

# **OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF STATE**

STATE OF IOWA

State Capitol Building Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0006

Rob Sand Auditor of State

Telephone (515) 281-5834

	NEWS RELEASE	
		Contact: Brian Brustkern
FOR RELEASE	October 31, 2024	515/281-5834

Auditor of State Rob Sand today released an audit report on the Office of Treasurer of State, Iowa Educational Savings Plan Trust (Trust) for the year ended June 30, 2024.

The Trust was created by the General Assembly under Chapter 12D of the Code of Iowa to encourage and make possible the attainment of higher education by the greatest number of citizens of the state. The purpose of the Trust is to allow U.S. citizens to invest money for payment of education costs for designated beneficiaries. At June 30, 2024, the Trust had 157,351 participants and 279,187 beneficiaries.

## **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS:**

Sand reported net additions totaling \$1,222,100,521 for the year ended June 30, 2024, a 23.6% increase over the prior year. Additions included \$473,259,103 of contributions from participants, \$1,755,396 of administrative fees, investment income of \$184,106, miscellaneous revenue of \$10,000 and a net increase in fair value of investments of \$746,891,916.

Deductions totaled \$704,055,049 for the year ended June 30, 2024, a 9.6% increase over the prior year and included \$702,494,890 of distributions to participants and beneficiaries and \$1,560,159 of administrative expenses.

The increase in additions and deductions was mainly the result of changes in the financial market where the Trust recorded a net increase in the fair market value of investments of \$538,320,548 in fiscal year 2023 and a net increase in the fair market value of investments of \$746,891,916 in fiscal year 2024.

## AUDIT FINDINGS:

Consistent with the prior year, Sand reported no findings pertaining to the Treasurer of State, Iowa Educational Savings Plan Trust.

A copy of the audit report is available for review on the Auditor of State's website at Audit Reports - Auditor of State.

#### OFFICE OF TREASURER OF STATE IOWA EDUCATIONAL SAVINGS PLAN TRUST

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORTS BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

JUNE 30, 2024



# OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF STATE

STATE OF IOWA

State Capitol Building Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0006 Telephone (515) 281-5834

ephone (515) 201-5054

October 17, 2024

Office of Treasurer of State, Iowa Educational Savings Plan Trust Des Moines, Iowa

To the Honorable Roby Smith, Treasurer of State:

I am pleased to submit to you the financial and compliance audit report for the Office of Treasurer of State, Iowa Educational Savings Plan Trust for the year ended June 30, 2024. The audit was performed pursuant to Chapter 12D.8 of the Code of Iowa and in accordance with U.S. auditing standards applicable to financial audits contained in <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>.

I appreciate the cooperation and courtesy extended by the officials and employees of Office of Treasurer of State throughout the audit. If I or this office can be of any further assistance, please contact me or my staff at 515-281-5834.

Sincerely,

Rob Sand Auditor of State

Rob Sand Auditor of State

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# Officials

<u>Name</u>

<u>Title</u>

State

Honorable Kim Reynolds Kraig Paulsen Timothy McDermott Governor Director, Department of Management Director, Legislative Services Agency

Agency

Honorable Roby Smith Alicia Callanan Treasurer of State Deputy Treasurer



# OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF STATE

STATE OF IOWA

State Capitol Building Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0006 Telephone (515) 281-5834 Rob Sand Auditor of State

# Independent Auditor's Report

To the Honorable Roby Smith, Treasurer of State:

## Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

<u>Opinion</u>

We have audited the financial statements of the Office of Treasurer of State, Iowa Educational Savings Plan Trust (Trust) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related Notes to Financial Statements, which collectively comprise the Trust's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the fiduciary net position of the Office of Treasurer of State, Iowa Educational Savings Plan Trust as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in its fiduciary net position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in <u>Government Auditing</u> <u>Standards</u> issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Office of Treasurer of State, Iowa Educational Savings Plan Trust, and to meet our ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

## Emphasis of a Matter

As discussed in Note 1, the financial statements of the Office of Treasurer of State, Iowa Educational Savings Plan Trust are intended to present the financial position and results of operations of only the portion of the financial reporting entity of the State of Iowa attributable to the transactions of the Iowa Educational Savings Plan Trust. They do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of the State of Iowa as of June 30, 2024 and the changes in its financial position for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

## Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

## Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and <u>Government Auditing Standards</u> will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgement made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, we:

- Exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Office of Treasurer of State, Iowa Educational Savings Plan Trust's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgement, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Office of Treasurer of State, Iowa Educational Savings Plan Trust's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal controlrelated matters that we identified during the audit.

# Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis on pages 8 and 9 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with GAAS, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

#### Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Office of Treasurer of State, Iowa Educational Savings Plan Trust's basic financial statements. The supplementary information included in Schedules 1 through 4 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements.

Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. In our opinion, the supplementary information in Schedules 1 through 4 is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

## Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, we have also issued our report dated October 17, 2024 on our consideration of the Office of Treasurer of State, Iowa Educational Savings Plan Trust's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Trust's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u> in considering the Office of Treasurer of State, Iowa Educational Savings Plan Trust's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

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Brian R. Brustkern, CPA Deputy Auditor of State

October 17, 2024

# MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

The Office of Treasurer of State, Iowa Educational Savings Plan Trust (Trust) provides this Management's Discussion and Analysis of the Trust's annual financial statements. This narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Trust is for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. We encourage readers to consider this information in conjunction with the Trust's financial statements, which follow this section.

#### USING THESE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the Trust's financial statements, which consist of the Statement of Fiduciary Net Position and the Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position (pages 12 and 13). They also include the Notes to Financial Statements which begin on page 14. These financial statements provide information about the activities of the Trust as a whole and are based on the flow of economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. The flow of economic resources refers to all of the assets available to the Trust for the purpose of fulfilling its responsibilities to the other parties in the fiduciary relationship.

The financial statements are further described as follows:

The Statement of Fiduciary Net Position presents the assets, liabilities and net position of the Trust.

The Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position summarizes the additions to, deductions from and the net increase or decrease in fiduciary net position for the year.

The Notes to Financial Statements provide additional information essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the financial statements.

#### FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE TRUST

During fiscal year 2024, the Trust received \$473,259,103 of contributions from participants and distributed \$702,494,890 to participants and beneficiaries.

At June 30, 2024, the total number of participants, beneficiaries and accounts by plan were as follows:

	Participants	Beneficiaries	Accounts
College Savings Iowa 529 Plan	129,780	241,374	286,760
Iowa Advisor 529 Plan	27,571	37,813	67,673
Total	157,351	279,187	354,433

The Trust's financial activity for the year ended June 30, 2024 resulted in an increase in fiduciary net position of \$518,045,472, primarily due to a net increase in the fair value of investments of \$746,891,916.

	June 30, 2024	June 30, 2023
Assets		
Cash and investments	\$ 6,831,661,311	6,313,669,950
Liabilities	78,182	132,293
Net position restricted for the payment of higher		
education costs for designated beneficiaries	\$ 6,831,583,129	6,313,537,657
	Year Ended	Year Ended
	June 30, 2024	June 30, 2023
Additions:		
Contributions	\$ 473,259,103	448,472,940
Net increase in fair value of		
investments	746,891,916	538,320,548
Other	1,949,502	1,747,190
Total additions	1,222,100,521	988,540,678
Deductions:	<u></u>	
Distributions	702,494,890	640,770,683
Administrative expenses	1,560,159	1,711,109
Total deductions	704,055,049	642,481,792
Net increase in net position	518,045,472	346,058,886
Net position beginning of year	6,313,537,657	5,967,478,771
Net position end of year	\$ 6,831,583,129	6,313,537,657

Condensed financial information as of and for the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023 is as follows:

Total additions increased primarily due to the investments registering a net increase in fair value of investments of \$746,891,916 during fiscal year 2024 compared to a net increase in fair value of investments of \$538,320,548 in fiscal year 2023. Total deductions increased primarily due beneficiaries withdrawing additional funds for educational expenses (see Schedule 4) during fiscal year 2024. The increase in fair value of investments was due to changing market conditions. The increase in distributions of \$61,724,207 over the prior year is due to beneficiaries withdrawing additional funds for educational expenses (see Schedule 4).

