

**Iowa Braille School
Fact Sheet
January 2002**

Vision Statement: Our purpose is to enable Iowa's students who are blind or visually impaired to function as independently as possible in all aspects of life by providing appropriate educational opportunities, resources, and support services.

- Founded in 1852, the Iowa Braille School is Iowa's second oldest educational institution
- Governed by the Board of Regents, State of Iowa
- Accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools
- Programs are in compliance with the State Department of Education
- State and federal requirements the school complies with include:
 - I. **Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE):** *It is the policy of both the federal government and the State of Iowa to provide FAPE for all resident children with disabilities in the state of Iowa.*
 - II. **Continuum of alternative placements:** *It is the policy of both the federal government and the State of Iowa that a continuum of alternative placements be available to meet the needs of children with disabilities for special education and related services, which includes special schools.*
 - III. **Individualized Education Program (IEP):** *IEPs are developed by the IEP team, which must include the family, student (when appropriate), general education teacher, special education teacher, public agency, and others (as appropriate). The IEP team determines what services are needed based on current evaluations. It is the responsibility of the receiving agency (Iowa Braille School) to implement the recommended services on the IEP at no cost to families (FAPE).*

FY 00-01

- all funds total \$6,049,141
- 604 students received services from the Iowa Braille School
- cost per student: \$10,015

FY 01-02

- 50% - 70% percent of students who are blind / visually impaired have additional disabilities
- state appropriated general funds amount to \$4,298,696

Please visit our WEB site at www.iowa-braille.k12.ia.us. For More Information contact:

Dennis Thurman, Superintendent
1002 G Avenue, Vinton, IA 52349
Dthurman@iowa-braille.k12.ia.us
1-800-645-4579x1107
1-319-472-5100

The Iowa Braille School is an Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action Employer. The school does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, sex, marital status, religion, age, veteran status or disabling condition in its admission procedures, educational programs, employment policies, or procurement procedures.