

Rehabilitation Services; and an Office of Education Services for Children, Families and Communities. For organizational purposes, Iowa Public Television is included in the department. Through these divisions, the department conducts a variety of activities to fulfil its major functions of leadership and service, with some regulatory duties as well.

The leadership function includes long-range planning for the education system, coordinating school improvement efforts, and consulting with educators to solve problems and improve programs. In this function, the department acts as a catalyst for positive change.

In its service functions, the department uses its resources as a statewide base for activities, such as conducting research and disseminating information; providing advisory services on all phases of educational programs and operations; developing innovative programs; distributing state and federal funds to Iowa's schools and community colleges and libraries; and providing vocational rehabilitation services to individual Iowans.

By setting accreditation standards and ensuring that public schools and community colleges meet those standards and by monitoring federal education programs, the department is performing its regulatory function.

Although the scope of the department's responsibility is from pre-kindergarten through the two-year community colleges, one of its most important leadership roles is to set priorities for the state's educational system. Current priorities are increasing the learning and achievement of students; increasing the productivity and capacity of human resources in the state's education system; transforming the education system at the building, district, area and state levels to support the teaching and learning process; and providing leadership to improve Iowa education through systematic planning and quality assurance.

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The Board of Educational Examiners exclusively licenses the state's education practitioner's who do not hold or receive a license from another professional licensing board. Authority of the board includes establishing criteria for the licenses, including but no limited to: issuance and renewal requirements; creating of application and renewal forms; creation of licenses that authorize different instructional functions or specialties; development of a code of professional rights and responsibilities, practice, and ethics; and the authority to develop any other classifications, distinctions, and procedures which may be necessary to exercise licensing duties.

The board enforces its adopted rules through revocation or suspension of a license or other disciplinary action. Appeals are heard by the board regarding application, renewal, suspension, or revocation of licenses.

The board is made up of 11 members: two members from the general public and the remaining nine must be licensed practitioners. Members of the board shall be appointed to terms of four years. The director of education or the director's designee serves until the director's term of office expires.

Vocational Education Council, State

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