# <u>CONTACTING THE OFFICE OF TREASURER OF STATE, IOWA EDUCATIONAL SAVINGS PLAN</u> <u>TRUST</u>

This financial report is designed to present users with a general overview of the Trust's finances and to demonstrate the Trust's accountability for the funds held in custody. If you have questions about the report or need additional financial information, please contact the Office of Treasurer of State, State Capitol Building, Des Moines, IA 50319.

**Basic Financial Statements** 

Statement of Fiduciary Net Position

June 30, 2024

Assets	
Cash	\$ 3,938,814
Investments	 6,827,722,497
Total assets	6,831,661,311
<b>Liabilities</b> Accounts payable	 78,182
<b>Net position</b> Restricted for others	\$ 6,831,583,129

See notes to financial statements.

Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position

Year ended June 30, 2024

Additions:		
Contributions from participants		\$ 473,259,103
Net increase in fair value of investments		746,891,916
Administrative fees		1,755,396
Investment income		184,106
Miscellaneous revenue		 10,000
Total additions		 1,222,100,521
Deductions:		
Distributions to participants and beneficiaries		702,494,890
Administrative expenses:		
Salaries	\$ 157,803	
Travel	10,965	
Supplies	156,711	
Contractual services for outside consultants		
and independent contractors	133,170	
Other contractual services	43,746	
Software maintenance	504	
Marketing	 1,057,260	
		 1,560,159
Total deductions		 704,055,049
Net increase in fiduciary net position		518,045,472
Net position beginning of year		 6,313,537,657
Net position end of year		\$ 6,831,583,129

See notes to financial statements.

#### Notes to Financial Statements

June 30, 2024

## (1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The Iowa Educational Savings Plan Trust (Trust) is a part of the Office of Treasurer of State of Iowa. The Trust was created in 1998 by the General Assembly under Chapter 12D of the Code of Iowa, with the Treasurer of State as the trustee. According to Chapter 12D of the Code of Iowa, the General Assembly finds the general welfare and well-being of the state are directly related to educational levels and skills of the citizens of the state and a vital and valid public purpose is served by the creation and implementation of programs which encourage and make possible the attainment of higher education by the greatest number of citizens of the state.

The purpose of the Trust is to allow participants to invest money for future payment of education costs for designated beneficiaries. In 2018, Chapter 12D of the Code of Iowa was amended to include elementary and secondary school expenses for tuition in connection with enrollment or attendance at an elementary or secondary public, private or religious school.

Two 529 plans are administered under the Trust. The College Savings Iowa 529 Plan was established in 1998 to be sold directly to the public. The Iowa Advisor 529 Plan was established in 2006 to be sold through financial advisors.

The financial statements of the Trust have been prepared in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles as prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

## A. <u>Reporting Entity</u>

For financial reporting purposes, the Trust has included all funds, organizations, agencies, boards, commissions and authorities. The Trust has also considered all potential component units for which it is financially accountable and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the Trust are such that exclusion would cause the Trust's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. These criteria include appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body and (1) the ability of the Trust to impose its will on that organization or (2) the potential for the organization to provide specific benefits to or impose specific financial burdens on the Trust. The Trust has no component units which meet the Governmental Accounting Standards Board criteria.

## B. <u>Measurement Focus</u>, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation

The Trust is accounted for using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Additions are recorded when earned and deductions are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows.

The Trust is a fiduciary fund type and is classified as a private purpose trust for financial statement purposes. A private purpose trust is used to report a trust arrangement under which principal and income benefit individuals, private organizations or other governments. The Trust is used to account for resources which may be expended only for education costs of designated beneficiaries.

## C. Capital Assets

Capital assets are defined by the Trust as assets with initial, individual costs in excess of \$5,000. Such assets are recorded at historical cost. Depreciation of all exhaustible assets is charged as an expense against operations. Depreciation is computed using the straightline method over the estimated useful lives of the assets. Capital assets are depreciated over a five-year life.

The cost of normal maintenance and repair that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend asset lives are not capitalized.

# (2) Deposits and Investments

The Trust's administrative funds deposited at Wells Fargo are insured up to \$250,000 through federal depository insurance. The Trust's remaining cash and investments are not bank deposits and are not insured by federal depository insurance or any other government agency. Investments are stated at fair value. Due to the nature of investments in mutual funds, there is no assurance the accounts under the Trust will generate any specific rate of return and there is no assurance the accounts will not decrease in value. Mutual funds are not subject to risk categorization.

