



Justice System Appropriations Subcommittee

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The Role of ILEA

“It is the intent of the legislature in **creating the academy** and the council to **maximize training opportunities** for law enforcement officers, to **coordinate training** and to **set standards** for the law enforcement service, all of which are imperative to upgrading law enforcement to professional status.”

Iowa Code § 80B.2



Current Fee Structure

Iowa Code 80B.11B(2)

- ILEA shall charge to the following entities the following costs to provide basic training
 - To a candidate from a political subdivision
 - $\frac{1}{3}$ cost to the agency
 - $\frac{1}{3}$ cost to the candidate
 - $\frac{1}{3}$ cost to the State
 - To the DNR and DOT = total cost
 - To a candidate from other state agencies = $\frac{1}{3}$ of the cost
 - Remaining $\frac{2}{3}$ of cost goes to state agency
 - All other candidates, including tribal government = all costs to the candidate



Why Basic Academy Funding Matters

- **Financial burden** of the Basic Academy compromises annual training budgets;
- **Inability to invest in professional betterment** of incumbent officers hurts retention; and
- **Small agencies merely serve as a path to certification** and are forced to start a new hiring cycle, find a viable candidate and pay for another Basic Academy cycle.



Why Basic Academy Funding Matters

- **Financial burden** of sending multiple new hires to the Basic Academy in the same fiscal year has **resulted in agencies putting their new hires in service for up to one year prior to any formal training compromising public safety** and inviting civil liability;
- **Resignation in lieu of termination** provides an avenue for a certified officers to switch agencies; and
- **Agencies are taking unnecessary risks** on prior certified officers with checkered pasts to avoid bearing the costs of a new hire. Continual re-hiring of known bad actors is a problem, in large part, due to the current financial model of law enforcement training in Iowa.



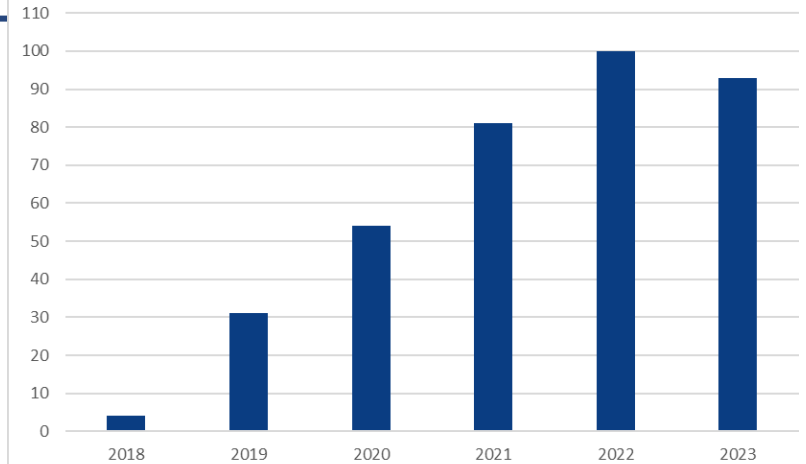
Maintaining High Law Enforcement Standards: All of Iowa deserves this

The need to identify, hire, train and retain high-character, high-quality law enforcement professionals remains the highest priority for Iowa.

Issues surrounding possible decertification of peace officers is on the rise.

All decertifications involve considerable work from ILEA and the AG's Office.

Attorney General Decertification Reviews



Current State of ILEA

FY24 Appropriation:

- \$1,238,504

Basic Academy Tuition:

- \$9,975 (Not raised since 2019)

Attendance:

- The most recent three year average for the ILEA Basic Academy is 258 recruits per year



Current Minimum Cost Per ILEA Recruit

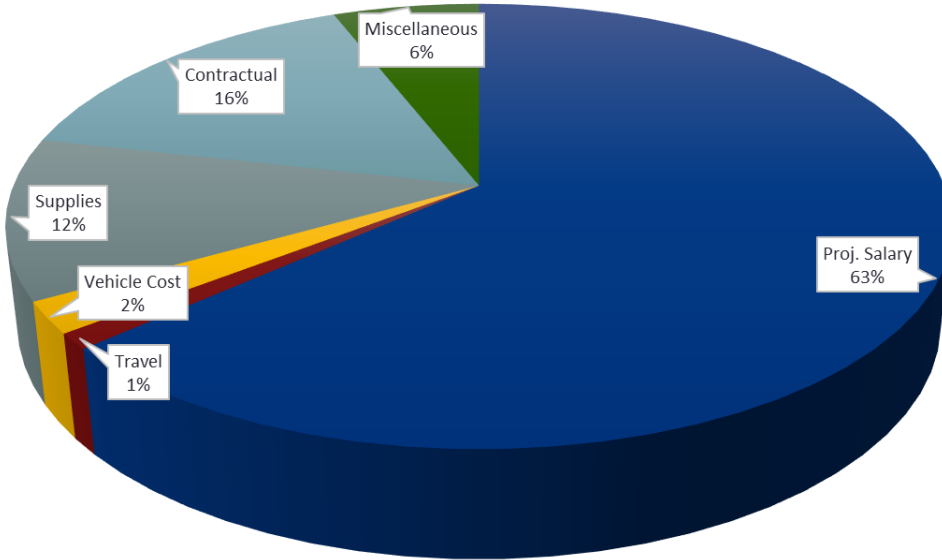
For county and local law enforcement agencies to attend ILEA Basic Academy:

\$ 6,650	ILEA Tuition
\$ 2,597	Meal plan
\$ 230	IPI uniforms
<u>\$ 150</u>	Duty ammunition
\$ 9,627	Total



COSTS: The most recent three year average for the ILEA Basic Academy attendance is 258 recruits per-year. An in-depth analysis of the Basic Academy analyzing the prior fiscal year (FY23), current fiscal year (FY24) and upcoming fiscal year (FY25), **ILEA projects the cost to successfully train recruits at the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy for FY25 will total \$4,330,989.**

FY25 Projected Basic Academy Costs



FY25 Projected Basic Academy Cost

Projected Salaries	2,745,740
Contractual	672,078
Supplies	506,897
Miscellaneous	257,753
Vehicle Costs	99,066
Travel	49,456
Total Cost	4,330,989



IGOV FY25 recommendation for ILEA

ILEA Appropriation

- \$2,904,407
- Includes \$114,650 for anticipated Attorney General fees

Appropriation Change

- \$1,665,903 increase from FY24

Appropriation as percentage of projected FY25 costs

- 67%



What does this mean for ILEA Basic Academy?

\$ 4,330,989 Projected ILEA Basic Academy costs for FY25

- \$ 2,789,757 FY25 IGOV recommended appropriation for operations

- \$ 114,650 FY25 IGOV recommended appropriation for AG legal fees

- \$ 277,544 Grant Reimbursements for VAWA, GTSB, & HT

\$ 1,149,038 Amount of LE agency fees to meet projected costs for FY25



Current FY25 Minimum Cost Per ILEA Recruit

\$ 4,454	ILEA tuition cost per recruit
+ \$ 2,597	Meal plan
+ \$ 230	IPI uniforms
+ <u>\$ 150</u>	Duty ammunition
\$ 7,431	Minimum cost per ILEA recruit



LE Agency Projected Savings for FY25

\$ 9,627 Current minimum cost per ILEA recruit

- \$ 7,431 Projected FY25 minimum cost per ILEA recruit

\$ 2,196 **Projected savings per ILEA recruit** based on current FY25 cost projections and IGOV recommendation for FY25



Catching up to our Neighbors

Kansas—has a law enforcement training structure similar to Iowa's with one central academy and multiple regional academies. Basic Academy is 100% funded through a \$15 docket fee. Moreover, no municipal, county or state law enforcement agency pays any tuition and/or room and board furnished for their officers during mandated basic training.

Missouri—basic academy structure is supported by their general fund with a Police Officer Standards and Training (POST) Commission overseeing a dedicated fund that provides financial assistance to county and municipal agencies for costs associated with ongoing or ancillary training outside the scope of the basic academy.

Nebraska— has a law enforcement training structure similar to Iowa's with one central academy (similar to ILEA) and four regional academies. Nebraska's central academy receives an appropriation through the general fund and is further supported by a \$2.00 Law Enforcement Improvement Fund (LEIF) surcharge added to court costs.

South Dakota— law enforcement agencies are not charged a fee for the basic academy or advanced law enforcement training. Rather, all law enforcement training is funded by a court-related surcharge.



A Funded ILEA Basic Academy...

Allows law enforcement agencies to focus on agency-specific training and professional development of current employees to enhance the quality and scope of all their services and increased retention.

Allows law enforcement agencies to use financial resources to purchase and/or upgrade equipment and critical infrastructure leading to increased officer safety.

Allows law enforcement agencies to stop recycling known bad actors because of the large financial investment of initial certification through a Basic Academy.

Allows ILEA to fulfill its role as the hub of law enforcement training and standards for agencies and regional academies across Iowa regardless of Basic Academy enrollment.

