



A MONTHLY JOURNAL
FOR IOWA EDUCATORS

School Leader Update

June 2010

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RACE TO THE TOP submitted

The Iowa Department of Education has completed Iowa's application for up to \$175 million in Race to the Top funds.

Iowa had strong participation among school districts.

The school districts participating in Iowa's application serve a total of 342,812 students—more than 73 percent of Iowa's K-12 public school population. This is up from 47 percent of students in Iowa's first round application.

An announcement of the winners will be made in September.



Summer brings conversations and changes

I am pleased to announce that the Iowa Department of Education (DE) submitted our Race to the Top application on Friday, May 28.

As my team wrapped up last minute tweaks to content and final edits, I found myself looking back to December when this whole journey started. Many spirited conversations have taken place across the state over the past six months about such issues as the federal school



*Kevin Fangman,
Acting Director*

intervention models, pay for performance, and student achievement and growth playing a significant factor in teacher and administrator evaluation. These conversations will stay live as the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act potentially moves forward this fall. Our discussions in Iowa must be frank, by challenging how we think about education, taking on tough topics in order for Iowa to move forward as a leader and do what is right for Iowa students.

Of the many decisions on the horizon for us as a state is the national Common Core Standards in English language arts and mathematics. They will be released on June 2. Iowa has committed to adopting these standards, but a final decision will not be made until we can have an in-depth analysis of how they build on the essential concepts and skills in the Iowa Core. Our plan is to have one integrated document for districts. The State Board of Education will discuss this at its July meeting.

Later in this *School Leader Update* edition, you will see the list of my colleagues at the DE who will be retiring. Over 40 talented people will be starting a new chapter in their lives. As an agency, we will build on the foundation these outstanding retirees established as we hire new individuals with the content expertise required to keep advancing education. At the same time, we, like many school districts, will also be a leaner and more efficient organization.

I hope the next few months give you the opportunity to renew, recharge, and spend some quality time with your family and friends and the school leaders in your district. If I can be of any assistance, please feel free to contact me at kevin.fangman@iowa.gov.

- Kevin Fangman

COMMON CORE released June 2

The final version of the national Common Core State Standards will be publically available Wednesday, June 2, at 10 a.m. at www.corestandards.org.

Parents, teachers, school administrators, and experts from across the country together with state leaders, through their membership in the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) and the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (NGA Center), have led the effort to develop a common core of state standards.

Iowa was an early signatory to the initiative, in which 48 states have agreed to participate. The standards are research and evidence-based; aligned with college and workforce training program expectations; reflective of rigorous content and skills; and internationally benchmarked.

The Iowa Department of the Education will begin a review process for alignment with the Iowa Core on June 7, 2010.

The State Board of Education, which has legal mandate to adopt the state's standards, will initially review the Common Core standards at its June 23-24 meeting.

Iowa Teaching Standards amended

At its May 13, 2010, meeting, the State Board of Education adopted changes to the criteria under Iowa's Teacher Standards. The amendments strengthen Iowa's commitment to using student performance data to evaluate educators.

They specifically address Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 83, "Teacher and Administrator Quality Programs." The changes include the statements that a teacher (additions in italics):

- provides *multiple forms* of evidence of student learning *and growth* to students, families, and staff.
- *provides an analysis of student learning and growth based on teacher created tests and authentic measures as well as any standardized and district-wide tests.*

All changes made may be viewed at http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=9467&Itemid=1507.

The Notice of Intended Action was published in the February 10, 2010, and a public hearing was held on March 2, 2010. No written or oral comments were received.

For questions, please contact [Kevin Fangman](mailto:Kevin.Fangman@iowa.gov) at kevin.fangman@iowa.gov.

Education benefits to military families

Iowa has more than 10,000 military children. This summer, the state stands ready to deploy some 3,500 Iowa National Guard members and another 3,000 reservists to Iraq or Afghanistan. This number represents the largest single deployment of troops from Iowa since World War II.



Many of Iowa's military dependents will be in Iowa K-12 schools in the fall. The Iowa Department of Education (DE) has information about the benefits and services available to Iowa's military dependents. These services are broad and are derived from many different agencies and/or non-governmental organizations. The benefits and services include things like tutoring services, mental health counseling, before and after school day care, free membership to YMCAs, and access to YMCA or 4-H camps.

