



# LEGISLATIVE SESSION SUMMARY REPORT 2024



**COMMUNITY  
COLLEGES**  
*for IOWA*

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## 02 Executive Summary

Summary of Appropriations

## 04 Community Colleges for Iowa 2024 Legislative Priorities

1. Invest in Student Success
2. Address the state's workforce needs
3. Meet local community needs

## 09 Policy Bills of Primary Interest to Community Colleges During the 90th General Assembly (2nd Session)

Financial Aid & Fees

Fiscal & Funding

Governance

Operations

Student Services

## 17 Bills of Interest to Community Colleges That Failed to Gain Passage During the 90th General Assembly (2nd Session)

## 18 Appropriations Bills

Education Appropriations Bill – Senate File 2435

Economic Development Appropriations – Senate File 2432

Justice Systems – House File 2693

## 32 Conclusion



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2024 legislative session concluded on April 19, 2024. Iowa's community colleges were successful in advocating for several policy priorities and were also able to influence several proposed changes that would have had a negative impact. Funding levels remain a challenge with competing educating priorities and limited state resources. This report offers a summary of the outcomes and impacts of the session.

## Success on Priorities



### **PRIORITY 1: Invest in community college student success**

In addition to our \$10 million increase in State General Aid request, we also sought to change code related to the distribution formula. We were able to successfully make a very significant change in how that will work going forward. Specific formula code language was removed and replaced with language that outlines a process by which the presidents will approve a distribution formula each year by October 31 for the following legislative appropriations cycle.



### **PRIORITY 2: Address the state's workforce needs and support businesses**

One of our top priority policy bills was to exempt college and career transition positions from the shared operational funding cap for school districts. This will help rural areas particularly access funding to support this very successful work.

Additionally, we sought changes to improve and sustain the Last Dollar Scholarship program. Legislation passed that makes permanent the \$20,000 student aid index cap implemented last year. It also guarantees funding to students for two years or until they complete their program. These are important changes to ensure the funds can be used to serve the most students. We were able to prevent some changes that would have narrowed program focus and added complexity to student eligibility.



### **PRIORITY 3: Serve local communities**

This priority area typically means changing or stopping legislation that would infringe upon the ability of local boards of trustees to guide decision-making at the colleges. This year there were several proposals in this category that did not move forward or where decision-making authority remained with colleges.

## Other Policy Bills of Interest

In addition to our specific priorities, we were also able to support, stop, or modify several other areas of policy concern.

## **Higher Education**

The governor's reorganization clean-up bill had proposed removing community colleges from some code language on adult education and literacy programs. This was described as a necessary change to align with federal policy, but we worked with the legislature to ensure the role of community colleges in this mission-critical area of work was preserved. The original bill removed community colleges from "jointly implementing" the program and an amendment added back in language directing IWD to work with community colleges. This was particularly important as the program has undergone a major transition with its move under IWD last year.

This year, there was also a higher education bill dealing with several issues related to diversity, equity, and inclusion. One bill that did not move forward would have required that colleges follow state law if it conflicted with accreditation, and we were able to share information on the potential negative impacts of that language. Some of the measures from that bill were included in the education appropriations bill, but none specifically relevant to community colleges.

## **Workforce**

The governor's proposed workforce bill included Last Dollar Scholarship changes, created a new definition of work-based learning, and a new workforce opportunity fund. We supported the additional guidance on work-based learning and some of the changes to the scholarship, however, supported an amendment to limit the changes to only those necessary at this time to create sustainability for the program. Only students with a \$20,000 student aid index or below will be eligible for funding (this was put into place last year and needed to be continued given funding levels).

Additionally, however, we successfully advocated for language to help our students by guaranteeing them funding for two years or until their program is complete and not requiring them to recertify each year. This will provide more predictability for students and their families.

## **State General Aid and Other Funding**

This year, we made a larger ask than usual at \$10 million in new State General Aid. This was tied into the funding formula change and the need for additional resources to shore up colleges behind the average. The group previously made the determination to split the new funds in half with half going to all according to the existing formula and half going to the six colleges that were behind the average. Unfortunately, the appropriations increase was not what we were hoping for. It was \$7 million or about 3.2%. This was still a higher percentage increase than other parts of the education budget and while we are grateful for that consideration, this will mean it takes longer to create equity and there will be additional strain on college budgets. Other community college funding items were held at status quo this year and those are outline in this report.

# SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS

The 2024 legislative session concluded on April 19, 2024. Iowa’s community colleges were successful in advocating for several policy priorities and were also able to influence several proposed changes that would have had a negative impact. Funding levels remain a challenge with competing educating priorities and limited state resources. This report offers a summary of the outcomes and impacts of the session.

FUNDING SOURCE	FY2024 APPROPRIATION	INC./DEC. OVER FY2023	PERCENT CHANGE
<b>State General Aid</b>	\$235,858,161	\$7,000,000	3.1%
<b>University of Iowa</b>	\$223,496,355	\$5,451,131	2.5%
<b>Iowa State University</b>	\$178,445,037	\$4,352,318	2.5%
<b>University of Northern Iowa</b>	\$101,894,146	\$2,485,225	2.5%
<b>Private College Iowa Tuition Grant Program</b>	\$ 52,707,069	\$1,285,538	2.5%
<b>Last Dollar Scholarship</b>	\$ 23,927,005	\$ 0	0.0%
<b>Iowa Jobs for America’s Graduates (iJAG)</b>	\$ 9,646,450	\$ 500,000	5.5%
<b>Iowa Skilled Worker and Job Creation Fund</b>			
<i>Workforce Training &amp; Economic Development Fund</i>	\$15,100,000	\$ 0	0.0%
<i>ACE Infrastructure Fund</i>	\$ 6,000,000	\$ 0	0.0%
<i>Adult Literacy Programs</i>	\$ 6,000,000	\$ 0	0.0%
<i>Kibbie Skilled Workforce Shortage Tuition Grants</i>	\$ 5,000,000	\$ 0	0.0%
<i>PACE Career Pathways Program</i>	\$ 5,000,000	\$ 0	0.0%
<i>Workforce Development Fund</i>	\$ 4,750,000	\$ 0	0.0%
<i>GAP Tuition Assistance Program</i>	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 0	0.0%
<i>Work-based Learning Network</i>	\$ 0	(\$1,500,000)	-100%
<b>Workforce Development Field Offices</b>	\$ 6,902,636	\$ 226,986	3.4%
<b>National Guard Educational Service Scholarship</b>	\$ 6,600,000	\$ 0	0.0%
<b>Iowa Workforce Grant and Incentive Program</b>	\$ 6,500,000	\$ 0	0.0%
<b>All Iowa Opportunity Scholarship Program</b>	\$ 3,229,468	\$ 0	0.0%
<b>Corrections Education Program</b>	\$ 2,608,109	\$ 0	0.0%
<b>Manufacturing 4.0</b>	\$ 2,016,675	\$2,016,675	100%
<b>Voc-Tech Tuition Grant Program</b>	\$ 1,750,185	\$ 0	0.0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$286,502,183</b>	<b>\$7,000,000</b>	<b>3.1%</b>

# COMMUNITY COLLEGES FOR IOWA 2024 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

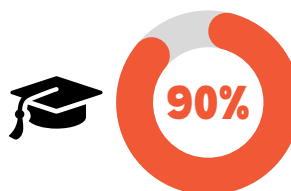
## 1. Invest in student success

Iowa's community colleges serve different student needs, spanning from degree-seeking students, who are pursuing a career pathway, to non-degree seeking students, who are receiving supplementary training and education. **The success of these students is vital to our state's economy and the future of our communities.**

