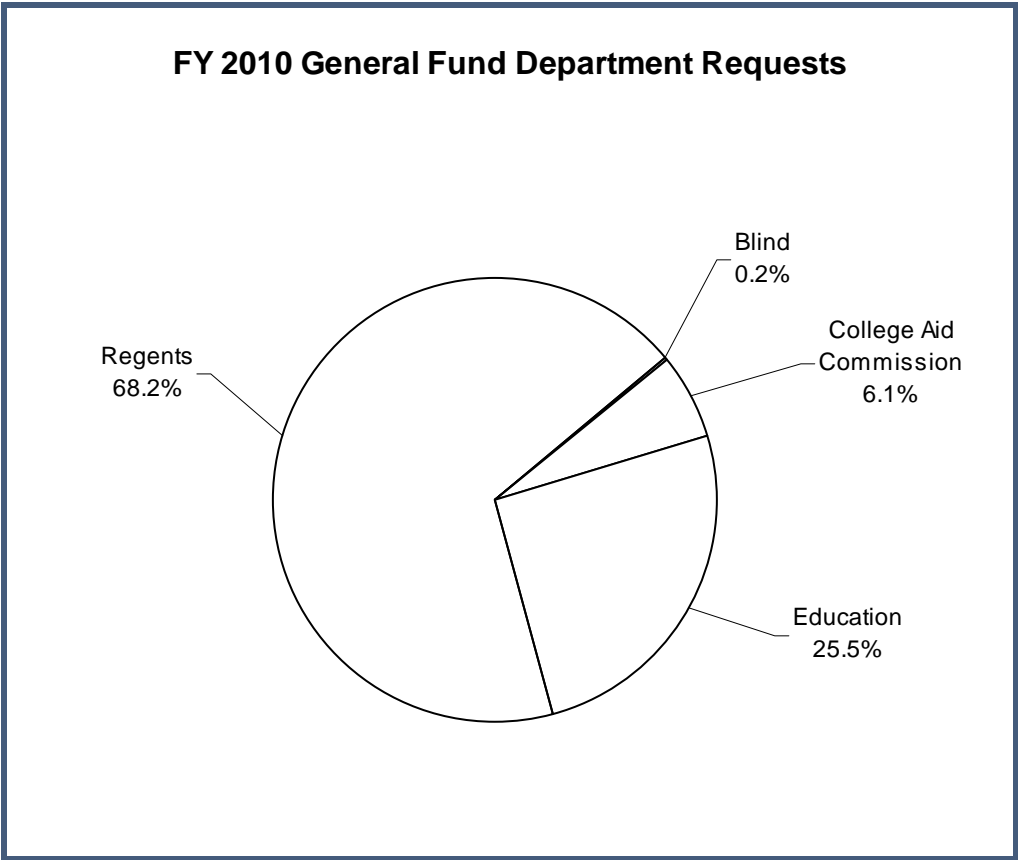
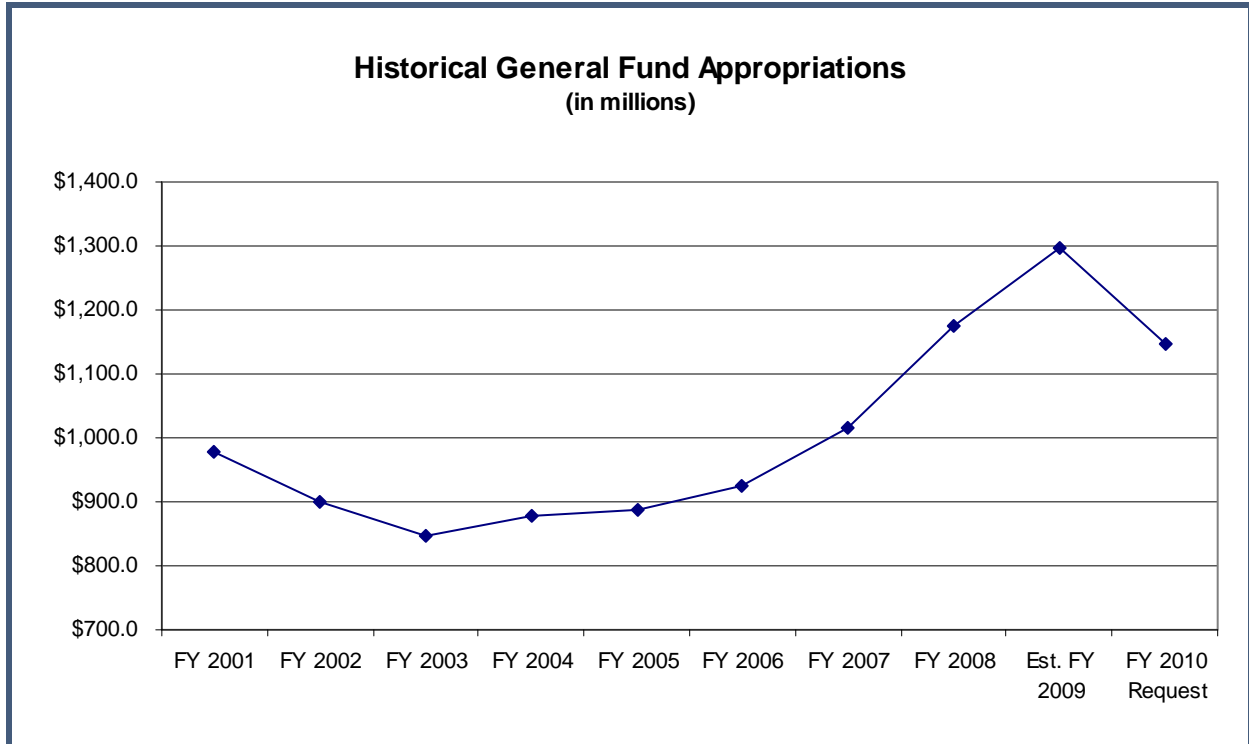


**EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**



**FY 2010 General Fund Department Requests**

Blind	\$ 2,553,032
College Student Aid	69,824,538
Education	292,540,710
Regents	782,143,298
	<u>\$ 1,147,061,578</u>



## FY 2010 DEPARTMENT REQUESTS

### Department for the Blind

The Department for the Blind provides vocational rehabilitation, independent living skills, library services, and other essential services to blind Iowans. The Department consists of four organizational divisions: Field Operations, Adult Orientation and Adjustment Center, Business Enterprises Program, and Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

The Department is requesting an FY 2010 General Fund appropriation of \$2.6 million. This is no change compared to estimated FY 2009.

#### General Fund Request

	Estimated FY 2009	Dept Request FY 2010	Dept. Req. vs. Est. FY 2009
<u>Blind, Dept. of the</u>			
Department for the Blind	\$ 2,553,032	\$ 2,553,032	\$ 0
Total Blind, Dept. of the	<u>\$ 2,553,032</u>	<u>\$ 2,553,032</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>

**College Student Aid Commission**

The College Student Aid Commission, under the direction of a 12-member commission, administers a variety of State and federal programs to connect students with resources and services to finance a college education. The Commission offers need-based scholarships, grants, work study, and loans and serves as Iowa’s student loan guarantee agency. It provides school and lender services, borrower and collections services, communications services to assist students and families in planning and paying for college, and data collection and management.

The Commission is requesting FY 2010 General Fund appropriations totaling \$69.8 million. This is no change compared to estimated FY 2009.

**General Fund Requests**

	Estimated FY 2009	Dept Request FY 2010	Dept. Req. vs. Est. FY 2009
<b><u>College Aid Commission</u></b>			
College Aid Commission	\$ 395,020	\$ 395,020	\$ 0
Iowa Grants	1,070,976	1,070,976	0
DSM University-Osteopathic Loans	100,000	100,000	0
DSM University-Physician Recruit.	346,451	346,451	0
National Guard Benefits Program	3,800,000	3,800,000	0
Teacher Shortage Loan Forgiveness	485,400	485,400	0
All Iowa Opportunity Scholarships	4,000,000	4,000,000	0
College Work Study	995,000	995,000	0
Tuition Grant Program-Standing	50,073,718	50,073,718	0
Vocational Technical Tuition Grant	2,783,115	2,783,115	0
Washington DC Internships	100,000	100,000	0
Tuition Grant - For-Profit	5,524,858	5,524,858	0
Nurse & Nurse Educator Loan Program	100,000	100,000	0
Barber & Cosmetology Tuition Grant Program	50,000	50,000	0
<b>Total College Aid Commission</b>	<b>\$ 69,824,538</b>	<b>\$ 69,824,538</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>

**Issues**

**Iowa Student Loan Liquidity Corporation** – The Attorney General issued a report evaluating Iowa Student Loan (ISL) and its practices and presented the information to the Government Oversight Committee. A number of concerns were resolved with the enactment of HF 2690 (Lending Practices and College Student Loans Act) during the 2008 legislative session. The report identified problems with Iowa Student Loan’s marketing practices, including:

- Inadequate promotion of federal loans.
- Lending to students that had lower cost options through other entities.
- Misleading advertising regarding borrower benefits related to loan consolidation.
- The ISL’s operation of the Iowa College Access Network (ICAN) that provided inadequate objective information for college planning.
- Accountability and oversight of ISL.