DE consultant Tom Beasley has been appointed as chairman of Iowa's Commission for Educational Opportunity for Military Dependents and Iowa's School Military Liaison Officer. Beasley is assigned to the DE's Veterans and Military Education section and is available to any Iowa educator for questions, concerns, or issues regarding a military dependent with a parent, sibling, or grandparent serving in the Armed Services. Please feel free to contact Tom Beasley if you need help assisting a military child in need. Tom Beasley may be reached at 515-281-3490 or 515-339-4523, or thomas.beasley@iowa.gov.

Trainer applications, academic rigor

The Iowa Department of Education (DE) is now accepting applications for trainers for the Assessing Academic Rigor course, which will be the common learning experience for all administrators who evaluate teachers and evaluate administrators. The DE is seeking applications for current and retired administrators as well as those with a strong professional development background.

A preparation of trainers will be held on July 6, 2010, and July 7, 2010, at School Administrators of Iowa (SAI). If you are interested in applying, a copy of the application letter and current application is located on the DE website at http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=538&Itemid=1290#level3 and on the SAI website at <http://www.sai-iowa.org>. Applications are due by June 4, 2010.

Iowa Evaluator Approval training

For administrators to receive Level III Evaluator Approval, a total of four hours of renewal credit is required to maintain approval and administrative license. All administrators will participate in a two-credit course entitled *Assessing Academic Rigor*. This course will be offered at various times and locations in Iowa beginning in the fall of 2010 and will continue for a minimum of two years. Specifics about this common learning experience will be advertised through each area education agency, the Iowa Department of Education, and School Administrators of Iowa.

In addition to the two-credit hour required course and in order to complete the additional two hours of renewal credit, each administrator will need to select a second course based on individual professional development plans or specific needs. The options for the additional two-credit hours include the following:

- Fierce Conversations (*must be or have been the official Fierce Conversation course with a "Fierce" certified trainer*)
- Increasing the Effectiveness of Leadership Teams (*Timeframe TBD*)
- Developing Professional Development and Individual Professional Development Plans That Impact Teaching & Learning (*Timeframe TBD*)
- Employee Discipline/Intensive Assistance Plans (*Timeframe TBD*)
- *Leadership Skills for Beating the Odds* (*Timeframe TBD*)

For questions, contact Matt Ludwig at 515-281-3750 or matt.ludwig@iowa.gov.

Digital Learning Library research study

Iowa Public Television (IPTV) needs middle school teachers (grades 6-8) who would be good candidates for their Digital Learning Library (DLL) research study.

The DLL provides educators across the country with access to award-winning digital teaching and learning resources. The DLL's overarching purpose is to catalog the Public Broadcasting System's digital instructional assets so that local educators can best access and use them to support high-quality instruction and contribute to gains in student learning. DLL implementation and impact testing is scheduled to run August through December 2010. The deadline to sign up to participate is June 30, 2010. For details, contact Tiffany DeJager at tiffany.dejager@iptv.org.

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www.iowa.gov/educate

BOARD OF EDUCATION launches blog

The State Board of Education has launched a new tool to share news and information about its work on behalf of schools, students, and teachers across Iowa.

The State Board has created a blog that will provide updates on its efforts, including a focus on how innovative efforts are being put to use to improve student achievement across the state.

The State Board's blog can be viewed at

www.iaeducation.wordpress.com.

The blog allows you to subscribe to it, so that you receive a brief email notice when a new article is posted. In addition, the blog can be accessed through the Iowa Department of Education's website at www.iowa.gov/educate, as well as the department's Facebook and Twitter pages.

The blog will feature news on the State Board's meetings, reports on the work of State Board members, and updates by state department officials on how Board policies and programs are being implemented.

And like most blogs, it will provide an opportunity for comments and feedback from readers as another avenue of communication for people committed to education in Iowa.

CPI INFORMATION

Progress reporting

June 30, 2010, is the Competent Private Instruction (CPI) deadline for parents to report the results of standardized tests or portfolio evaluations to the resident district.

