

Budget Unit Brief

FY 2017



Budget Unit: Eldora Training School

Background

The [State Training School at Eldora](#) is managed by the Department of Human Services. The School provides treatment and educational services within a highly-structured setting to assist youth that are adjudicated delinquent. The School has 130 residential beds on a campus consisting of 36 buildings on 361.2 acres.

Population Served

The School provides treatment and educational services to delinquent boys between the ages of 12 and 18 years. In FY 2015, 315 youth were served, including 145 admissions and 142 discharges. The average daily census was 116. Additionally, 55 court-ordered, 30-day diagnostic evaluations were completed. The average boy at the School has had seven prior placements, is 16.60 years of age, and has special education needs. The percentage of Eldora Training School youth needing psychotropic medications has increased consistently, from 33.0% requiring psychotropic medications in FY 2009 to 52.0% in FY 2015. The average stay is 10 months.

Services Provided

The School provides a variety of educational, vocational, and health services, including:

- Comprehensive residential treatment program available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This program provides a variety of educational, psychological, psychiatric, and behavioral programs.
- Specialized treatment services to sex offender youth and intensive substance abuse treatment.
- General Education Diploma (GED), high school, and college credits. The Honors Corps is comprised of the top 10.0% of the student body and provides students with a forum for leadership and achievement.
- Vocational certifications in welding and other crafts. The Baker Careers Program provides an opportunity to learn the food service industry. Students in the Program provide 95.0% of the desserts and 33.0% of the bread and rolls for the menu at the School.
- Treatment includes anger management, gang diversion, basic social skills, and behavior modification.
- Specialized evaluation services for juvenile court officers and judges.

Funding

The Eldora State Training School General Fund appropriation is included in the Health and Human Services Appropriations Act. The General Fund appropriation to the School has averaged \$10.9 million annually for the five-year period from FY 2011 to FY 2015. State General Fund dollars make up approximately 80.0% of the School's annual budget. The per diem rate per child in FY 2015 was \$288. This number represents a \$60 increase from FY 2012. The cost per episode in FY 2015 was \$38,659.

Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code chapters [218](#) and [233A](#)
[441](#) Iowa Administrative Code chapter [103](#)

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More Information

Department of Human Services: www.dhs.iowa.gov

Iowa General Assembly: www.legis.iowa.gov

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