
BUDGET UNIT BRIEF – FY 2024

Fiscal Services Division

July 1, 2023



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

University of Iowa — Iowa Flood Center

Purpose

In June 2008, major flooding caused an estimated \$10.000 billion in damage statewide, affected the University of Iowa Campus, and led to the declaration of 85 of Iowa's 99 counties as federal disaster areas. Following this flooding, the State of Iowa established the Iowa Flood Center (IFC) in spring 2009. The IFC is an academic research center at the University of Iowa that focuses on hydraulics, hydrology, fluid mechanics, environmental science, and water sustainability in Iowa. The Center is actively engaged in flood projects in several Iowa communities and employs graduate and undergraduate students participating in flood-related research. Center researchers:

- Have designed a cost-efficient sensor network to better monitor stream flow in the State, using nearly 250 stream and river sensors.
- Have developed a library of flood inundation maps for several Iowa communities.
- Completed new floodplain maps for all of Iowa's 99 counties in 2016.
- Maintain the publicly available [Iowa Flood Information System](#), which provides real-time information on stream levels, flood alerts and forecasts, and hydraulic conditions for the entire State.

Funding

The IFC is funded through a General Fund appropriation made in the Education Appropriations Subcommittee. The IFC was awarded \$1.0 million to expand flood and drought monitoring, watershed management, and forecasting services in eastern Iowa through federal Community Project funding. This award builds on the \$97.0 million [Iowa Watershed Approach](#) program, funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, which focuses on implementing projects in upstream areas to reduce flooding downstream.

Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code chapter [466C](#)

Iowa Administrative Code [681—12](#)

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More Information

Iowa Flood Center: iowafloodcenter.org

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