
BUDGET UNIT BRIEF – FY 2019

Fiscal Services Division

September 21, 2018



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

Motor Fuel Inspection

Purpose and History

The Weights and Measures Bureau in the Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (DALs) is responsible for the licensing and inspecting of fuel pumps to ensure the pumps are labeled accurately and the fuel is properly dispensed. This includes testing regular motor fuel and renewable fuels such as blended gasoline, biodiesel, and biodiesel-blended fuel. The inspectors also test for components in gasoline such as oxygenate, raffinate, natural gasoline, and motor vehicle antifreeze, and compare to the standards established by the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM).

Inspectors have handheld fuel analyzers that test gasoline samples for ethanol content and octane number. This ensures the fuel being sold is labeled accurately. Inspectors also test diesel fuel for content and cetane number.

Fuel samples are also collected from fuel production plants and pipeline terminals and are analyzed to ensure the fuel meets the minimum standards determined by the Iowa Code and the ASTM.

Program expenditures include salaries for the inspectors, vehicles used for travel, other travel related expenditures, equipment, and related administrative expenses.

Funding History

The DALs appropriation varies from year to year for this program, but the average amount for the past eight years is \$420,000.

Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code chapters [159A](#), [214](#), and [214A](#)
Iowa Administrative Code [21—12](#), [21—85](#)

Budget Unit Number

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More Information

Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship — Fuel Quality Assurance Program:
www.iowaagriculture.gov/weightAndMeasures/FuelQualityAssuranceProgram.asp
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