



Fiscal Services Division

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Inside this Fiscal Research Brief

Summary

This *Fiscal Research Brief* provides an in-depth review of Area Education Agencies' (AEAs') responsibilities, the number of pupils served, and funding history overall and by each AEA. The AEAs are regional service agencies that provide school improvement services for students, families, teachers, administrators, and their communities.

Affected Agencies

Department of Education
Local school districts
Area Education Agencies

Iowa Code Authority

Iowa Code chapter [273](#)
Iowa Administrative Code [281—72](#)
Iowa Code section [257.35\(2\)](#)

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Area Education Agencies (AEAs)

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History

The AEAs are the middle units of Iowa’s three-tiered educational system (local, intermediate, and State). They serve largely as service agencies for the local school districts; however, they are empowered with some regulatory responsibility on behalf of the Department of Education (DE).

Through the 1960s, Iowa schools operated under a county system. In 1965, the Iowa General Assembly enacted [SF 550](#) (Area Vocational Schools Act), which allowed for joint county school systems and planted the seed for what would become Iowa’s system of AEAs.

The Iowa General Assembly approved [SF 1163](#) (Area Education Agencies Act) in 1974 to create the AEA system, a year prior to the U.S. Congress passing the [Education for All Handicapped Children Act](#). The legislation replaced the county system with 15 AEAs to provide special education support, media, and other services to public and nonpublic students, effective July 1, 1975. The title of “other services” was later changed to Educational Services. Iowa Code section [273.1](#) specifies that AEAs were created to provide an effective, efficient, and economical means of identifying and serving children from under 5 years of age through grade 12 that require special education, to provide for media services and other programs and services for pupils, and to avoid a duplication of programs and services.

The AEAs began operations in 1975 as the 15 entities displayed in **Figure 1**.

**Figure 1
AEAs Beginning Operation in 1975**

<u>AEA</u>	<u>Administrative Center</u>
Keystone AEA 1	Elkader
Northern Trails AEA 2	Clear Lake
Lakeland AEA 3	Cylinder
AEA 4	Sioux Center
Arrowhead AEA 5	Fort Dodge
AEA 6	Marshalltown
AEA 7	Cedar Falls
Mississippi Bend AEA 9	Bettendorf
Grant Wood AEA 10	Cedar Rapids
Heartland AEA 11	Johnston
Western Hill AEA 12	Sioux City
Loess Hills AEA 13	Council Bluffs
Green Valley AEA 14	Creston
Southern Prairie AEA 15	Ottumwa
Great River AEA 16	Burlington

The AEAs evolved in 1975 from the county school system that was created in 1858. The role of county superintendent changed from an educational leader and supervisor of county schools to one of maintaining records and providing special education and curriculum services as the number of districts declined from over 4,000 to fewer than 500. In the county system’s last year of existence, FY 1975, there were 23 single-county superintendents, 18 superintendents serving 46 counties in joint-county cooperatives, and 10 superintendents administering joint-county school systems for 30 counties. While some districts received special education, staff development, and media services from the county systems, others received little or no services. This inequity, federal and State legislation that required additional services for handicapped students, and the fact that other states were forming educational intermediate, or service units led to the creation of AEAs.

In 1987, [HF 499](#) (FY 1988 Education Appropriations Act) directed there to be no fewer than 4 and no more than 12 AEAs in Iowa. In 1996, [HF 2477](#) (FY 1997 Education Appropriations Act) made several significant changes, including requiring accreditation standards for the AEAs. Key components of the law included:

- Requiring AEAs to provide services to school districts and accredited nonpublic schools.

- Permitting AEAs to offer management support services to districts.
- Directing the DE to create an accreditation system.

The enactment of [HF 2549](#) (FY 2001 Education Appropriations Act) in 2000 allowed for the voluntary merger of AEAs. In 2001, [HF 674](#) (Area Education Agency Accreditation and Reorganization Act) provided AEAs with the ability to reorganize with neighboring AEAs or dissolve. Since the legislation was enacted, several AEA mergers have taken place (see **Figure 2**).

**Figure 2
AEA Mergers**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Merging AEAs</u>	<u>New AEA</u>
7/1/2003	Northern Trails AEA 2, AEA 6, and AEA 7	AEA 267, Cedar Falls
7/1/2003	Lakeland AEA 3 and Arrowhead AEA 5	Prairie Lakes AEA 8, Pocahontas
7/1/2006	AEA 4 and Western Hills AEA 12	Northwest AEA 12, Sioux City
7/1/2008	Southern Prairie AEA 15 and Great River AEA 16	Great Prairie AEA 15, Ottumwa
7/1/2010	Loess Hills AEA 13 and Green Valley AEA 14	Green Hills AEA 13, Council Bluffs

Today, nine AEAs serve Iowa. **Figure 3** lists the AEAs that are currently in operation.

**Figure 3
Current AEAs**

<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
1	Keystone AEA	Elkader
5 or 8	Prairie Lakes AEA	Pocahontas
7	Central Rivers AEA	Cedar Falls
9	Mississippi Bend AEA	Bettendorf
10	Grant Wood AEA	Cedar Rapids
11	Heartland AEA	Johnston
12	Northwest AEA	Sioux City
13	Green Hills AEA	Council Bluffs
15	Great Prairie AEA	Ottumwa

Other states have created entities like AEAs that are referred to nationally as Educational Service Agencies (ESAs). Forty-five states have ESAs in operation. The role of ESAs has changed from regulatory functions to service functions. The ESAs are generally created to provide financial savings for providing necessary educational support programs. States that do not have ESAs tend to have county school districts or a statewide school district. States without ESAs also tend to organize into a cooperative consortium to provide support programs and services that are more cost effective for the local levels.

Organization of Iowa AEAs

Each AEA is a separate government entity with an elected board of directors. The boundaries for the original 15 AEAs were aligned with the community colleges. Reorganizations have reduced the number of AEAs to nine and changed AEA boundaries. Additionally, the boundaries are required to be changed to account for local school mergers and changes in school district boundaries so that no school district is divided. See **Figure 5** for a map showing AEA boundaries for the 2023-2024 school year.

Members of local school district boards elect members to the governing board of each AEA. Areas served by each AEA are divided into no fewer than five and no more than nine director districts. These director districts are approximately equal in population (Iowa Code section [273.8\(1\)](#)). In general, elections for the governing board are conducted in odd-numbered years via mail during September of the election year. Beginning with elections in FY 2009, each board member’s term is four years. Each district is allowed a percentage of votes equal to the percentage of the school district’s population compared to the total population of the director district.

The services of AEAs are grouped into three areas: Special Education, Media Services, and Educational Services. The AEAs are also responsible for juvenile shelter and detention home instruction. A description of the three areas, the services provided, and regulatory responsibility includes the following:

- **Special Education** is the largest of the three service areas in terms of funding and services provided. Every AEA is required to establish a Division of Special Education headed by a director of special education. The Division of Special Education must provide special education programs and services to local school districts. The Director of Special Education is responsible for the implementation of State regulations and guidelines relating to special education programs and services. The Director's powers and duties include:
 - Identifying children requiring special education.
 - Ensuring that each child receives an appropriate special education program or service.
 - Supervising special education support personnel.
 - Providing each district and the DE with a special education weighted enrollment count.
 - Submitting special education instructional and support program plans and applications to the DE.
- **Media Services.** Each AEA provides media services to school districts within the AEA boundary. These services include providing a materials lending library containing print and other media items, a professional library for educator growth, a curriculum library, a production service offering print and other media materials, and a delivery service for distribution of materials to and from schools. Additionally, AEAs may provide consultative services, cooperative purchasing programs, equipment repair programs, and access to data and resource information systems.
- **Educational Services** is the least restricted of the three areas and provides a variety of programs and services. Most of the assistance to local schools comes under the heading of curriculum development. Statute requires AEAs to provide services requested by a minimum of 60.0% of the school districts in the area or the number of school districts equal to 60.0% of enrollment, if funding is available (Iowa Code section [273.7](#)). Any service not related to special education or media is assigned to the Educational Services category, and services will vary among the AEAs. Each AEA provides educational services to school districts within the AEA boundary and, at the school district's request, to providers of child development services who have received grants from the Child Development Coordinating Council. These services encompass a variety of programs and services.

The DE has regulatory and general supervision over AEAs. The State Board of Education and the DE are required to provide program approval, budget approval, accreditation, and facility authorization. The DE also has a partnership with the AEAs for school improvement, school district accreditation, and school district special education compliance.

An AEA may hold property and execute lease-purchase agreements. However, if a lease exceeds 10 years or the purchase price exceeds \$25,000, the AEA must conduct a public hearing and receive approval from the AEA Board and the Director of the DE. The DE maintains AEA lease-purchase agreements. The AEAs are also required to contract, whenever practicable, with other school corporations for the use of personnel, buildings, facilities, supplies, equipment, programs, and services.

AEA Accreditation

Since 1997, the DE has reviewed the accreditation standards of each AEA. To be accredited by the State Board of Education and maintain accreditation status, an AEA is required to have:

- An approved five-year comprehensive plan.
- An approved annual budget and plan update.
- Approved programs and services following a comprehensive onsite review by an accreditation team.

The accreditation team recommends to the DE whether accreditation should be granted or retained. If an AEA program does not meet accreditation standards, the DE must establish a remediation plan prescribing the procedures to be taken to correct deficiencies and set a deadline date for correction. If the deficiencies in an AEA program have not been corrected, the State Board is authorized to remove accreditation, and the AEA must then either merge the deficient program with a program from another accredited AEA or contract with

another AEA or other public educational institution to provide the program. Accreditation review is required every five years. All nine AEAs are fully accredited for FY 2024.

Iowa Code section [273.11](#)(1) directs the State Board of Education to develop standards and rules for the accreditation of AEAs. The DE is directed to develop and establish, in consultation with the AEAs, an accreditation process for AEAs. Iowa Administrative Code [281 IAC 72.4](#) requires the following standards to be used to accredit AEA programs and services:

- Provide leadership for school improvement, support proven or emerging educational practices, and be designed to enhance the learning opportunities of students.
- Support and facilitate school-community planning.
- Facilitate professional growth of instructional, administrative, and support personnel.
- Support and facilitate curriculum development, instruction, and assessment in the areas of reading, language arts, mathematics, and science.
- Support and assist schools in the provision of a free, appropriate education and full educational opportunity to children between birth and the age of 21, and to the maximum allowable age for students that require special education.
- Supplement and support the media centers and services of schools.
- Maintain a technology plan that is based on the needs of the schools served and includes collaborative partnerships with schools and other AEAs in the provision of technology support, products, and services.
- Support school district libraries.

AEA Budget Submission

Iowa Code section [273.3](#)(12) requires that the State Board of Education review the proposed budget of each AEA and either grant approval or return the budget without approval with comments by May 1. The State Board of Education must give final approval only to budgets submitted by AEAs accredited by the State Board or that have been given conditional accreditation by the State Board. An unapproved budget must be resubmitted to the State Board for final approval.

The nine AEAs are funded in the school aid finance formula through a mix of State aid from the General Fund and property tax at the school district level. AEAs have no taxing authority, so each school district generates an AEA's portion of property tax through the school levy rate. Within the School Aid Formula, the State aid and property tax funding flows from the school district to the AEA; however, school districts do not pay the AEAs directly. The Department of Management (DOM) adjusts school district payments to account for the AEA funding amount.