Districts shall submit form C-1 (found on page 22 of the CPI handbook) to the Iowa Department of Education (DE) for each student who has a national percentile rank of 30 or below in any one of the test areas indicated or who has less than six months progress on national grade equivalent from one year to another. Please see Iowa Code 299A.6 for further details.

Districts shall not report test scores to the DE for students who are served by licensed teachers or who were younger than age seven on September 15, 2010, or older than age 16 of the current school year.

CPI handbook

The CPI handbook for the 2010-2011 school year and other supporting documents are now available on the DE website at www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=301&Itemid=1335.

For additional information, contact Elizabeth Calhoun at 515-281-8170 or elizabeth.calhoun@iowa.gov

DE employees retiring this year

The Iowa Department of Education (DE) will be saying farewell to several outstanding individuals who have served Iowa students and the education community.

These professionals have provided expertise in a wide range of areas and they have set a strong foundation in their program areas. The retirees are:

- Bureau of Accreditation and Improvement Services: Thomas Andersen, Lois Irwin, Arlie Willems;
- Bureau of Career and Technical Education Services: Roger Foelske, Brenda Patrick;
- Bureau of Community Colleges Services: Marlene Higdon, Sandy Jones, Sharon Shypkowski;
- Bureau of Early Childhood Services: Gloria Frolek Clark;
- Bureau of Information Technology: James Anderson;
- Bureau of Nutrition, Health and Transportation Services: Rod Bakken, Janet Wendland, Julia Thorius;
- Bureau of Planning, Research, Development and Evaluation: Becky Erickson;
- Bureau of Student and Family Support Services: Randy Allison, Dennis Dykstra, Norma Lynch, Steve Maurer, Lana Michelson, Joan Twedt, Toni Van Cleve, Dee Ann Wilson;
- Bureau of Teaching and Learning Services: Mary Cameron, Deb Hansen, Joseph Herrity, Haila Huffman, Gretchen Kelly, Kara Krohn, Jim Reese;
- Division of PK-12 Education: Kathy Borlin;
- Office of the Director: Judy Jeffrey, Sharon Willis;
- Office of Internal Administrative Services: Nancy Brees, Wanda Schmidt.

This list is not complete. Employees on this list may revoke their decision up to June 24, 2010. As the DE moves forward, contact and other information will be provided to maintain consistency of service to Iowa schools.

AYP log-on procedure and timelines

The Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) web reporting site is now open for local area education agencies (LEAs) to access and enter their district data until July 5, 2010.

This site may be accessed at <https://www.edinfo.state.ia.us/> by entering the LEA's Basic Educational Data Survey (BEDS) password and identification. The district's superintendent must enter or open access. Please open "Security."

The AYP timelines are as follows:

- May 24: Districts may access their AYP website
- May 24-July 5: Preliminary certification period
- July 6 -July 9: Final certification
- July 19: District and school AYP status notifications will be sent to superintendents.

** Districts that do not certify will be automatically certified on July 9, 2010.*

Payment document now paperless!

Beginning July 1, 2010, the Iowa Department of Education (DE) will no longer be issuing paper warrant descriptions for any payments that are issued. Instead, when a payment occurs, the system will generate an email notification that a payment has been issued. The email will also include a link to the DE website where all information on payments will be available. Payment details will be available on the website, which is sortable. A district may still receive paper warrants by mail. However, the payment details will be on the website. The system will be available in June, and will provide access to any payments made in fiscal year 2010. The system will also allow instant access to payment details 24/7 and will allow the DE to reduce postage costs by approximately 80 percent. If you are still receiving paper warrants and want to convert to Electronic Funds Transfer or have any other questions on this, please contact Jeff Berger at 515-281-3968 or jeff.berger@iowa.gov.

