

---

**IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY**  
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

---

**Education Appropriations Subcommittee**  
**ISU FY27 Legislative Request**  
David Spalding, Interim President

# Iowa State: An Education That Delivers a High Return



2026 Best Colleges  
in the U.S.

**TOP 25 %**

Based on Graduation Success  
and Graduates' Future Earnings

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



**TOP 10 %**

For Affordability in the U.S.



4.5 stars out of 5

for Affordability, Education Quality, Salaries  
of Graduates

# High-Value, Affordable Education for Iowans

Board of Regents Peer Group	25-26 Tuition and Mandatory Fees* for Resident Undergraduates
Michigan State University-East Lansing	\$17,256
Virginia Tech-Blacksburg	16,526
University of Missouri-Columbia	15,547
Oregon State University-Corvallis	15,252
Oklahoma State University-Stillwater	13,857
Colorado State University-Fort Collins	13,803
Kansas State University-Manhattan Campus	11,580
<b>Iowa State University</b>	<b>11,091</b>
University of Nebraska-Lincoln	10,781
Purdue University-West Lafayette, IN	9,992
North Carolina State University-Raleigh	9,027
<i>Median</i>	<i>13,830</i>
<i>Mean</i>	<i>13,362</i>

\*Tuition and required fees are based on the student standard, full-time credit hours as defined by AAUDE/IPEDS.

# High-Value Education, Competitive Price for Non-Residents

<b>Board of Regents Peer Group</b>	<b>25-26 Tuition and Mandatory Fees* for Non-Resident Undergraduates</b>
Michigan State University-East Lansing	\$44,640
Oregon State University-Corvallis	38,997
Virginia Tech-Blacksburg	38,977
University of Missouri-Columbia	37,817
Colorado State University-Fort Collins	36,412
North Carolina State University-Raleigh	33,992
<b>Iowa State University</b>	<b>30,139</b>
University of Nebraska-Lincoln	30,011
Kansas State University-Manhattan Campus	29,534
Oklahoma State University-Stillwater	29,378
Purdue University-West Lafayette, IN	28,794
<i>Median</i>	<i>35,202</i>
<i>Mean</i>	<i>34,855</i>

\*Tuition and required fees are based on the student standard, full-time credit hours as defined by AAUDE/IPEDS.

# Workforce-Ready Education

Powered by  
**INNOVATE** at Iowa State

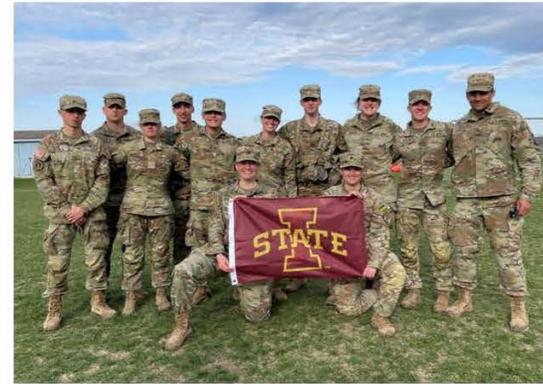
## Over 75% of ISU students major in a STEM or business field



**Capstone Projects**  
**4,680**  
students



**Internships and Co-ops**  
**8,561**  
students



**ROTC**  
**268**  
students



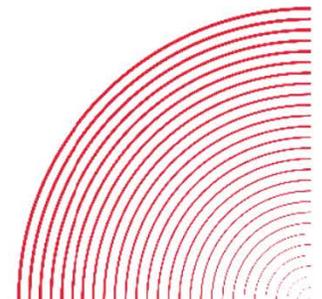
**Entrepreneurship Courses**  
**18,726**  
students

# Workforce-Ready Graduates

---



- ▶ **4.11 years** average time to degree *(historic low)*
- ▶ **93.4% overall placement rate**
  - ▶ **98.5% for agriculture**
  - ▶ **95% for business**
  - ▶ **94% for engineering**



