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## BUDGET UNIT BRIEF – FY 2019

Fiscal Services Division

August 31, 2018



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Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

## Newsline for the Blind

### Newsline for the Blind

Newsline for the Blind is a subscription service administered by the National Federation of the Blind (NFB) and known as NFB-NEWSLINE. The service provides toll-free daily access to newspapers and magazines over the telephone.

Blind and visually impaired individuals have access over the telephone to the following:

- More than 320 daily newspapers including the *Burlington Hawk Eye*, *Cedar Rapids Gazette*, *Des Moines Register*, *Dubuque Telegraph Herald*, *Iowa City Press Citizen*, *Iowa Shopping Cart*, *Mason City Globe-Gazette*, *Quad City Times*, *Sioux City Journal*, and *Waterloo Courier*.
- Iowa Information Channel.
- Monthly consumer bulletins from the Iowa Attorney General's Office.
- Several magazines.
- Up-to-the-minute feeds from the Associated Press.
- TV listings.
- Job searching.
- Weekly Target ads.

### Iowa Radio Reading Information Service (IRIS)

The Iowa Radio Reading Information Service (IRIS) is a free news and information service that broadcasts 24 hours a day, every day of the year to thousands of listeners throughout Iowa. Each day, volunteers in seven locations across the State read aloud from local newspapers.

The IRIS broadcasts readings from current newspapers and magazines, including the following:

- *The Wall Street Journal*
- *The New York Times*
- *People*
- *Sports Illustrated*

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### More Information

Iowa Department for the Blind: [blind.iowa.gov](http://blind.iowa.gov)

National Federation of the Blind--NEWSLINE: [www.nfb.org/nfbnewsline](http://www.nfb.org/nfbnewsline)

Iowa Radio Reading Information Service: [www.iowaradioreading.org](http://www.iowaradioreading.org)

LSA Staff Contact: Robin Madison (515.281.5270) [robin.madison@legis.iowa.gov](mailto:robin.madison@legis.iowa.gov)

- *Reader's Digest*

**Funding**

This program has not been funded since FY 2017. Previously, the Department for the Blind received a \$52,000 General Fund appropriation to subscribe to these services. The Department briefly subsidized the subscription out of its Gift and Bequests Fund, but community groups are now providing funding for the subscription.

**Related Statutes and Administrative Rules**

Iowa Code chapter [216B](#)

Iowa Administrative Code [111](#)

**Budget Unit Number**

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