning

A \$2.75 million effort will revitalize the Park Avenue neighborhood surrounding Manning City Park. Planned improvements include new and upgraded recreational facilities — pickleball, tennis, and basketball courts — along with stormwater system improvements, expanded parking, safer pedestrian connections, and housing rehabilitation.

Murray

As a growing bedroom community for the Osceola area, Murray will dedicate \$2.18 million to upgrading a central neighborhood that encompasses more than 60 percent of the city's residential area. Plans include rehabilitation of eight single-family homes, major upgrades to Mallory Park — featuring a splash pad, new playground, restrooms, parking improvements, and recreational vehicle spaces — and the construction of 3,500 feet of enhanced sidewalks connecting parks and schools.

Projects supported through the Comprehensive Neighborhood Revitalization Grant fund must meet one of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's national objectives: benefiting low- and moderate-income residents or addressing slum or blighted areas. Applications must document the seriousness of deterioration in the area, show its impact on residents' well-being, and outline activities to alleviate or eliminate those conditions.

(Contact: Kristi Kious 2-5290)

Education

Licensure, Background Checks...What's Required in Iowa Schools?

In the wake of Des Moines Superintendent Ian Roberts being arrested by ICE, questions have arisen regarding how he was able to get his administrator license in Iowa and what that all entails. Below are the steps and processes to get an administrator license, as well as the background check process. Other facts regarding this case are still coming out however this is what is required in Iowa.

Administrative Licensure:

The Iowa Board of Educational Examiners is the body in charge of teacher licensure. They are housed within the Department of Education.

There are a few ways to receive your professional administrator license. To receive an initial administrator license, you must hold or be eligible for an Iowa teaching license, verify three years of teaching experience, complete the requirements for an administrative endorsement, and complete a master's degree. This initial license lasts for one year with two renewals available if needed. This license can convert to a professional administrator license if all requirements are met.

You can also get an administrator exchange license. This is when one completes the requirements for the initial administrator license and holds an administrator license in the state where the program was completed, but there was some coursework deficiencies identified after the BOEE evaluated the transcript. This license is good for one year but that can be extended if more time is needed to complete deficient coursework. This license can also be converted to a full professional administrator license once the deficiencies have been met.

To receive your professional administrator license, you must have had one year serving as an administrator in an Iowa public school, or two years in an accredited private or out-of-state setting. These licenses are good for five years.

Background Checks:

Iowa Code 256.16 states that the BOEE must

“adopt rules to require that a background investigation be conducted by the Division of Criminal Investigation of the Department of Public Safety on all initial applicants for licensure. The BOEE shall also require all initial applicants to submit a completed fingerprint packet and shall use the packet to facilitate a national criminal history background check. The board shall have access to, and shall review the sex offender registry information...available to the general public, the central registry for child abuse information..., and the dependent adult abuse records...for information regarding applicants for license renewal and, every five years, for practitioners who are not subject to renewal requirements...”

Iowa Code 279.13 states that school boards must

“prior to entering into an initial contract with a teacher who holds a license other than an initial license issued by the Board of Educational Examiners...the school district or accredited nonpublic school shall initiate a state criminal history record check of the applicant through the division of criminal investigation of the department of public safety, submit the applicant's fingerprints to the division for submission to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a national criminal history record check, and review the sex offender registry information...available to the general public, the central registry for child abuse information..., and the central registry for dependent adult abuse information...for information regarding the applicant for employment as a teacher.”

Iowa Code 279.69 states that school boards must

“Prior to hiring an applicant for a school employee position, a school district or accredited nonpublic school shall have access to and review the information in the Iowa court information system available to the general public, the sex offender registry information...available to the general public, the central registry for child abuse information..., and the central registry for dependent adult abuse information...for information regarding the applicant.”

Iowa Code 321.375 states that school bus drivers also must have background checks

“Prior to hiring an applicant for a school bus driver position, including a contract position, an employer shall have access to and shall review the information in the Iowa court information system available to the general public, the sex offender registry information...available to the general public, the central registry for child abuse information..., and the central registry for dependent adult abuse information...for information regarding the applicant.”