Iowa Code chapter [257](#) requires the General Assembly to review the School Aid Formula every five years.

Funding

The AEAs are funded through the School Aid Formula and the funding is generated at the school district level on a per pupil basis. There is a State cost and an AEA per pupil cost for specific program areas. The Formula calculates funding for Special Education Support State cost per pupil, Media Services State cost per pupil, and Educational Services State cost per pupil separately. The State supplemental aid (SSA) rate is applied to the State cost per pupil, and the rate per pupil is calculated. The amount of change is then applied to each of the AEA cost per pupil amounts (which differ by AEA) to determine the new AEA per pupil amount and then multiplied by the specified enrollment to determine the overall program cost.

When each of the AEA's cost per pupil was calculated the first time, the average cost per pupil of the 15 AEAs became the State cost per pupil. The AEA State cost per pupil is no longer an average and is used to calculate allowable growth, as detailed above. The AEA State cost per pupil is also used to determine the split between State aid and property taxes.

The following is a listing of the AEA program areas funded through the School Aid Formula, and the calculation for each Division is described below:

- **Special Education Support (See Iowa Code section [273.5](#)):** The Special Education Support cost per pupil of each AEA is multiplied by enrollment. Enrollment is the public K-12 headcount plus special education weighting. The FY 2024 Special Education Support cost per pupil varies from \$325.88 to \$348.14. Special Education Support is funded 79.0% by the State and 21.0% by property taxes using the State cost per pupil (\$333.59 in FY 2024). In addition, a budget guarantee exists so a school district's Special Education Support is not less than the prior year. The budget guarantee is funded entirely from property taxes. The Special Education Instruction Fund is used to account for the revenues and expenditures of the special education instructional program of the AEA as provided by Iowa Code section [273.9\(2\)](#). Special Education Support services, as provided by Iowa Code section [273.9\(3\)](#), are accounted for in the General Fund.
- **Media Services (See Iowa Code section [273.6](#)):** The Media Services cost per pupil of each AEA is multiplied by the total enrollment served. The total enrollment served is defined as each school district's budget enrollment and the number of resident accredited nonpublic students with each school district (not including the shared-time nonpublic students already counted in the budget enrollment). Funds generated for media services may be used, if needed, to fund excess costs associated with Special Education Support. The FY 2024 Media Services cost per pupil varies from \$61.98 to \$62.52. Media Services is funded entirely from property taxes.
- **Educational Services (See Iowa Code section [273.7](#)):** The Educational Services cost per pupil of each AEA is multiplied by the total enrollment served. Enrollment is the same number used for Media Services. Funds generated for educational services may be used, if needed, to fund excess costs associated with Special Education Support. The FY 2024 Educational Services cost per pupil varies from \$67.73 to \$70.03. Educational Services is funded entirely from property taxes.
- **Teacher Salary Supplement.** The teacher salary supplement is funded entirely from State aid and is calculated by multiplying the AEA cost per pupil amount by the AEA weighted enrollment. There is a budget guarantee provision that specifies that the amount of funding generated at the school district level is guaranteed at the previous fiscal year's level. The budget guarantee provision is funded from State aid.
- **Professional Development Supplement.** The professional development supplement is funded entirely from State aid and is calculated by multiplying the AEA cost per pupil amount by the AEA weighted enrollment. There is a budget guarantee provision that specifies that the amount of funding generated at the school district level is guaranteed at the previous fiscal year's level. The budget guarantee provision is funded from State aid.
- **Shared Operational Functions.** The AEAs may generate [supplementary weightings](#) for [shared operational functions](#), although the calculations for funding differ from a school district sharing. The AEAs can receive a minimum of \$30,000 and no more than \$200,000 per year. Supplementary weighting is funded from a mix of State aid and local property tax generated from the AEA's special education cost per pupil, the AEA foundation level of 79.0%, and weightings as set by the DOM to generate the minimum level of funding.

The flow-through concept creates tax rate inequities between school districts. For example, Storm Lake and Okoboji are in the same AEA (AEA 8) and pay the same amount per pupil. However, Storm Lake has a higher tax rate per thousand dollars of taxable valuation to support the AEA compared to Okoboji having a lower tax rate per thousand dollars of taxable valuation, due to Okoboji having higher property values compared to Storm Lake. This inequity exists because of the varying tax base from district to district.

Since the AEAs have no taxing authority, the school district generates the property taxes for the AEAs through the levy rate. The State and property tax funding then flows from the public school district through to the AEA (flow-through concept). The school districts do not pay the AEAs directly; instead, the State pays the entire amount and withholds part of the State aid payment to school districts. The AEA funding distribution method is strictly for accounting purposes, so the school district budget is unaffected. The funding derived from this formula for Special Education Support, Media Services, and Education Services is called controlled funding. The AEA funding by program area for FY 2021 through estimated FY 2024 is displayed in **Figure 4**. The AEA funding split between State aid and property tax has been relatively stable.

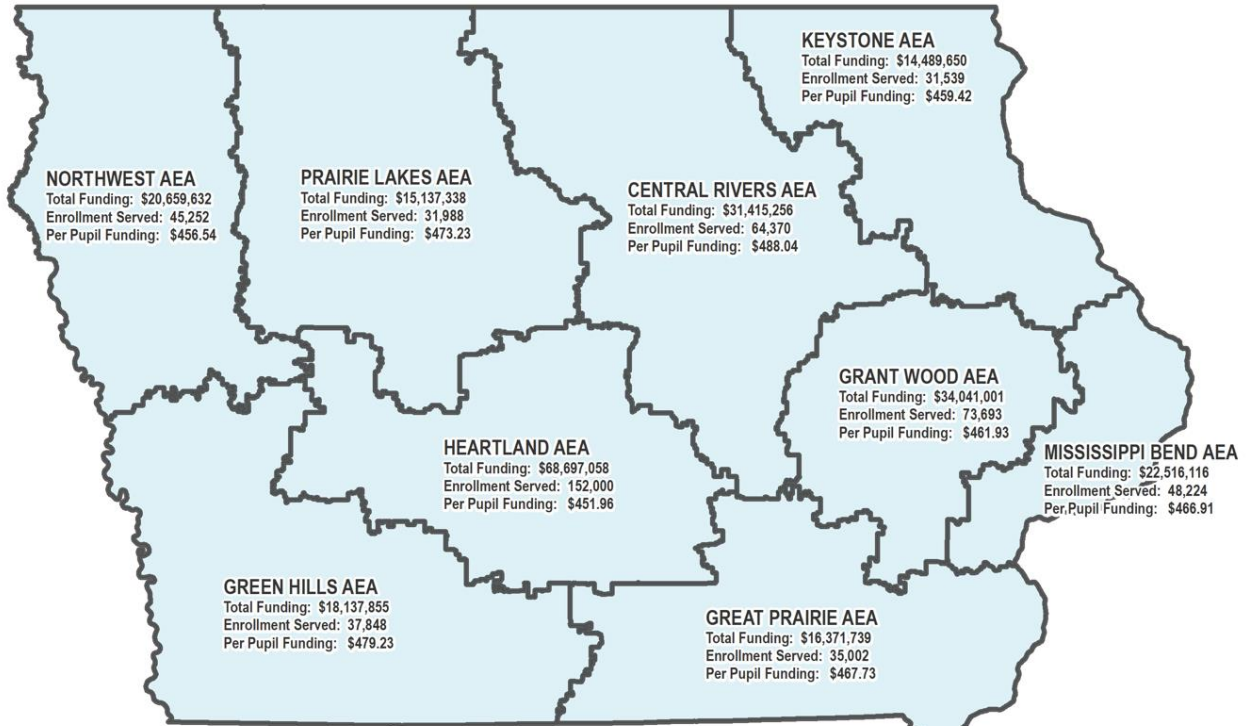
**Figure 4
School Aid Formula AEA Funding by Fiscal Year**

Program Area	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	Est. FY 2024
Special Education Support (property tax)	\$ 36,143,124	\$ 36,475,684	\$ 37,652,499	\$ 38,732,253
Special Education Support (State aid)	\$ 136,114,165	\$ 137,739,188	\$ 141,596,017	\$ 146,556,852
Special Education Support Budget Guarantee (property tax)	\$ 1,158,851	\$ 1,591,125	\$ 961,638	\$ 583,842
Supplementary Weighting - Sharing (State aid)	\$ 116,835	\$ 140,640	\$ 164,303	\$ 140,908
Supplementary Weighting - Sharing (property tax)	\$ 33,171	\$ 39,364	\$ 45,704	\$ 39,098
Media Services (property tax)	\$ 30,115,802	\$ 30,448,181	\$ 31,350,594	\$ 32,342,932
Educational Services (property tax)	\$ 33,272,492	\$ 33,637,154	\$ 34,636,751	\$ 35,732,827
State Aid Reduction (State aid)	\$ -22,500,000	\$ -22,500,000	\$ -24,557,141	\$ -29,557,131
Teacher Salary Supplement (State aid)	\$ 16,845,976	\$ 17,097,333	\$ 17,558,139	\$ 18,161,248
Professional Development (State aid)	\$ 1,975,199	\$ 2,005,047	\$ 2,057,131	\$ 2,129,331
Total School Finance Formula Funding	\$ 233,275,615	\$ 236,673,716	\$ 241,465,635	\$ 244,862,160
State Aid Amount	\$ 132,552,175	\$ 134,482,208	\$ 136,818,449	\$ 137,431,208
State Aid Percentage of Total	56.8%	56.8%	56.7%	56.1%
Property Tax Amount	\$ 100,723,440	\$ 102,191,508	\$ 104,647,186	\$ 107,430,952
Property Tax Percentage of Total	43.2%	43.2%	43.3%	43.9%

Source: Department of Management, LSA analysis and calculations

The FY 2024 AEA boundaries, total funding, enrollment served, and per pupil funding are displayed in Figure 5.

Figure 5
Funding and Enrollment by AEA — FY 2024



Note: Funding per pupil is calculated using State payments to AEA's and the total enrollment served. The total enrollment served is the sum of the budget enrollment plus resident accredited nonpublic students minus shared-time nonpublic students.

Figure 6 displays the AEA State cost per pupil and school district State cost per pupil from FY 1976 through FY 2024. Special Education Support State cost per pupil increased from FY 1976 to FY 1981 to increase all AEA's services. The Media Services State cost per pupil also increased during this period as funding was increased to equalize funding between AEA's. After FY 1981, the increases in the Special Education, Media Services, and Educational Services State cost per pupil were comparable to school district growth.

