
BUDGET UNIT BRIEF – FY 2021

Fiscal Services Division

July 1, 2020



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

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Iowa Corrections Offender Network

Purpose and History

The Department of Corrections (DOC) receives appropriations for the Iowa Corrections Offender Network (ICON). The ICON is an electronic offender management system for staff in the corrections system. The DOC Central Office, institutions, and Community-Based Corrections (CBC) update offender information. Ten modules are available within ICON: offender case management, medical/mental health, View (intelligence system), dietary, commissary, grievance, pharmacy, banking, critical incident reporting, and O'mail (offender electronic mail). The ICON data is also used for research and for the evaluation of program effectiveness. The data is shared with various agencies across Iowa to enhance public safety.

Programming

The ICON System functionality includes:

- Offenders use computer kiosks tied into the ICON to manage their O'mail, banking, and commissary orders in the institutions. They can manage their telephone contacts and transfer funds between their accounts. An electronic law library component is available on the kiosks; offenders can conduct legal research and request legal documents to be printed through the Iowa Prison Industries link.
- Kiosks are also available to offenders under CBC supervision. Offenders can complete required forms electronically and contact their parole or probation officer. Offenders may also sign in for scheduled office appointments and submit monthly report forms. All transactions that occur using kiosks are time and date stamped in the ICON.
- Risk and needs assessment tools are available in ICON, including the Dynamic Risk Assessment for Offender Re-entry (DRAOR) and the Iowa Risk Revised (IRR). Both assist in developing offender case plans, levels of supervision, and treatment programs. Automated scoring saves staff time and improves accuracy.
- Personal digital assistants (PDAs) are in use in the institutions to provide mobile updates to ICON, such as offender population counts. A mobile application has been designed and is in use in the CBC District Departments, allowing supervising agents to update ICON without returning to their offices.
- Iowa State Patrol troopers and local law enforcement officers can access ICON to determine if the person they stopped has data in ICON or if that person is on probation or parole.
- The DOC has used ICON for data exchanges with the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) for the development and implementation of the State Sex Offender Registry, a CJIS statewide crime code table to be used by the entire criminal justice community, and CJIS electronic presentence investigations.

More Information

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The DOC worked with the Board of Parole (BOP) to integrate to a single-system platform. The goal is to integrate seamlessly with ICON so the BOP and staff can end duplication and reduce paper. The BOP members can review dockets and record decisions directly in the ICON. Decisions are automatically emailed to the assigned case manager and designated staff. Registered victims receive letters of notification of hearings and decisions generated from the ICON. The ICON is also used in the BOP's revocation process and any appeal process.

Funding

A General Fund appropriation is made in the Justice System Appropriations Subcommittee budget bill for the ICON. These funds are used for ongoing system maintenance, enhancements and upgrades, continued data exchanges with CJIS, and additional modules to enhance offender management.

Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code chapter [904](#)

Iowa Administrative Code [201](#)

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