
BUDGET UNIT BRIEF – FY 2019

Fiscal Services Division

October 8, 2018



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

State Fire Marshal Division

Purpose and History

The State Fire Marshal Division, established in 1911, is the oldest of the six divisions within the Department of Public Safety. The Division was created to collect statistics on fire in Iowa and to develop fire safety regulations. The State Fire Marshal Division is comprised of five bureaus that promote and enforce fire safety regulations and building code provisions, and conduct arson investigations.

- Fire Prevention — Conducts fire safety inspections in Iowa schools, universities, jails, and nursing homes.
- Arson and Explosives — Investigates fire and explosion scenes, bombings, and explosive devices. Inspects and licenses explosive storage facilities.
- Building Code — Reviews certain building plans and inspects certain buildings.
- Fire Service Training — Provides training and education for Iowa's fire and emergency services.
- Electrical Licensing and Inspection — Responsible for statewide licensing of all electricians and electrical contractors and inspections of all new electrical work done within the State.

Funding

The majority of funding for the State Fire Marshal Division comes from the State General Fund appropriation, which is \$1.6 million for FY 2017, and the remainder is generated by reimbursements and fees retained by the Division to offset the costs of various activities. The following list outlines the various fees charged by the State Fire Marshal Division.

Fees deposited to the State General Fund:

- Commercial Explosives Licenses — Fees paid by licensees to help defray costs of monitoring commercial explosives.
- Building Code Plan Review — Fees paid by architectural firms for the review of building plans.
- Building Inspections — Fees paid by those building State-owned buildings, Regents buildings, and non-State-owned buildings receiving a State appropriation.
- Energy Review — Fees paid by builders.
- Inspections of health care facilities, group homes, elder group homes, assisted living facilities, adult day services, and child care facilities — Fees paid by facilities for fire safety inspections.
- Modular Home Seals — Fees paid by manufacturers.
- Fire Suppression System Plan Review — Fees paid by architectural firms for the review of fire suppression systems.

More Information

Department of Public Safety – State Fire Marshal Division: www.dps.state.ia.us/fm
LSA Staff Contact: Christin Mechler (515.281.6561) christin.mechler@legis.iowa.gov

Fees retained by the Fire Marshal Division:

- Fire Extinguishing System Contractor Certification — Fees paid by contractors in the fire extinguishing system industry used to defray costs of conducting the program.
- Fire Alarm Plan Review — Fees paid by architectural firms for the review of fire alarm systems.
- Manufactured Home Seal, Anchoring System, Licenses, and Certifications — Fees paid by manufactured home installers, retailers, manufacturers, or distributors.
- Aboveground Storage Tanks — Fees paid by storage tank owners used to defray the costs of licensing and inspection.
- Fire Fighter Certification and Training — Fees paid by fire fighters for certification and tuition/conferences/publications/materials, etc.
- Electrician Licenses and Inspections — Fees are deposited in the Electrician and Installers Licensing and Inspection Fund to aid in maintaining the program.

Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code chapter [80](#)

Iowa Administrative Code [661](#)

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