
BUDGET UNIT BRIEF – FY 2024

Fiscal Services Division

July 1, 2023



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

Public Protection

Purpose and History

The Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Public Protection appropriation provides funding for activities related to protecting the health and safety of the public through establishment of standards and enforcement of regulations.

The appropriation funds the following programs:

- [Division of Acute Disease Prevention, Emergency Response, and Environmental Health](#): This Division receives General Fund support in this appropriation and from the Infectious Diseases appropriation. This funding supports the [Bureau of Environmental Health Services](#), which focuses on assisting local boards of health on environmental health issues, epidemiology and surveillance of environmental health-related diseases, licensing, and performing inspections.
- **Lead Poisoning Prevention Program**: Also operated by the Bureau of Environmental Health Services, this Program administers the [Iowa Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program](#) and other rules and regulations related to lead renovation and lead professional certification.
- [Bureau of Emergency Medical and Trauma Services](#): This Bureau fulfills the role of the HHS as the lead agency responsible for the development, implementation, coordination, and evaluation of Iowa's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) System. The Bureau provides leadership, direction, and resource support to build a comprehensive, sustainable, efficient, and effective statewide EMS system. The Preparedness Program works to protect the health of Iowans by preparing for public health emergencies, including terrorism, natural disasters, and disease outbreaks. The Preparedness Program works with local public health agencies, hospitals, community health centers, the Meskwaki tribal nation, and other public and private entities by administering federal preparedness funds, maintaining the antiviral stockpile, and providing technical assistance. Additionally, funds are allocated to transfer to the Emergency Medical Services Fund in Iowa Code section [135.25](#). The Fund provides a one-to-one match for counties for the acquisition of equipment and provides education and training related to EMS.
- [Sexual Violence Prevention Program](#): This Program utilizes public health strategies to prevent sexual violence in Iowa. The Program collaborates with community prevention partners to gather data on the incidence of sexual violence in Iowa; develop strategies for preventing first-time victimization and perpetration of sexual violence; administer federal and State sexual violence prevention funds; and support the work of State and local agencies and organizations in their efforts to end sexual violence. The Program is funded by the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The HHS contracts with the Iowa Coalition Against Sexual Assault to conduct community prevention and education activities.
- [Iowa Poison Control Center \(IPCC\)](#): This appropriation provides a pass-through grant for the IPCC to operate the poison control hotline (1.800.222.1222). The IPCC offers free, confidential medical advice 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, regardless of health insurance, immigration status, or

More Information

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language preference. Calls are answered by physicians, nurses, and pharmacists with highly specialized training in handling poison, with the goal of reducing emergency department visits and fatalities through in-home treatment. Funds are utilized as an administration match for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

- [Iowa Office of the State Medical Examiner](#): The mission of the Office is to establish credibility in death investigation in a system that will operate efficiently and serve the needs of the citizens of Iowa. The Office provides support, guidance, education, consultation, and training to county medical examiners and investigators who are responsible for investigating violent, suspicious, and unexpected natural deaths. The Office also provides forensic autopsy and investigative services when requested by county medical examiners and law enforcement agencies.

Funding — State General Fund

The Public Protection General Fund appropriation is included in the Health and Human Services Appropriations Act.

Funding — Other Sources of Revenue

There are additional federal funds, other funds, and fees that play a part in the operation of these programs. Generally, if the programs are operated by the HHS, the funds are tracked separately in the Gifts and Grants Fund.

Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code chapters [135](#), [136B](#), [136C](#), [136D](#), and [147A](#)

Iowa Code sections [135.105B](#), [691.5](#), [691.6](#), [691.6A](#), and [691.6B](#)

Iowa Administrative Code [641—1](#), [641—22](#), [641—25](#), [641—37](#), [641—38](#), [641—39](#), [641—40](#), [641—41](#), [641—42](#), [641—43](#), [641—44](#), [641—45](#), [641—67](#), [641—68](#), [641—69](#), [641—70](#), [641—71](#), [641—72](#), [641—113](#), [641—114](#), [641—124](#), [641—126](#), [641—130](#), [641—131](#), [641—132](#), [641—133](#), [641—134](#), [641—135](#), [641—136](#), [641—137](#), [641—138](#), [641—139](#), [641—140](#), and [641—141](#)

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