Although money contributed to the Trust is invested in portfolios which hold mutual funds, neither the Trust nor any of its portfolios is itself a mutual fund. Each portfolio invests in one or more mutual funds, which are actively traded publicly.

The portfolios' investments valuation is based on the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles, based on the valuation inputs used, to measure the fair value of the asset. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets; Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs; Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs. As of June 30, 2024, the portfolios' investments, except for the interest accumulation portfolio, were classified as Level 1.

The interest accumulation portfolio in the College Savings Iowa 529 Plan directs all of its assets into the Vanguard Short-Term Reserves Account. This account is composed of traditional and synthetic funding agreements with insurance companies and Vanguard Federal Money Market Fund. The funding agreements, which are held in the name of the Trustee for the Trust, are unallocated insurance contracts that are nonparticipating interest-earning investment contracts, as defined in Governmental Accounting Standards Board, Statement No. 59 <u>Financial Instruments Omnibus</u> and Governmental Accounting Standards Board, Statement No. 31, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Certain Investments and for External <u>Investment Pools</u>. Accordingly, these agreements are reported at contract value for purposes of determining the College Savings Iowa 529 Plan's value in the investment pool due to the fact that the terms of the funding agreements are such that the contract value does not change when interest rates increase or decline. Contract value is equal to the initial required contribution amount, plus interest credited each month at the contractual rate, less withdrawals and expenses. As of June 30, 2024, the interest accumulation portfolio investments were classified as Level 2.

#### College Savings Iowa 529 Plan

The Office of Treasurer of State has an agreement with the Vanguard Group to invest funds for the Trust in specified investment portfolios. The Trust's investments at June 30, 2024 are all invested in portfolios which hold Vanguard mutual funds for the College Savings Iowa 529 Plan.

The Office of Treasurer of State has established four age-based savings tracks and ten individual portfolios for the participant to select from. For the age-based savings tracks, participant accounts will be exchanged (units held will be exchanged for a number of units of equal value) for the next portfolio in the year the beneficiary reaches the minimum qualifying age in the next portfolio.

Ages	Aggressive Growth Track	Growth Track	Moderate Growth Track	Conservative Growth Track
Age 5 and younger	Aggressive Growth	Aggressive Growth	Growth	Moderate Growth
Age 6 through 7	Aggressive Growth	Blended Aggressive Growth	Blended Growth	Blended Moderate Growth
Age 8 through 9	Aggressive Growth	Growth	Moderate Growth	Conservative Growth
Age 10 through 11	Blended Aggressive Growth	Blended Growth	Blended Moderate Growth	Blended Conservative Growth
Age 12 through 13	Growth	Moderate Growth	Conservative Growth	Income
Age 14 through 15	Blended Growth	Blended Moderate Growth	Blended Conservative Growth	Blended Income
Age 16 through 17	Moderate Growth	Conservative Growth	Income	Conservative Income
Age 18	Conservative Growth	Blended Conservative Growth	Blended Income	Conservative Income
Age 19 and older	Income	Conservative Income	Interest Accumulation	Interest Accumulation

At June 30, 2024, the College Savings Iowa 529 Plan had investments in the following portfolios:

	Fair Value		
Investment Portfolio	at June 30, 2024		
Fair Value:			
Aggressive Growth	\$	1,122,606,009	
Blended Aggressive Growth *		238,170,634	
Growth		553,176,704	
Blended Growth *		365,036,175	
Moderate Growth		624,065,717	
Blended Moderate Growth *		206,922,607	
Conservative Growth		480,949,919	
Blended Conservative Growth *		180,975,328	
Income		620,450,393	
Blended Income *		59,060,632	
Conservative Income		402,011,936	
Bond Index		48,509,392	
Domestic Stock Index		666,732,234	
International Stock Index		64,871,486	
Contract Value:			
Interest Accumulation		505,411,076	
Total	\$	6,138,950,242	

\* Not available as an individual portfolio option.

#### <u>Iowa Advisor 529 Plan</u>

Accounts for the Iowa Advisor 529 Plan are invested at the direction of the account owner with the assistance of a financial advisor.