Data & Reporting

Fall BEDS and EASIER June training schedule

In order to prepare for upcoming changes to the fall BEDs (Basic Educational Survey Data) and fall EASIER (Electronic Access System for Iowa Education Records)/Certified Enrollment, regional training sessions and webinars will be conducted at the following locations and times [(1) – first session; (2) – second session]:

- June 1: Ottumwa, Great Prairie AEA—BEDS (1) 10:00 a.m. –1:00 p.m.; EASIER (1) 10:00 a.m. –1:00 p.m.
- June 2: Burlington, Great Prairie AEA—BEDS (1) 10:00 a.m. –1:00 p.m.
- June 2: EASIER webinar, 12:30 p.m.
- June 2: Creston, Green Valley AEA—BEDS (1) 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., (2) 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.; EASIER (1) 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., (2) 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
- June 3: Bettendorf, Mississippi Bend AEA—BEDS (1) 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., (2) 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.; EASIER (1) 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- June 4: Council Bluffs CANCELLED
- June 4: EASIER webinar, 8:30 a.m.; BEDS webinar, 1:00 p.m.
- June 7: Cedar Rapids, Grant Wood AEA—BEDS (1) 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., (2) 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.; EASIER (1) 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., (2) 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
- June 7: Sioux City, Sioux City West High School—BEDS (1) 12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.; EASIER (1) 12:30 p.m. –3:30 p.m.
- June 8: Storm Lake, Prairie Lakes AEA—BEDS (*bring your own laptop*) (1) 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., (2) 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.; EASIER (1) 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., (2) 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- June 9: Clear Lake, AEA 267—BEDS (1) 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.; EASIER (1) 10:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m.
- June 10: Cedar Falls, AEA 267—BEDS (1) 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., (2) 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.; EASIER (1) 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.; (2) 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
- June 11: Urbandale, Urbandale High School —BEDS (1) 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., (2) 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. EASIER (1) 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., (2) 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Training for fall BEDS will focus on the new staff extract that will be used to pre-populate the staff assignment and staff salary reports. The core components of EASIER training will be elementary and middle school course coding, high school concurrent enrollment course coding, Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program reporting, and various other changes for 2010-2011 EASIER and Certified Enrollment reporting. You may register to attend any of the regional training sessions at <http://www.iowa.gov/educate/calendar/calendar.html>.

There is no registration for the webinar sessions. To attend a webinar, you may log in as a guest by clicking on the appropriate link(s) below:

June 2: EASIER Training—12:30 p.m., <http://iowaec.na4.acrobat.com/easier/>

June 4: EASIER Training—8:30 a.m., <http://iowaec.na4.acrobat.com/easier2/>

Early Childhood Preschool Programs

Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program

Applications for the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program for Four-Year-Old Children (SWVPP) grant for 2010-2011 were due May 14, 2010. All qualified districts that applied will be

awarded funds on a prorated basis. One hundred and fifty districts, including consortium districts, submitted applications. With the addition of these newly awarded districts, 89 percent of Iowa school districts will be participating in the SWVPP for the 2010-2011 school year.



Legislation and Head Start agreements

For the past two years, Head Start programs have been required to enter into a memoranda of understanding with local school districts that are managing state-funded preschool programs operating in the Head Start program's service area. The legislation is included in the Head Start Act of 2010. Local school districts are asked to cooperate with Head Start programs to support this obligation.

The agreements include the following areas:

- Educational activities, curricular objectives, and instruction
- Public information dissemination and access to programs for families contacting the Head Start program or any of the preschool programs
- Selection priorities for eligible children to be served by programs
- Service areas
- Staff training, including opportunities for joint staff training on topics such as academic content standards, instructional methods, curricula, and social and emotional development
- Program technical assistance
- Provision of additional services to meet the needs of working parents, as applicable
- Communications and parent outreach for smooth transitions to kindergarten
- Provision and use of facilities, transportation, and other program elements
- Other elements mutually agreed to by the parties to such memorandum

Many districts already have these agreements in place, but if your district is contacted, please support completing the agreement. For more information on these requirements in the Head Start Act, please contact Tom Rendon at 515-242-6024 or tom.rendon@iowa.gov.

NEW CHILD CARE licensing requirements

New licensing requirements for Department of Human Services (DHS) require individuals working in a child care setting to have record checks.

Exempt from this requirement are professional staff who hold a current, valid license issued by the Board of Educational Examiners (BOEE) in relation to children in the center to whom they provide professional services consistent with Iowa Code Chapter 272 and rules adopted by the BOEE.

This provision applies to professional area education agency (AEA) staff who come to the center to provide AEA services. The person must hold BOEE licensure and provide only services authorized by the AEA and the parent/guardian/custodian in order to meet the exemption criteria.