**Figure 6
AEA State Cost Per Pupil and School District State Cost Per Pupil
FY 1976 – FY 2024**

Fiscal Year	AEA Program Area			Total AEA	School District State Cost Per Pupil
	Special Ed. Support	Media Services	Educational Services		
1976	\$ 40.43	\$ 6.08	\$ 10.16	\$ 56.67	\$ 1,134
1977	48.47	6.57	11.30	66.34	1,245
1978	55.14	6.84	12.14	74.12	1,343
1979	55.18	11.05	13.61	79.84	1,470
1980	74.37	12.76	15.32	102.45	1,609
1981	88.07	14.86	18.03	120.96	1,848
1982	88.07	16.00	18.50	122.57	1,940
1983	94.23	17.12	19.80	131.15	2,089
1984	99.98	18.16	21.01	139.15	2,224
1985	102.52	18.62	21.54	142.68	2,288
1986	107.98	19.61	22.69	150.28	2,410
1987	112.13	21.37	23.56	157.06	2,503
1988	116.12	22.11	24.38	162.61	2,590
1989	120.19	22.90	25.26	168.35	2,683
1990	124.44	22.90	25.26	172.60	2,778
1991	133.38	25.41	28.03	186.82	2,978
1992	141.97	26.48	29.21	197.66	3,203
1993	147.86	27.58	30.42	205.86	3,336
1994	150.97	28.16	31.06	210.19	3,406
1995	155.27	28.96	31.95	216.18	3,503
1996	160.70	29.97	33.07	223.75	3,626
1997	166.01	30.96	34.16	231.13	3,746
1998	171.81	32.04	35.36	239.21	3,877
1999	177.82	33.16	36.60	247.58	4,013
2000	183.15	34.15	37.70	255.00	4,171 *
2001	190.48	35.52	39.21	265.21	4,338
2002	198.10	36.94	40.78	275.82	4,512
2003	200.08	37.31	41.19	278.58	4,557
2004	204.08	38.06	42.01	284.15	4,648
2005	208.16	38.82	42.85	289.83	4,741
2006	216.49	40.37	44.56	301.42	4,931
2007	225.15	41.98	46.34	313.47	5,128
2008	234.16	43.66	48.19	326.01	5,333
2009	243.53	45.41	50.12	339.06	5,546
2010	253.27	47.23	52.12	352.62	5,768
2011	258.34	48.17	53.17	359.67	5,883
2012	258.34	48.17	53.17	359.67	5,883
2013	263.50	49.13	54.23	366.87	6,001
2014	268.77	50.12	55.32	374.21	6,121
2015	279.52	52.12	57.53	389.17	6,366
2016	283.02	52.76	58.23	394.01	6,446
2017	289.39	53.95	59.54	402.88	6,591
2018	292.60	54.55	60.20	407.35	6,664
2019	295.53	55.10	60.80	411.43	6,736
2020	301.62	56.24	62.05	419.91	6,880
2021	308.56	57.53	63.48	429.57	7,048
2022	315.97	58.91	65.00	439.88	7,227
2023	323.87	60.38	66.63	450.88	7,413
2024	333.59	62.19	68.63	464.41	7,635

*Added \$38.00 per pupil for Talented and Gifted (TAG) to the State cost per pupil.
Source: Department of Management, Aid and Levy files

Figure 7 provides information regarding the variance for these AEA costs per pupil. The variance for Special Education Services decreased from 58.1% in FY 1976 to 6.8% in FY 2024. The variance for Media Services decreased from 64.1% in FY 1976 to 0.9% in FY 2024. The variance for Educational Services decreased from 3.5% in FY 1976 to 3.4% in FY 2024.

Figure 7
AEA Cost Per Pupil Analysis: State Cost, Low Cost, and High Cost

FY 1976 AEA Cost Per Pupil				
	State Cost Per Pupil	Low	High	Variance
Special Education	\$ 40.43	\$ 32.30	\$ 51.07	58.1%
Media Services	6.08	5.01	8.22	64.1%
Educational Services	10.16	10.02	10.37	3.5%
FY 1998 AEA Cost Per Pupil				
	State Cost Per Pupil	Low	High	Variance
Special Education	\$ 171.81	\$ 164.10	\$ 186.36	13.6%
Media Services	32.04	31.83	32.37	1.7%
Educational Services	35.36	34.46	36.76	6.7%
FY 2009 AEA Cost Per Pupil				
	State Cost Per Pupil	Low	High	Variance
Special Education	\$ 243.53	\$ 235.82	\$ 258.08	9.4%
Media Services	45.41	45.20	45.74	1.2%
Educational Services	50.12	49.22	51.52	4.7%
FY 2024 AEA Cost Per Pupil				
	State Cost Per Pupil	Low	High	Variance
Special Education	\$ 333.59	\$ 325.88	\$ 348.14	6.8%
Media Services	62.19	61.98	62.52	0.9%
Educational Services	68.63	67.73	70.03	3.4%

Source: Department of Management, Aid and Levy files

Figure 8 displays controlled funding from FY 1976 through FY 2024 for each Division compared to enrollment served.

Figure 8
AEA Controlled Funding and Enrollment Served: FY 1976 — FY 2024
 In Millions

Fiscal Year	Spec. Ed. Support	Media Services	Educational Services	Net Controlled Funding	Percentage Change	Enrollment Served	Percentage Change
1976	\$ 26.5	\$ 4.1	\$ 6.8	\$ 37.3		679,952	
1977	31.5	4.3	7.4	43.2	15.8%	668,335	-1.7%
1978	35.3	4.5	8.0	47.8	10.6%	658,098	-1.5%
1979	34.6	7.1	8.7	50.5	5.6%	641,892	-2.5%
1980	46.2	8.0	9.6	63.7	26.1%	624,394	-2.7%
1981	48.5	9.0	10.9	68.3	7.2%	602,647	-3.5%
1982	52.8	9.4	10.9	73.1	7.0%	588,153	-2.4%
1983	51.3	9.8	11.3	72.3	-1.1%	570,574	-3.0%
1984	55.6	10.1	11.7	77.4	7.1%	555,907	-2.6%
1985	58.2	10.2	11.8	80.2	3.6%	547,984	-1.4%
1986	58.4	10.6	12.3	81.3	1.4%	541,887	-1.1%
1987	61.8	11.4	12.6	85.8	5.5%	534,031	-1.4%
1988	62.7	11.7	12.9	87.3	1.7%	523,026	-2.1%
1989	65.5	12.1	13.3	90.8	4.0%	526,517	0.7%
1990	67.9	12.4	13.7	94.0	3.5%	523,553	-0.6%
1991	72.4	13.3	14.7	100.4	6.8%	523,905	0.1%
1992	74.0	14.0	15.4	103.4	3.0%	528,751	0.9%
1993	79.2	14.8	16.3	110.3	6.7%	535,974	1.4%
1994	81.8	15.2	16.8	113.7	3.1%	539,531	0.7%
1995	84.5	15.7	17.3	117.4	3.3%	541,687	0.4%
1996	88.3	16.3	18.0	122.6	4.4%	544,674	0.6%
1997	92.4	17.0	18.7	128.2	4.5%	548,930	0.8%
1998	96.4	17.6	19.4	133.4	4.1%	549,080	0.0%
1999	100.3	18.2	20.0	138.5	3.9%	547,936	-0.2%
2000	103.4	18.6	20.5	142.5	2.9%	545,057	-0.5%
2001	107.2	19.2	21.2	147.6	3.6%	540,271	-0.9%
2002	100.1	19.7	21.8	141.6	-4.1%	534,298	-1.1%
2003	104.8	19.7	21.8	146.3	3.3%	528,945	-1.0%
2004	95.4	20.0	22.1	137.6	-6.0%	525,887	-0.6%
2005	97.5	20.3	22.4	140.2	1.9%	522,179	-0.7%
2006	101.6	21.0	23.2	145.7	4.0%	519,671	-0.5%
2007	109.9	21.8	24.1	155.8	6.9%	518,654	-0.2%
2008	117.5	22.6	25.0	165.1	6.0%	517,425	-0.2%
2009	124.6	23.4	25.9	173.8	5.3%	515,036	-0.5%
2010	127.2	24.2	26.7	178.0	2.4%	511,304	-0.7%
2011	131.0	24.5	27.1	182.5	2.5%	507,947	-0.7%
2012	114.6	24.4	27.0	166.0	-9.0%	507,060	-0.2%
2013	117.0	24.9	27.5	169.5	2.1%	506,910	0.0%
2014	125.0	25.5	28.2	178.8	5.5%	509,576	0.5%
2015	130.6	26.7	29.5	186.7	4.5%	511,843	0.4%
2016	132.9	27.2	30.0	190.1	1.8%	514,530	0.5%
2017	133.4	27.9	30.8	192.1	1.1%	517,146	0.5%
2018	140.0	28.3	31.3	199.6	3.9%	519,137	0.4%
2019	142.4	28.7	31.7	202.8	1.6%	520,443	0.3%
2020	146.2	29.3	32.4	207.9	2.5%	520,803	0.1%
2021	150.9	30.1	33.3	214.3	3.1%	523,285	0.5%
2022	153.3	30.4	33.6	217.4	1.4%	516,673	-1.3%
2023	155.7	31.4	34.6	221.6	2.0%	519,043	0.5%
2024	156.3	32.3	35.7	224.4	1.2%	519,930	0.2%

Notes:
 Special Education Support Services is funded through State aid and property tax. The current AEA special education Media Services and Educational Services are funded entirely through property tax.
 State aid reductions to Special Education Support Services have been made each fiscal year since FY 2002.

Source: Department of Management, Aid and Levy files

During the 2001 Legislative Session, [HF 755](#) (FY 2002 Miscellaneous Appropriations Act) required State aid for AEA Special Education Support to be reduced by a total of \$7.5 million for FY 2002. Additionally, the Governor issued [Executive Order 24](#), which mandated a 4.3% reduction in FY 2002 appropriations, resulting in another \$3.4 million reduction in State aid to AEAs for a total reduction of \$10.9 million in FY 2002. The 2002 General Assembly extended the \$7.5 million reduction for FY 2003 and 2004. However, due to the economic downturn, the reduction was increased by an additional \$10.0 million during the 2003 Legislative Session. Additionally, the \$7.5 million reduction was codified in Iowa Code section [257.35\(2\)](#) to be made annually beginning with FY 2003 and is based on reductions for FY 2002. Each AEA was required to remit a portion of its Special Education Support Services Fund balance to the State (total of \$10.0 million). The FY 2004 State aid was reduced further with the issuance of [Executive Order 31](#), which mandated a 2.5% across-the-board appropriations reduction. A portion of that reduction was restored later in FY 2004 through [Executive Order 36](#). During the 2008 Legislative Session, the General Assembly stated that beginning in FY 2010, the intent is to maintain the codified State aid reduction of \$7.5 million. Legislation pertaining to the State aid reduction to AEAs has been modified each year, and in FY 2024, the total AEA State aid reduction is at \$29.6 million. **Figure 9** provides the annual State aid reduction to AEAs from FY 2002 through FY 2024.

Figure 9
State Aid Reduction to AEAs: FY 2002 — FY 2024
 In Millions

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>State Aid Reduction</u>	<u>Percentage of Adjusted Controlled Budget</u>
2002	\$ 10.9	7.7%
2003	7.5	5.1%
2004	19.1	13.9%
2005	19.3	13.8%
2006	19.3	13.2%
2007	15.5	9.9%
2008	12.7	7.7%
2009	10.0	5.7%
2010	11.4	5.9%
2011	10.0	5.0%
2012	27.5	15.1%
2013	27.5	14.8%
2014	22.5	11.6%
2015	22.5	11.1%
2016	22.5	10.9%
2017	26.3	12.5%
2018	22.5	10.4%
2019	22.5	10.2%
2020	22.5	9.9%
2021	22.5	9.6%
2022	22.5	9.5%
2023	24.6	10.2%
2024	29.6	12.1%

Source: Department of Management, Aid and Levy files

As explained above (see page 7), the AEA controlled funding is the funding that is derived from the formula for Special Education Support, Media Services, and Educational Services. The source of revenue for the controlled funding is property taxes and State aid. The AEAs receive revenues in addition to the controlled funding. For example, they receive State aid revenue from the [Student Achievement/Teacher Quality Program](#), federal funding, and local funding such as revenues from purchasing cooperatives. In FY 2024, controlled funding totaled \$224.4 million and total AEA General Fund revenues were \$303.5 million. In addition, AEAs

receive revenues from other funds. Total revenues in all governmental fund types were \$449.7 million in FY 2024 (see **Figure 10**).