In 2023-24, Iowa's community colleges student body breakdowns and outcomes included:

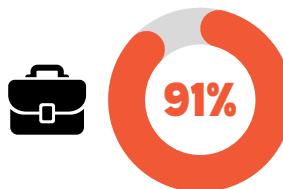
**116,979**

**DEGREE-SEEKING  
STUDENTS**

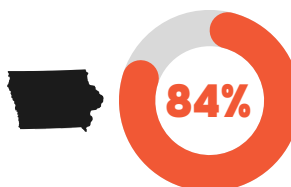


**will graduate and  
find employment  
in the next year**

**140,992**  
**NON-DEGREE  
SEEKING STUDENTS**



**will be  
employed after  
their training**



**will stay in Iowa**

**257,971 TOTAL STUDENTS ATTENDED COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**By investing in community college operations, you help students receive low-cost, high-quality educational opportunities from high school and throughout their lives.**

- Increase State General Aid by \$10 million to help keep up with rising costs while maintaining affordable and high-quality programs.
- For this year, this funding request reflects the need to equalize funding for colleges that have seen large enrollment growth in the past ten years and ensures that students get a great education no matter where they live.
- Update code to allow for more flexibility in the funding formula to ensure equity and keep up with changes in enrollment going forward.
- Iowa's current community college funding formula was agreed upon by the presidents more than 20 years ago. The formula represented a compromise at the time and prioritized stability.
- Since then, enrollments have changed among the colleges and the formula is not distributing funds in a way that recognizes these changes.
- Additional funding this year will allow for the distribution of additional funds to colleges that have been disadvantaged by the current formula.
- Changing code language will allow for greater flexibility so the formula can be changed more frequently. This is important in a time when higher education is changing at a faster and faster pace.

**Equitable distribution of funds allows us to maintain access to high quality, affordable education in every part of the state.**



## 2. Address the state's workforce needs

Iowa continues to struggle with meeting the workforce needs of our businesses in a way that will keep the economy strong.



**32% OF BUSINESSES IN THE STATE REPORT JOB VACANCIES THAT THEY ARE HAVING TROUBLE FILLING**



**...and for more than half, the problem is a lack of qualified applicants**



**68% OF JOBS IN IOWA REQUIRE EDUCATION AND TRAINING BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL**

**Meanwhile, workforce training and education programs are working.**

The Last Dollar Scholarship has helped **thousands of Iowans get degrees in high-demand fields**. In 2021 alone, 96% of past recipients were employed, mostly in Iowa (87%).

Despite this success, **not enough students know about the opportunities available**, and many are not choosing to enroll in education after high school at all. The number of students not enrolled after graduating has gone up 5% since 2016 to 38%.

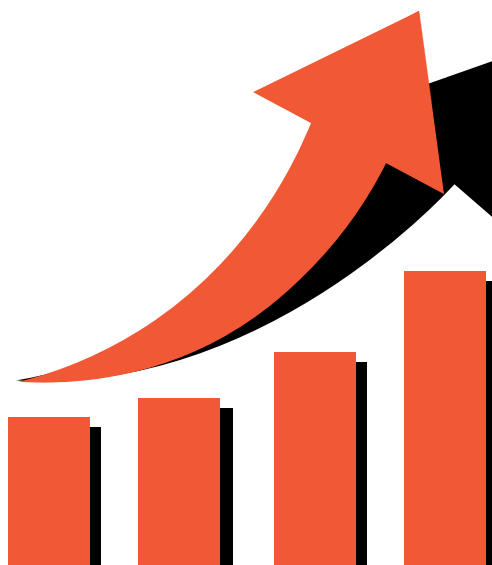
College and Career Transition staff statewide are working to change that in high schools across the state and have seen **increased FAFSA rates and college-going intentions**.

**THOUSANDS OF STUDENTS ARE ABLE TO SECURE DEGREES IN HIGH-DEMAND FIELDS BECAUSE OF LAST DOLLAR SCHOLARSHIPS**



**It's critical to continue investments that will allow more Iowans to get the skills they need for the future.**

- Support continued expansion of the College and Career Transition Counselor initiative.
- Fund Governor Reynolds' signature Last Dollar Scholarship program to meet the needs of students in high-demand programs.
- Sustain funding and continue to improve dedicated workforce education and training programs to keep up with demand from businesses and meet students' needs.
- The College and Career Transition Initiative is helping address the issue of reducing college-going rates among Iowa's high school graduates. To increase the number of high schools served by these positions, we need to remove them from the cap on shared operational funding.
- Last year, the Last Dollar Scholarship fell short of full funding. As a result, the legislature and governor implemented a new income limit at \$20,000 Expected Family Contribution. This year, we are supportive of fully funding the program and, if that is not possible, then finding solutions that help the program serve as many students as we can.
- Iowa has a number of very successful workforce training and financial aid programs including:
  - Iowa New Jobs Training Program (260E)*
  - Iowa Jobs Training Program (260F)*
  - Pathways for Academic Career and Employment (PACE)*
  - Gap Tuition Assistance Program*

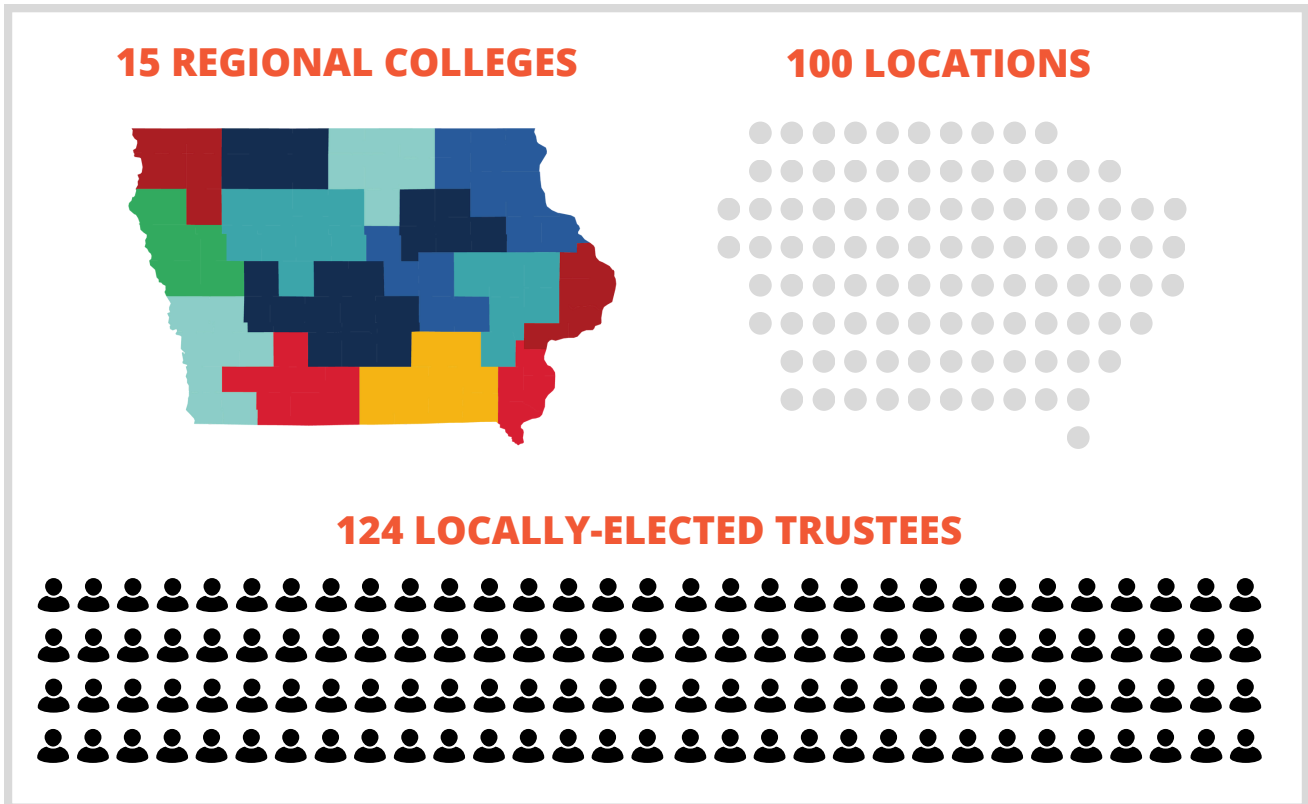


**These programs need to be funded at or above status quo to continue to encourage the post-high school education needed for Iowa's high demand jobs.**