In some instances, this provision will also apply to preschool program staff who are volunteering when such staff are BOEE-licensed and only providing preschool program services on a voluntary basis to children enrolled in the program.

For more information, please contact Judy Russell at 515-281-4705 or judy.russell@iowa.gov.



Legislative Update

The contact for all legislative items is Konni Cawiezell (konni.cawiezell@iowa.gov or 515-281-3399).

Survey for legislative changes

The Iowa Department of Education (DE) is surveying school leaders on their suggestions for legislative changes.

If you have a suggestion, please complete the survey below and return it to Konni Cawiezell at konni.cawiezell@iowa.gov or by fax at 515-281-4122.

DE staff will review submissions this summer for legislative changes that may be included in the DE's prefiled legislation for the 2011 legislative session. Thank you in advance for your time and participation.

State your proposal.

What barriers are there to your proposal?

If applicable, would this proposal save the local district money? If yes, how?

If applicable, would this proposal positively affect student achievement? If yes, how?

If applicable, would this positively impact local district operations? If yes, how?



Legal Lessons

The contact for all Legal Lessons items is Carol Greta (carol.greta@iowa.gov or 515-281-8661).

Driver Ed, strip search, SOR, and more

Driver Education, Waivers, Nonpublic School Students

Every school district in Iowa must make a driver education course available to resident students (other than open enrolled out students). Iowa Code section 321.178 states, “Every public school district in Iowa shall offer or make available to all students residing in the school district or Iowa students attending a nonpublic school in the district an approved course in driver education. The receiving district shall be the school district responsible for making driver education available to a student participating in open enrollment under section 282.18.”

School districts have authority under section 282.6 to charge tuition and fees for the driver education course that the districts make available. A student who is eligible for free lunch must be given the full waiver when the student takes the course made available by the district; a student who is eligible for reduced price lunch must be given the partial waiver when the student takes the course made available by the district. (Partial waiver should closely mirror the percentage reduction in the student’s price of hot lunch.)

Nonpublic students may qualify for free or reduced price lunch on the same basis as public school students. Such students may be required to demonstrate eligibility, and this may be by a letter from the nonpublic school or by filling out the appropriate application.

Some students, public and nonpublic, apply for fee waiver eligibility for the first time for driver education. If these students qualify for full or partial waiver, they must be allowed to submit a waiver for all fees going forward, but there is no obligation to return fees already collected.

Finally, a district that chooses to meet its obligation in section 321.178 to provide driver education by contracting with a third party must honor the full or partial waiver for eligible students. (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act now allows a district to share eligibility information with a third party provider if the district has a contract with the provider.) However, if a student declines to take a driver education course offered (directly or indirectly) by the student’s district and instead chooses to take driver education from an independent source, the student gives up any right to claim a fee waiver for driver education.

Membership Balance on Appointive Boards

With the passage of a new law, Iowa Code section 69.16D, requiring that young adults (defined as 18 – 35 years of age) be included on “appointive boards, commissions, committees, and councils **of the state** established by the Code,” comes this opportunity to list who a local public school board must include on the bodies that the school board appoints.

Other than the SIAC (School Improvement Advisory Committee, discussed below), only gender balance applies to appointive boards, commissions, committees, and councils “of a political subdivision of the state that are established by the Code.” This would include bodies appointed by a local public school board. A local public school board is not compelled by statute to have political affiliation balance, minority representation, or young adults on bodies it appoints. Those three categories apply only to bodies “of the state.” However, just because a local public school board is not compelled by statute to have minority representation or young adult representation does not mean that ignoring minority representation or young adults is a good idea. A good rule of thumb is that school boards should strive to have any group it appoints mirror the demographics of its community.

As for a SIAC, that body is established in its own section of the Iowa Code (280.12), which requires, “To the extent possible, committee membership shall have balanced representation with regard to **race, gender, national origin, and disability.**” So, school boards are compelled by law to try to balance SIAC membership as to race, gender, national origin, and disability.