The AEAs must submit a budget for approval by the DE. If the budget is approved, the AEA is funded from an off-the-top allocation of school aid. The AEAs also receive funding for juvenile shelter and detention home instruction; however, the amount is not part of the basic funding.

Figure 10 describes the AEA General Fund revenues by source for FY 1981, FY 1996, FY 2007, and FY 2024. Local revenue previously was the main source of revenue for AEAs; however, it has declined as a percentage of total revenues from 51.5% in FY 1981 to 30.6% in FY 2024. State funds now provide the largest percentage of revenue, decreasing from 38.7% in FY 1981 to 36.9% in FY 2024.

Figure 10
AEA General Fund Revenue by Source
In Millions

	FY 1981		FY 1996		FY 2007		FY 2024	
	Revenue Amount	% of Total	Revenue Amount	% of Total	Revenue Amount	% of Total	Revenue Amount	% of Total
Local	\$ 56.2	51.6%	\$ 72.3	41.6%	\$ 96.1	31.2%	\$ 137.6	30.6%
State	42.2	38.7%	70.5	40.6%	88.5	28.8%	165.8	36.9%
Federal	10.4	9.5%	30.8	17.7%	122.8	39.9%	138.5	30.8%
Other	0.2	0.2%	0.1	0.1%	0.3	0.1%	7.7	1.7%
Total	\$ 109.0	100.0%	\$ 173.7	100.0%	\$ 307.7	100.0%	\$ 449.7	100.0%

*Sums do not add due to rounding.
Source: Department of Management, Aid and Levy files

Revenue Sources

The AEAs and local school districts budget all funds except internal services, permanent, trust, and custodial (previously known as agency) funds. Budgeted funds include the General Fund, Special Education Instruction Fund, Juvenile Home Program Instruction Fund, special revenue trust funds, other special revenue funds, capital projects funds, debt service funds, and proprietary funds such as nutrition.

“Sources” means classifications of revenues and other financing sources from the original source/payer. The primary classifications are revenues from local sources, revenues from intermediate sources, revenues from State sources, revenues from federal sources, and receipts other than revenues. “Resources” means the sum of total revenues, other financing sources, and beginning fund balance. Revenue sources terms include the following:

- **Taxes (Controlled Funding):** Since the AEAs have no taxing authority, the school districts generate the property taxes for the AEAs through the levy rate. The State and property tax funding then flows from the public school district through to the AEA (flow-through concept). The school districts do not pay the AEAs directly; instead, the State pays the entire amount and withholds part of the State aid payment to school districts. As the AEA funding distribution method is strictly for accounting purposes, the school district budget is not impacted. The property tax portion of the controlled funding is reported as Taxes (Controlled Funding). It is calculated as follows: Total payment to the AEA less State Foundation Aid. Total payment to the AEA is also called the AEA flow-through.
- **Other Local Revenues:** Other local revenues include revenues from purchasing cooperatives. Local sources would also include property taxes from the controlled funding, interest, tuition, and sales of services to school districts and other AEAs.
- **Intermediate Revenues:** Intermediate sources include revenues from cities or counties.
- **State Aid (Controlled Funding):** The AEA controlled funding is the funding that is derived from the formula for Special Education Support, Media Services, and Educational Services. The source of revenue for the controlled funding is property taxes and State aid.

- **Other State Revenues:** State sources would include State aid from the controlled funding and State grants such as Parent Education for At Risk (zero to three years of age).
- **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Federal Grant:** The IDEA is a grants statute that provides federal funding for the education of children with disabilities and requires, as a condition for the receipt of such funds, that states agree to provide free appropriate public education (specially designed instruction provided at no cost to the parents that meets the needs of a child with a disability) to every eligible child.
- **Other Federal Revenues:** Federal sources include federal grants such as Title I, IDEA, Title III (English Language Acquisition State Grants), and the Medical Assistance Program (Medicaid Direct Services Reimbursement).
- **Long-term Debt Proceeds:** Long-term debt proceeds would include proceeds from loans and lease-purchases.
- **Other Financing Sources:** Other financing sources would include sales or losses of fixed assets, capital leases, and transfers from other funds.
- **Beginning Fund Balance:** This is the beginning fund balance for each of the applicable funds at the beginning of the fiscal year. In total, this will be the same as the reestimated ending fund balance in the prior year.

The proposed FY 2024 resources by major sources of revenue are displayed in **Figure 11**. The description of each major revenue source is provided in the Revenue Sources section of this document (see page 14).

Figure 11
All Budgeted Funds — Proposed Resources by Major Source
FY 2024

AEA	Taxes (Controlled Funding)	Other Local Revenues	Intermediate Revenues	State Aid (Controlled Funding)	Other State Revenues	IDEA Federal Grant *
1	\$ 6,791,579	\$ 1,923,163	\$ 0	\$ 7,733,303	\$ 1,717,198	\$ 8,221,611
5	6,991,901	1,553,990	0	8,163,387	1,845,986	9,026,355
7	13,697,687	7,237,479	0	17,049,916	5,259,315	17,306,000
9	10,004,544	2,922,661	5,000	12,495,601	2,439,831	11,951,805
10	14,816,816	7,412,800	0	18,997,841	4,045,133	16,672,000
11	29,172,301	5,217,451	0	39,587,824	7,392,632	35,456,671
12	9,363,505	1,153,043	0	11,088,906	3,446,347	11,534,627
13	7,876,512	3,047,919	0	10,337,668	2,620,941	11,534,787
15	7,197,699	1,260,685	0	9,301,996	2,317,456	9,934,128
Total	\$ 105,912,544	\$ 31,729,191	\$ 5,000	\$ 134,756,442	\$ 31,084,839	\$ 131,637,984

AEA	Other Federal Revenues	Long-term Debt Proceeds	Other Financing Sources **	Beginning Fund Balance	Total
1	\$ 500,771	\$ 0	\$ 24,000	\$ 2,956,420	\$ 29,868,045
5	1,019,171	0	0	6,204,163	34,804,953
7	290,000	0	666,416	11,729,807	73,236,620
9	515,000	0	3,500,000	12,535,474	56,369,916
10	796,400	0	2,164,625	12,612,307	77,517,922
11	1,238,721	0	1,060,000	14,569,176	133,694,776
12	1,236,665	0	0	5,186,527	43,009,620
13	836,247	0	300,000	4,357,091	40,911,165
15	394,897	0	6,319	6,759,932	37,173,112
Total	\$ 6,827,872	\$ 0	\$ 7,721,360	\$ 76,910,897	\$ 526,586,129

*IDEA Federal Grant includes flowthrough to local educational agency of approximately \$24,000,000.
 **Other financing sources include interfund transfers and proceeds from the disposition of fixed assets.

Source: Iowa State Board of Education, FY 2024 Annual Budget Approval Executive Summary

Expenditure Items

The AEAs expend the largest portion of their funding in the function areas of support services to students and support services to instructional staff. "Function" means the major activities of the AEA and corresponds to those most frequently requested in reporting to external authorities.

- **Instruction:** Instruction includes the activities dealing directly with the interaction between teachers and students. Teaching may be provided for students in a school classroom, in another location such as a home or hospital, and in other learning situations such as those involving cocurricular activities. It may also be provided through some other approved medium, such as television, radio, computer, internet, multimedia telephone, and correspondence, that is delivered inside or outside the classroom or in other teacher-student settings. Included here are the activities of aides or classroom assistants of any type (clerks, graders, teaching machines, etc.) who assist in the instructional process. If proration of expenditures is not possible for department chairpersons who also teach, department chairpersons who also teach are included in instruction.
- **Student Support Services:** Student and Instructional Staff Support Services will have limited use because each AEA is required to provide special education support services, media services support, and educational services support as part of its basic mission. Accordingly, most student support services will be accounted for in the General Fund. Student Support Services includes activities designed to assess and improve student well-being and to supplement the teaching process.
- **Staff Support Services:** Support services provide administrative, technical (such as guidance and health), and logistical support to facilitate and enhance instruction. These services exist as adjuncts for fulfilling the objectives of instruction, community services, and enterprise programs, rather than as entities within themselves. The first entry in each function grouping is normally supervision of the activities of the function so that districts and AEAs can identify separately the costs of the supervisors and managers that are otherwise reported in the same objects as those they supervise. Staff Support Services includes activities associated with assisting the instructional staff with the content and process of providing learning experiences for students.
- **Administration and Central Support Services:** This includes activities that support other administrative and instructional functions including fiscal services, human resources, planning, and administrative information technology.
- **Plant Operation and Maintenance:** Iowa Administrative Code, in [281 IAC 63.18\(4\)](#), details unauthorized expenditures as follows: "Expenditures shall not include expenditures for debt services, for facilities acquisition and construction services, including remodeling and facility repair, or for rental expenditures for classroom facilities when adequate space is available at the Juvenile Home or AEA." Expenditures may include rent only when adequate space is not available at the Juvenile Home or in the AEA or when the DE has approved a waiver request for rent prior to the AEA incurring rent expenditures. No other operation and maintenance expenditures may be charged to the Juvenile Home Program except equipment repair. Rental of facilities not considered to be classrooms or directly related to classroom instruction would not be appropriate. Since detention centers are responsible for children in their facilities 24 hours per day and, therefore, need to provide classroom space at the center, rent for these is not appropriate. Total costs for administrative services and for operation and maintenance of plant services are limited to actual costs or 20.0% of the total Juvenile Home expenditures, whichever is less.
- **Transportation:** This includes transporting students to and from school and school activities.
- **Other Support Services:** This includes all other support services not classified elsewhere.
- **Noninstructional Programs:** This includes activities associated with the professional development and training of noninstructional personnel such activities as in-service training, seminars, and conferences; continuing professional education; courses for college credit (tuition reimbursement); and other activities related to the ongoing growth and development of noninstructional personnel. All costs should be charged to this category regardless of whether training services are provided internally or purchased from external vendors.
- **Facilities Acquisition and Construction:** This includes activities related to acquiring land and buildings, remodeling buildings, constructing buildings and additions to buildings, initially installing or extending

service systems and other built-in equipment, and improving sites. Generally, this includes only the Physical Plant and Equipment Levy (PPEL) and Capital Projects funds.

- **Debt Service:** This is for servicing the debt of the AEA, including payments of both principal and interest. Normally, only long-term debt service (obligations exceeding one year) is recorded in this category. The receipt and payment of principal on current loans are handled as adjustments to the balance sheet.
- **Other Financing Uses:** In a transfer, the disbursing fund records the transaction as other financing uses of resources and not as an operating expenditure, whereas the fund receiving the transfer does not record the receipts as revenue and instead records the receipts as other financing sources of funds.
- **Ending Fund Balance:** This is calculated as follows: (Beginning Fund Balance, Total Revenues, and Other Financing Sources) less Total Expenditures and Other Financing Uses. Normally, the ending fund balance in the Juvenile Home Fund will be zero. Any assets remaining in the Juvenile Home Fund would have an equal amount of liabilities (payables).

