

**281—98.23 (256D,257) Iowa early intervention block grant.** Beginning with the fiscal year 2009-2010, the Iowa early intervention block grant program is converted from a grants-in-aid categorical funding to a budgetary allocation categorical funding. The program's goals for kindergarten through grade 3 are to provide the resources needed to reduce class sizes in basic skills instruction to the state goal of 17 students for every one teacher; provide direction and resources for early intervention efforts by school districts to achieve a higher level of student success in the basic skills, especially reading skills; and increase communication and accountability regarding student performance.

**98.23(1) *Appropriate uses of categorical funding.*** Appropriate uses of the Iowa early intervention block grant funding include providing programs, instructional support, and materials at the kindergarten through grade 3 level that include but are not limited to the following:

- a.* Additional licensed instructional staff;
- b.* Additional support for students, such as before- and after-school programs, tutoring, and intensive summer programs;
- c.* The acquisition and administration of diagnostic reading assessments;
- d.* The implementation of research-based instructional intervention programs for students needing additional support;
- e.* The implementation of all-day, everyday kindergarten programs; and
- f.* The provision of intensive training programs to classroom teachers to improve reading instruction and professional development in best practices.

**98.23(2) *Inappropriate uses of categorical funding.*** Inappropriate uses of the Iowa early intervention block grant program funding include, but are not limited to, indirect costs or use charges, operational or maintenance costs, capital expenditures other than equipment, student transportation, or administrative costs.

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