**Disaster Relief Grants** – The Iowa College Student Aid Commission (ICSAC) created a new, one-time grant program to help Iowa students financially affected by this summer’s flooding and tornadoes. The Commission committed \$500,000 from the Scholarship and Tuition Grant Reserve Fund. At the beginning of FY 2009, the Reserve Fund had a balance of \$555,000. This is \$10,000 less than the statutory cap on the Fund. The moneys in the Reserve Fund may “be used to alleviate a current fiscal year shortfall in appropriations for scholarship or tuition grant programs that have the same nature as the programs for which the moneys were originally appropriated.” (Section 261.20, Code of Iowa)

College students affected by this summer’s weather-related disasters could apply for assistance of up to \$5,000. The Commission awarded 414 grants averaging \$1,200 per recipient. Of these students, 112 are attending Regents institutions; 99 are attending private non-profit colleges; 169 are attending community colleges; and 34 are attending proprietary colleges.

**Postsecondary Registration Study Group** – The College Student Aid Commission authorized the Advisory Committee on Postsecondary Registration to establish criteria for a study to review postsecondary registration and renewal procedures. The Commission appointed a study group that has been meeting during the 2008 interim to identify problems and gaps in the procedure, examine best practices, and develop recommendations. A *Fiscal Topic* discussing postsecondary registration is available on the LSA website ([Postsecondary Registration: Limiting Diploma Mills](#)).

### **Department of Education**

The Department of Education oversees K-12 education in Iowa, as well as the community college system. In addition, the Department’s budget includes early childhood programming, the State Library and local library support, Iowa Public Television (IPTV), and Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services (IVRS). Direct aid to local schools is not part of the Subcommittee’s budget. For more information on school aid, see the Standing Appropriations section of this document.

The Department is requesting FY 2010 General Fund appropriations totaling \$292.2 million. This is a decrease of \$238.5 million compared to estimated FY 2009. Most of the reduction results from the shift of funding for the Student Achievement and Teacher Quality Program to a standing appropriation subject to allowable growth. Most of the funding for the Program will no longer be appropriated by the Education Appropriations Subcommittee but will be reported under Unassigned Standing Appropriations.

The Department is also requesting other fund appropriations totaling \$6.2 million for FY 2010. This is an increase of \$2.0 million compared to estimated FY 2009.

#### **General Fund Requests**

<u>Education, Dept. of</u>	<u>Estimated FY 2009</u>	<u>Dept Request FY 2010</u>	<u>Dept. Req. vs. Est. FY 2009</u>
Administration	\$ 9,015,389	\$ 9,515,389	\$ 500,000
Vocational Education Administration	634,865	634,865	0
State Library	1,936,497	1,936,497	0
State Library - Enrich Iowa	1,823,432	1,823,432	0
State Library - Library Service Areas	1,586,000	1,586,000	0