The Office of Treasurer of State has an agreement with Voya Investment Management Co. LLC (Voya IM) to invest funds for the Iowa Educational Savings Plan Trust in specified investment portfolios. Currently, account owners in the Iowa Advisor 529 Plan have 20 investment options, all of which are managed by Voya IM.

The options open to investors as of June 30, 2024 include 11 single fund options, 4 static allocation options (investments remain in the same investment option) and 5 age-based options (the investments automatically become more conservative as the child ages).

At June 30, 2024, the Iowa Advisor 529 Plan had investments in the following portfolios:

	 Fair Value
Investment Portfolio	at June 30, 2024
IAdvisor 529 Aggressive Option	\$ 126,970,547
IAdvisor 529 Growth Option	104,039,844
IAdvisor 529 Moderate Option	34,813,757
IAdvisor 529 Conservative Option	14,175,026
IAdvisor 529 Age 0-5 Option	30,377,770
IAdvisor 529 Age 6-10 Option	65,005,437
IAdvisor 529 Age 11-15 Option	67,406,733
IAdvisor 529 Age 16-17 Option	27,498,095
IAdvisor 529 Age 18+ Option	34,328,761
Voya Large Cap Value Option	16,551,093
Voya Large Cap Growth Option	61,245,023
Voya Mid Cap Opportunities Option	13,640,939
Voya Multi-Manager Mid Cap Value Option	6,536,586
Voya Intermediate Bond Option	7,510,143
Voya Short Term Bond Option	1,737,246
Voya Government Money Market Option	22,108,720
Voya International Index Option *	2,420,980
Voya US Stock Index Option	37,783,141
Voya Multi-Manager International Equity Option	7,033,428
Voya JPMorgan Small Cap Core Equity Option	 7,588,986
Total	\$ 688,772,255

\* Not available to new investors

Credit Risk – Credit risk is the risk an issuer or other counterparty to an investment will not fulfill its obligation to the holder of the investment.

The various investment portfolios hold mutual funds, most of which contain investments not subject to credit risk. Certain portfolios hold mutual funds which contain investments subject to credit risk disclosure. However, the various investment portfolios are unrated.

Concentration of Credit Risk – The various portfolios hold mutual funds and, accordingly, disclosure of concentration of credit risk is not applicable.

Interest Rate Risk – Interest rate risk is the risk changes in interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. This risk is managed within the applicable portfolios using the effective duration methodology, which is widely used in the management of fixed income portfolios because it quantifies to a much greater degree the risk of interest rate changes. The methodology takes into account optionality on bonds and scales the risk of price changes on bonds depending upon the degree of change in rates and the slope of the yield curve.

Certain investment portfolios of the College Savings Iowa 529 Plan and the Iowa Advisor 529 Plan contain underlying fixed income investments subject to interest rate risk disclosure. The exposure is summarized using the effective duration methodology, as follows:

	Underlying Fixed Income Funds							
	Underlying Fixed income Funds							
			Vanguard					
			Short-term					
			Inflation		Fair Value of			
	Vanguard	Vanguard	Protected	Vanguard Total	Fixed Income			
	Total Bond	Total Bond	Securities	International	Funds at			
College Savings Iowa 529 Plan Investment Portfolio	Market Index	Market II Index	Index	Bond Index	June 30, 2024			
Blended Aggressive Growth	\$ -	16,415,100	-	7,040,999	23,456,099			
Growth	-	76,326,515	-	32,741,899	109,068,414			
Blended Growth	-	75,526,222	-	32,399,907	107,926,129			
Moderate Growth	-	172,704,390	-	73,928,270	246,632,660			
Blended Moderate Growth	-	71,624,322	-	30,747,042	102,371,364			
Conservative Growth	-	200,647,863	-	86,034,402	286,682,265			
Blended Conservative Growth	-	88,327,719	-	37,902,563	126,230,282			
Income	-	346,339,239	-	148,748,460	495,087,699			
Blended Income	-	37,103,722	-	15,938,520	53,042,242			
Conservative Income	-	137,875,388	72,024,848	90,145,917	300,046,153			
Bond Index	48,352,633	-	-	-	48,352,633			
Total	\$ 48,352,633	1,222,890,480	72,024,848	555,627,979	1,898,895,940			
Effective Duration (Years) as of June 30, 2024:	<u>6.0</u>	<u>6.0</u>	2.5	<u>7.2</u>				

