
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

August 18, 2026



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING — JULY 2026

Board Meeting. The Board of Regents (BOR) met on July 29, 2026, at the Board of Regents Office in Urbandale. The full meeting agenda is available on the BOR's [website](#).

Evaluations. The BOR entered a closed session to evaluate the performance of the three university presidents and the BOR Executive Director Mark Braun. The Board extended the University of Iowa (SUI) President Barbara Wilson's employment agreement for two additional years, expiring June 30, 2030. The extension included a \$50,000 (6.0%) retroactive salary increase to July 1, 2026, which brings her new base salary to \$875,000.

Center for Intellectual Freedom. The BOR Executive Director Mark Braun provided updates to the BOR for the SUI Center for Intellectual Freedom (CIF). The CIF was established in 2025 Iowa Acts, chapter [163](#) (Academic Center, Center of Intellectual Freedom Act).

The Board of Regents approved a three-member CIF Committee to provide oversight of the CIF. The CIF Interim Director, Professor Luciano I. de Castro, reports directly to this committee. The committee includes Regents Christine Hensley, Robert Cramer, and Steve Lacy.

CyTown Update. Iowa State University counsel Michael Norton provided an update on the [CyTown development](#).

FY 2027 Budgets. Brad Berg with the BOR and the three university presidents provided updates on each university and approved a \$9.368 billion FY 2027 [General Operating and Restricted Budget](#).

Figure 1 outlines the FY 2027 Regents General Operating and Restricted Budget approved during the meeting. The BOR indicated a desire to revisit the budget at a future meeting.

Figure 1 — FY 2027 Regents General Operating and Restricted Budget (in Millions)

Budget Category	SUI	ISU	UNI	Total
General Education — Operating	\$ 893.2	\$ 844.5	\$171.4	\$1,909.1
Special Purpose — Operating	25.3	11.0	6.1	42.4
UIHC Units — Operating*	3,524.4	0.0	0.0	3,524.4
Restricted	2,753.9	961.6	177.1	3,892.6
Total Budget	\$7,196.8	\$1,817.1	\$354.6	\$9,368.5

*The UIHC Units — Operating budget includes University of Iowa Health Care, Psychiatric Hospital, Center for Disabilities and Development, and Specialized Child Health Services.

Next Meeting. The next BOR meeting is scheduled for September 16 and 17, 2026, at the University of Northern Iowa.

LSA Staff Contact: Michael Peters (515.281.6934) michael.peters@legis.iowa.gov

Doc ID 1611874