	Estimated FY 2009	Dept Request FY 2010	Dept. Req. vs. Est. FY 2009
<b>Education, Dept. of, cont.</b>			
Vocational Education Secondary	2,936,904	2,936,904	0
Food Service	2,509,683	2,509,683	0
Early Child - Comm. Empowerment	22,302,006	22,302,006	0
Early Child - Early Care, Health & Ed.	10,000,000	9,255,000	-745,000
Early Child - Family Support & Parent Ed.	5,000,000	5,000,000	0
Early Child - Spec. Ed. Services Birth to 3	1,721,400	1,721,400	0
Early Child - Voluntary Preschool	15,000,000	15,000,000	0
Nonpublic Textbook Services	690,165	690,165	0
Jobs For America's Grads	600,000	600,000	0
Before/After School Grants	0	595,000	595,000
Administrator Mentoring	250,000	250,000	0
Model Core Curriculum	2,192,351	2,192,351	0
Senior Year Plus	1,900,000	1,042,750	-857,250
Merged Area Schools-Gen Aid	183,062,414	184,562,414	1,500,000
Student Achievement/Teacher Quality	248,943,894	11,597,500	-237,346,394
Comm College Interpreters for Deaf	200,000	0	-200,000
Private Instruction	146,000	0	-146,000
Community College Salaries - Past Years	1,500,000	0	-1,500,000
<b>Total Education, Dept. of</b>	<b>\$ 513,951,000</b>	<b>\$ 275,751,356</b>	<b>\$ -238,199,644</b>
<b>Vocational Rehabilitation</b>			
Vocational Rehabilitation	\$ 5,833,123	\$ 5,833,123	\$ 0
Independent Living	56,565	56,565	0
Entrepreneurs with Disabilities Program	200,000	200,000	0
Independent Living Center Grant	250,000	250,000	0
<b>Total Vocational Rehabilitation</b>	<b>\$ 6,339,688</b>	<b>\$ 6,339,688</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>
<b>Iowa Public Television</b>			
Iowa Public Television	\$ 9,085,141	\$ 9,085,141	\$ 0
Regional Telecom. Councils	1,364,525	1,364,525	0
<b>Total Iowa Public Television</b>	<b>\$ 10,449,666</b>	<b>\$ 10,449,666</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>
<b>Total Education, Dept. of</b>	<b>\$ 530,740,354</b>	<b>\$ 292,540,710</b>	<b>\$ -238,199,644</b>

Significant changes include:

- An increase of \$500,000 for Department Administration for administration of the Four-Year-Old Preschool Program. In FY 2008 and FY 2009, the Department was authorized to use \$330,000 from the \$15.0 million annual Preschool Program appropriation for administration.
- A decrease of \$745,000 for Community Empowerment in the Early Care, Health and Education appropriation. The Department shifts \$595,000 to Before and After School Grants and \$150,000 to the Student Achievement and Teacher Quality Program for professional development.
- A new appropriation of \$595,000 for Before and After School Grants that were funded in FY 2009 through a reallocation of \$595,000 from the Early Care, Health, and Education appropriation.
- A decrease of \$857,250 for Senior Year Plus as a result of the completion of articulation and data collection efforts. The Department shifts this funding to the Administration appropriation for preschool administration (\$500,000) and to the Student Achievement and Teacher Quality Program for professional development (\$357,250)

## Education Appropriations Subcommittee

- An increase of \$1.5 million for Community College General Aid to reflect an FY 2009 appropriation for salaries that becomes part of the base funding for FY 2010. The Department is not requesting a salary appropriation for FY 2010, thereby offsetting the increase. This is effectively no change in funding for Community College General Aid.
- A decrease of \$237.3 million for Student Achievement and Teacher Quality to reflect the shift of Program funding for salaries and professional development to a standing appropriation subject to allowable growth. That funding is now included in the School Aid appropriation under Unassigned Standing Appropriations. The Department's request for \$11.6 million includes the following:
  - \$1.1 million to fulfill the existing commitment to National Board Certification awards approved prior to January 1, 2008, a decrease of \$548,000 compared to the FY 2009 allocation.
  - \$85,000 for the Ambassador to Education. This is no change compared to the FY 2009 allocation.
  - \$5.4 million for Beginning Teacher Mentoring and Induction, an increase of \$750,000 compared to the FY 2009 allocation. This includes an increase in the mentor stipend from \$1,300 to \$1,500 per beginning teacher.
  - \$695,000 for Career Development and Evaluator Training. This is no change compared to the FY 2009 allocation.
  - \$1.5 million to expand professional development opportunities in local school districts. This is new funding. The existing professional development funding is included in a standing appropriation and subject to allowable growth.
  - \$930,000 for Early Childhood Professional Development, an increase of \$15,000 compared to the FY 2009 allocation.
  - \$1.8 million for Teacher Development Academies. This is no change compared to the FY 2009 allocation. This allocation will partially fund the local district and AEA costs for 450 teachers to participate in the Academies.

See the "Issues" section below for more information on this appropriation.

- A decrease of \$200,000 for Interpreters for the Deaf at Iowa Western Community College to eliminate the funding. This funding was provided to Iowa Western in FY 2008 and FY 2009 to address the large number of articulation agreements between the College and the Iowa School for the Deaf.
- A decrease of \$146,000 for Private Instruction to eliminate the funding. This was a one-time appropriation in FY 2009 for school districts that had expenditures associated with the home school assistance program in excess of the amount generated by the new home school assistance weighting.