### 3. Meet local community needs

Iowa's community colleges are a national model for effectively serving students and communities statewide, regardless of size and location.

The proximity of the institutions to their communities is critical for access, but also means community college leaders understand the needs of their communities.



To be most effective, local colleges need support, collaboration, and autonomy.

We are able to accomplish this by:

- Maintaining strong local decision-making to connect programs to local community needs.
- Changing and eliminating policies that create unnecessary regulatory burdens to enhance operational efficiency.

# **POLICY BILLS OF PRIMARY INTEREST TO COMMUNITY COLLEGES DURING THE 90TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY (2ND SESSION)**

## **Financial Aid & Fees**

### **College Student Aid Commission's Reporting Requirements: HF 2153**

*Signed by the Governor on April 19, 2024*

Effective Date: July 1, 2024

- Strikes requirement for CSAC to submit an annual report to the governor and the general assembly related to certain specified tuition grants and evaluate the tuition grants program.
- Strikes CSAC's reporting requirements for the vocational-technical tuition grant and the skilled workforce shortage tuition grant program.

Community College Impact:

This is a code cleanup bill that is not expected to impact the colleges.

### **Work-Based Learning: SF 2411**

*Signed by the Governor on May 16, 2024*

Effective Date: Upon enactment

- Eliminates regional industry sector partnerships.
- Eliminates statewide work-based learning intermediary network.
- Expands work-based learning opportunities to occur in the summer.
- Redefines quality pre-apprenticeship program; work-based learning; and youth apprenticeship.
- Creates a workforce opportunity fund, to be funded by the unemployment compensation reserve fund's carryover (up to \$30 million).
- Removes requirement to annually apply for last-dollar scholarship (LDS), creates two-year budget process.
- Implements a restriction on student eligibility for LDS by requiring less than \$20,000 SAI.
- Allows emergency rule implementation of the changes to LDS for College Student Aid Commission (CSAC) and Iowa Workforce Development (IWD).

Community College Impact:

Several of the provisions in this bill will have a direct impact on community colleges. First, many of the colleges were administering sector partnerships and intermediary networks. This bill officially eliminates those programs and the funding associated with them. Most colleges will be unable to continue the work without the state funding and support that is currently being provided.

Second, the bill codifies a new definition of work-based learning that colleges should use to review programs and courses with that label to ensure that they meet the definition. This could result in changes, but it is likely most college programs and courses are already meeting this definition.

The new workforce opportunity fund could result in further resources for colleges and/or their industry partners. More information will be forthcoming on how the funds will be granted out and all must be spent by 2029.

Finally, the bill codifies changes to the Last Dollar Scholarship that follow from last year's changes. The \$20,000 student aid index limit is now in code permanently. This is still a new requirement of the program that will need to be communicated to current and prospective students. Additionally, the bill allows students to be funded for two years or until their program is complete. It guarantees them funding and does not require them to be recertified for eligibility.

## **Fiscal & Funding**

### **Voting Requirements for Income Tax Bills: HJR 2006**

*Sent to Secretary of State on April 19, 2024*

\*Must be approved by the next general assembly\*

- Requires a two-thirds majority vote when making state tax law changes.

Community College Impact:

While this does not have a direct impact, it could impact state revenues and budgets in the future.

### **Mega Site Bill: SF 574**

*Signed by the Governor on May 1, 2024*

Effective Date: January 1, 2026

- Creates the Major Economic Growth and Attraction (MEGA) Program under the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA).
- Applications for the MEGA Program will be submitted to the IEDA and must include an application fee set by the IEDA.
- To be eligible for the Program, a business must meet certain requirements, including having a minimum proposed project cost of \$1 billion.
- The IEDA may authorize an investment tax credit for an eligible business of up to 5% of the business's qualifying investment.
- An eligible business that has been issued a tax incentive under the Program will receive a refund of the sales and use taxes paid for gas, electricity, water, and sewer utility services; tangible personal property; or services rendered, furnished, or performed that contributed to the construction or equipping of the facility.

- An eligible business may claim a withholding tax credit of up to 3% of the gross wages paid to each employee in a project job that pays at least the qualifying wage threshold under the agreement.
- An eligible business may apply for additional federal, State, and local incentives except for those under the High-Quality Jobs Program, the Targeted Jobs Withholding Tax Credit, or other incentives at the discretion of the IEDA.
- A community in which an eligible business's project is located may grant the eligible business a property tax exemption for a portion of the actual value added by improvements to real property directly related to the eligible business's project jobs.

**Community College Impact:**

The bill will bring new investment and businesses to the state providing more population and partnerships for area community colleges.

**Community College SGA Distribution Formula: SF 2405**

*Signed by the Governor on May 8, 2024*

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

- Provides purpose of community college formula is to provide the highest quality educational opportunities and services to the greatest number of students.
- Strikes specific language from Code laying out community college funding formula and establishes the following process:
  - On or before October 31 each year, the presidents/chancellors shall establish a distribution formula for the succeeding budget year.
  - Requires Presidents to consider enrollment and combined support for each community college when determining formula.
  - Prohibits reallocating funding from the base funding allocation unless the legislature cuts funding.
  - 10 out of the 15 presidents must approve the distribution formula and provide that decision to the Department of Education.
  - If no decision can be made, the Department of Education will establish the formula.

**Community College Impact:**

As our number one policy priority, this bill will have a significant impact on Iowa's community college sector. By laying out a formula process, rather than a set formula, Iowa's community colleges will have much greater flexibility in adjusting the distribution as changes occur in funding and other circumstances impacting the colleges. This process will require significant coordination and cooperation amongst the colleges, building cohesion and strength for the long-term sustainability of the system.



***Governor Kim Reynolds signs Community College for Iowa's 2024 Legislative Priority: Distribution Formula into law surrounded by community college presidents, leaders, and supporters.***

### **Income Tax: SF 2442**

*Signed by the Governor on May 1, 2024*

Effective Date: January 1, 2025

- Eliminates the bracketed individual income tax rates that go into effect in tax year (TY) 2025 and establishes flat individual income tax rates of 3.8% for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2025.
- Requires the rate of withholding for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2025, to not be higher than the tax rate in effect for the applicable tax year.
- Changes the deadline for political subdivisions to file reports with the Department of Management (DOM) from March 15 to 4 pm on March 5 containing all necessary information for the DOM to compile and calculate amounts required to be included in the statements sent out to property tax owners and taxpayers in that subdivision. Requires that all statements include a link to the DOM's Internet site.