	Underlying Fixed Income Funds						
Iowa Advisor 529 Plan Investment Portfolio	Voya Global Bond Fund	Voya High Yield Bond Fund	Voya Intermediate Bond Fund	Voya Short Term Bond Fund	Voya Limited Maturity Bond fund	VY Brandywine Global-Bond Portfolio	Fair Value of Fixed Income Funds at June 30, 2024
IAdvisor 529 Aggressive	\$ 3,724,798	2,524,651	-	-	-	-	6,249,449
IAdvisor 529 Growth	3,058,724	4,146,273	8,230,952	-	-	3,084,267	18,520,216
IAdvisor 529 Moderate	1,020,977	1,384,032	5,176,918	1,038,166	-	1,713,563	10,333,656
IAdvisor 529 Conservative	694,986	706,409	3,256,090	1,270,993	-	1,124,457	7,052,935
IAdvisor Age 0-5 Option	-	-	2,996,346	-	-	1,193,918	4,190,264
IAdvisor Age 6-10 Option	3,177,963	3,230,533	7,766,535	-	-	2,570,931	16,745,962
IAdvisor Age 11-15 Option	3,300,140	3,354,358	14,800,239	3,354,496	-	5,342,855	30,152,088
IAdvisor Age 16-17 Option	1,351,955	1,374,233	6,590,078	5,223,196	-	3,825,536	18,364,998
IAdvisor Age 18+ Option	1,015,843	2,753,765	8,252,181	10,321,182	2,063,211	4,779,336	29,185,518
Voya Intermediate Bond	-	-	7,518,597	-	-	-	7,518,597
Voya Short Term Bond		-	-	1,738,473	-	-	1,738,473
Total	\$ 17,345,386	19,474,254	64,587,936	22,946,506	2,063,211	23,634,863	150,052,156
Effective Duration (Years) as of June 30, 2024:	<u>7.11</u>	2.82	<u>6.13</u>	2.16	1.85	<u>10.43</u>	

#### (3) Participant Contributions

Any United States citizen age 18 years or older with a valid social security number and a desire to save for the educational expenses of a person may be a participant. The amount a participant may contribute is unlimited, except no contribution may cause the aggregate balance of all accounts held on behalf of a single beneficiary to exceed \$420,000 (in 2024). The minimum amount of any one contribution is \$25 (\$15 when investing through a payroll deduction plan) under the College Savings Iowa 529 Plan and \$50 (\$25 when investing through a payroll deduction plan) under the Iowa Advisor 529 Plan. Contributions are not required to be made each year.

Participant contributions up to \$5,500 per account in 2024 are deductible for State of Iowa income tax purposes. Earnings are tax exempt for Iowa state income tax purposes. A similar federal tax deduction does not exist for the participant's contributions. Earnings are exempt for federal income tax purposes if funds are spent for specified qualified higher education expenses. Earnings on non-qualified withdrawals are subject to federal income tax and a 10% federal penalty, as well as applicable state and local income tax.

# (4) Capital Assets

A summary of capital assets activity for the year ended June 30, 2024 is as follows:

	Balance			Balance
	Beginning			End
	of Year	Additions	Deletions	of Year
Equipment	\$ 20,716	-	-	20,716
Less accumulated depreciation	(20,716)	-	-	(20,716)
Capital assets, net	\$ -	-	-	-

# (5) Administrative Fees

Chapter 12D.2(14) of the Code of Iowa allows the Treasurer of State, as trustee, to establish, impose and collect administrative fees and charges in connection with transactions of the Trust. The assets of the Trust shall at all times be preserved, invested and expended solely and only for the purposes of the Trust and shall be held in trust for the participants and beneficiaries. The assets of the Trust shall not be transferred or used by the state for any purposes other than the purposes of the Trust.

For the College Savings Iowa 529 Plan, Ascensus provides an administrative fee of 0.02% of assets under management by Vanguard for the College Savings Iowa 529 Plan. For the Iowa Advisor 529 Plan, Voya IM provides an administrative fee of 0.10% of assets under management. The administrative fees received by the Trust for fiscal year 2024 totaled \$1,755,396.