### Other Fund Requests

	Estimated FY 2009	Dept Request FY 2010	Dept. Req. vs. Est. FY 2009
<b>Education, Dept. of</b>			
Before/After School Grants-HITT	\$ 505,000	\$ 505,000	\$ 0
Community Empowerment-HITT	2,153,250	2,153,250	0
<b>Total Education, Dept. of</b>	<b>\$ 2,658,250</b>	<b>\$ 2,658,250</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>

**Issues**

***Student Achievement and Teacher Quality Program*** – Beginning in FY 2010, the salary and professional development funding within the Program, that totaled \$238.5 million in FY 2009, is shifted to a standing appropriation that is subject to allowable growth. This funding is discussed in greater detail in the “Unassigned Standing Appropriations” section of this document.

Funding for the remaining portions of the Program totaled \$10.5 million in FY 2009. This included \$335,000 for the final year of the pay-for-performance and career ladder pilot projects and \$250,000 for the Institute for Tomorrow’s Workforce. The funding also included \$1.6 million to fulfill the commitment to National Board Certification awards approved prior to January 1, 2008. That commitment will decrease each year until the commitment expires in FY 2018. The amount required in FY 2010 is \$1.1 million.

Due to the completion of the pilot projects and the declining obligation to National Board Certification awards, the amount of funding needed in FY 2010 to maintain the remaining portions of the program at current levels is \$9.6 million. This includes status quo funding for the Institute for Tomorrow’s Workforce.

The Department of Education is requesting \$11.6 million for FY 2010 for these programs and includes increases in Beginning Teacher Mentoring and Early Childhood Professional Development. The request also includes new funding of \$1.5 million to expand professional development opportunities in local school districts. The request does not include funding for the Institute for Tomorrow’s Workforce.

The LSA has published a *Fiscal Topic* about the Student Achievement and Teacher Quality Program, including a complete funding history, at:

[http://www.legis.state.ia.us/lsadocs/Fiscal\\_Topics/2009/FTRKM000.PDF](http://www.legis.state.ia.us/lsadocs/Fiscal_Topics/2009/FTRKM000.PDF).

<b>Student Achievement and Teacher Quality Program Allocations of the Annual Appropriation</b>			
	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010 Dept. Request
National Board Certification	\$ 1,002,500	\$ 1,622,500	\$ 1,142,500
Ambassador to Education	85,000	85,000	85,000
Mentoring and Induction	4,650,000	4,650,000	5,400,000
Career Dev. and Evaluator Training	695,000	695,000	695,000
Praxis II Pilot	0	0	0
Variable Pay	0	0	0
Professional Development	20,000,000	28,500,000	0 *
Additional Prof. Development	0	0	1,500,000
Early Childhood Prof Dev	0	915,000	930,000
Teacher Development Academies	1,845,000	1,845,000	1,845,000
Market Factor Incentives	3,390,000	0	0
Pay for Performance	1,000,000	335,000	0
Institute for Tomorrow's Workforce	0	250,000	0
Salaries or Prof. Dev.	0	0	0
Teacher Compensation	141,276,394	210,046,394	0 *
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 173,943,894</b>	<b>\$ 248,943,894</b>	<b>\$ 11,597,500</b>

\* Funded in FY 2010 by standing appropriation that is subject to allowable growth.

***FY 2009 Reallocation of Community Empowerment Funds*** – House File 2679 (FY 2009 Education Appropriations Act) amended an FY 2009 appropriation to the Community Empowerment Program that

was enacted in 2006. The original appropriation allocated \$1.0 million for purposes of the Business Community Investment Advisory Council. That allocation was amended in HF 2679 to reallocate \$750,000 to the following:

- \$595,000 to the Before and After School Grant Program.
- \$100,000 to the Early Head Start Projects (in addition to \$300,000 appropriated elsewhere in the Act).
- \$50,000 for the Future Farmers of America Foundation.
- \$5,000 to the College Student Aid Commission for the College Work Study Program (in addition to \$699,000 appropriated elsewhere in the Act).

Because these were reallocations within an appropriation, rather than separate appropriations, these amounts are not reflected in FY 2009 appropriations tracking.

**Community Empowerment – FY 2010 Funding** – In 2006, the General Assembly enacted annual appropriations of \$10.0 million for Early Care, Health and Education and \$5.0 million for Family Support and Parent Education for FY 2007, FY 2008, and FY 2009. The Early Care appropriation included an allocation of \$1.0 million to implement the recommendations of the Business Community Investment Advisory Council. In FY 2009, \$750,000 of this funding was reallocated to other purposes not related to Community Empowerment (see above).