# Preparing Iowa's Workforce

## Iowa State's 2023-2024 Graduating Class

**ISU**  
graduates  
who stayed  
in Iowa



**ALL  
GRADUATES**

**2,813 | 49%**

**IN-STATE  
GRADUATES**

**2,270 | 66%**



# Debt-Free Degrees

## 47% of ISU students graduate with \$0 Debt



**73%**  
of undergraduates  
are supported  
through  
scholarships and  
grants



# ISU Degree Pays Off

---

\$59,467

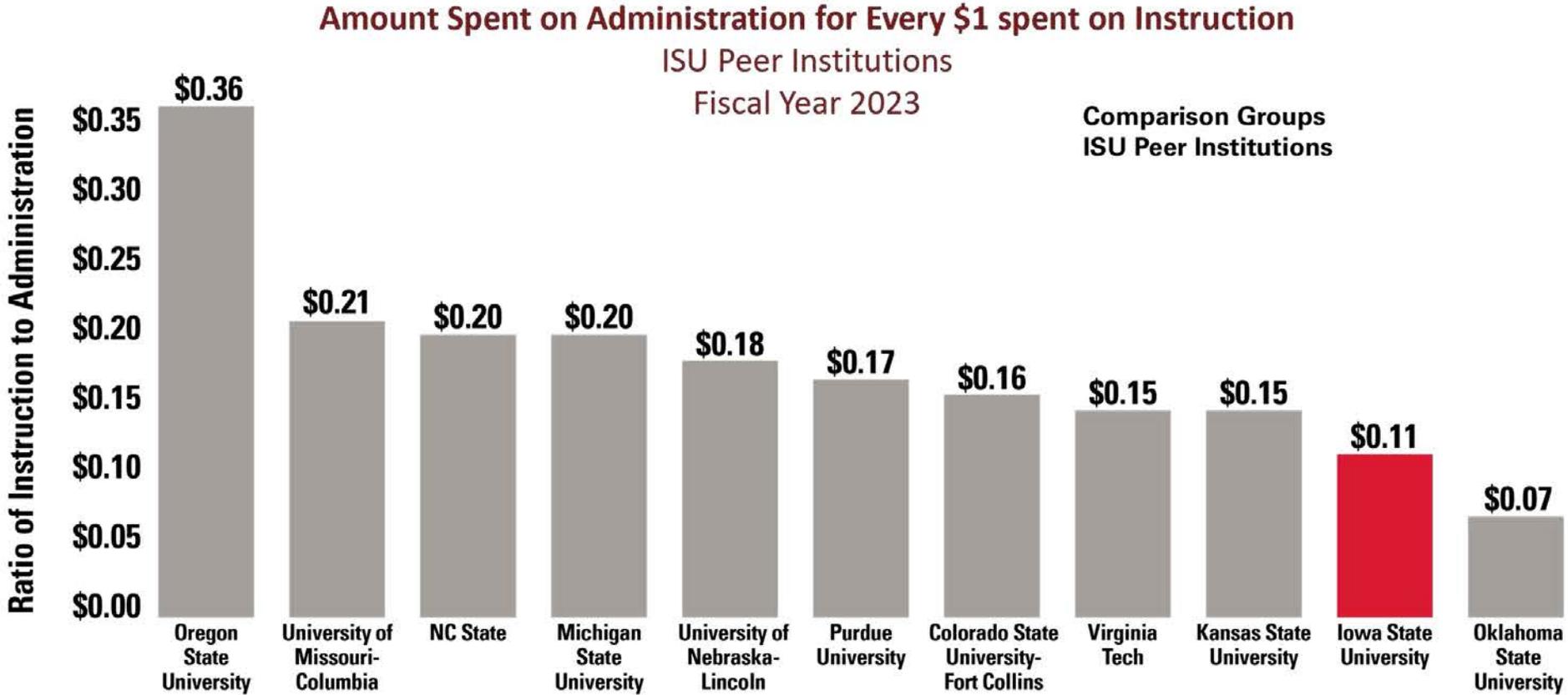
2023-2024 ISU Graduates'  
average starting salary across  
all degree programs

Source: Self-reported to college career services offices

Research cited in the Wall Street Journal shows **graduates from public universities** need to earn at least **\$50,000 a year**, on average, in their **first decade** after college for their **degrees to pay off.**

