

The five-member body, appointed by the Governor, adopts standards for the licensing of racing industry occupations and for the standards for the licensing of racing industry occupations and for the operation of race meetings at licensed facilities. Standards also are adopted by the Commission for the operation of excursion gambling boats (riverboats), as well as the licensing requirements for operators.

State Public Defender

William L. Wegman, state public defender; Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines 50319-0083; 515/281-6186

The mission of the State Public Defender is to provide high-quality legal representation to indigent clients who are accused of committing crimes or involved in juvenile court matters. By specializing in criminal defense work and juvenile matters, the 162 attorneys and support staff of the State Public Defender provide efficient and cost-effective representation for their clients.

The State Public Defender system includes an Appellate Defender Office that handles indigent defender cases on appeal for the entire state. The office is located in Des Moines.

IOWA COLLEGE STUDENT AID COMMISSION

Gary W. Nichols, Executive Director; 200 10th Street, Fourth Floor, Des Moines 50309; 515/281-3501

ROBERT E. PHIPPS, chair, Fairfield; term expires 2001
 RUTH ANN BARRY, vice chair, Irwin; term expires 1999
 DR. JOHN V. HARTUNG, secretary, Indianola; term expires 1999
 MICHELLE DURAND-ADAMS, Clive; term expires 1998
 JOHN MCDONALD, Dallas Center; term expires 2001
 KATHLEEN MC GREAL, Strawberry Point; term expires 1998
 ROBERT G. MILLEN, West Des Moines; term expires 1998
 REP. CHRISTOPHER RANTS, Sioux City; term expires 1999
 SEN. DON REDFERN, Cedar Falls; term expires 2001
 R. WAYNE RICHEY, Des Moines; term expires 1999
 TED STILWILL, term is continuous by office
 ALICE L. VILLONE, Sioux City; term expires 2000

The Iowa College Student Aid Commission (ICSAC) supports postsecondary education in Iowa by:

1. Administering income sensitive student financing that promotes access and academic choice, academic recognition, and professional staffing in critical shortage fields.
2. Providing coordinated information describing student aid programs and Iowa's postsecondary education.
3. Effectively and efficiently administering existing programs which have been authorized by state and federal governments.
4. Continually evaluating and promoting changes to improve student assistance programs.

The Iowa College Student aid Commission (ICSAC) is responsible for planning and administering programs of assistance to both public and independent colleges and universities throughout Iowa. Represented on the 12-member commission are the Board of Regents, the Department of Education, Iowa independent colleges and universities, Iowa community colleges, each house of the Iowa Legislature, Iowa lending institutions, Iowa students, the Iowa Student Loan Liquidity Corporation (ISLLC), and the general public. The lender, student, general public and independent college, community college, and ISLLC representatives are appointed by the governor. The director of the Department of Education serves by virtue of office. The remaining four members are appointed by the bodies they represent.

Established in April 1964, to implement the federal assistance program for construction of academic facilities provided by the Higher Education Facilities Act of 1963, the commission now administers the programs described below.

State of Iowa Scholarship

In May 1965, the Iowa Legislature authorized establishment of a state-supported scholarship program. The state appropriation for awards in 1997-98 was \$474,800. Recipients are selected on the basis of academic achievement determined by class rank and American College Test Program (ACT) or Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) scores.

Certificates of achievement are awarded to students as recognition by the state of Iowa for their academic accomplishments. Scholars attending an Iowa college or university may receive a freshman year award of \$400. Each year recipients are invited to attend a Leadership Training Workshop and recognition luncheon.

Federal Stafford Student Loan Program

This program was implemented in 1979 and allows students to borrow from commercial lending institutions at a low rate of interest to meet educational expenses at postsecondary educational institutions. The loans are insured by ICSAC and reinsured by the federal government under the terms of agreement between the Secretary of Education and the ICSAC. Students may receive a subsidized loan (federal government pays interest while student is in school and in deferment status) based on financial need; all students are eligible to apply for unsubsidized loans.

Federal PLUS Program

This program was implemented in 1982. The Iowa PLUS Program permits parents to secure unsubsidized long-term loans at reasonable interest rates from commercial lending institutions to cover postsecondary educational expenses. The loans are insured by the Iowa College Student Aid Commission and reinsured by the federal government under the terms of agreement between the Secretary of Education and ICSAC.

Iowa Tuition Grant Program

In 1969, the General Assembly established the Iowa Tuition Grant Program to provide financial assistance for Iowa students enrolled in Iowa's independent colleges and universities. Funding for this program in 1997-98 was \$41,664,750 with a maximum grant of \$3,400. The amount of the grant, based on the student's estimated financial need, is limited to tuition and fees minus the average charges at a state university.