(Information from the Iowa Board of Educational Examiners and Iowa Code)

(Contact: Kristin Rozeboom 1-3015)

Environmental Protection

Promoting Private Well Safety During Source Water Protection Week

On Thursday, Thursday, September 25, 2025, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) published its electronic newsletter ‘EcoNewsWire’ which contained an article announcing that the Iowa Source Water Protection Program and the Iowa Source Water Agricultural Collaborative are partnering with the Iowa Department of Health and Human (HHS) Services for Source Water Protection Week (September 28th – October 4th) to raise awareness about the importance of protecting Iowa’s drinking water and the resources available to private well owners through the Private Well Grants Program. Safe drinking water is essential for healthy families and strong communities. While public water systems are regularly tested and regulated, thousands of Iowans rely on private wells as their main source of drinking water. Unlike public systems, these wells are not subject to routine monitoring, which means the responsibility for ensuring water quality falls directly on the well owner. Without regular testing and proper maintenance wells can be vulnerable to contamination, potentially putting households at risk.

The Private Well Grants Program was created to help ease the financial burden of maintaining and protecting private wells. The program provides funding to assist well owners with the cost of testing their water for bacteria, nitrate, and other potential contaminants. It also offers support for repairing or reconstructing wells that are no longer in good condition, helping ensure that they remain a safe and reliable source of water. In addition, the program provides assistance for closing abandoned or unused wells. These wells, if left open, can act as direct channels for pollutants to enter groundwater, threatening not only individual households but other communities that may be using that aquifer.

Protecting Iowa’s drinking water sources requires both statewide efforts and individual action. When private well owners take proactive steps to test, maintain, or properly close wells they are contributing to a healthier environment and stronger water security for their communities and the state as a whole. Private well owners who want to learn more about the Private Well Grants Program can learn more at the following [link](#) or contact their [county sanitarian](#)

Additional information about source water protection in Iowa and the [Iowa Source Water Ag Collaborative](#) can be found at <https://www.iowasourcewater.org>

(Contact: Lew Olson 1-3096)

Health and Human Services

Providing Public Safety and Humane Treatment

Recently, the Trump Administration signed an Executive Order titled [“ending crime and disorder on America’s streets”](#) that focused on caring for individuals with significant mental health and substance abuse conditions while balancing public safety.

In the order, the President directs his cabinet to “enforce, and where necessary, adopt, standards that address individuals who are a danger to themselves or others and suffer from serious mental illness or substance abuse, or who are living on the streets and cannot care for themselves, through assisted outpatient treatment or by moving them into treatment centers or other appropriate facilities via civil commitment or other available means, to the maximum extent permitted by law.”

The Iowa House passed legislation this session to go after this very topic – humane treatment of the mentally ill while also protecting the public from the unsafe actions of those in need of treatment. The Senate unfortunately did not advance any of the below three bills last session but is able to consider them in 2026 to improve Iowa’s civil commitment laws.

- **HF 312 – Psychiatric Deterioration** - This bill allows for individuals to be committed based on psychiatric deterioration (defined in Section 4 of the bill), in addition to current law which allows for commitment when they are a danger to themselves or others. According to the Treatment Advocacy Center, an organization with a mission to eliminate the barriers to timely and effective treatment of severe mental illness through advocacy, public education and support, there are over 30 states that allow for psychiatric deterioration for their commitment laws. This would allow those that are unable to understand their mental health condition and are not able to seek treatment on their own to receive long-term treatment and to protect the public.
- **HF 313 – Commitment Hearing Testimony** - This bill allows for physician assistants and advanced registered nurse practitioners to testify at committal hearings if they witnessed the examination, reviewed the report, and the professional that examined the individual is unable to attend the hearing. Unfortunately, there are examples in Iowa where individuals have been released based on lack of testimony at the commitment hearing and then the individual harms themselves or others, rather than receive treatment.
- **HF 385 – Commitment Discharge** - This bill is to provide help to those that are frequently through the mental health system and requires facilities that are discharging individuals committed for substance abuse or mental health to provide the following at discharge:
 - Refer the individual committed to the administrative services organization (ASO) for evaluation, case management, and post-discharge services
 - Assess for suicide risk
 - Provide a 30-day supply of medications prescribed
 - A discharge report to the individual committee or their legal representative. The discharge report will have all their appointments and medications outlined, ASO contact information, an aftercare plan with crisis prevention, and education materials developed by DHHS
 - Notify the ASO and legal guardians
 - This bill also requires the ASO to coordinate post-discharge care for individuals after commitment.

Larry Johnson to Serve as Director of the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services

The following was announced by Governor Reynolds on September 22, 2025:

Today, Governor Kim Reynolds announced that Kelly Garcia, Director of the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), has resigned and will leave the agency next month after nearly six years of service. Governor Reynolds has appointed Larry Johnson, currently Director of the Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals and Licensing (DIAL), to succeed Garcia at HHS.

