

---

## BUDGET UNIT BRIEF – FY 2018

Fiscal Services Division

December 8, 2017



---

Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

## Eldora Training School

### Background

The State Training School at Eldora is managed by the Department of Human Services. The School provides treatment and educational services within a highly structured setting to assist youth who are adjudicated delinquent. The School has 130 residential beds on a campus consisting of 36 buildings on 361.2 acres.

### Population Served

The School provides treatment and educational services to delinquent boys between the ages of 12 and 18 years. In FY 2017, 246 youth were served, including 115 admissions and 125 discharges. The average daily census was 112. Additionally, 18 court-ordered, 30-day diagnostic evaluations were completed. The average boy at the School has had eight prior placements, is 16.53 years of age, and has special education needs. The percentage of Eldora Training School youth needing psychotropic medications has increased consistently, from 33.0% requiring psychotropic medications in FY 2009 to 58.0% in FY 2017. The average stay is 10 months.

### Services Provided

The School provides a variety of educational, vocational, and health services, including:

- Comprehensive residential treatment program available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This program provides a variety of educational, psychological, psychiatric, and behavioral programs.
- Specialized treatment services to sex offender youth and intensive substance abuse treatment.
- General Education Diploma (GED), high school, and college credits. The Honors Corps is comprised of the top 10.0% of the student body and provides students with a forum for leadership and achievement.
- Vocational certifications in welding and other crafts. The Baker Careers Program provides an opportunity to learn the food service industry. Students in the Program provide 95.0% of the desserts and 33.0% of the bread and rolls for the menu at the School.
- Treatment including anger management, gang diversion, basic social skills, and behavior modification.
- Specialized evaluation services for juvenile court officers and judges.

---

### More Information

Department of Human Services: [dhs.iowa.gov](http://dhs.iowa.gov)  
LSA Staff Contact: Jess Benson (515.281.4611) [jess.benson@legis.iowa.gov](mailto:jess.benson@legis.iowa.gov)  
Kenneth Ohms (515.725.2200) [kenneth.ohms@legis.iowa.gov](mailto:kenneth.ohms@legis.iowa.gov)

**Funding**

The Eldora State Training School General Fund appropriation is included in the Health and Human Services Appropriations Act. The General Fund appropriation to the School has averaged \$11.9 million annually for the five-year period from FY 2013 to FY 2017. State General Fund dollars make up approximately 84.0% of the School's annual budget. The per diem rate per child in FY 2015 was \$316, a \$28 increase from FY 2016. The cost per episode in FY 2017 was \$53,988.

**Related Statutes and Administrative Rules**

Iowa Code chapters [218](#) and [233A](#)  
Iowa Administrative Code [441—103](#)