The proposed expenditures for FY 2024 by function category are displayed in **Figure 12**. The description of each function category is provided in the Expenditure Items section of this document (see page 16).

Figure 12
All Budgeted Funds — Proposed Expenditures by Function Category
FY 2024

AEA	Instruction	Student Support Services	Staff Support Services	Administration and Central Support Services	Plant Operation and Maintenance	Transportation	Other Support Services
1	\$ 170,754	\$ 10,939,057	\$ 8,954,947	\$ 5,343,713	\$ 1,027,276	\$ 1,000	\$ 0
5	1,278,194	15,995,469	4,269,736	4,497,255	919,175	0	0
7	9,082,345	22,395,713	15,235,013	8,553,220	1,835,800	1,500	291,500
9	2,083,137	20,312,638	8,407,230	5,803,284	1,291,465	0	23,882
10	3,370,593	23,594,357	23,130,947	10,595,003	1,419,000	0	7,000
11	4,907,042	50,141,827	35,258,101	18,978,251	1,579,871	3,000	0
12	906,086	14,638,544	13,507,625	6,164,348	1,022,748	150	0
13	4,025,921	16,019,731	7,783,883	6,494,777	1,122,496	0	162,693
15	2,271,223	12,742,184	7,711,709	4,506,506	961,146	100	0
Total	\$ 28,095,295	\$ 186,779,520	\$ 124,259,191	\$ 70,936,357	\$ 11,178,977	\$ 5,750	\$ 485,075

AEA	Noninstructional Programs	Facilities Acquisition and Construction	Debt Service	Other Financing Uses *	Ending Fund Balance	Total
1	\$ 66,882	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1,408,378	\$ 1,956,038	\$ 29,868,045
5	169,854	0	0	1,471,107	6,204,163	34,804,953
7	152,700	150,000	516,416	3,695,416	11,326,997	73,236,620
9	0	3,500,000	0	5,939,295	9,008,985	56,369,916
10	202,907	2,164,625	0	5,534,625	7,498,865	77,517,922
11	246,857	795,000	215,000	7,904,886	13,664,941	133,694,776
12	0	0	0	2,108,353	4,661,766	43,009,620
13	75,521	328,277	0	2,112,014	2,785,852	40,911,165
15	112,716	0	0	1,671,503	7,196,025	37,173,112
Total	\$ 1,027,437	\$ 6,937,902	\$ 731,416	\$ 31,845,577	\$ 64,303,632	\$ 526,586,129

*Other financing uses include flowthrough to local educational agencies. Interfund transfers are also included.

Source: Iowa State Board of Education, FY 2024 Annual Budget Approval Executive Summary

A three-year budget comparison for all funds is displayed in **Figure 13**. The budget for FY 2024 shows that revenue from controlled funding and other State revenue sources is estimated to increase compared to FY 2022 and other sources of revenue will decrease. Expenditures debt service, other financing uses, and

ending fund balance show the largest estimated declines. The description of each major revenue source is provided in the Revenue Sources section of this document (see page 14). The description of each function category of expenses is provided in the Expenditure Items section of this document (see page 16).

Figure 13
Three-Year Comparison — All Budgeted Funds

Revenues and Other Financing Sources plus	Actual	Actual	Proposed Budget
Beginning Balance:	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Taxes (Controlled Funding)	\$ 102,191,427	\$ 104,647,243	\$ 105,912,544
Other Local Revenues	31,497,814	33,219,506	31,729,191
Intermediate Revenues	14,494	5,000	5,000
State Aid (Controlled Funding)	115,379,909	120,677,479	134,756,442
Other State Revenues	30,544,241	28,834,664	31,084,839
IDEA Federal Grant	124,133,750	129,103,691	131,637,984
Other Federal Revenues	25,638,722	16,119,088	6,827,872
Long-term Debt Proceeds	7,441,119	240,000	0
Other Financing Sources	17,682,572	16,840,099	7,721,360
Beginning Fund Balance	74,333,375	89,654,337	76,910,897
Total	\$ 528,857,421	\$ 539,341,107	\$ 526,586,129
Expenditures and Other Financing Uses plus	Actual	Actual	Proposed Budget
Ending Balance:	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Instruction	\$ 23,930,291	\$ 27,697,544	\$ 28,095,295
Student Support Services	168,807,647	176,234,443	186,779,520
Staff Support Services	112,696,391	119,493,641	124,259,191
Administration and Central Support Services	67,599,793	69,069,243	70,936,357
Plant Operation and Maintenance	9,538,338	11,191,361	11,178,977
Transportation	764	4,600	5,750
Other Support Services	437,385	466,575	485,075
Noninstructional Programs	946,829	1,001,496	1,027,437
Facilities Acquisition and Construction	4,716,352	11,223,000	6,937,902
Debt Service	6,941,113	7,400,053	731,416
Other Financing Uses	43,559,903	38,676,532	31,845,577
Ending Fund Balance	89,682,615	76,882,619	64,303,632
Total	\$ 528,857,421	\$ 539,341,107	\$ 526,586,129
*Fund Balances and totals may vary slightly from the detail summaries due to rounding.			
Source: Iowa State Board of Education, FY 2024 Annual Budget Approval Executive Summary			

Enrollment and Cost History for AEAs

The total AEA enrollment and weightings history is displayed in **Figure 14**. All FY 2024 enrollments and weightings are above their FY 2018 level. The enrollment and cost history for each AEA can be found in **Figures 18-23**.

**Figure 14
Enrollment History**

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Special Ed. Weights</u>	<u>Budget Enrollment</u>	<u>Weighted Enrollment</u>	<u>Nonpublic</u>	<u>Shared-Time</u>
FY 2018	64,335.9	485,147.3	549,483.2	34,226.0	244.4
FY 2019	65,239.4	486,264.3	551,503.7	34,393.0	227.0
FY 2020	66,705.6	487,651.5	554,357.1	33,365.0	221.5
FY 2021	67,750.5	490,094.4	557,844.9	33,405.0	223.7
FY 2022	66,798.3	484,158.5	550,956.8	32,687.0	181.9
FY 2023	67,479.0	485,630.4	553,109.4	33,597.0	192.4
FY 2024	68,651.8	486,475.5	555,127.3	33,692.0	251.7

Source: Department of Management, AEA Enrollment and Cost Data

The average cost per pupil history is displayed in **Figure 15**. The average cost per pupil increases each year by the amount specified in legislation as the State percent of growth. The cost per pupil history for each AEA can be found in **Figure 19**.

**Figure 15
Average Cost Per Pupil History**

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Support</u>	<u>Media</u>	<u>Education</u>	<u>Teacher Salary</u>	<u>Professional Development</u>
FY 2018	\$ 295.54	\$ 54.62	\$ 60.50	\$ 29.63	\$ 3.41
FY 2019	298.47	55.17	61.10	29.93	3.45
FY 2020	304.56	56.31	62.35	30.56	3.52
FY 2021	311.50	57.60	63.78	31.27	3.60
FY 2022	318.91	58.98	65.30	32.03	3.69
FY 2023	326.81	60.45	66.93	32.84	3.78
FY 2024	336.53	62.26	68.93	33.84	3.90

Source: Department of Management, AEA Enrollment and Cost Data

The total AEA annual expenditures for each AEA program are displayed in **Figure 16**. All FY 2024 program expenditures are above their FY 2018 level due to a combination of the increase in weightings and the cost per pupil. The special education adjustment is the budget guarantee as explained on page 7. The annual expenditure for each AEA by program can be found in **Figure 20**.

**Figure 16
Annual Expenditures for Each AEA Program**

Fiscal Year	Special Ed. Support	Special Ed. Adjust.	Special Ed. Total Cost	Media Services	Education Services	Sharing Operations	Teacher Salary Supplement	Professional Development Supplement
FY 2018	\$ 160,955,390	\$ 1,515,113	\$162,470,503	\$28,330,605	\$31,307,398	\$ 30,001	\$15,749,280	\$ 1,845,691
FY 2019	163,138,292	1,751,058	164,889,350	28,687,769	31,697,300	30,000	15,973,843	1,874,985
FY 2020	167,343,543	1,398,595	168,742,138	29,301,045	32,369,311	60,003	16,354,536	1,918,943
FY 2021	172,257,289	1,158,851	173,416,140	30,115,802	33,272,492	150,006	16,845,976	1,975,199
FY 2022	174,214,872	1,591,125	175,805,997	30,448,181	33,637,154	180,004	17,097,333	2,005,047
FY 2023	179,248,516	961,638	180,210,154	31,350,594	34,636,751	210,007	17,558,139	2,057,131
FY 2024	185,285,026	578,940	185,863,966	32,345,038	35,735,170	180,006	18,160,700	2,129,265

Source: Department of Management, AEA Enrollment and Cost Data

The total annual AEA budgets, budget reductions (see page 13), and the amount contributed from State aid and property tax are displayed in **Figure 17**. All FY 2024 budgets are above their FY 2018 level. The State aid portion of the funding has been relatively stable when compared to the portion being funded with property tax. The total annual AEA budget, budget reductions, and the amount contributed from State aid and property tax for each AEA can be found in **Figure 21**.

**Figure 17
Total Annual AEA Budgets**

Fiscal Year	Subtotal Budget	Prorata Reduction	Total Budget	State Aid	Property Tax
FY 2018	\$239,733,478	\$22,500,000	\$217,233,478	\$122,048,467	\$95,185,011
FY 2019	243,153,247	22,500,000	220,653,247	123,872,044	96,781,203
FY 2020	248,745,976	22,500,000	226,245,976	127,756,918	98,489,058
FY 2021	255,775,615	22,500,000	233,275,615	132,552,173	100,723,442
FY 2022	259,173,716	22,500,000	236,673,716	134,482,289	102,191,427
FY 2023	266,022,776	24,557,131	241,465,645	136,818,462	104,647,183
FY 2024	274,414,145	29,557,131	244,857,014	137,427,339	107,429,675

Source: Department of Management, AEA Enrollment and Cost Data

Summary

The AEAs evolved in 1975 from the county school system that was created in 1858. The AEAs began operating with 15 AEAs (see **Figure 1**). Since the AEAs began operating, AEAs have consolidated, and there are currently nine AEAs (see **Figure 3**). The services of AEAs are grouped into three areas: Special Education, Media Services, and Educational Services.

The AEAs are funded through the School Aid Formula, and the funding is generated at the school district level on a per pupil basis. There is a State cost and an AEA per pupil cost for specific program areas. The Formula calculates funding for Special Education Support State cost per pupil, Media Services State cost per pupil, and Educational Services State cost per pupil separately. The State supplemental aid (SSA) rate is applied to the State cost per pupil, and the rate per pupil is calculated. The amount of change is then applied to each of the AEA cost per pupil amounts (which differ by AEA) to determine the new AEA per pupil amount and then multiplied by the specified enrollment to determine the overall program cost.

Since the AEAs have no taxing authority, the school district generates the property taxes for the AEAs through the levy rate. The State and property tax funding then flows from the public school district through to the AEA. The school districts do not pay the AEAs directly; instead, the State pays the entire amount and withholds part of the State aid payment to school districts. The AEA funding distribution method is strictly for accounting purposes, so the school district budget is unaffected. The AEA funding split between State aid and property tax has been relatively stable (see **Figure 4**).