Source: Wall Street Journal article: "The Colleges Where You're Most Likely to Have a Positive Return on Your Investment," May 26, 2024

# Administrative Efficiency Compared to Peer Institutions



Source: Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS); 12-month full-time equivalent enrollment, 2023FY  
Ratio calculated by dividing the amount spent on Institutional Support by the amount spent on Instructional Costs (Instruction + Academic Support)

# Advancing Civic Literacy and Skills

---



## Center for Cyclone Civics

- ▶ New course on American Civics (*begins March 2026*)
- ▶ America at 250: 15 lectures and events
- ▶ Byte-Sized Civics, video series about Iowa politics and government available to all Iowans



# FY27 Legislative Request: Iowa Ag Tech Innovation

1

## Agricultural Experiment Station

\$1.8M Increase

Accelerate research, development, and adaptation of new digital and precision agricultural technologies to boost productivity, profitability and sustainability.



# 1

## Agricultural Experiment Station Research: Crop Data Innovation

- ISU researchers have patented and licensed over 100 technologies used on over 10 million crop production acres.
- Technologies generate real-time data, allowing farmers to make smarter decisions to minimize inputs, maximize yields and improve land stewardship.
- *New investments will support:* Sprayer technology development for identifying weeds and determining the precise amount and type of herbicide needed.



# 1

## Agricultural Experiment Station Research: Enhancing Production Animal Data Analytics

- Innovations to help identify emerging livestock production issues via sensor technology.
- *New investments will support:* Further development of predictive technology using data analytics and AI to enhance feed efficiency, address health concerns, and expedite time to market.



# FY27 Legislative Request: Iowa Ag Tech Innovation

2

## Agricultural Extension

**\$1.2M Increase**

Scale hands-on training, launch new outreach initiatives that educate farmers and ag professionals to use new technology effectively.



# 2

## Agricultural Extension Program: Planter University

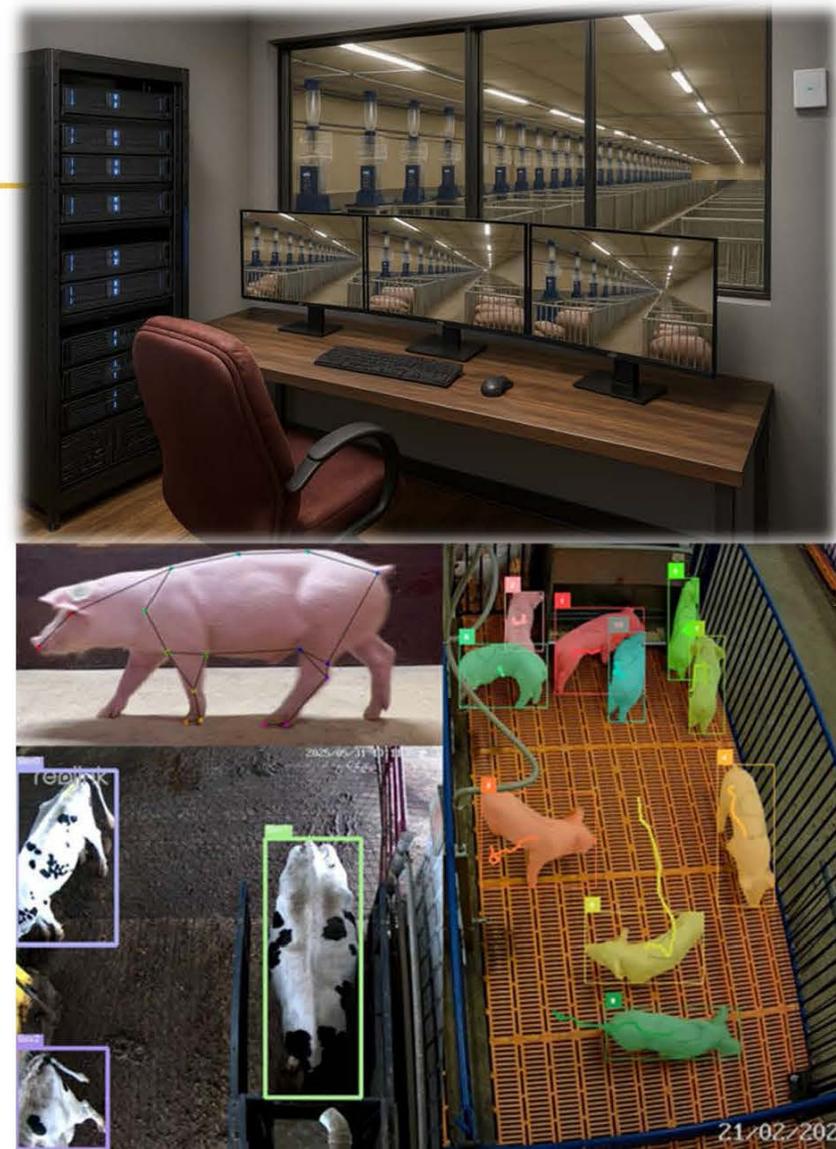
- Hands-on, brand-neutral workshop
- In-depth training to optimize technology and improve planter efficiency
- Past four years: Over 900 farmers and ag industry professionals
- Generates \$35M annually in financial value to farmers
- *New investments will support:* Development of Sprayer University and Combine University