These two appropriations were in addition to annual “general purpose” appropriations to the Community Empowerment School Ready Grants. Combined actual General Fund appropriations to the Community Empowerment Program totaled \$38.8 million in FY 2007 and FY 2008 and \$36.6 million in FY 2009.

For FY 2010, the Department of Education is requesting a total of \$36.2 million for the Community Empowerment Program. This includes:

- A decrease of \$745,000 in the Early Care appropriation. The actual effect of this decrease when compared to FY 2009 is an increase of \$5,000, because of the reallocation of \$750,000 in FY 2009 explained above. The Department reallocates this funding to the following FY 2010 requests:
  - \$595,000 for Before and After School Grants to maintain the FY 2009 level of funding.
  - \$150,000 in new funding for professional development under the Student Achievement and Teacher Quality Program.

**Community Empowerment Accountability Issues** – In FY 2009, 15 of the 58 local Empowerment areas were required to reduce their spending by a statewide total of \$1.5 million due to FY 2007 ending balances in excess of 30.0%. House File 2679 (FY 2009 Education Appropriations Act) also amended statutory language to limit the future carry forward of ending balances to 20.0%. The Act also required the Iowa Empowerment Board (IEB) to develop and implement a plan to strengthen fiscal accountability of local areas and to submit a report to the General Assembly and Legislative Services Agency by January 1, 2009.

The Office of Empowerment, with input from the State Technical Assistance Team and the Fiscal Accountability Work Group (FAWG), implemented changes to the FY 2009 budget process required of local Empowerment areas. Changes to the annual report process are also being implemented. In addition, the State Technical Assistance Team has recommended to the IEB that local Boards be required annually to submit a mid-year financial update to the Office of Empowerment by January 31. The IEB adopted this recommendation at its November 21 meeting.



***Federal Funding for Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services (IVRS)*** – The IVRS received \$25.6 million in federal funds in FFY 2008. This required a non-federal match that included State and third-party funding. The IVRS was able to match all available federal funds for FFY 2007 and 2008, after being unable to for the previous three years. For FFY 2009, the IVRS is estimating a 2.0% increase in available federal funding compared to FFY 2008.

**Board of Regents**

The Board of Regents is a nine-member board that oversees the University of Iowa, Iowa State University, University of Northern Iowa, Iowa School for the Deaf, and the Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School. The Board establishes policy for the institutions; hires the university presidents and special school superintendents; approves budgets, tuition and fees, bonding, investment policies, and other business and finance matters; reviews and approves academic programs; and serves as the trustees for the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics.

The Board is requesting FY 2010 General Fund appropriations totaling \$782.1 million. This is an increase of \$87.5 million compared to estimated FY 2009. The Board is not requesting other fund appropriations for general operations for FY 2010. This is a decrease of \$24.4 million compared to estimated FY 2009.

**General Fund Requests**

	Estimated FY 2009	Dept Request FY 2010	Dept. Req. vs. Est. FY 2009
<b><u>Regents, Board of</u></b>			
BOR Universities	\$ 0	\$ 645,411,365	\$ 645,411,365
BOR Higher Ed. Legislative Special Purpose	0	119,704,877	119,704,877
BOR Special Schools	0	16,502,056	16,502,056
Regent Board Office	1,359,937	0	-1,359,937
Southwest Iowa Resource Center	111,693	0	-111,693
Tri State Graduate Center	83,769	0	-83,769
Quad Cities Graduate Center	165,714	0	-165,714
Midwestern Higher Ed Consortium	90,000	0	-90,000
University of Iowa - General	276,518,045	0	-276,518,045
Center for Disabilities and Development	7,017,146	0	-7,017,146
University of Iowa - Oakdale Campus	2,792,052	0	-2,792,052
University of Iowa - Hygienic Laboratory	4,516,091	0	-4,516,091
Family Practice Program	2,283,465	0	-2,283,465
SCHS - Spec. Child Health	842,069	0	-842,069
State of Iowa Cancer Registry	190,326	0	-190,326
SUI - Substance Abuse Consortium	70,906	0	-70,906
Biocatalysis	924,139	0	-924,139
Primary Health Care	828,629	0	-828,629
Iowa Birth Defects Registry	48,891	0	-48,891
SUI - Iowa Nonprofit Resource Center	207,548	0	-207,548
SUI Ag Health & Safety	130,000	0	-130,000
Iowa State: Gen. University	217,695,081	0	-217,695,081
ISU - Ag Experiment Station	35,896,514	0	-35,896,514
ISU - Cooperative Extension	22,903,693	0	-22,903,693
ISU - Leopold Center	507,469	0	-507,469