Iowa Vocation-Technical Tuition Grant Program

This program was established in 1973 to provide financial assistance to needy Iowa resident students enrolled in vocational-technical or career option courses at public community colleges in the state. Qualified students may receive a maximum of \$600 per year (12 month curriculum). In 1997-98 the program was funded at \$1,608,257 in state funds, supplemented by federal SSIG funds.

Iowa Work-Study Program

In 1987, the General Assembly established the Iowa Work-Study Program to provide funding for work-study jobs for Iowa residents attending Iowa schools. Funding for 1997-98 was \$2,950,000 supplemented by federal SSIG funds.

State Student Incentive Grants (SSIG)

This Federal program of matching funds for state scholarships and grants was authorized in the Education Amendment of 1972, but was not funded until fiscal 1974. These funds are used primarily to supplement the state appropriations for Iowa Work-Study Awards, Iowa Vocational-Technical Tuition Grants, and Iowa Grants. In 1997-98, the Iowa allocation was \$548,300.

Iowa Grants

The Iowa Grants Program was enacted in 1990 to provide grants to Iowa resident undergraduate students attending a regents university, community college, or accredited independent college or university. This statewide non-sector-based grant program provides need-based awards of up to \$1,000. The 1997-98 appropriation was \$1,397,790.

Integrated Postsecondary Education Data Systems (IPEDS)

In cooperation with the National Center for Education Statistics, the commission coordinates annual collection of data from Iowa postsecondary schools. An annual digest based on the IPEDS data is published by the commission and provided to the Coordinating Council of Postsecondary Education, Iowa postsecondary schools, state planners, and members of the General Assembly.

Osteopathic Forgivable Loans

Since 1991, the Forgivable Loan has provided state assistance to Iowa residents attending the University of Osteopathic Medicine and Health Sciences (UOMHS). Eligible Students may borrow \$3,100 per year of study. The loans are forgiven if the borrower practices medicine in Iowa on a full-time basis for one year for every year a loan is received. Funding for 1997-98 was \$379,260.

Diversity Report

Since 1988, the commission has collected and maintained affirmative action, equal opportunity, and controlled substances reports and assurances from Iowa colleges and universities receiving state grant monies. Information contained in this annual report reflects the institution's commitment to recruit and retain minority students and faculty and to ensure a safe living and learning environment.

Sammy Squirrel Savings Program

During the winter of 1991, the commission developed a series of postsecondary early awareness initiatives for Iowa elementary students and their parents. In September 1992, materials were mailed to third grade teachers in Iowa public and private elementary schools. Each educational packet contained a guide of suggested classroom activities, milk carton wraps and a parents' guide on savings activities which emphasized the importance of planning for their children's postsecondary educations. In 1994, the program was expanded to include a student activity guide.

State Fair Scholarship Program

During the summer of 1994, the Commission was asked to administer the Governor's State Fair Scholarship. Funded by the FINE Foundation, recipients receive a one-time \$1,000 award based on their past participation at the Iowa State Fair.

Administration of Private Scholarships

Since 1992, several businesses and civic organizations have requested technical assistance in the creation and administration of scholarships and forgivable loan programs. Commission staff provides assistance by serving on selection panels, providing technical assistance on program requirements, and the development of application materials.

IOWA COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

Harold M. "Tommy" Thompson, chief operating officer; Building W-4, Camp Dodge, P.O. Box 587, Johnston 0131-0587; 515-323-4692.

The Iowa Communications Network was established by the Seventy-fifth General Assembly effective on July 1, 1994. The Network provides voice, video and data telecommunications services to authorized users in private and public K-12 schools, area education agencies, community colleges, regents institutions, private colleges, state and federal government agencies, all court rooms, all corrections facilities including home based corrections, the U. S. Postal Service (demonstration projects), public libraries, and hospitals and physician clinics (not voice) throughout the state. The Network was created to ensure that authorized users are provided affordable telecommunications services for educational and other applications throughout rural and urban Iowa on an equal rate basis. The Network is dedicated to integrating technology into education and public services for Iowans.

The executive director is appointed by the Iowa Telecommunications and Technology Commission (ITTC), serves at the pleasure of the Commission, and is confirmed by the Senate. Commission members are appointed by the governor and are subject to Senate confirmation. Policy, standards and rules governing the Iowa Communications Network are determined by the ITTC, see Chapter 8D of the *Code of Iowa*.

Iowa Telecommunications and Technology Commission

RICHARD H. OPIE, chair, Des Moines; term expires 2002

JOAN U. AXEL, Muscatine; term expires 2000

MARY JEAN MONTGOMERY, Spencer; term expires 1999

MARY A. NELSON, West Des Moines; term expires 1998

MARK J. SCHOUTEN, Orange City; term expires 2001

RICHARD A. JOHNSON, State Auditor; ex officio