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Corrections Education

Purpose

The Department of Corrections (DOC) receives an appropriation for corrections education to fund Iowa Code section 904.516. The DOC Central Office contracts with local community colleges to provide professors to the institutions to allow opportunities for offenders to earn a High School Equivalency Diploma (HiSET), achieve adult literacy, and receive adult basic education while incarcerated. The DOC Central Office also contracts with Area Education Agencies (AEAs) to provide special education staff as needed.

The Department of Corrections receives federal pass-through funds from the Department of Education (DE) for the institution-based educational programs. The funds from the DE provide remedial education in reading and math for offenders under age 21 who do not have a high school diploma or its equivalent, and function at or below a sixth-grade education level.

Funding

A General Fund appropriation for corrections education is provided in the Justice System Appropriations Subcommittee budget bill. Language in the appropriations budget bill permits unused funds to be carried forward to the next fiscal year, with the restriction that the carryforward balance must be used for corrections education.

The General Fund appropriation is combined with Inmate Telephone Fund allocations as approved by the Board of Corrections. The DOC may also allocate money from the institution's canteen funds or Iowa State Industries Revolving Fund for education, as provided in the budget bill.

Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code section 904.516
Iowa Code chapters 259A and 904
Iowa Administrative Code 201

Budget Unit Numbers

2380A260001

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More Information

Department of Corrections: doc.iowa.gov
Department of Education: educateiowa.gov
LSA Staff Contact: Isabel Waller (515.281.6561) isabel.waller@legis.iowa.gov