## Education Appropriations Subcommittee

	Estimated FY 2009	Dept Request FY 2010	Dept. Req. vs. Est. FY 2009
<b><u>Regents, Board of, cont.</u></b>			
ISU - George Washington Carver	250,000	0	-250,000
University of Northern Iowa - General	98,286,381	0	-98,286,381
Recycling and Reuse Center	223,787	0	-223,787
UNI - Real Estate Education Program	160,000	0	-160,000
Iowa School for the Deaf	10,126,391	0	-10,126,391
Iowa Braille and Sight Saving	5,725,951	0	-5,725,951
Tuition and Transportation	15,020	0	-15,020
Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.	4,000,000	0	-4,000,000
BOR - Iowa Public Radio	500,000	525,000	25,000
<b>Total Regents, Board of</b>	<b>\$ 694,470,707</b>	<b>\$ 782,143,298</b>	<b>\$ 87,672,591</b>

Significant changes include:

- An increase of \$24.3 million to fund tuition replacement from the General Fund instead of from the Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund (RIIF) as in past years. Senate File 2432 (FY 2009 Infrastructure Appropriations Act) made appropriations of \$24.3 million from the Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund (RIIF) for both FY 2009 and FY 2010, so this request has already been met.
- An increase of \$43.6 million for inflationary increases distributed as follows:
  - \$37.4 million for the University of Iowa, Iowa State University, and University of Northern Iowa general operating budgets.
  - \$5.6 million for special purpose programs at the three universities, Board Office, regional graduate study centers, and the Midwest Higher Education Consortium.
  - \$635,000 for the Iowa School for the Deaf and Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School.
  - \$25,000 for Iowa Public Radio.
- An increase of \$30,000 for increased outreach efforts by the Quad Cities Graduate Center, Tri-State Graduate Center, and Southwest Iowa Resource Center.
- An increase of \$4.1 million for the University of Iowa to create an Institute on Sustainable Water and Energy to do research on water resources, renewable energy, green engineering, economics, and associated issues of climate change and public health, to develop undergraduate and graduate curriculum and certificate programs on sustainability, and to do outreach and economic development in sustainable industries.
- An increase of \$829,000 for the University of Iowa Hygienic Laboratory to mitigate emerging outbreaks, respond to disasters, improve patient sample transportation, and a satellite facility at the Ankeny campus of the Des Moines Area Community College.
- An increase of \$5.2 million associated with the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory at Iowa State University, distributed as follows:
  - \$1.0 million in additional funding for the Laboratory as per intent language in HF 2679 (2009 Education Appropriations Act).
  - \$1.0 million for the Iowa State University general operating budget to offset funding that was transferred to the Laboratory in FY 2009.

- \$3.2 million to shift funding from the Agriculture and Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee to the Education Appropriations Subcommittee.
- An increase of \$4.0 million to create a Bioeconomy Institute at Iowa State University to conduct research, education, and outreach on biofuels and biorenewable resources.
- An increase of \$300,000 to establish an Egg Industry Center at Iowa State University, in partnership with the Iowa Egg Council. The Council has pledged \$2.0 million over the next 10 years to develop science-based answers. Areas of development include:
  - Growing existing markets.
  - Exploring new uses and new markets.
  - Promoting animal health.
  - Developing more efficient production.
  - Enhancing nutritional value.
- An increase of \$2.5 million for the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) to expand existing initiatives and program components. The program is collaboration among the three universities, community colleges, Department of Education, and K-12 schools coordinated by the University of Northern Iowa.
- An increase of \$2.0 million for the University of Northern Iowa (UNI) for improvements in teacher and educational leadership preparation. The increase would fund 15 faculty positions, costs of equipment, library materials, and supplies, and advising support.
- An increase of \$500,000 to the University of Northern Iowa to enhance access to UNI bachelor's degrees through joint articulation improvements and expansion of 2+2 programs.
- An increase of \$162,000 for campus security at the University of Northern Iowa. The increase includes a siren/voice warning system, electronic access control for campus facilities, and Counseling Center services to improve identification of students with behavioral and psychological issues and provide treatment services.

