
BUDGET UNIT BRIEF – FY 2024

Fiscal Services Division

July 1, 2023



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

Volunteer Fire Fighter Training and Equipment

Purpose and History

The Fire Service Training Bureau, operated by the State Fire Marshal, a division of the Department of Public Safety (DPS), provides basic training to all fire departments in the State. Iowa Code section [55.2](#) provides volunteer fire fighters employed by the State with job protection when responding to fire calls. Iowa Code section [100B.14](#) provides volunteer fire fighters with protection by prohibiting a public or private employer from terminating the employment of an employee for joining a volunteer emergency services unit or organization.

Minimum training standards apply to both volunteer and career fire fighters. The majority of training is available at no cost to most volunteer fire fighters. Funds are appropriated from the General Assembly and are used to provide training by the DPS to volunteer fire departments upon request.

Funding

The majority of funding for volunteer fire fighter training and equipment originates from General Fund appropriations to the DPS. Additional funding for training and equipment is received from the following funds:

- The Paul Ryan Memorial Fire Fighter Safety Training Fund, established in Iowa Code section [100B.12](#), receives limited funding from a fee associated with special fire fighter license plates.
- The Volunteer Fire Fighter Preparedness Fund, established in Iowa Code section [100B.13](#), receives limited funding from the State income tax checkoff for fire fighters, as well as gifts, bequests, and donations.
- The Fire Fighting Equipment Revolving Loan Fund, established in [661 IAC 259](#), provides interest-free loans of up to \$150,000 to local fire departments for the purchase of equipment.

Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code chapters [80](#) and [100B](#)

Iowa Code section [55.2](#)

Iowa Administrative Code [661](#)

Budget Unit Number

59502R10001

1367123

More Information

Department of Public Safety — Fire Service Training Bureau:

dps.iowa.gov/state-fire-marshal/fire-service-training

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