#### Community College Impact:

While this bill does not have a direct impact on community college revenue, it does decrease Iowa withholding beginning in January 2025, affecting FY 2025. The majority impact of TY 2025 income tax rate decreases would be realized in FY 2026, which will impact the state budgeting process.

### **Income Tax Bills: SJR 2004**

*Sent to Secretary of State on April 26, 2024*

\*Must be approved by the next general assembly\*

- Prohibits graduated rates in relation to Iowa income tax.

#### Community College Impact:

While this bill does not have a direct impact on community college revenue, it does impact state tax collections, which is a part of the state budgeting process.

## Governance

### **Governor's Reorganization Clean-Up Bill: HF 2686**

*Signed by the Governor on May 17, 2024*

Effective Date: June 21, 2024

- Maintains the requirement that Iowa Workforce Development work with community colleges to implement adult education and literacy programs.
- Removes the higher education division of the Department of Education (DE) from the general exception to the duties of the director and authorizes the director to, in addition to establishing divisions of the department, assign subject matter duties to divisions of DE in a manner determined by the director.
- No longer prohibits professional staff from being dismissed for cause without appropriate due process procedures including a hearing and that professional staff of DE serve at the discretion of the director.
- Authorizes the director of DE to employ hourly staff for less than 12 months each year, but such staff shall be employed by the director for at least nine months of each year.
- Applies extracurricular contracts and coaching endorsements/authorizations to employees of the Iowa educational services for the blind and visually impaired program and employees of the Iowa school for the deaf.

#### Community College Impact:

This bill mostly included code clean-up from last year's reorganization, however, one provision would have removed community colleges from the section on implementing adult education and literacy. This program was moved to Iowa Workforce Development last year.

### **Boards, Commissions, Committees, and Councils: SF 2385**

*Signed by the Governor on May 17, 2024*

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

- Eliminates, merges, changes, and creates various boards and commissions that are in the State.
- Projected Impact/Effect:
  - Decreases number of community college presidents on Iowa innovation council from two to one.
  - Removes requirement that three voting members on State Board of Education have substantial knowledge of community college system.
  - Eliminates postsecondary course audit committee, shifts duties to Department of Education.
  - Changes community college appointment from voting to nonvoting on the College Student Aid Commission.
  - Allows for more than one community college student and parent to serve on the College Student Aid Commission.

- Eliminates Quality Faculty Plan Professional Development Committee.
- Eliminates Community College Faculty Advisory Committee.

#### Community College Impact:

This bill removes community college representation on the state board of education and other boards and commissions that could negatively impact community colleges. However, we are committed to working with the department of education and state board of education to ensure that community college voices are heard in decision-making processes related to our work. Additionally, the bill eliminates the postsecondary course audit committee, which has been critical to the success of concurrent enrollment. However, we were able to negotiate shifting those duties to the department and they plan to continue to convene a similar committee to do this work.

## Operations

### **Pharmacy Benefit Managers: HF 2099**

*Signed by the Governor on May 1, 2024*

Effective Date: July 1, 2024

- Prohibits retaliation by a PBM against a pharmacy based on the pharmacy's exercise of any right or remedy, or on the pharmacy's cooperation with the commissioner.
- PBM prohibited from assessing, charging, or collecting any form of remuneration that passes from any pharmacist, regardless of whether the pharmacist is in a pharmacy network.
- For each maximum allowable cost list that a PBM uses, a PBM shall update the maximum allowable cost list within seven days from the date of an increase of 10 percent or more in the national average drug acquisition cost of a prescription drug on the list.
- Requires that the annual report provided by a PBM to the commissioner of insurance regarding prescription drug benefits provided to covered persons of each third-party payor with whom the PBM has contracted during the prior calendar year be in a format that does not publicly disclose the identity of a specific third-party payor, the price charged by a specific pharmaceutical manufacturer for prescription drugs, or the amount of rebates provided for prescription drugs.

#### Community College Impact:

The bill will not impact community college health insurance for three years. It is designed to drive down the cost of prescription drugs in health insurances plans, but there is not agreement across the industry about what the actual impact of the change will be.

### **School Security, School Employees Issued Professional Permits to Carry: HF 2586**

*Signed by the Governor on April 19, 2024*

Effective Date: Upon Enactment



- Allows a person to be issued a permit to carry weapons if the person is a school employee of higher education.
- A person issued a permit to carry weapons shall receive one-time, in-person legal training, including training on qualified immunity, annual emergency medical training, and annual communication training that is approved by the department of public safety.
- A school employee issued a professional permit to carry by the department of public safety who is up to date with department of public safety-approved training, and the school district that employs the school employee, shall be entitled to qualified immunity from criminal or civil liability for all damages incurred pursuant to the application of reasonable force at the place of employment.

Community College Impact:

This bill gives colleges new options to consider for granting professional permits to staff. Colleges are not required to provide this option, but this bill could impact insurance coverage if they choose to do so.

**Misbranding of Food Products: SF 2391**

*Signed by the Governor on May 15, 2024*

Effective Date: July 1, 2024

- Requires Board of Trustees of each community college to establish policies to prevent the purchase of a food product that is misbranded as a meat product; or a cultivated-protein food product.
- Requires Board of Trustees of each community college to establish policies to prevent the purchase of a food product that is misbranded as an egg product.

Community College Impact:

Community college leadership should work with their food service staff and/or vendors to establish policies ensuring they do not purchase these specific food products. This does not seem to be a widespread practice currently, so is unlikely to represent a major change.

## **Student Services**

### **Community College Career and Transition Counselors: HF 2615**

*Signed by the Governor on May 1, 2024*

Effective Date: July 1, 2024

- CCTCs shall not count towards the maximum amount of supplementary weighting assigned for a shared operational function starting FY25.
- Must have link to the Iowa student outcomes website on each community college's internet site.

#### Community College Impact:

Each college should ensure that there is a link to the [iowastudentoutcomes.com](http://iowastudentoutcomes.com) website on their site where it will be accessible particularly to prospective students and their families. Additionally, this bill (one of our priorities) will allow us to continue to expand this program. Currently, as many as 40 school districts cannot access funding for these positions but will be able to do so with this change. The department of education is expected to promulgate rules on this change.

# **BILLS OF INTEREST TO COMMUNITY COLLEGES THAT FAILED TO GAIN PASSAGE DURING THE 90TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY (2ND SESSION)**

SF 33 Tuition and Fees Community Colleges Charge to Former Crew of U.S. Navy Vessels  
SF 108 Prohibition of Employment of Unauthorized Aliens  
SF 252 University Pregnancy Accommodations  
SF 543 Carrying, Transportation, and Possession of Weapons by Certain Persons  
SF 552 Individual and Corporate Income Taxes  
SF 2020 Free Tuition for First Responders & Families  
SF 2049 CC Trainings Examinations, Surveys, and Screenings – DEI  
SF 2055 Bathroom Bill  
SF 2090 CDL Exemptions  
SF 2094 4% for K-12  
SF 2184 Filing of Certain Reports w/ the Iowa Ethics and Campaign Disclosure Board  
SF 2188 Reporting Requirements of Community College Funds  
SF 2314 Third-Party Testers and Test Examiners for Driver’s Permits/Licenses  
SF 2440 Iowa Educational Savings Plan Trust

