
BUDGET UNIT BRIEF – FY 2020

Fiscal Services Division

July 1, 2020



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

Iowa Law Enforcement Academy

Purpose and History

The Iowa Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) was created by the Iowa General Assembly in 1967. The intent of the General Assembly was to maximize training opportunities for law enforcement personnel, to coordinate training, and to set standards in order to upgrade law enforcement to a professional status. The Academy's mission is "Professionalism Through Training."

The ILEA provides training for law enforcement officers, jailers, and telecommunicators in the State. The Academy also administers a program of psychological testing for applicants for law enforcement positions, approves regional training programs, establishes minimum hiring standards, and provides audio-visual resources for law enforcement training and educational institutions. The Academy is also responsible for decertifying or suspending an officer's certification. The Director and staff are employed pursuant to the Iowa merit system. The current Director is former Des Moines Chief of Police Judy Bradshaw.

Basic Training provided at the ILEA is a 14-week course offered up to six times per year. In addition, the ILEA also offers one-day specialty schools and in-service seminars for law enforcement personnel. The ILEA facility is located at Camp Dodge, including dormitory rooms with capacity for 112 people, classrooms, a cafeteria, a physical fitness center, photography and video production studios, and administrative offices. The Academy shares firing ranges and tactical facilities with the Iowa National Guard. In addition to the ILEA Academy, the Department of Public Safety, the Cedar Rapids Police Department, and the Des Moines Police Department offer training courses certified by the ILEA. Training is also offered at Hawkeye Community College and Western Iowa Tech Community College for people with a two-year or four-year degree.

Funding

Funding for the ILEA is approximately 68.0% fees and 32.0% General Fund appropriation. Fees are charged to local law enforcement agencies for the training of their new officers to attend the Basic Academy, and for continuing education programs. Language was added effective July 1, 2010, that allows the Academy to bill one-third of the cost to the local (employing) agency and one-third of the cost to the individual officer, with one-third of the cost paid by funds appropriated to the ILEA. The local (employing) agency can elect to pay the individual officer's share.

Currently, the full cost of attending the Basic Training is \$9,500. During FY 2016, 232 officers received training. Local law enforcement pays \$6,240 of this cost. Officers for tribal governments and for the Department of Natural Resources pay the full cost to attend.

More Information

Iowa Law Enforcement Academy: www.ileatraining.org
LSA Staff Contact: Christin Mechler (515.281.6561) christin.mechler@legis.iowa.gov

Other States

An officer certified in another state, coming into Iowa, may be eligible for certification through examination without attending a training course. All officers eligible in another state are eligible for certification by examination as long as they meet requirements established by the ILEA Council. There are approximately 31 states set up similarly to Iowa with a centralized academy.

Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code chapter [80B](#)

Iowa Administrative Code [501](#)

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