

**Iowa College Student Aid Commission**

**Federal and State  
Work-Study Summary and Status**

**January 2008**



**200 10TH ST, FL 4TH • Des Moines, IA 50309-3609**  
**Phone: 800-383-4222 • Fax: 515-725-3401 • Email: [info@iowacollegeaid.gov](mailto:info@iowacollegeaid.gov)**

IOWA COLLEGE STUDENT AID COMMISSION  
Work-Study Summary and Status  
February 13, 2008

This report provides background information about Iowa and Federal Work-Study appropriations and awards as well as a comparison between the number of students who indicated an interest in work-study funds and those who received assistance in FY 2007. The report includes a summary of work-study as it contributes to student learning.

### Background

The Iowa Work-Study program was established in 1987 to promote part-time employment of eligible students attending Iowa colleges and universities. The program was patterned after the Federal Work-Study Program that assists students with financial aid, while providing practical on-the-job experience.

The Iowa Work-Study Program is a standing-limited appropriation of \$2.75 million, with a required 20% match from colleges and universities where students receive assistance.

The highest level of appropriation on record was \$3,085,584, which provided 4,995 awards in FY 1991. Table 1 shows the history from 1990 to the present. After FY 2001, the Iowa appropriation was discontinued when state officials received information indicating that the federal appropriation was expected to provide a substantial increase in assistance. Unfortunately, the anticipated level of Federal assistance did not take place, and Iowa experienced a loss of nearly 3,500 positions. The decline has continued and in 2006-07, there was a decline of 5,488 Work-Study jobs from the 2000-01 level, which is a reduction of 28%. Table 2 shows the number served at in Iowa higher education sector and the annual change since 2000 - 01.

Table 1  
Historical Iowa Work Study  
Appropriations and Students Served

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Iowa Work-Study Awards</u>	<u>Iowa Appropriations</u>	
1990	5,126	3,000,000	
1991	4,995	3,085,684	
1992	5,050	2,976,542	
1993	4,686	2,898,840	
1994	4,951	2,898,840	
1995	4,803	2,898,840	
1996	4,974	2,950,000	
1997	4,954	2,950,000	
1998	4,555	2,950,000	
1999	4,579	2,950,000	
2000	4,315	2,950,000	
2001	4,308	2,750,000	
2002	-	-	
2003	-	-	
2004	-	-	
2005	-	-	
2006	220	140,000	
2007	182	140,000	
2008	384	295,000	Estimated

Table 2  
Historical Number of Iowa Students  
Served by Federal and State Work-Study Programs

<u>Academic Year</u>	<u>Regent Universities</u>	<u>4-Year Independent Colleges and Universities</u>	<u>Community Colleges</u>	<u>2-Year Independent</u>	<u>Proprietary</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Change from 2000-01</u>
2000-01	5,379	10,074	3,438	623	127	19,641	
2001-02 <sup>1</sup>	3,692	9,973	2,266	128	89	16,148	(3,493)
2002-03 <sup>1</sup>	4,004	9,873	2,506	127	93	16,603	(3,038)
2003-04 <sup>1</sup>	3,084	9,976	2,573	161	104	15,898	(3,745)
2004-05 <sup>1</sup>	3,861	8,525	2,522	115	207	15,230	(4,411)
2005-06	4,090	8,488	2,208	14	175	14,975	(4,666)
2006-07	4,483	7,687	1,898	-	85 <sup>2</sup>	14,153	(5,488)

(1) No Iowa Work-Study appropriation.

(2) Proprietary data are preliminary and subject to revision

## Student Requests for Work-Study Opportunities

Students indicate their interest in work-study assistance on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The following analysis compared totals for those who indicated an interest in work-study versus the first-choice college or university. Based on the number of applicants who indicated an interest, vs. those who received assistance, 18% received work-study assistance at Regent universities, while 45% received assistance at Independent colleges and universities. Approximately 7% received assistance at community colleges and 3% received assistance at proprietary colleges and universities. Proprietary college and university data for 2006–07 are subject to revision as staff continue to work with the colleges to ensure the accuracy of the data.

Table 3  
Federal and State Work-Study  
Applications and Awards  
FY 2007

	<u>Applicants</u>	<u>Awards</u>	<u>Percent Awards</u>
Regent Universities	25,547	4,483	17.6%
Independent Colleges and Universities	17,221	7,687	44.6%
Community Colleges	28,781	1,898	6.6%
Proprietary Colleges and Universities	2,687	85 <sup>1</sup>	3.2%
Total	74,236	14,153	19.1%

(1) Proprietary data are preliminary and subject to revision

The percent of applicants receiving aid declined from 27% in 2001-02 to 19.1% in 2006-07.

With an average award of \$1,066 in 2005, including Federal and State assistance, it is estimated that a typical award would have supported approximately 5% of the typical tuition and fees, and approximately 17% of the typical debt accumulated by those who use debt.

## Work-Study as an Academic Tool

Advocates for work-study financial aid assistance often suggest that there is a positive relationship between part-time, on-campus work, and academic success. Following are highlights of the findings that suggest positive outcomes.

- Part-time on-campus employment has been found to be related to:
  - Higher grade-point average,
  - Faster degree completion,
  - Self-reported cognitive and affective growth.
- Grades improved for:
  - On-campus work up to 20 hours per week (4 hours per day),
  - Grades declined for those working more than 20 hours per week.
- Full-time (approximately 40 hours per week) employment was negatively associated with high GPA, preparation for graduate school and graduation with honors.
- The positive relationship between work and college success depends on whether the work is on-campus and whether it is full-time or part-time.
- On-campus research work likely increases a student's interest in further academic programs.
- On-campus work improves future job prospects.
- On-campus work supplants non-productive activities like watching television.

### Legislative Contacts:

Karen Misjak  
Executive Director

Dr. Keith Greiner  
Research Director/Legislative Liaison

Julie Leeper  
Director of Program Administration

Iowa College Student Aid Commission  
200 10<sup>th</sup> Street, 4th Floor  
Des Moines, IA 50309  
(515) 725-3400