Special Education Support State cost per pupil increased from FY 1976 to FY 1981 to increase all AEAs' services. The Media Services State cost per pupil also increased during this period as funding was increased to equalize funding between AEAs. After FY 1981, the increases in the Special Education, Media Services, and Educational Services State cost per pupil were comparable to school district growth. The difference in funding on a cost per pupil basis between the AEAs has decreased since FY 1976 (see **Figure 7**).

Local revenue in FY 1981 was the main source of revenue for AEAs; however, local revenue has declined as a percentage of total revenues from 51.5% in FY 1981 to 30.6% in FY 2024. Even after factoring in the State aid reductions for AEAs that began in FY 2002 (see **Figure 9**), State funds now provide the largest percentage of revenue. However, State funds decreased as a percentage of total funding from 38.7% in FY 1981 to 36.9% in FY 2024, due to an increase in federal support (see **Figure 10**).

The following tables included in the **Appendix** provide additional AEA information from FY 2018-FY 2024 for the following:

- Enrollment History by AEA (**Figure 18**)
- Cost Per Pupil by AEA (**Figure 19**)
- Annual Expenditures by AEA by Program (**Figure 20**)
- Budgets by AEA (**Figure 21**)
- Fund Balance Comparison by AEA (**Figure 22**)
- Expenditures and Fund Balance Comparison by AEA (**Figure 23**)

Appendix — Enrollment and Cost History for each AEA

The enrollment and weightings history for each AEA is displayed in **Figure 18**. All FY 2024 enrollments and weightings are above their FY 2018 level.

Figure 18
Enrollment History for each AEA

AEA Name	Fiscal Year	Special Ed. Weights	Budget Enrollment	Weighted Enrollment	Nonpublic	Shared-Time
Keystone AEA 1	FY 2018	4,160.1	28,477.9	32,638.0	4,175.0	23.9
	FY 2019	4,125.2	28,251.4	32,376.6	4,151.0	21.7
	FY 2020	4,268.0	28,210.9	32,478.9	3,993.0	24.1
	FY 2021	4,399.4	28,250.3	32,649.7	4,106.0	19.7
	FY 2022	4,382.8	28,003.2	32,386.0	3,767.0	15.8
	FY 2023	4,386.1	27,800.7	32,186.8	3,829.0	14.8
	FY 2024	4,389.6	27,827.9	32,217.5	3,727.0	15.7
Prairie Lakes AEA 8	FY 2018	4,160.5	29,992.0	34,152.5	2,334.0	43.4
	FY 2019	4,105.7	29,867.0	33,972.7	2,305.0	34.6
	FY 2020	4,151.7	29,830.2	33,981.9	2,129.0	31.2
	FY 2021	4,177.6	30,035.5	34,213.1	2,098.0	29.7
	FY 2022	4,097.2	30,012.0	34,109.2	1,963.0	26.9
	FY 2023	4,040.9	30,029.6	34,070.5	1,995.0	27.8
	FY 2024	4,071.6	30,049.2	34,120.8	1,962.0	23.6
Central Rivers AEA 7	FY 2018	9,167.3	62,430.1	71,597.4	3,310.0	35.0
	FY 2019	9,033.6	62,255.9	71,289.5	3,355.0	30.0
	FY 2020	9,202.1	62,053.5	71,255.6	3,311.0	25.4
	FY 2021	9,349.9	62,055.8	71,405.7	3,584.0	39.3
	FY 2022	9,200.0	61,287.3	70,487.3	3,167.0	27.8
	FY 2023	9,290.3	61,360.0	70,650.3	3,233.0	35.5
	FY 2024	9,426.0	61,183.6	70,609.6	3,223.0	36.6
Mississippi Bend AEA 9	FY 2018	7,152.3	46,995.3	54,147.6	3,244.0	5.9
	FY 2019	7,625.3	46,644.4	54,269.7	3,224.0	6.4
	FY 2020	7,559.8	46,558.1	54,117.9	3,155.0	6.8
	FY 2021	7,247.2	46,191.2	53,438.4	3,133.0	4.3
	FY 2022	6,761.6	45,499.1	52,260.7	3,022.0	1.8
	FY 2023	6,561.1	45,498.3	52,059.4	3,060.0	2.7
	FY 2024	6,569.2	45,239.7	51,808.9	2,989.0	5.0
Grant Wood AEA 10	FY 2018	7,950.5	69,472.2	77,422.7	4,494.0	20.5
	FY 2019	7,899.1	70,025.1	77,924.2	4,452.0	33.4
	FY 2020	8,039.3	70,019.2	78,058.5	4,286.0	29.6
	FY 2021	8,306.6	70,499.7	78,806.3	4,102.0	29.7
	FY 2022	8,193.3	69,393.6	77,586.9	4,238.0	27.6
	FY 2023	8,310.7	69,378.5	77,689.2	4,283.0	12.2
	FY 2024	8,446.9	69,432.1	77,879.0	4,286.0	25.5

Source: Department of Management, AEA Enrollment and Cost Data

Figure 18
Enrollment History for each AEA (Continued)

AEA Name	Fiscal Year	Special Ed. Weights	Budget Enrollment	Weighted Enrollment	Nonpublic	Shared-Time
Heartland AEA 11	FY 2018	16,188.8	135,915.5	152,104.3	9,168.0	44.0
	FY 2019	16,654.6	137,826.4	154,481.0	9,246.0	48.1
	FY 2020	17,312.5	139,504.9	156,817.4	9,024.0	49.9
	FY 2021	17,975.4	141,204.5	159,179.9	9,083.0	41.4
	FY 2022	17,999.8	139,604.0	157,603.8	9,203.0	32.6
	FY 2023	18,534.1	141,056.7	159,590.8	9,710.0	52.4
	FY 2024	19,094.8	142,154.8	161,249.6	9,930.0	85.1
Northwest AEA 12	FY 2018	5,663.5	39,279.1	44,942.6	5,277.0	63.1
	FY 2019	5,561.9	39,419.9	44,981.8	5,303.0	44.0
	FY 2020	5,613.5	39,784.5	45,398.0	5,203.0	41.0
	FY 2021	5,686.7	40,320.0	46,006.7	5,195.0	45.4
	FY 2022	5,691.4	39,802.4	45,493.8	5,136.0	33.9
	FY 2023	5,813.8	39,999.7	45,813.5	5,265.0	37.3
	FY 2024	5,850.9	39,907.6	45,758.5	5,387.0	42.3
Green Hills AEA 13	FY 2018	5,422.5	37,620.9	43,043.4	1,073.0	4.1
	FY 2019	5,643.9	37,460.5	43,104.4	1,076.0	3.4
	FY 2020	5,809.9	37,297.6	43,107.5	1,029.0	4.3
	FY 2021	5,846.5	37,247.4	43,093.9	1,050.0	3.4
	FY 2022	5,780.8	36,685.7	42,466.5	996.0	6.8
	FY 2023	5,816.0	36,677.0	42,493.0	1,011.0	3.0
	FY 2024	6,034.7	36,818.9	42,853.6	1,034.0	4.6
Great Prairie AEA 15	FY 2018	4,470.5	34,964.3	39,434.8	1,151.0	4.5
	FY 2019	4,590.2	34,513.7	39,103.9	1,281.0	5.4
	FY 2020	4,748.9	34,392.6	39,141.5	1,235.0	9.2
	FY 2021	4,761.3	34,290.0	39,051.3	1,054.0	10.8
	FY 2022	4,691.5	33,871.2	38,562.7	1,195.0	8.7
	FY 2023	4,726.2	33,829.9	38,556.1	1,211.0	6.7
	FY 2024	4,768.1	33,861.7	38,629.8	1,154.0	13.3

Source: Department of Management, AEA Enrollment and Cost Data

Appendix — Cost Per Pupil History for each AEA

The cost per pupil history for each AEA is displayed in **Figure 19**. The cost per pupil increases each year by the amount specified in legislation as the State percent of growth.

**Figure 19
Cost Per Pupil History for each AEA**

<u>AEA Name</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Support Cost PP</u>	<u>Media Cost PP</u>	<u>Ed. Cost PP</u>	<u>Tech. Sal. Cost PP</u>	<u>Prof. Dev. Cost PP</u>
Keystone AEA 1	FY 2018	\$ 307.15	\$ 54.80	\$ 61.13	\$ 30.26	\$ 3.25
	FY 2019	310.08	55.35	61.73	30.56	3.29
	FY 2020	316.17	56.49	62.98	31.19	3.36
	FY 2021	323.11	57.78	64.41	31.90	3.44
	FY 2022	330.52	59.16	65.93	32.66	3.53
	FY 2023	338.42	60.63	67.56	33.47	3.62
	FY 2024	348.14	62.44	69.56	34.47	3.74
Prairie Lakes AEA 8	FY 2018	\$ 302.90	\$ 54.88	\$ 61.60	\$ 32.22	\$ 3.84
	FY 2019	305.83	55.43	62.20	32.52	3.88
	FY 2020	311.92	56.57	63.45	33.15	3.95
	FY 2021	318.86	57.86	64.88	33.86	4.03
	FY 2022	326.27	59.24	66.40	34.62	4.12
	FY 2023	334.17	60.71	68.03	35.43	4.21
	FY 2024	343.89	62.52	70.03	36.43	4.33
Central Rivers AEA 7	FY 2018	\$ 296.27	\$ 54.83	\$ 61.22	\$ 37.49	\$ 4.31
	FY 2019	299.20	55.38	61.82	37.79	4.35
	FY 2020	305.29	56.52	63.07	38.42	4.42
	FY 2021	312.23	57.81	64.50	39.13	4.50
	FY 2022	319.64	59.19	66.02	39.89	4.59
	FY 2023	327.54	60.66	67.65	40.70	4.68
	FY 2024	337.26	62.47	69.65	41.70	4.80
Mississippi Bend AEA 9	FY 2018	\$ 293.91	\$ 54.34	\$ 59.30	\$ 26.56	\$ 3.12
	FY 2019	296.84	54.89	59.90	26.86	3.16
	FY 2020	302.93	56.03	61.15	27.49	3.23
	FY 2021	309.87	57.32	62.58	28.20	3.31
	FY 2022	317.28	58.70	64.10	28.96	3.40
	FY 2023	325.18	60.17	65.73	29.77	3.49
	FY 2024	334.90	61.98	67.73	30.77	3.61
Grant Wood AEA 10	FY 2018	\$ 291.99	\$ 54.52	\$ 59.90	\$ 27.31	\$ 3.18
	FY 2019	294.92	55.07	60.50	27.61	3.22
	FY 2020	301.01	56.21	61.75	28.24	3.29
	FY 2021	307.95	57.50	63.18	28.95	3.37
	FY 2022	315.36	58.88	64.70	29.71	3.46
	FY 2023	323.26	60.35	66.33	30.52	3.55
	FY 2024	332.98	62.16	68.33	31.52	3.67