HF 2028 Homestead Tax Credits  
HF 2066 Nonprofit Recognition Day  
HF 2077 Combating Terrorist Sympathizers Act  
HF 2125 Name, Image, and Likeness  
HF 2144 United States Army Reserve Service Scholarship  
HF 2222 Campaign Contributions  
HF 2299 Open Records Requests  
HF 2320 Proof of Citizenship or Lawful Presence in the Country for In-State Tuition  
HF 2323 National Guard Service Scholarship and Continuing Education Scholarship Program  
HF 2431 Robotics Extracurricular Activities  
HF 2453 Penalty for Public Employees/Officials Taking Money From Employer  
HF 2480 Primary Elections for the Nomination of Candidates for Merged Area Elections  
HF 2539 Open Meetings and Open Records  
HF 2541 Vacant School Building Demolition Grant  
HF 2558 Higher Education Reform Act of 2024  
HF 2604 Short Course Law Enforcement Training Requirements  
HF 2613 3% for K-12  
HF 2675 Iowa Ethics and Campaign Disclosure Board

# APPROPRIATIONS BILLS

## Education Appropriations Bill – Senate File 2435

*Signed by the Governor on May 9, 2024*

**Effective Date: July 1, 2024**

### State General Aid

Appropriates \$235,858,161 in state general aid (SGA) to the Department of Education for the community colleges. This represents a 3.1% increase, \$7,000,000 over the FY2024 appropriation. The FY2025 distribution is displayed below.

COMMUNITY COLLEGES	FY 2024 SGA APPROPRIATION	FY 2025 SGA APPROPRIATION	INCREASE/REDUCTION FROM FY 2024 APPROPRIATION
Northeast Iowa	\$11,245,307	\$11,417,285	\$171,978
North Iowa Area	\$11,316,993	\$11,490,067	\$173,074
Iowa Lakes	\$10,410,473	\$10,569,684	\$159,211
Northwest	\$5,187,121	\$5,406,450	\$219,329
Iowa Central	\$13,013,760	\$13,912,784	\$899,024
Iowa Valley	\$10,044,832	\$10,198,451	\$153,619
Hawkeye	\$15,372,997	\$15,608,101	\$235,104
Eastern Iowa	\$19,535,761	\$19,834,528	\$298,767
Kirkwood	\$35,755,303	\$36,302,120	\$546,817
Des Moines Area	\$39,069,627	\$40,927,131	\$1,857,504
Western Iowa Tech	\$12,721,826	\$13,336,385	\$614,559
Iowa Western	\$13,906,285	\$14,993,958	\$1,087,673
Southwestern	\$5,279,888	\$5,465,635	\$185,747
Indian Hills	\$16,463,807	\$16,715,593	\$251,786
Southeastern	\$9,534,180	\$9,679,989	\$145,809
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$228,858,161</b>	<b>\$235,858,161</b>	<b>\$7,000,000</b>

STATE GENERAL AID APPROPRIATIONS HISTORY			
<b>FY2017</b>	\$204,290,605	+ \$3,015,958	
	\$201,290,605	(\$3,000,000)	<i>Deappropriation 2/17</i>
	\$199,540,605	(\$1,750,000)	<i>Deappropriation 3/17</i>
<b>FY2018</b>	\$200,690,889	+ \$1,150,284	
	\$201,190,889	+ \$500,000	<i>Faculty Salary Added to SGA base</i>
	\$200,690,892	(\$500,000)	<i>Deappropriation 3/28</i>
<b>FY2019</b>	\$202,690,889	+ \$2,000,000	
<b>FY2020</b>	\$208,690,889	+ \$6,000,000	
<b>FY2021</b>	\$208,690,889	+ \$0	
<b>FY2022</b>	\$215,158,161	+ \$6,467,272	
<b>FY2023</b>	\$221,658,161	+ \$6,500,000	
<b>FY2024</b>	\$228,858,161	+ \$7,200,000	
<b>FY2025</b>	\$235,858,161	+ \$7,000,000	

**Vocational-Technical Tuition Grant Program**

Appropriates \$1,750,185 to the College Student Aid Commission for the Vocational-Technical Tuition Grant Program. This represents level funding with the FY2024 appropriation. This is a standing appropriation and is not included in the education appropriations bill. The current funding level provides average grants of \$709 to an estimated 2,552 students. The maximum allowable grant for 2023-24 is \$1,000. Compared to FY2022 the average award amount increased by \$4 and the number of recipients decreased by 7.

VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL TUITION GRANT PROGRAM APPROPRIATIONS HISTORY				
YEAR	FUNDING	APPLICANTS	STUDENTS ASSISTED	AVG. AWARD
<b>FY2017</b>	\$2,250,185	19,649	2,674	\$868
<b>FY2018</b>	\$1,750,185	21,755	2,660	\$656
<b>FY2019</b>	\$1,750,185	20,501	2,642	\$663
<b>FY2020</b>	\$1,750,185	18,999	2,672	\$658
<b>FY2021</b>	\$1,750,185	19,791	2,548	\$687
<b>FY2022</b>	\$1,750,185	19,360	2,559	\$705
<b>FY2023</b>	\$1,750,185	19,312	2,552	\$709
<b>FY2024</b>	\$1,750,185	TBD	TBD	TBD

### **National Guard Educational Service Scholarship**

Appropriates \$6,600,000 to the College Student Aid Commission for the National Guard Tuition Aid Program. This represents a 0% increase in funding over the FY2024 appropriation.

### **Private College Iowa Tuition Grant Program**

Appropriates \$52,707,069 to the College Student Aid Commission in support of students attending Iowa’s private colleges and universities. This represents a 2.5% increase in funding, over the FY2024 appropriations.

### **For-Profit Iowa Tuition Grant Program**

Appropriates \$110,700 to the College Student Aid Commission for students attending for-profit private institutions. This represents a 2.5% increase in funding from the FY2024 appropriations.

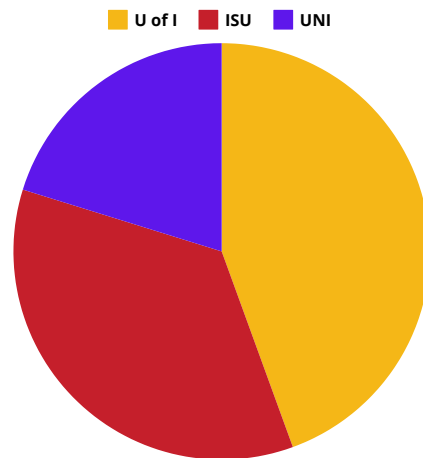
### **All Iowa Opportunity Scholarship Program**

Appropriates \$3,229,468 for the College Student Aid Commission. This represents level funding with the FY2024 appropriation.

### **State University Funding**

Each university receives the following in SGA for FY2025:

- ***The University of Iowa – \$223,496,355***
- ***Iowa State University – \$178,445,037***
- ***The University of Northern Iowa – \$101,894,146***



This budget bill also contain a provision related to diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) efforts. A public institution of higher education shall not, except as otherwise provided by federal or state law or accreditation standards, establish or maintain a diversity, equity, and inclusion office; hire or assign an employee of the public institution of higher education, or contract with a third party, to perform duties of a diversity, equity, or inclusion office; or compel, require, induce, or solicit any person to provide a diversity, equity, and inclusion statement, or give preferential consideration to any person based on the provisions of a diversity, equity, and inclusion statement.

In addition, a public institution of higher education shall not, except as otherwise provided by federal or state law or accreditation standards, expend any moneys appropriated by the general assembly or any other moneys derived from bequests, charges, deposits, donations, endowments, fees, grants, gifts, income, receipts, tuition, or any other source to establish, sustain, support, or staff a diversity, equity, and inclusion office.

Appropriates \$383,769 to the University of Iowa for the child health specialty clinics in order to provide additional support for infants and toddlers who are born prematurely, drug-exposed, or medically fragile.