### Issues

**University of Iowa Flooding** – On June 10, 2008, the Iowa River began to flood parts of the University of Iowa campus eventually closing 19 buildings. Summer classes closed for one week and resumed to complete the summer session. The immediate problem was loss of classroom space. After flood waters receded in early July, work began to clean and reopen classroom buildings or to find alternative space. Before the beginning of fall semester, the Mayflower Residence Hall and three classroom buildings had been reopened. The Art Department had leased space in a former Menard's building south of campus, and the Music Department located space in a variety of locations. The estimated damage to the campus totaled \$231.8 million. All but \$25.0 million is covered by insurance and Federal funding provided through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Currently, insurance has been renewed at a higher rate and for a lower amount of coverage. The University has begun mitigation planning and is working with the insurance company and other consultants to reduce the likelihood of future damage.

***Tuition and Student Debt*** – The Project on Student Debt recently issued its third annual report on college student debt trends for the class of 2007. Iowa ranks first in the nation for college student debt with a \$26,208 average, up from last year's second place ranking of \$24,769. The percentage of Iowa students graduating with debt declined from 74.0% to 73.0%, and its national ranking for students graduating with debt declined from second to fourth place.

Nationwide, college student debt levels continue to rise overall. The average debt for students graduating with loans rose from \$18,976 to \$20,098, a 6.0% increase. For comparison, the earnings for 18- to 24-year-olds with bachelor's degrees rose 3.0%, or half the growth rate for student debt. The increase in student debt was roughly the same for public and private colleges. For the class of 2007, the average debt at public colleges was \$18,482 and \$23,065 at private colleges.

The Board of Regents approved a base tuition increase for undergraduate students at the three universities of 4.2% for the 2009-2010 academic year. Nonresident tuition is set with the intent of recouping the total cost of the student's education and base tuition will increase by 7.6% at the University of Iowa, 2.8% at Iowa State University, and 2.0% at the University of Northern Iowa. A number of fees were increased reflecting increased costs for the services covered by those fees.

The University of Iowa tuition rate is historically the lowest among Big Ten institutions. The Iowa State University tuition rate historically ranks in the middle of the Big Twelve institutions, although it was second lowest for the last academic year. The University of Northern Iowa tuition rate is similar to those of the other two Iowa Regents universities. In spite of the relatively low tuition, Iowa graduates consistently rank near the top of the nation for average student debt upon graduation and for the percentage of graduates with debt. The Subcommittee may want to examine the funding for grants and scholarships compared to that available to comparable institutions in other states.

***Sexual Assault Policies*** – In October 2007, a female student-athlete reported being sexually assaulted in a University of Iowa dormitory. The Board hired an outside special counsel to investigate the situation, because the University of Iowa failed to provide all relevant information to the Board of Regents' inquiry into the handling of the assault. The investigation found "numerous and substantial flaws in not only the response of the University of Iowa to the alleged sexual assault at issue, but also in its policies, procedures and practices regarding the same," according to the special counsel's report. "However, the investigators uncovered no evidence of any attempt by officials associated with the University to cover up the alleged assault." (Stolar Partnership's Special Counsel's Report: <http://www2.state.ia.us/regents/News/news.html>) Two administrators were dismissed from the University for their handling of the incident. Currently, all three Regents universities are revising their sexual assault policies in an effort to address the problems found at the University of Iowa and have received a Department of Justice grant to help fund the process.

## INTERIM COMMITTEES, MEETINGS, AND PUBLICATIONS

### **Postsecondary Education Rigor Analysis Study Committee**

House File 2679, enacted in 2008, directed the Legislative Council to commission a study of the rigor of the first two years of study at community colleges and Regents' institutions. A Request for Proposals was issued for an independent entity to provide the analysis, and proposals were received from three companies. On December 8, the Legislative Council canceled the interim study committee, noting that the economic conditions in which the state finds itself preclude a study and leave the state without the necessary revenues to address the results of such a study.

### **LSA Publications**

The following publications have been issued by the LSA that relate to the Education Appropriations Subcommittee:

- *Fiscal Topic:* [Board of Educational Examiners](#)
- *Fiscal Topic:* [Student Achievement and Teacher Quality Program](#)
- *Fiscal Topic:* [National Board Certification of Iowa Teachers](#)
- *Issue Review:* [School Aid Law Changes](#)
- *Issue Review:* Regents Universities and the 2008 Summer Floods (pending)
- *Fiscal Topic:* [Post-Secondary Registration: Limiting Diploma Mills](#)
- *Fiscal Topic:* Statewide System for Vision Services (pending)

Staff Contacts: Dwayne Ferguson (1-6561); Robin Madison (1-5270)

