



Iowa Department of Human Services

Terry E. Branstad
Governor

Kim Reynolds
Lt. Governor

Charles M. Palmer
Director

December 31, 2011

Michael Marshall
Secretary of the Senate
State Capitol Building
LOCAL

Charlie Smithson
Chief Clerk of the House
State Capitol Building
LOCAL

Dear Mr. Marshall and Mr. Smithson:

Enclosed please find the Annual Report on the activities in 2011 for the Iowa Individual Assistance Grant Program.

This report was prepared for the Government Oversight Committee and Fiscal Committee in accordance with Code of Iowa Chapter 29C.20A(4).

This report is also available on the Department of Human Services website at <http://www.dhs.iowa.gov/Partners/Reports/LegislativeReports/LegisReports.html>.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Davis Harbison
Policy Advisor

Enclosure

cc: Governor Terry E. Branstad
Senator Thomas Courtney
Senator Robert Dvorsky
Representative Chris Hagenow
Representative Scott Raecker
Legislative Services Agency
Kris Bell, Senate Majority Staff
Josh Bronsink, Senate Minority Staff
Brad Trow, House Majority Staff
Zeke Furlong, House Minority Staff

2011 Annual Report

Iowa Disaster Aid Individual Assistance

During the 2007 Session, the Iowa General Assembly passed two bills creating a reimbursement based grant assistance program to assist Iowans during times of disaster. Senate File 305 created the Iowa Individual Assistance Grant Program (IIAGP) on a short-term emergency basis while House File 896 established the program as a permanent part of the Code of Iowa. The program was further amended during the 2008 Session to increase the eligibility limits and the maximum award amount.

This legislation created a disaster aid individual assistance fund for the use of the executive council. Grants may be provided to qualifying individuals and families following a Governor's Disaster Proclamation. The fund may be used to make financial grants of up to \$1 million in a fiscal year and may be increased if the need exists. The Iowa Department of Human Services administers the fund. Grants are provided to individuals or families as reimbursement for expenditures incurred related to the disaster event. Reimbursement grants are capped at \$5,000.00 per household. Specifics on the program can be found in the Iowa Administrative Code, Section 441, Chapter 58.

To be eligible for assistance, an individual must have a self-declared annual income that is less than 200 percent of the federal poverty guideline. The income eligibility limit for a single person is presently \$21,780. For families, the household income must be less than 200 percent of the federal poverty level based on the number of members in the household. For a family of four the income figure is \$44,700.

In the last six months of FY 2011, Governor Branstad signed three Disaster Emergency Proclamations that activated IIAGP, as well as completing a previously signed declaration from the first six months of FY 2011. For the remainder of calendar year 2011, the IIAGP was activated four additional times with 174 applications qualifying for assistance. The average reimbursement grant provided for all 2011 calendar year events was \$2,581.05. A total of \$939,500.60 of state-only dollars was provided in grant assistance to Iowans during these events.

For the eight instances where the Program processed applications, you will find details on these efforts below. The information will provide detail on:

- The type of incident and month of declaration
- Fiscal year of the incident
- Impacted counties
- Number of approved applicants
- Total grant dollars expended

Date/Type of Incident	Fiscal Year	Impacted Counties	Number of Eligible Applicants	Total Grant Dollars
August 2010 Severe weather appeals	2011	Appanoose Johnson, Washington, and Monona	16	\$17,707.00
April/Tornado Severe Weather	2011	Monona, Sac, Buena Vista, Pocahontas	86	\$176,594.00
May / Tornado	2011	Taylor	9	\$32,260.00
June/Severe Storms and Floods	2011	Woodbury, Monona, Harrison, Pottawattamie, Mills, Fremont	89	\$177,505.00
July/Severe Storms	2012	Marion, Marshall and Tama	8	\$23,186.53
August/Severe Storms	2012	Dickenson and Benton	10	\$27,987.07
August/Severe Storms and Floods	2012	Dubuque and Story	139	\$458,373.00
September/Severe Storms	2012	Emmet	7	\$25,888.00
TOTAL			364	\$939,500.60