**Supplementary Information** 

Combining Schedule of Fiduciary Net Position

June 30, 2024

	College Savings	Iowa Advisor	Administrative	
	Iowa 529 Plan	529 Plan	Account	Total
Assets				
Cash	\$-	-	3,938,814	3,938,814
Investments	6,138,950,242	688,772,255	-	6,827,722,497
Total assets	6,138,950,242	688,772,255	3,938,814	6,831,661,311
Liabilities				
Accounts payable		-	78,182	78,182
Net position				
Restricted for others	\$ 6,138,950,242	688,772,255	3,860,632	6,831,583,129

# Combining Schedule of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position

# Year ended June 30, 2024

		ollege Savings	Iowa Advisor	Administrative	
A 1 1 4	1	owa 529 Plan	529 Plan	Account	Total
Additions: Contributions from participants	\$	404,090,578	69,168,525		473,259,103
	Ψ	404,090,070	09,100,020	-	+75,259,105
Net increase in fair value					746 001 016
of investments		657,227,149	89,664,767	-	746,891,916
Administrative fees		-	-	1,755,396	1,755,396
Investment income		-	-	184,106	184,106
Miscellaneous revenue		-	-	10,000	10,000
Total additions		1,061,317,727	158,833,292	1,949,502	1,222,100,521
Deductions:					
Distributions to participants					
and beneficiaries		642,839,430	59,655,460	-	702,494,890
Administrative expenses:					
Salaries		-	-	157,803	157,803
Travel		-	-	10,965	10,965
Supplies		-	-	156,711	156,711
Contractual services for					
outside consultants and					
independent contractors		-	-	133,170	133,170
Other contractual services		-	-	43,746	43,746
Software Maintenance		-	-	504	504
Marketing		-	-	1,057,260	1,057,260
Total deductions		642,839,430	59,655,460	1,560,159	704,055,049
Net increase in fiduciary			,,	_,,	
net position		418,478,297	99,177,832	389,343	518,045,472
Net position beginning of year		5,720,471,945	589,594,423	3,471,289	6,313,537,657
Net position end of year	\$	6,138,950,242	688,772,255	3,860,632	6,831,583,129

Summary of Expenses for Outside Consultants and Independent Contractors

# Year ended June 30, 2024

Type of Service	Amount
Legal consulting services	\$ 43,775
Other professional services	 89,395
Total	\$ 133,170

# Summary of Distributions to Participants and Beneficiaries

# Year ended June 30, 2024

Type of Distribution		ollege Savings owa 529 Plan	Iowa Advisor 529 Plan	Total
Withdrawals from the plan Rollover withdrawals to other qualified	\$	608,829,100	33,309,340	642,138,440
state tuition plans Omnibus - All distribution types		34,010,330	4,288,767 22,057,353	38,299,097 22,057,353
Total	\$	642,839,430	59,655,460	702,494,890



# OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF STATE

STATE OF IOWA

Rob Sand Auditor of State

State Capitol Building Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0006

Telephone (515) 281-5834

Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards

To the Honorable Roby Smith, Treasurer of State:

We have audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in <u>Governmental Auditing</u> <u>Standards</u>, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the Office of Treasurer of State, Iowa Educational Savings Plan Trust, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related Notes to Financial Statements, which collectively comprise the Trust's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated October 17, 2024.

## Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Office of Treasurer of State, Iowa Educational Savings Plan Trust's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Office of Treasurer of State, Iowa Educational Savings Plan Trust's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Office of Treasurer of State, Iowa Educational Savings Plan Trust's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Trust's financial statements will not be prevented or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

#### Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Office of Treasurer of State, Iowa Educational Savings Plan Trust's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters which are required to be reported under <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>.

#### Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Trust's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u> in considering the Trust's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

We would like to acknowledge the many courtesies and assistance extended to us by personnel of the Office of Treasurer of State, Iowa Educational Savings Plan Trust during the course of our audit. Should you have any questions concerning any of the above matters, we shall be pleased to discuss them with you at your convenience.

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Brian R. Brustkern, CPA Deputy Auditor of State

October 17, 2024

Staff

This audit was performed by:

Brian R. Brustkern, CPA, Deputy Alex N. Kawamura, CPA, Manager Anthony M. Heibult, Senior II Auditor Matthew W. Beerman, Staff Auditor