Garcia joined the state in November 2019 after the governor appointed her to lead what was then the Iowa Department of Human Services. The following June, she was additionally appointed interim director of the Iowa Department of Public Health before assuming leadership of both agencies and, eventually, aligning them into one at the governor's direction.

Directors Garcia and Johnson will immediately begin a weeks-long transition plan, which will include engaging with HHS division leaders, staff, and key stakeholders across the state.

Director Johnson was critical to the successful alignment of DIAL. Under his leadership, 16 professional licensing boards, previously located across state agencies, were centralized into DIAL. Staff were cross trained to resolve a years-long backlog of cases across several boards and establish new workflows to better manage ongoing case volume. As a result, between October 2024 and August 2025, the team reduced a backlog of 503 pending investigations to 37. Similar results were achieved in the agency's administrative hearings division and other areas.

Johnson's 14-year career in state government also includes serving as State Public Defender, and Legal Counsel to Governor Terry Branstad and then Lt. Governor Reynolds. He practiced law in the private sector before joining the

state. Johnson's tenure as Director of HHS will begin in mid-October. Aaron Baack, Deputy Director and Chief Operations Officer at DIAL, will serve as the agency's interim director.

(Contact: Natalie Ginty 5-2063)

Judiciary

Where to Look for Legal Help

The Court system can seem like a scary and overwhelming place. Whether you are facing criminal charges, filing a civil case, going through a divorce, or helping an elderly relative with legal issues, the Judicial Branch can be complicated. Iowans facing any of these issues should consider a lawyer, but it can be hard to know where to start. Depending on the case you'll need to determine what type of lawyer you want and if you can afford to pay or if you need assistance. There are countless options available in Iowa and doing your research before hiring a lawyer can save you time and money.

If you have the means to pay, the Iowa State Bar Find-A-Lawyer program (<https://www.iowabar.org/?pg=Find-A-LawyerHP>) allows you to search for lawyers by practice area to find the one best suited for your needs. These lawyers can help with criminal, family and civil law.

If you're looking for help but need financial assistance, here are some low or no cost options

- Iowa legal aid helps lower income Iowans with a variety of legal matters, including veterans' assistance, eviction diversion programs, fair housing, employment and other non-criminal issues <https://iowalegalaid.org/>
- Public Defenders Office- for criminal offenses Iowans have the right to counsel and if you cannot afford it, the Public Defenders Office will provide it. You can get services to help with criminal charges, parole revocation, termination of parental rights, and appeals. <https://spd.iowa.gov/>
- The Iowa Bar Association also offers links to several groups that may be able to assist with juvenile law, immigration, domestic violence, disability law, and other areas <https://www.iowabar.org/?pg=ProBonoOpportunities>

Hiring a lawyer can be costly but proceeding without one could cost even more. Iowans are encouraged to do their research before making any legal decisions.

(Contact: Amanda Wille 1-5230)

Labor

Labor Force Participation Rate Climbs to 67.5 Percent in August With 1,900 New Workers

Unemployment rate increases slightly to 3.8 percent while employers add 3,600 jobs.

Iowa added 1,900 people to the labor force in August, led primarily by adults ages 20 to 24, increasing the state's labor force participation rate to 67.5 percent (up from 67.4 percent in July). At the same time, Iowa's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose slightly to 3.8 percent (up from 3.7 percent in July), and the U.S. unemployment rate increased to 4.3 percent (up from 4.2 percent in July).

The total number of unemployed Iowans increased to 65,800 in August from 64,900 in July.

The total number of working Iowans increased to 1,673,500 in August. This figure is 1,100 higher than in July and 13,200 higher than one year ago.

“August saw growth in both the number of Iowans in the labor force and the total number of working Iowans,” said Beth Townsend, Executive Director of Iowa Workforce Development. “Likewise, we’ve also seen a more than 10 percent reduction in the number of unemployment claims from the same time last year. Our investments in helping people find new jobs or the next job are paying off, and if you find yourself in that category, we can help.

Visit IowaWORKS.gov or come and see us at one of our 15 American Job Centers located around the state.”