Foreign Exchange Students – Changes in Federal Rules

The U.S. State Department is proposing to amend its regulations for high school foreign exchange students (those on J-1 vi-
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Legal Lessons continued

sas). Two of the proposed changes are as follows:

1. Interscholastic athletic activities. "Sponsors shall not knowingly be party to a placement (inclusive of direct placements) based on athletic abilities, whether initiated by a student, a natural or host family, a school, or any other interested party. Any placement in which either the student or the sending organization in the foreign country is party to an arrangement with any other party, including receiving school personnel, whereby the student will attend a particular school or live with a particular host family must be reported to the particular school and the National Federation of State High School Associations prior to the first day of classes." The DE has advised the Iowa High School Athletic Association and Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union of this proposed change. Two other proposed changes may help schools and athletic organizations monitor this. For example, families receiving needs-based government subsidies for food or housing to meet basic living needs would be categorically excluded from consideration. So if a school knows that a foreign exchange student has been placed with such a family, the school might monitor the placement for athletic motivation. Also, because the program requires a "family" to serve as a host, a single adult cannot qualify as a "family" unless there is at least one school-aged child living full-time in the home; a child in a custody situation frequently visits the home; or a child pursuing higher education studies frequently visits the family home.
2. A placement may be no more than one hour's drive of the home of the local organizational representative. If this particular proposal goes into effect, our smaller schools may see an end to foreign exchange student placements with them. The DE – along with School Administrators of Iowa and Iowa Association of School Boards – has filed a comment with the Department of State in strong opposition to this proposal.

The above are proposals; they will not be effective for another several weeks. The DE shall monitor these proposals.

School Officials who Conducted Strip Search of Students not given Immunity

A federal appeals court unanimously ruled last week that high school officials in Ohio who conducted a strip search of students were not entitled to immunity from the students' lawsuit alleging violations of the students' Fourth Amendment right to be free from unreasonable searches. The court ruled that the right to be free from such searches is clearly established.

Iowa school officials understand that our "student search and seizure law" in Iowa Code chapter 808A contains four absolute prohibitions. A school official shall not conduct a search which involves:

- A strip search.
- A body cavity search.
- The use of a drug sniffing animal to search a student's body.
- The search of a student by a school official not of the same gender as the student.

Chapter 808A does not define "strip search." However, the U.S. Supreme Court last summer made it clear that a strip search is one that gets down to the layer of clothing that is closest to the skin. *Asking a student to remove or loosen any clothing that*

SEX OFFENDER Registry Law Changes

The two improvements to this law of which school officials should be aware are as follows:

A person convicted of a sexual assault or other sex offense against a minor in another state is subject to the same restrictions in Iowa regarding being on school property.

That person must seek permission to be at a school event on school grounds to the same extent as a person on the Iowa Sex Offender Registry (SOR).

Previously, the law had overlooked out-of-state offenders. This was an oversight corrected by the Legislature this spring.

Another oversight that was corrected in the law this spring is that schools and their employees now have immunity "from liability for acts or omissions arising from a good faith effort" to comply with the SOR law.

DIRECTOR'S position opening

The Governor of the state of Iowa is seeking candidates for the position of Director of the Iowa Department of Education.

For information, please visit

www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&qid=9558&Itemid=1507.

Calendar

- June 18 • Spring BEDS Certification Deadline
- June 21 • Spring EASIER Certification Deadline
- June 30 • Competent Private Instruction/Home Schooling:
- July 1 • Special Education Web Based Claims Available

[Click here for a complete Iowa Department of Education Calendar](#)

It is the policy of the Iowa Department of Education not to discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, gender, disability, religion, age, political party affiliation, or actual or potential parental, family or marital status in its programs, activities, or employment practices as required by the Iowa Code sections 216.9 and 256.10(2), Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. § 2000d and 2000e), the Equal Pay Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. § 206, et seq.), Title IX (Educational Amendments, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1681 – 1688), Section 504 (Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. § 794), and the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. § 12101, et seq.). If you have questions or grievances related to compliance with this policy by the Iowa Department of Education, please contact the legal counsel for the Iowa Department of Education, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, IA 50319-0146, telephone number 515/281-5295; or the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Citigroup Center, 500 W. Madison Street, Suite 1475, Chicago, IL 60661, telephone number 312-730-1560, fax 312/730-1576, e-mail: OCR.Chicago@ed.gov



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