Source: Department of Management, AEA Enrollment and Cost Data

**Figure 19
Cost Per Pupil History for each AEA (Continued)**

<u>AEA Name</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Support Cost PP</u>	<u>Media Cost PP</u>	<u>Ed. Cost PP</u>	<u>Tech. Sal. Cost PP</u>	<u>Prof. Dev. Cost PP</u>
Heartland AEA 11	FY 2018	\$ 284.89	\$ 54.40	\$ 59.72	\$ 23.54	\$ 2.99
	FY 2019	287.82	54.95	60.32	23.84	3.03
	FY 2020	293.91	56.09	61.57	24.47	3.10
	FY 2021	300.85	57.38	63.00	25.18	3.18
	FY 2022	308.26	58.76	64.52	25.94	3.27
	FY 2023	316.16	60.23	66.15	26.75	3.36
	FY 2024	325.88	62.04	68.15	27.75	3.48
Northwest AEA 12	FY 2018	\$ 299.53	\$ 54.81	\$ 61.50	\$ 30.10	\$ 3.60
	FY 2019	302.46	55.36	62.10	30.40	3.64
	FY 2020	308.55	56.50	63.35	31.03	3.71
	FY 2021	315.49	57.79	64.78	31.74	3.79
	FY 2022	322.90	59.17	66.30	32.50	3.88
	FY 2023	330.80	60.64	67.93	33.31	3.97
	FY 2024	340.52	62.45	69.93	34.31	4.09
Green Hills AEA 13	FY 2018	\$ 292.95	\$ 54.53	\$ 60.30	\$ 30.08	\$ 3.21
	FY 2019	295.88	55.08	60.90	30.38	3.25
	FY 2020	301.97	56.22	62.15	31.01	3.32
	FY 2021	308.91	57.51	63.58	31.72	3.40
	FY 2022	316.32	58.89	65.10	32.48	3.49
	FY 2023	324.22	60.36	66.73	33.29	3.58
	FY 2024	333.94	62.17	68.73	34.29	3.70
Great Prairie AEA 15	FY 2018	\$ 290.31	\$ 54.50	\$ 59.87	\$ 29.09	\$ 3.16
	FY 2019	293.24	55.05	60.47	29.39	3.20
	FY 2020	299.33	56.19	61.72	30.02	3.27
	FY 2021	306.27	57.48	63.15	30.73	3.35
	FY 2022	313.68	58.86	64.67	31.49	3.44
	FY 2023	321.58	60.33	66.30	32.30	3.53
	FY 2024	331.30	62.14	68.30	33.30	3.65

Source: Department of Management, AEA Enrollment and Cost Data

Appendix — Annual Expenditures for each AEA by Program

The annual expenditures for each AEA by program are displayed in **Figure 20**. All FY 2024 program expenditures are above their FY 2018 level due to a combination of the increased weightings and the cost per pupil.

**Figure 20
Annual Expenditures for each AEA by Program**

AEA Name	Fiscal Year	Special			Media Services	Education Services	Sharing Operations	Teacher Salary Supplement	Professional Development Supplement
		Special Ed. Support	Ed. Adjust	Special Ed. Total Cost					
Keystone AEA 1	FY 2018	\$10,024,761	\$203,239	\$10,228,000	\$1,788,014	\$1,994,549	\$ 0	\$ 993,622	\$ 106,680
	FY 2019	10,039,326	211,843	10,251,169	1,792,345	1,998,942	0	995,123	106,957
	FY 2020	10,268,847	102,385	10,371,232	1,817,792	2,026,631	0	1,013,482	109,174
	FY 2021	10,549,435	78,585	10,628,020	1,868,547	2,082,954	30,002	1,042,405	112,399
	FY 2022	10,704,222	62,397	10,766,619	1,878,682	2,093,673	30,000	1,059,282	114,454
	FY 2023	10,892,639	32,188	10,924,827	1,916,940	2,136,044	30,002	1,078,327	116,624
	FY 2024	11,216,201	10,552	11,226,753	1,969,358	2,193,922	30,001	1,110,571	120,492
Prairie Lakes AEA 8	FY 2018	\$10,344,779	\$172,038	\$10,516,817	\$1,771,690	\$1,988,635	\$ 30,001	\$ 1,105,400	\$ 131,735
	FY 2019	10,389,872	224,595	10,614,467	1,781,466	1,999,044	30,000	1,114,752	132,952
	FY 2020	10,599,625	215,363	10,814,988	1,806,225	2,025,893	30,001	1,133,637	135,148
	FY 2021	10,909,182	163,046	11,072,228	1,857,475	2,082,844	30,000	1,162,901	138,433
	FY 2022	11,128,793	139,949	11,268,742	1,892,716	2,121,484	0	1,184,097	140,917
	FY 2023	11,385,351	119,140	11,504,491	1,942,415	2,176,620	0	1,211,494	143,978
	FY 2024	11,733,799	73,537	11,807,336	1,999,952	2,240,189	0	1,244,494	147,912
Central Rivers AEA 7	FY 2018	\$21,212,160	\$282,242	\$21,494,402	\$3,602,608	\$4,022,457	\$ 0	\$ 2,693,827	\$ 309,662
	FY 2019	21,329,816	363,778	21,693,594	3,631,873	4,054,219	0	2,711,040	311,929
	FY 2020	21,753,609	313,801	22,067,410	3,693,183	4,121,177	0	2,742,562	315,541
	FY 2021	22,294,990	286,141	22,581,131	3,792,394	4,231,278	0	2,804,729	322,574
	FY 2022	22,530,547	313,420	22,843,967	3,813,610	4,253,671	30,001	2,827,575	325,282
	FY 2023	23,140,792	228,348	23,369,140	3,916,147	4,367,412	30,001	2,880,300	331,234
	FY 2024	23,813,783	120,712	23,934,495	4,021,446	4,483,647	30,001	2,947,977	339,319
Mississippi Bend AEA 9	FY 2018	\$15,914,515	\$108,309	\$16,022,824	\$2,729,825	\$2,978,997	\$ 0	\$ 1,439,998	\$ 169,146
	FY 2019	16,109,420	117,094	16,226,514	2,736,869	2,986,674	0	1,460,122	171,735
	FY 2020	16,393,925	92,300	16,486,225	2,785,027	3,039,522	30,002	1,489,330	175,009
	FY 2021	16,558,967	105,301	16,664,268	2,827,023	3,086,448	30,002	1,508,568	177,148
	FY 2022	16,581,260	266,428	16,847,688	2,848,125	3,110,132	30,002	1,526,906	179,239
	FY 2023	16,928,684	184,554	17,113,238	2,921,615	3,191,586	30,001	1,551,088	181,851
	FY 2024	17,350,789	103,802	17,454,591	2,988,923	3,266,212	0	1,594,669	187,087
Grant Wood AEA 10	FY 2018	\$22,606,646	\$146,912	\$22,753,558	\$4,031,643	\$4,429,489	\$ 0	\$ 2,118,773	\$ 246,698
	FY 2019	22,981,406	152,394	23,133,800	4,099,739	4,503,991	0	2,155,894	251,394
	FY 2020	23,496,380	154,292	23,650,672	4,175,112	4,586,606	0	2,208,774	257,356
	FY 2021	24,268,406	76,715	24,345,121	4,287,956	4,711,526	0	2,281,605	265,603
	FY 2022	24,467,819	171,389	24,639,208	4,333,746	4,762,114	0	2,314,048	269,450
	FY 2023	25,113,798	100,491	25,214,289	4,444,716	4,885,140	30,000	2,373,182	276,066
	FY 2024	25,932,153	80,473	26,012,626	4,580,882	5,035,582	30,001	2,456,867	286,050

Source: Department of Management, AEA Enrollment and Cost Data

Figure 20
Annual Expenditures for each AEA by Program (Continued)

AEA Name	Fiscal Year	Special Ed. Support	Special Ed. Adjust	Special Ed. Total Cost	Media Services	Education Services	Sharing Operations	Teacher Salary Supplement	Professional Development Supplement
Heartland AEA 11	FY 2018	\$43,332,981	\$126,084	\$43,459,065	\$7,890,175	\$8,661,791	\$ 0	\$ 3,584,221	\$ 455,281
	FY 2019	44,462,723	154,952	44,617,675	8,078,914	8,868,424	0	3,688,943	468,836
	FY 2020	46,090,207	98,798	46,189,005	8,328,245	9,141,912	0	3,838,198	486,275
	FY 2021	47,889,277	51,546	47,940,823	8,621,058	9,465,435	0	4,008,546	506,266
	FY 2022	48,582,953	208,892	48,791,845	8,741,961	9,598,898	0	4,095,924	516,617
	FY 2023	50,456,211	67,805	50,524,016	9,077,623	9,969,861	0	4,270,230	536,419
	FY 2024	52,548,033	23,368	52,571,401	9,430,082	10,358,799	0	4,475,270	561,231
Northwest AEA 12	FY 2018	\$13,461,652	\$ 80,797	\$13,542,449	\$2,438,607	\$2,736,268	\$ 0	\$ 1,357,262	\$ 162,325
	FY 2019	13,605,177	127,778	13,732,955	2,473,705	2,774,880	0	1,374,858	164,583
	FY 2020	14,007,546	102,435	14,109,981	2,539,400	2,847,268	0	1,411,765	168,811
	FY 2021	14,514,662	93,858	14,608,520	2,627,830	2,945,677	0	1,461,840	174,578
	FY 2022	14,689,937	105,693	14,795,630	2,657,148	2,977,335	30,000	1,483,936	177,163
	FY 2023	15,155,113	59,137	15,214,250	2,742,807	3,072,541	30,001	1,529,140	182,276
	FY 2024	15,581,675	31,999	15,613,674	2,825,990	3,164,474	30,001	1,570,341	187,192
Green Hills AEA 13	FY 2018	\$12,609,569	\$227,670	\$12,837,239	\$2,109,876	\$2,333,128	\$ 0	\$ 1,303,834	\$ 139,034
	FY 2019	12,753,738	198,527	12,952,265	2,122,563	2,346,843	0	1,314,948	140,607
	FY 2020	13,017,183	177,050	13,194,233	2,154,630	2,381,898	0	1,339,784	143,429
	FY 2021	13,312,123	173,201	13,485,324	2,202,406	2,434,857	30,001	1,371,583	146,986
	FY 2022	13,432,998	178,538	13,611,536	2,218,739	2,452,711	30,001	1,386,307	148,798
	FY 2023	13,777,070	83,363	13,860,433	2,274,728	2,514,787	30,001	1,417,195	152,387
	FY 2024	14,310,536	49,638	14,360,174	2,353,258	2,601,568	30,002	1,471,486	158,737
Great Prairie AEA 15	FY 2018	\$11,448,327	\$167,822	\$11,616,149	\$1,968,167	\$2,162,084	\$ 0	\$ 1,152,343	\$ 125,130
	FY 2019	11,466,814	200,097	11,666,911	1,970,295	2,164,283	0	1,158,163	125,992
	FY 2020	11,716,221	142,171	11,858,392	2,001,431	2,198,404	0	1,177,004	128,200
	FY 2021	11,960,247	130,458	12,090,705	2,031,113	2,231,473	30,001	1,203,799	131,212
	FY 2022	12,096,343	144,419	12,240,762	2,063,454	2,267,136	30,000	1,219,258	133,127
	FY 2023	12,398,858	86,612	12,485,470	2,113,603	2,322,760	30,001	1,247,183	136,296
	FY 2024	12,798,057	84,859	12,882,916	2,175,147	2,390,777	30,000	1,289,025	141,245

Source: Department of Management, AEA Enrollment and Cost Data

Appendix — Total Annual Budgets for each AEA

The total annual AEA budgets, budget reductions, and the amount contributed from State aid and property tax for each AEA are displayed in **Figure 21**. All FY 2024 budgets are above their FY 2018 level. The State aid portion of the funding has been relatively stable when compared to the portion being funded with property tax.

