
BUDGET UNIT BRIEF – FY 2025

Fiscal Services Division

July 1, 2024



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

Midwestern Higher Education Compact

Overview

The Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC) provides higher education opportunities and services in the midwestern region of the U.S., with the aim of furthering regional access to, research in, and choice of higher education for the citizens residing in the states that are parties to the Compact. The MHEC was founded in 1991 and serves Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

The main function of the MHEC is to provide research, training, and cost-saving programs to public and private institutions in member states. Cost-saving programs include contracting services that are provided to institutions in member states at a discount in the areas of technology, property insurance, and health care benefits. These programs can also be used by K-12 districts and schools, state and local governments, and nonprofit entities.

The MHEC established a commission that is responsible for implementing the Compact's mission. The commission consists of five resident members of each state: the Governor or the Governor's designee; two legislators, one from each house (except Nebraska, which may appoint two legislators from its unicameral legislature), to serve two-year terms and be appointed by the appropriate appointing authority in each house of the legislature; and two other at-large members, with at least one selected from the field of higher education. One of the two at-large members initially appointed in each state serves a two-year term. The other, and any regularly appointed successor to either at-large member, serves a four-year term.

Funding

Each member state provides funding to the MHEC. The Compact is also funded through program income and foundation grants. Iowa became a member of the MHEC in FY 2006. The Department of Education receives a General Fund appropriation of \$115,000 that covers the annual cost for Iowa's membership in the MHEC.

Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code chapter [261D](#)

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More Information

Midwestern Higher Education Compact: www.mhec.org
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