
BUDGET UNIT BRIEF – FY 2021

Fiscal Services Division

July 1, 2020



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

Court-Ordered Environmental Crime Fines

Purpose

The Attorney General is charged with enforcement of Iowa Code chapters 455B, 459 (subchapters I, II, III, IV, and VI), 459A, and 459B. The Office of the Attorney General may institute civil or criminal proceedings, including an action for injunction, to enforce these provisions of Iowa law. The Court-Ordered Environmental Crime Fines Fund is created in Iowa Code section 455B.112A under the administration of the Attorney General. This restricted Fund is used for the investigation and prosecution of environmental crimes, including reimbursement of expenses incurred by local government agencies that cooperate with the Attorney General's Office in the investigation and prosecution of environmental crimes.

Funding

Receipts to the Fund include court-ordered fines and restitution awarded to the Office of the Attorney General as part of a judgment in an environmental crime case. Iowa law provides a standing limited appropriation of not more than \$20,000 annually from the Fund to the Office of the Attorney General for the investigation and prosecution of environmental crimes. Any receipt of fines and restitution in excess of \$20,000 is deposited in the State General Fund. The year-end balance carries forward to the next fiscal year. Interest earnings remain in the Fund.

Receipts vary significantly from year to year, with FY 2010 and FY 2013 receipts at zero, FY 2011 and FY 2012 receipts at the codified cap of \$20,000 annually, and FY 2015 receipts at \$9,005. The amount of interest earned is negligible. The balance brought forward in FY 2016 and FY 2017 was \$16,516 and \$16,610 respectively. There were no expenditures from the Fund in FY 2015, FY 2016, or FY 2017. For FY 2011 and FY 2012, expenditures reached the codified cap of \$20,000 for reimbursements to the Office of the Attorney General.

Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code chapters [13](#), [455B](#), [459 subchapters I, II, III, IV, and VI](#), [459A](#), and [459B](#)
Iowa Administrative Code [61](#)

Budget Unit Number

11200000251

1128340

More Information

Office of the Attorney General: www.iowaattorneygeneral.gov
LSA Staff Contact: Laura Book (515.725.0509) laura.book@legis.iowa.gov