# 2

## Agricultural Extension Program: Precision Animal Breeding and Management Education

- Translating production animal health research into practical management recommendations.
- More than 130 educational programs provided annually.
- Apply new findings in animal physiology, stress response and immune function.
- *New investments will support: Expanded programing and commercialization*

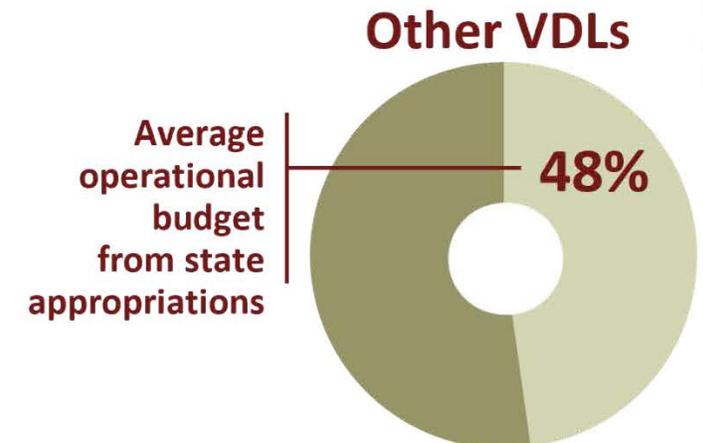
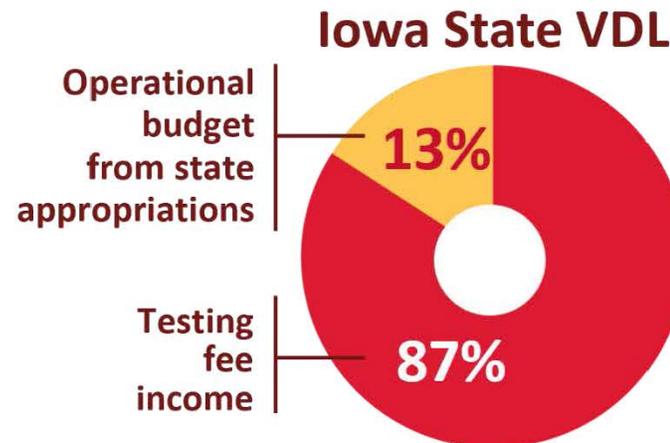


# FY27 Legislative Request: Veterinary Diagnostic Lab

## VDL Operations

**\$600K Increase**

- Operating expenses expected to increase by \$3M
- Keep testing fees affordable
- Lab conducts 1.7 million tests annually



# FY27 Legislative Request: Merge Line-Items into General University Fund

---

- **Agricultural Experiment Station**
  - Research translates to practical solutions
- **Cooperative Extension Services**
  - Continuing education, training and demonstration projects
- **STEM Workforce**
  - Addresses state of Iowa's workforce needs



---

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY<sup>®</sup>  
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

---