Seasonally Adjusted Nonfarm Employment

Iowa establishments gained 3,600 jobs in August, lifting total nonfarm employment to 1,594,600. This gain is the first since April and was mostly the result of private service industry hiring; goods-producing industries decreased slightly. Hiring within the state and local schools and colleges led to a gain of 700 jobs within government. Despite the monthly increase, total nonfarm employment continues to trail last year’s level by 2,300 jobs.

Professional and business services gained 1,800 jobs in August, leading all super sectors. This monthly gain was largely due to hiring within professional services, which include legal, accounting, and computer programming industries. Leisure and hospitality added a combined 1,200 jobs. Accommodations and food services gained 700 jobs and arts, entertainment, and recreational industries added 500 jobs. This is the second consecutive gain for this super sector which has added 2,700 jobs over the last two months. Trade industries added 1,000 jobs. Retail trade added slightly more jobs than wholesale in August (+600). Conversely, job losses in August were sparse and led by health care and social assistance (-800). Firms involved in social assistance have fueled job losses over the past two months. Establishments involved in ambulatory care and doctor offices and hospitals helped offset this loss. Construction shed 700 jobs in August following a loss of 400 in July.

The health care and social assistance sector (which includes child care businesses) has added the most jobs (+4,600) over the past 12 months. This sector has continued to trend upward despite recent weakness in social assistance services. Construction is also markedly up versus last August (+3,800). This sector gained 6,500 jobs from January to June ahead of job losses over the prior two months. Alternatively, manufacturing continues to lead all sectors in annual job losses (-5,300). Durable goods factories are responsible for this loss as non-durable goods shops have gained 200 jobs. Administrative support and waste management industries are down 4,400 jobs. This industry continues to trend down despite the August jobs gain

(Information from Iowa Workforce Development)

(Contact: Kristin Rozeboom 1-3015)

Local Government

Open Meeting Training Opportunities

As of July 1, a new law has gone into effect that will increase public officials’ training of open meeting and public information and increase enforcement of violations. [HF 706](#) was signed into law by the Governor and now requires newly elected or appointed officials to complete an Iowa Public Information Board (IPIB) provided or approved course of training on their responsibilities of open meeting and public information laws. Too often when cases come before IPIB the defense given is that the official or government body wasn’t aware of their legal requirements. The new law will proactively provide that information to elected officials at the beginning of their tenure.

The law requires that the training is made available and allows IPIB to approve acceptable courses of training offered by governmental bodies or other entities. For any newly appointed or elected officials looking to complete their training IPIB’s website has regularly updated and provided online training sessions and can be found [here](#). In addition

to the courses offered by IPIB, five training providers have been approved for training, including Iowa League of Cities and the Iowa Association of School Boards. Approved training providers can be found [here](#).

IPIB's website provides additional information and guidance for governmental bodies and officials concerning the new law [here](#).

(Contact: Jason Covey 1-3626)

State Government

State Historical Society Sets Timeline for Iowa City Transition

Earlier this year the State Historical Society of Iowa (SHSI) announced that the Iowa City research library would be closing. That decision was made as a result of increasing maintenance and repair costs in the building that has been in use since 1956. The aging Centennial Building was in need of HVAC, plumbing, fire suppression, roofing, electrical, and temperature and humidity controls all required upgrades or replacement. A study to review the extent of these projects was estimated at a cost of \$50,000. Additionally, the existing elevator needs to be replaced, a cost estimated to be \$300,000 in 2015. Facing the financial realities of the State Historical Society and the Centennial Building, the decision was made to close the building to the public on December 31, 2025.

In October collection relocation between Iowa City and the Des Moines location will begin. The State Historical Society of Iowa is legally required under Iowa Code to manage the collections held at the Iowa City branch as part of its public trust responsibilities to Iowans. Mass disposal of collections will not occur. Decisions about which collections will move to the Des Moines branch and which may be transferred to other institutions will follow all applicable state rules, policies, and current professional standards and ethics.

All Collections from the Iowa City branch will move to Des Moines unless they meet the official criteria for deaccessioning. That criteria includes items that are no longer relevant to the mission of SHSI, items that have deteriorated beyond repair, items that pose a risk to other collections, and items that are better suited with another educational or collecting institution.

Following the public closure of the Iowa City Branch on December 31, SHSI will continue to review the collections in Iowa City. Any items that have not been transferred to other institutions before June 30, 2026 will be transferred to the Des Moines location. Per the 1956 agreement, the University of Iowa will take management of the Centennial Building over on July 1, 2026.

