

Budget Unit Brief

FY 2017



Iowa Reading Research Center

Program Overview

The Iowa Reading Research Center was established during the 2012 Legislative Session in 2012 Iowa Acts, [chapter 1119](#) (SF 2284 – Education Reform). The purpose of the Center is to apply current research on literacy to provide for the development and dissemination of the following:

- Instructional strategies for prekindergarten through grade 12 to achieve literacy proficiency that includes reading, reading comprehension, and writing for all students.
- Strategies for identifying and providing evidence-based interventions for students, beginning in kindergarten, at risk of not achieving literacy proficiency.
- Models for effective school and community partnerships to improve student literacy.
- Reading assessments.
- Professional development strategies and material to support teacher effectiveness in student literacy development.
- Data reports on attendance center, school district, and statewide progress toward literacy proficiency.
- Program criteria and guidelines for implementation of an intensive summer literacy program by school districts.

The initial efforts of the Center are on improving reading performance and instruction in kindergarten through third grade. The operation of the Center is required to conduct its work according to the following:

- Use of expertise – The Center is required to draw upon national and state expertise in the field of literacy proficiency, including experts from Iowa institutions of higher education and area education agencies (AEAs) with backgrounds in literacy development.
- Data and report development – The Center and its director must seek support from the Iowa research community in methodologies for the collection of student literacy data and in data report development, the analysis of available information from Iowa education data sources, and the analysis of progress toward literacy proficiency.
- Coordination with the Department of Education – The Center and its director must work with the Department of Education to identify additional needs for tools and technical assistance for Iowa schools to help schools achieve literacy proficiency goals and seek public and private partnerships in developing and accessing necessary tools and technical assistance.

The Center is required to submit a report of its activities to the General Assembly by January 15 annually.

Funding

The Center received a General Fund appropriation of \$2.0 million for FY 2013 in the 2012 Legislative Session and a supplemental General Fund appropriation of \$669,000 for FY 2013 in the 2013 Legislative Session. The Center received a General Fund appropriation of \$1.3 million for FY 2014. Since FY 2015, the Center has received an annual General Fund appropriation of \$1.0 million.

Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code section [256.9, subsection 53\(c\)](#)

[281](#) Iowa Administrative Code chapter [61](#)

2012 Iowa Acts, [chapter 1119](#)

2013 Iowa Acts, [chapter 141](#)

2013 Iowa Acts, [chapter 143](#)

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More Information

Iowa Department of Education: <http://educateiowa.gov/>

Iowa Reading Research Center: <http://www.iowareadingresearch.org/>

Iowa General Assembly: <http://www.legis.iowa.gov/index.aspx>

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