Appropriates \$300,000 to the University of Iowa for testing programs to offset the costs of administering the statewide student assessment at accredited nonpublic schools.

Appropriates \$125,000 to the three Board of Regents schools to support the John Pappajohn centers for entrepreneurship.

Appropriates \$2,103,819 to the University of Iowa's Oakdale campus; \$4,822,610 to its state hygienic laboratory; \$2,220,598 to its family practice program; \$634,502 to its child health care services; \$143,410 to its statewide cancer registry; \$43,427 to its substance abuse consortium; \$696,342 to its center for biocatalysis; \$324,374 to its primary health care initiative; \$36,839 to its birth defects registry; \$156,389 to the Larned A. Waterman Iowa nonprofit resource center; \$463,616 to the Iowa online advanced placement academy science, technology, engineering, and mathematics initiative; \$1,205,593 to the Iowa flood center; and \$2,800,000 to its college of nursing.

Appropriates \$29,462,535 to Iowa State University's agricultural experiment station; \$18,157,366 to its cooperative extension service in agriculture and home economics; and \$2,800,000 to preparing Iowa's future ready workforce and fostering innovation.

Appropriates \$123,523 to University of Northern Iowa's real estate education program and \$1,500,000 to Educators of Iowa.

### Iowa Skilled Worker and Job Creation Fund (ISWJC Fund)

Appropriates \$66,000,000 million from the state's gaming industry receipts to the ISWJC Fund created in 2013 to support worker training and job creation efforts in the state.

The following community college workforce development and job training programs are supported:

Workforce Training and Economic Development Fund (260C.18A)	\$15,100,000
Adult Basic Education and Adult Literacy Programs (84A.19)	\$ 5,500,000
Pathways for Career and Employment Program (260H)	\$ 5,000,000
GAP Tuition Assistance Program (260I)	\$ 2,000,000
Work-based Learning Intermediary Network (256.40)	\$ 1,500,000
Kibbie Skilled Worker Shortage Tuition Grant Program (261.130)	\$ 5,000,000
Accelerated Career Education Infrastructure Program (260G)	\$ 6,000,000
Workforce Preparation Outcome Reporting System	\$ 200,000
Manufacturing 4.0 Technology Investment Program (15.371)	\$ 2,016,675
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$42,316,675</b>

The following economic development programs are also supported from this fund:

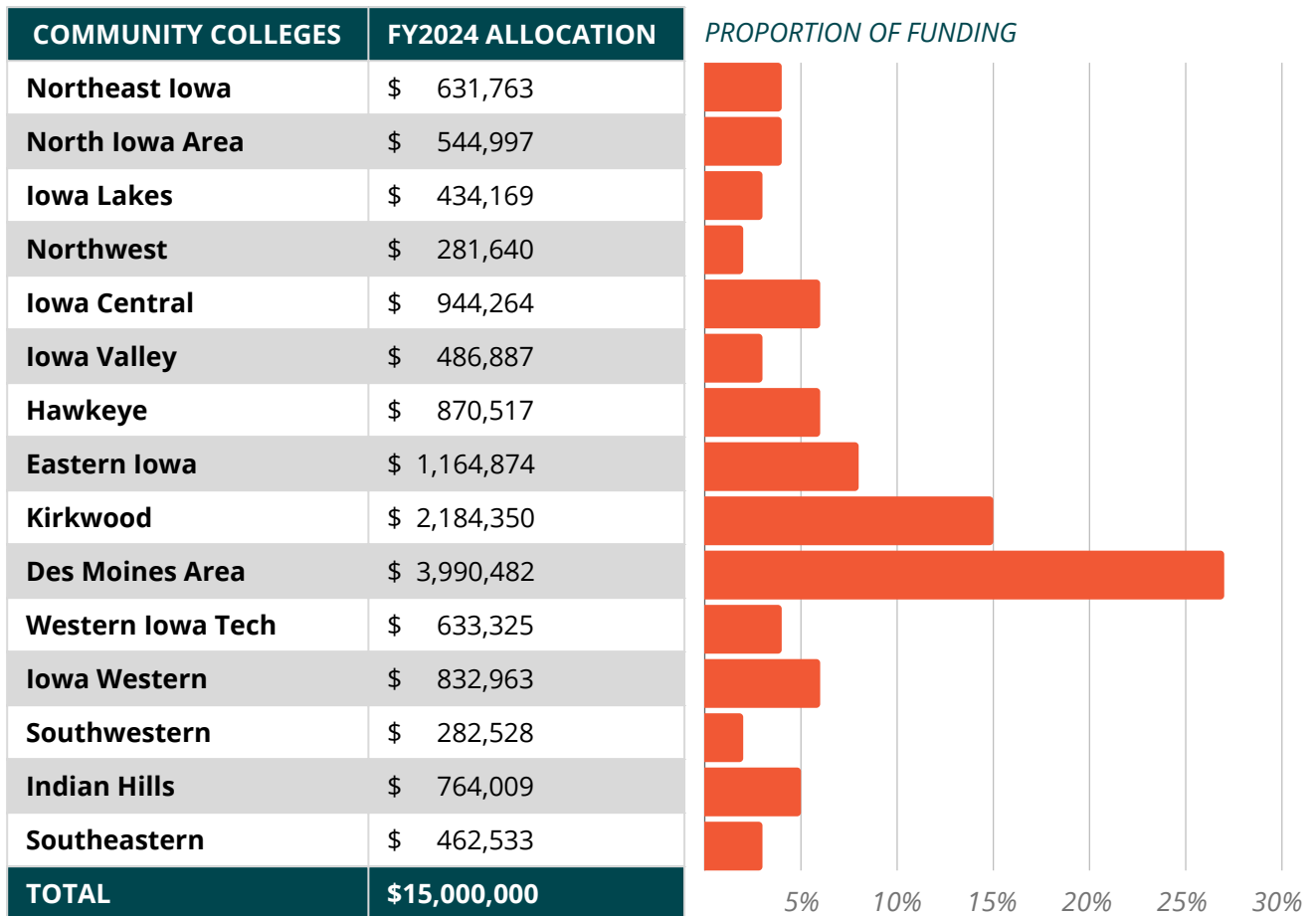
EDA Economic Development Incentive Fund (High Quality Jobs Programs)	\$11,700,000
STEM Internship Program	\$ 633,325
Regents Innovation Fund	\$ 3,000,000
UI Entrepreneurial Program	\$ 2,000,000
ISU – Economic Development Programs	\$ 2,424,302
UI – Economic Development Programs	\$ 209,279
UNI – Economic Development Programs	\$ 1,466,419
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$21,433,325</b>



**Workforce Training and Economic Development Fund (WTED) (260C.18A)**

Appropriates \$15,100,000 to the Department of Education from the Iowa Skilled Worker and Job Creation Fund to support the Workforce Training and Economic Development Fund. This represents level funding with the FY2024 appropriation.

Funds are allocated pursuant to the community college state general aid distribution formula established in section 260C.18A. The FY2024 distribution is displayed below.