More details and updates on the collection management and transition of materials can be found at the State Historical Society of Iowa's webpage [here](#)

(Contact: Jason Covey 1-3626)

Transportation

Governor Suspends Overweight Load Regulations for Harvest Time

On September 18, Gov. Kim Reynolds signed a proclamation allowing the transportation of oversize and overweight loads of grain for 30 days during the harvest season. This proclamation currently goes till October 18, but the Governor can also extend that at a later date.

This proclamation allows vehicles transporting soybeans, corn, hay, straw, silage, and stover to be overweight (not exceeding 90,000 pounds gross weight) without a permit, for the duration of this proclamation.

This proclamation applies to loads transported on all highways within Iowa (excluding the interstate system) and those which do not exceed a maximum of 90,000 pounds gross weight, do not exceed the maximum axle weight limit determined under the non-primary highway maximum gross weight table in Iowa Code § 321.463 (6) (b), by more than 12.5 percent, do not exceed the legal maximum axle weight limit of 20,000 pounds and comply with posted limits on roads and bridges.

(Contact: Brad Trow 1-3471)

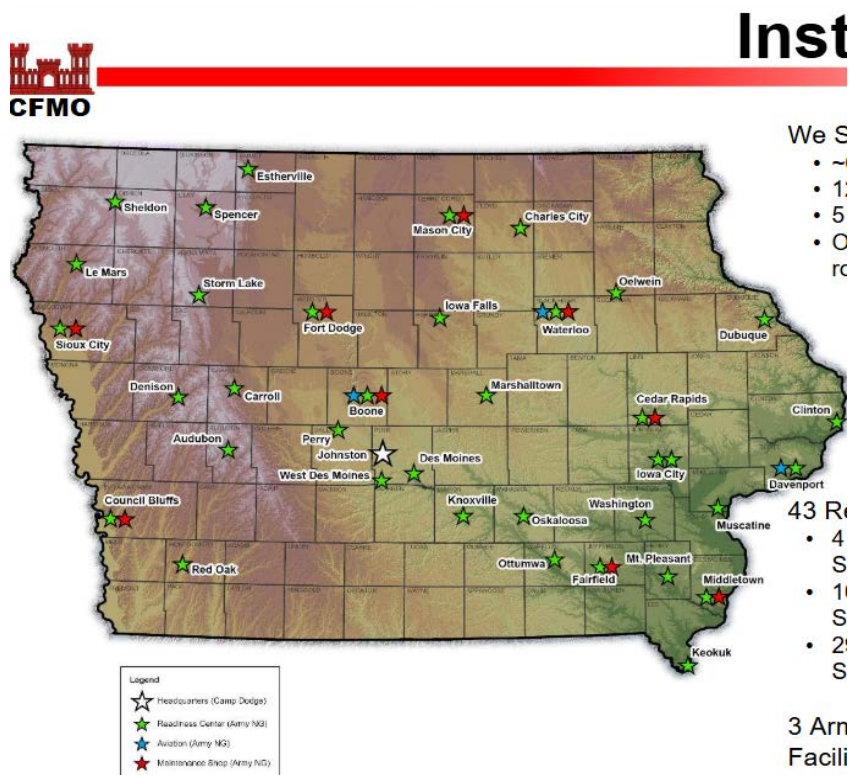
Veterans Affairs

Iowa National Guard Facts

The Iowa National Guard has 9,000 men and women from all 99 counties that serve both the state and federal governments.

Camp Dodge in Johnston, IA, is the only Military Base in Iowa and has 350,000 to 400,000 users per year. Camp Dodge can go from 500 users to 4,000 and back down in two days. The current capacity is to house 2,500 soldiers.

Below is a map of the 511 buildings of the Iowa National Guard throughout the state. There are 43 Readiness Centers, 3 Army Aviation Support Facilities, and 10 Field Maintenance Shops.



(Contact: Natalie Ginty 5-2063)

Final Phase of Department of Revenue Modernization Underway

Iowa Department of Revenue director Mary Mosiman says the project to modernize the agency's computer system is in the fifth and final year. The project started in 2020 and sought to bring all systems under one public portal known as GovConnectIowa. Eventually the project even included alcohol and lottery licensing in addition to all of the tax types.

One popular feature is called "SAM" or *send a message*. That feature allows retailers or customers to communicate with the department securely and timely through messaging at the account level. The department will be doing setup work in the next couple of months with the full roll out of the system planned for January 6th.

(Contact: Kristi Kiious 2-5290)