

# Budget Unit Brief

## FY 2017



## Regents Board Office

### Purpose and Membership

Created by the Iowa General Assembly in 1909, the Board of Regents is a group of nine citizens appointed to govern the three state universities, the Iowa School for the Deaf, and the Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School. They do so through policymaking, coordination, and oversight, as provided by law.

The Board's nine members are citizen volunteers appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Iowa Senate to serve staggered six-year terms. They elect one member to serve as president and another to serve as president pro-tem for two-year terms. According to Iowa Code [chapter 262](#), one member must be a full-time graduate or undergraduate student at one of the universities at the time of her or his appointment, and not more than five members can be of the same political party.

### Responsibilities

The Board's responsibilities include:

- Creating strategic plans for the Board and approving mission statements and strategic plans for the institutions, as well as monitoring progress toward strategic goals.
- Creating and monitoring implementation of broad policies.
- Reviewing and approving academic programs.
- Approving budgets, tuition and fees, bonding, investment policies, and other business and finance matters.
- Managing and controlling property and capital projects.
- Hiring and evaluating performance of the three university presidents and two special school superintendents.
- Maintaining oversight on matters related to personnel and employment relations; administering the Regent Merit System; and coordinating Regent collective bargaining activities.
- Serving as trustees of the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics.

The Board hires an Executive Director to supervise a staff of approximately 20 individuals, including three State Relations Officers that serve as legislative liaisons on behalf of the three universities.

### Meetings

The Board is required by statute to meet at least four times a year. The meetings are open to the public except when Iowa's open meetings law allows closed sessions for specific reasons, such as the discussion of personnel matters or pending litigation. The schedule of meetings, agendas, materials, and live audio is available on the Board of Regents' website.

### State Funding

The Board Office receives an annual General Fund appropriation for administrative costs. From FY 1990 to FY 2016, the appropriation has varied between \$1.1 million and \$1.3 million. For FY 2017, the appropriation was reduced to \$795,000.

### More Information

Board of Regents: <http://www.regents.iowa.gov/>

Iowa General Assembly: <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/>

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**University Funding**

In addition to the state appropriation, the Board Office receives support from the five institutions governed by the Board of Regents. In FY 2015, the most recent information available, the Board Office received a total of \$2.9 million from the institutions:

- University of Iowa - \$1,192,737
- Iowa State University - \$1,097,280
- University of Northern Iowa - \$561,335
- Iowa School for the Deaf - \$45,901
- Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School - \$22,897

**Related Statutes and Administrative Rules**

Iowa Code chapter [262](#)

[681](#) Iowa Administrative Code

**Revised August 18, 2016**