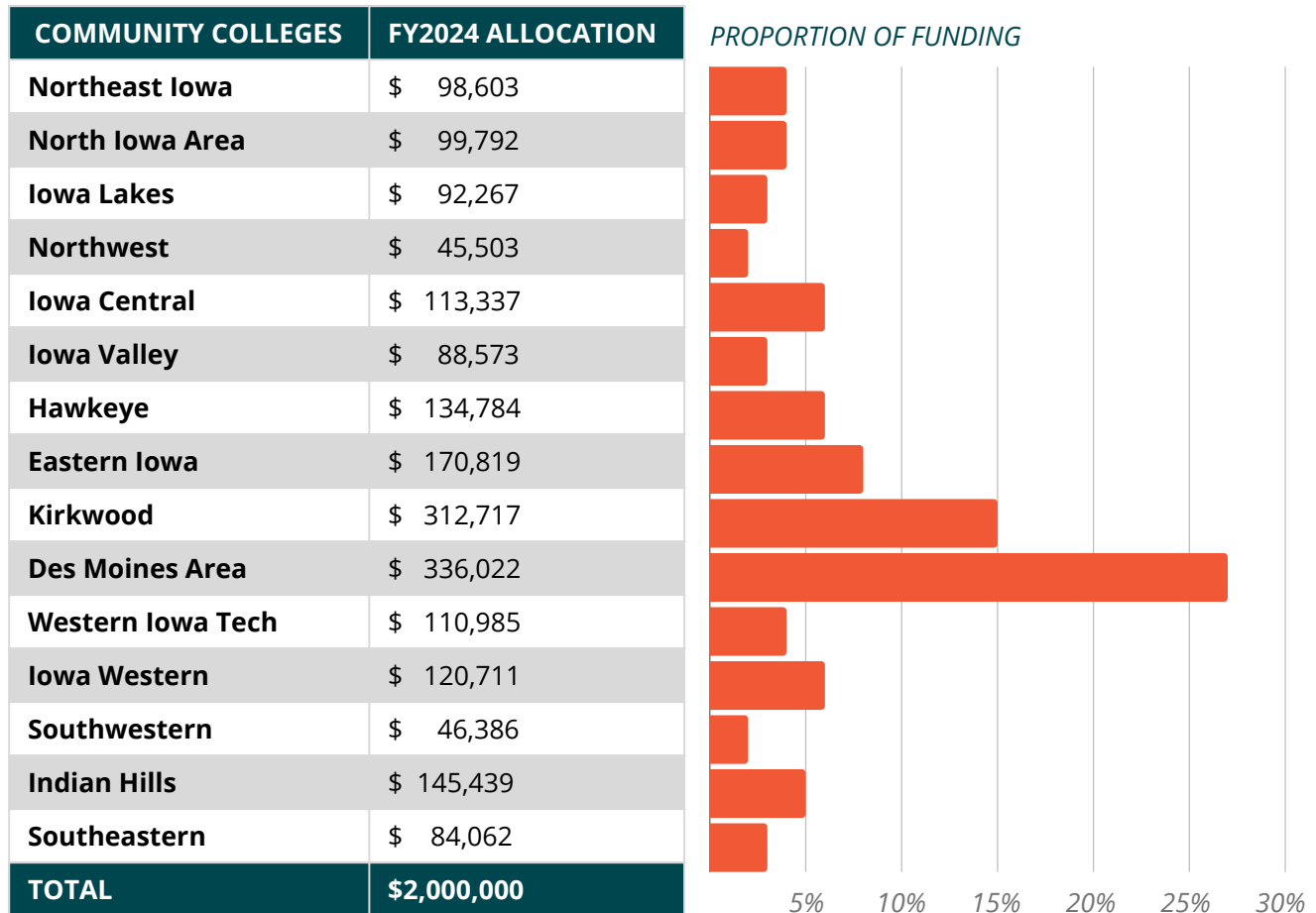
**Outcomes Reporting**

Appropriates \$200,000 to support the costs associated with administering a workforce outcome reporting system for the purpose of collecting and reporting data related to the educational and employment outcomes of the Iowa community college workforce preparation programs. This represents level funding with the FY2024 appropriations. This level of funding has not changed since FY2013.

**GAP Tuition Assistance Program (260I)**

Appropriates \$2,000,000 to the Department of Education from the Iowa Skilled Worker and Job Creation Fund to the Gap Tuition Assistance Fund to implement the Gap Tuition Assistance Program. This is level funding with FY2024. Funding can be carried over from year to year. The fund is administered by the Department of Education.

Moneys in the fund are to be allocated pursuant to the community college state general aid distribution formula established in section 260C.18C. The FY2024 distribution is displayed below.



### Skilled Workforce Shortage Tuition Grant Program

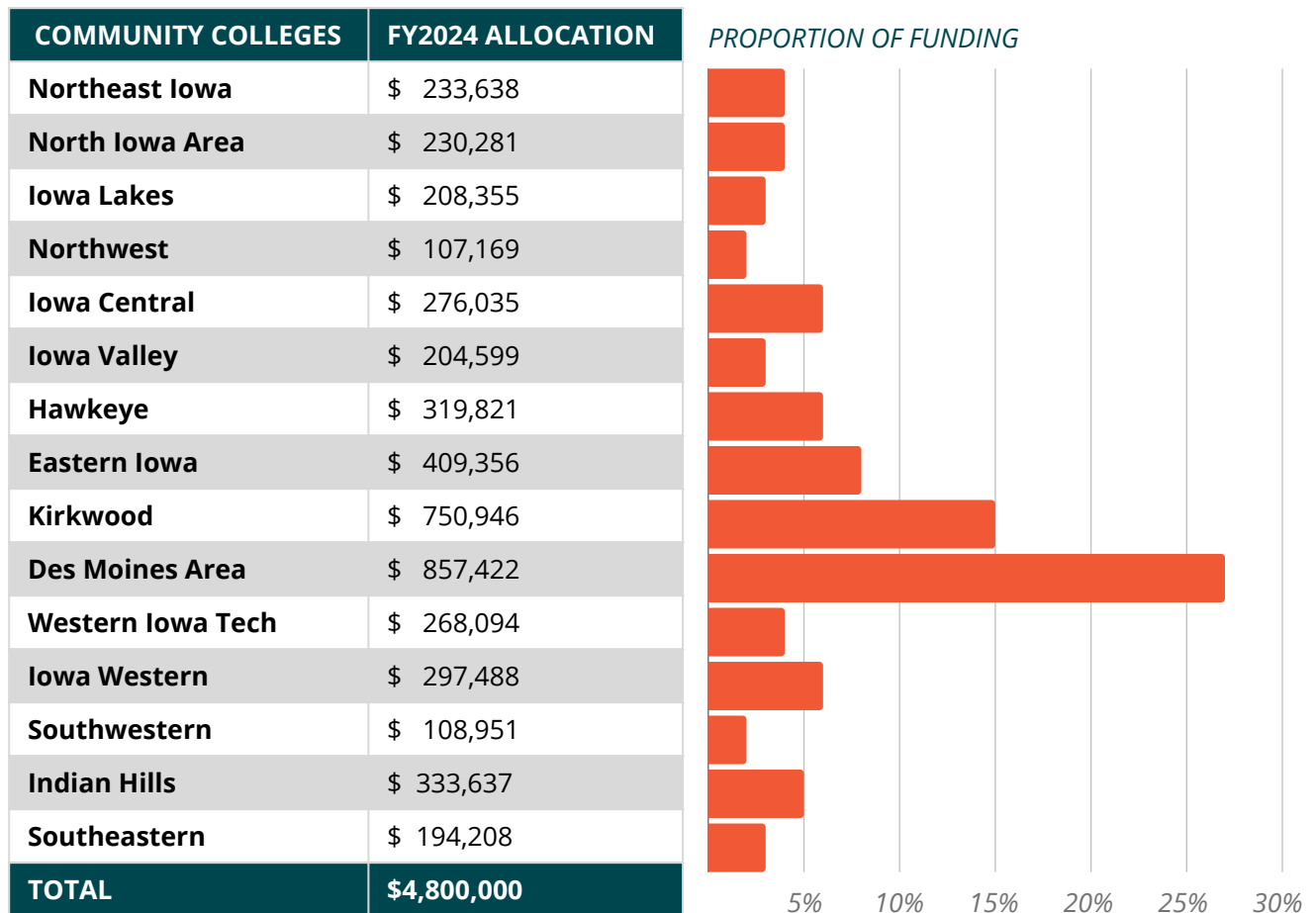
Appropriates \$5,000,000 to the College Student Aid Commission from the Iowa Skilled Worker and Job Creation Fund for the Skilled Workforce Shortage Tuition Grant Program. This is level funding with FY2024. The allowable maximum award is \$3,000.