**Figure 21
Total Annual Budgets for each AEA**

<u>AEA Name</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Subtotal Budget</u>	<u>Prorata Reduction</u>	<u>Total Budget</u>	<u>State Aid</u>	<u>Property Tax</u>
Keystone AEA 1	FY 2018	\$ 15,110,865	\$ 1,596,490	\$ 13,514,375	\$ 7,043,191	\$ 6,471,184
	FY 2019	15,144,536	1,596,490	13,548,046	7,049,331	6,498,715
	FY 2020	15,338,311	1,596,490	13,741,821	7,256,135	6,485,686
	FY 2021	15,764,327	1,596,490	14,167,837	7,547,491	6,620,346
	FY 2022	15,942,710	1,596,490	14,346,220	7,696,441	6,649,779
	FY 2023	16,202,764	1,713,114	14,489,650	7,744,340	6,745,310
	FY 2024	16,651,097	2,094,923	14,556,174	7,664,312	6,891,862
Prairie Lakes AEA 8	FY 2018	\$ 15,544,278	\$ 1,701,309	\$ 13,842,969	\$ 7,447,923	\$ 6,395,046
	FY 2019	15,672,681	1,697,681	13,975,000	7,488,519	6,486,481
	FY 2020	15,945,892	1,697,682	14,248,210	7,681,682	6,566,528
	FY 2021	16,343,881	1,697,682	14,646,199	7,974,596	6,671,603
	FY 2022	16,607,956	1,697,682	14,910,274	8,154,628	6,755,646
	FY 2023	16,978,998	1,841,660	15,137,338	8,235,873	6,901,465
	FY 2024	17,439,883	2,227,501	15,212,382	8,172,796	7,039,586
Central Rivers AEA 7	FY 2018	\$ 32,122,956	\$ 3,147,744	\$ 28,975,212	\$ 16,394,743	\$ 12,580,469
	FY 2019	32,402,655	3,147,744	29,254,911	16,485,675	12,769,236
	FY 2020	32,939,873	3,147,744	29,792,129	16,869,181	12,922,948
	FY 2021	33,732,106	3,147,744	30,584,362	17,402,537	13,181,825
	FY 2022	34,094,106	3,147,744	30,946,362	17,650,403	13,295,959
	FY 2023	34,894,234	3,478,978	31,415,256	17,842,475	13,572,781
	FY 2024	35,756,885	4,134,155	31,622,730	17,817,550	13,805,180
Mississippi Bend AEA 9	FY 2018	\$ 23,340,790	\$ 2,291,412	\$ 21,049,378	\$ 11,825,821	\$ 9,223,557
	FY 2019	23,581,914	2,291,412	21,290,502	11,985,289	9,305,213
	FY 2020	24,005,115	2,291,412	21,713,703	12,276,551	9,437,152
	FY 2021	24,293,457	2,291,412	22,002,045	12,456,906	9,545,139
	FY 2022	24,542,092	2,291,412	22,250,680	12,503,545	9,747,135
	FY 2023	24,989,379	2,473,263	22,516,116	12,610,507	9,905,609
	FY 2024	25,491,482	3,008,239	22,483,243	12,451,056	10,032,187
Grant Wood AEA 10	FY 2018	\$ 33,580,161	\$ 2,906,326	\$ 30,673,835	\$ 17,343,783	\$ 13,330,052
	FY 2019	34,144,818	2,906,326	31,238,492	17,657,301	13,581,191
	FY 2020	34,878,520	2,906,326	31,972,194	18,137,720	13,834,474
	FY 2021	35,891,811	2,906,326	32,985,485	18,869,624	14,115,861
	FY 2022	36,318,566	2,906,326	33,412,240	19,073,915	14,338,325
	FY 2023	37,223,393	3,182,392	34,041,001	19,379,037	14,661,964
	FY 2024	38,402,008	3,820,494	34,581,514	19,506,268	15,075,246

Source: Department of Management, AEA Enrollment and Cost Data

**Figure 21
Total Annual Budgets for each AEA (Continued)**

<u>AEA Name</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Subtotal Budget</u>	<u>Prorata Reduction</u>	<u>Total Budget</u>	<u>State Aid</u>	<u>Property Tax</u>
Heartland AEA 11	FY 2018	\$64,050,533	\$5,144,672	\$58,905,861	\$34,030,912	\$24,874,949
	FY 2019	65,722,792	5,144,673	60,578,119	35,007,180	25,570,939
	FY 2020	67,983,635	5,144,672	62,838,963	36,502,342	26,336,621
	FY 2021	70,542,128	5,144,672	65,397,456	38,210,038	27,187,418
	FY 2022	71,745,245	5,144,672	66,600,573	38,868,838	27,731,735
	FY 2023	74,378,149	5,681,091	68,697,058	39,980,789	28,716,269
	FY 2024	77,396,783	6,768,337	70,628,446	40,838,071	29,790,375
Northwest AEA 12	FY 2018	\$20,236,911	\$1,925,480	\$18,311,431	\$9,975,844	\$8,335,587
	FY 2019	20,520,981	1,929,107	18,591,874	10,091,081	8,500,793
	FY 2020	21,077,225	1,929,107	19,148,118	10,456,189	8,691,929
	FY 2021	21,818,445	1,929,107	19,889,338	10,932,951	8,956,387
	FY 2022	22,121,212	1,929,107	20,192,105	11,128,664	9,063,441
	FY 2023	22,771,015	2,111,383	20,659,632	11,351,511	9,308,121
	FY 2024	23,391,672	2,531,689	20,859,983	11,329,342	9,530,641
Green Hills AEA 13	FY 2018	\$18,723,111	\$1,959,289	\$16,763,822	\$9,426,609	\$7,337,213
	FY 2019	18,877,226	1,959,289	16,917,937	9,539,594	7,378,343
	FY 2020	19,213,974	1,959,289	17,254,685	9,783,517	7,471,168
	FY 2021	19,671,157	1,959,289	17,711,868	10,097,877	7,613,991
	FY 2022	19,848,092	1,959,289	17,888,803	10,216,157	7,672,646
	FY 2023	20,249,531	2,111,676	18,137,855	10,359,793	7,778,062
	FY 2024	20,975,225	2,572,196	18,403,029	10,395,097	8,007,932
Great Prairie AEA 15	FY 2018	\$17,023,873	\$1,827,278	\$15,196,595	\$8,559,641	\$6,636,954
	FY 2019	17,085,644	1,827,278	15,258,366	8,568,074	6,690,292
	FY 2020	17,363,431	1,827,278	15,536,153	8,793,601	6,742,552
	FY 2021	17,718,303	1,827,278	15,891,025	9,060,153	6,830,872
	FY 2022	17,953,737	1,827,278	16,126,459	9,189,698	6,936,761
	FY 2023	18,335,313	1,963,574	16,371,739	9,314,137	7,057,602
	FY 2024	18,909,110	2,399,597	16,509,513	9,252,847	7,256,666

Source: Department of Management, AEA Enrollment and Cost Data

Appendix — AEA Fund Balance Comparison FY 2016 — FY 2024

The fund balances for each AEA for each year from FY 2016 through budgeted FY 2024 are displayed in **Figure 22**. The total fund balances for all AEAs increased from FY 2016 (\$43.1 million) through FY 2022 (\$85.3 million) before starting to decline to an estimated \$64.1 million for budgeted FY 2024. When comparing FY 2016 to budgeted FY 2024 for each AEA, the Grant Wood AEA has the largest estimated decline of \$3.6 million in overall fund balances and the Mississippi Bend AEA has the largest estimated increase of \$10.6 million increasing from a deficit of \$1.6 million to a positive balance of \$9.0 million.

**Figure 22
Fund Balance Comparison FY 2016 — FY 2024**

Fiscal Year	Keystone	Prairie Lakes	Central Rivers	Mississippi Bend	Grant Wood	Heartland	Northwest	Green Hills	Great Prairie
2016	\$ 1,928,842	\$ 2,327,546	\$ 6,361,473	\$ -1,564,937	\$ 10,926,939	\$ 12,045,092	\$ 3,847,426	\$ 3,596,322	\$ 3,661,448
2017	2,122,239	3,197,830	7,895,245	-4,656,460	9,563,640	12,330,777	4,087,574	3,868,926	3,402,363
2018	2,635,651	3,518,162	8,946,200	-4,181,634	9,028,729	13,480,657	5,001,982	4,452,384	3,503,260
2019	2,444,170	4,438,908	10,075,660	-1,225,945	9,088,937	14,237,347	6,142,573	4,074,010	3,766,163
2020	2,396,868	4,367,341	11,392,557	2,565,658	10,083,519	14,213,376	7,385,460	4,389,185	4,301,746
2021	3,383,043	5,296,891	13,467,651	5,966,484	13,095,979	14,508,502	9,075,307	4,099,702	4,964,277
2022	4,077,227	6,204,163	16,472,328	9,045,266	15,133,625	16,576,519	6,916,008	4,697,982	6,193,816
2023 Reestimated	2,956,420	6,204,163	11,729,807	12,535,474	12,502,345	14,569,176	5,186,527	4,328,814	6,675,263
2024 Budgeted	1,956,038	6,204,163	11,326,997	9,008,985	7,381,936	13,664,941	4,661,766	2,785,852	7,117,675

*Fund Balances do not include Permanent Funds; Internal Service Funds; Private-Purpose, Pension and Investment Trust Funds; and Custodial Funds.
Source: Iowa State Board of Education, FY 2024 Annual Budget Approval Executive Summary

Appendix — AEA Expenditures and Fund Balance Comparisons FY 2024

The expenditures and fund balance comparisons for each AEA for budgeted FY 2024 are displayed in **Figure 23**. The Great Prairie AEA has the largest estimated fund balance to budgeted expenditures ratio at 23.7% and the highest budgeted fund balance per pupil at \$203. The Keystone AEA has the smallest estimated fund balance to budgeted expenditures ratio at 7.0% and the lowest budgeted fund balance per pupil at \$62.

**Figure 23
Expenditures and Fund Balance Comparisons FY 2024**

Description	Keystone 9201	Prairie Lakes 9205	Central Rivers 9207	Mississippi Bend 9209	Grant Wood 9210	Heartland 9211	Northwest 9212	Green Hills 9213	Great Prairie 9215
FY24 Expenditures & Other Financing Uses Estimated	\$27,912,007	\$ 28,600,790	\$ 61,909,623	\$ 47,360,931	\$ 70,019,057	\$ 120,029,835	\$ 38,347,854	\$ 38,125,313	\$ 29,977,087
Fund Balance to Budgeted Expenditures Ratio	7.01%	21.69%	18.30%	19.02%	10.54%	11.38%	12.16%	7.31%	23.74%
Certified Enrollment (Media/Ed. Served)	31,540	31,989	64,374	48,224	73,695	152,000	45,252	37,852	35,004
Budgeted Expenditures per pupil	\$ 885	\$ 894	\$ 962	\$ 982	\$ 950	\$ 790	\$ 847	\$ 1,007	\$ 856
Budgeted Fund Balance per pupil	\$ 62	\$ 194	\$ 176	\$ 187	\$ 100	\$ 90	\$ 103	\$ 74	\$ 203

Source: Iowa State Board of Education, FY 2024 Annual Budget Approval Executive Summary