
BUDGET UNIT BRIEF – FY 2023

Fiscal Services Division

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Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

DOC Institutional Pharmaceuticals

Background and History

Prior to FY 2008, each of the nine Department of Corrections (DOC) institutions had its own budget for pharmaceuticals. In FY 2008, the General Assembly transferred approximately \$6.9 million from eight of the institutions to the Iowa Medical and Classification Center (IMCC) at Oakdale to create a centralized pharmacy, primarily as a cost-containment effort. From FY 2008 to FY 2022, the funding for departmentwide institutional pharmaceuticals was included in the appropriation to the IMCC, and the IMCC oversaw this budget. All invoices for medication purchases at other pharmacy locations were processed by the IMCC and paid from this transferred funding. In FY 2023, the General Assembly separated the DOC pharmaceuticals funding from the appropriation to the IMCC, and the DOC departmentwide institutional pharmaceuticals received its own appropriation for approximately \$8.6 million. This appropriation was separated from the IMCC appropriation to reduce the strain on the IMCC's budget caused by including statewide pharmaceutical costs.

Purpose

The DOC institutional pharmaceuticals appropriation funds the cost of pharmaceuticals, including drugs and biologicals, provided to individuals incarcerated in the DOC institutions. All nine institutions are served by two DOC central pharmacy locations. These full-service central pharmacies are located at the IMCC and the Iowa Correctional Institution for Women (ICIW) at Mitchellville. Pharmaceutical costs are not necessarily stable year to year since costs vary based on the medical conditions of the individuals who are incarcerated. The DOC purchases medications under contract and utilizes a government buying group in order to lower costs.

Funding

A General Fund appropriation for the DOC departmentwide institutional pharmaceuticals is provided in the Justice System Appropriations Subcommittee budget bill.

Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code chapter [904](#)

Iowa Administrative Code [201](#)

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More Information

Department of Corrections: doc.iowa.gov

LSA Staff Contact: Isabel Waller (515.281.6561) isabel.waller@legis.iowa.gov