

World-Class Veterinary Diagnostic Lab Needs a Suitable Facility

The Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (VDL) at ISU protects animal and human health and advances Iowa's \$32.5 billion dollar animal agriculture economy.

- Processes **80,000+ diagnostic cases/year, doubled in 6 years**
- Teaching the next generation of animal health professionals
- Conducts applied research of high relevance (animal health, food safety, zoonotic diseases)

LAND-GRANT MISSION

SERIOUS INFRASTRUCTURE CHALLENGES

- 42 year-old facility, outdated HVAC, plumbing, electrical
- 1976: 10 faculty, 20 staff, 16,000 cases/year
- 2017: 25 faculty, 125 staff, 80,000 cases/year, largest food animal caseload in U.S.
- Compromised biosafety & biocontainment
- Severe overcrowding

Excerpts of External Review Panel Reports:

"...the space and structural limitations of this aging facility combined with the rapid growth of the laboratory will, in the opinion of this site team, limit the laboratory's ability to adequately respond to a large-scale foreign animal disease outbreak." – 2017 AAVLD Accreditation Site Visit Report



Current VDL Facility Entrance

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

vetmed.iastate.edu/vdl



SOLUTION: Build New (Stand-Alone) Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

- **150,000 GSF (83,000 NSF), \approx 30% increase**
- **Built for efficiency, biosafety, biocontainment**
- **\$124 million infrastructure project**
 - > \$100 million from State of Iowa (\$20 million/year for 5 years)
 - > \$24 million private gifts + university sources

ISU VDL estimated to generate enough tax receipts to repay the \$124 million infrastructure in:

- \approx 2 years under normal circumstances
- < 1 year in an animal health emergency

The State's investment in the veterinary diagnostic laboratory provides an exponential return to Iowa's economy and competitiveness in the global marketplace.

Animal Agriculture (Production & Processing)

- \$32.5 billion of direct economic output in Iowa
- Each 1% change in output has \$325 million impact on Iowa's economy
- Highly dependent on export markets

\$124 million infrastructure investment equals 0.38% of Iowa's animal agriculture economic output



\approx 80% of VDL's annual operating costs are covered by fees charged to users. This is amongst highest dependence on user fees in the nation.

VDL Economic Impact Study
vetmed.iastate.edu/article/economic-contribution-isu-vdl