SKILLED WORKFORCE SHORTAGE TUITION GRANT PROGRAM APPROPRIATIONS HISTORY				
YEAR	FUNDING	APPLICANTS	STUDENTS ASSISTED	AVG. AWARD
FY2017	\$5,000,000	19,649	4,415	\$1,128
FY2018	\$5,000,000	21,755	4,453	\$1,151
FY2019	\$5,000,000	20,501	4,394	\$1,138
FY2020	\$5,000,000	18,999	4,401	\$1,107
FY2021	\$5,000,000	19,791	4,325	\$1,156
FY2022	\$5,000,000	19,360	4,229	\$1,214
FY2023	\$5,000,000	19,312	4,467	\$1,128
FY2024	\$5,000,000	TBD	TBD	TBD

### Pathways for Academic Career & Employment Program (PACE)

Appropriates \$5,000,000 to the Department of Education from the Iowa Skilled Worker and Job Creation Fund to the Pathways for Academic Career & Employment Fund to implement the PACE career pathways program. This is level funding compared to the FY2024 appropriation. Funding can be carried over from year to year. The fund is administered by the Department of Education.

Moneys in the fund are to be allocated pursuant to the community college state general aid distribution formula established in section 260C.18C. The FY2024 distribution is displayed below.



### **Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates (iJAG)**

Appropriates \$9,646,450 to the Department of Education for the Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates (iJAG) program. This is a 5.5% increase in funding over the FY2024 allocation.

### **Postsecondary Summer Classes for High School Students Program**

Appropriates \$600,000 to the Department of Education for the creation of a Summer Joint Enrollment Program that allows resident high school students, enrolled in grades 9 through 12, to enroll in community college classes during the summer months under an agreement between a school district and a community college. This is level funding with FY2024.

Unencumbered or unobligated funds at the close of the fiscal year received by the Department of Education for this program shall remain available for the following fiscal year.

### **Statewide Clearinghouse to Expand Work-Based Learning**

Appropriates \$300,000 to the Department of Education to maintain a statewide clearinghouse related to work-based learning. This level funding with FY2024.

### **Computer Science Professional Development Incentive Fund**

Appropriates \$500,000 to be used for professional development and compensation for teachers seeking a new computer science endorsement. This is level funding with FY2024.

### **Last Dollar Scholarship Program**

Appropriates \$23,927,005, this is level funding with the FY2024 appropriation. The Iowa College Student Aid Commission administers a last dollar scholarship for students enrolled in high demand career and technical programs, as approved by the Iowa Workforce Development Board. At a minimum, an eligible student will receive \$500. Students attending Iowa community colleges can receive up to the full amount of tuition and institutional mandatory fees. Students attending other eligible institutions can receive up to the average tuition and mandatory fees at the Iowa community colleges. The current funding level provides average grants of \$2,949 to an estimated 9,895 students.

[You can find the new rules regarding the Last Dollar Scholarship above in our policy bills section.](#)

<b>FY2021</b>	\$13,004,744
<b>FY2022</b>	\$23,004,744
<b>FY2023</b>	\$23,927,005
<b>FY2024</b>	\$23,927,005
<b>FY2025</b>	\$23,927,005

### **Iowa Workforce Grant and Incentive Program (256.230)**

Appropriates \$6,500,000 for Iowa Regent university students enrolling in an approved high demand program at an Iowa four-year institution. Programs of study will be jointly approved by the Iowa Workforce Development Board and the State Board of Regents. Iowa residents must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), be enrolled in an eligible program, be continuously enrolled, and maintains satisfactory academic progress. A sliding scale metric will be used to prioritize awards to applicants with the least financial ability.

### **Future Ready Iowa Skilled Workforce Grant Program (256.229)**

Appropriates \$425,000 to the College Student Aid Commission for the Future Ready Iowa Skilled Workforce Grant Program.

## **Economic Development Appropriations – Senate File 2432**

***Signed by the Governor on May 9, 2024***

**Effective Date: July 1, 2024**

### **Accelerated Career Education (ACE) Infrastructure Program (260G.6)**

Appropriates \$6,000,000 to the Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) from the Iowa Skilled Worker and Job Creation Fund for infrastructure improvements at community colleges and expands the uses of the funds to include the long-authorized capital projects associated with implementing ACE Programs authorized under Chapter 260G. In addition, adds authority to use the funds for major renovations and major repair needs, including health, life, and fire safety needs, including compliance with the federal American with Disabilities Act. This is level funding with FY2024. Funding is equally distributed, with each community college receiving a \$400,000 annual allocation. From FY2013 through FY2023, this program had been managed by the Department of Education and funds are distributed directly to the community colleges. Encumbered funding can be carried over from year to year.

### **Statewide Work-Based Learning Intermediary Network**

This program was cut through the Governor's recommended budget, which was then confirmed by both the House and Senate Economic Development Appropriations bills.

### **Sector Partnerships**

This program was cut through the Governor's recommended budget, which was then confirmed by both the House and Senate Economic Development Appropriations bills.

### **Adult Basic Education and Adult Literacy Programs**

Appropriates \$5,500,000 to the Iowa Department of Workforce Development from the Iowa Skilled Worker and Job Creation Fund and \$500,000 from the State General Fund to implement adult basic education/adult literacy programs. This is level funding with FY2024. Funding can be carried over from year to year. The program is administered by the Iowa Department of Workforce Development.

- Designates \$3,883,000 for the AEL adult literacy program delivered under Section 260C.18C
  - Distributes funds using the community college state general aid distribution formula.
- Designates \$1,727,000 for ELL adult literacy programs.
  - Allocates \$500,000 to ELL/ESL for students requiring instruction in English as a second language.
  - Distributes funds as grants to community colleges for the purpose of adult basic education programs for students requiring instruction in English as a second language.
  - Directs the Iowa Workforce Development to establish an application process and criteria to award grants pursuant to this subparagraph to community colleges. The criteria shall be based on the need for instruction in English, as a second language, in the region served by each Community College as determined by factors including data from the latest federal decennial census and outreach efforts to determine regional needs.
  - Transfers \$210,000 to the Department of Human Services for the administration of a pilot project to provide access to international resources to lowans and new lowans to provide economic and leadership development resulting in Iowa being a more inclusive and welcoming place to live, work, and raise a family.
    - The pilot project shall provide supplemental support services for international refugees to improve learning, literacy, cultural competencies, and assimilation in 10 locations within a county with a population over 350,000 as determined by the 2020 federal decennial census.
    - The Department of Human Services shall utilize a request for proposals process to identify the entity best qualified to implement the pilot project.
- Designates \$150,000 for DE staff support and related leadership activities.

Moneys in the fund are to be allocated pursuant to the community college state general aid distribution formula established in section 260C.18C. The FY2025 distribution is displayed below.

### English Language Learner (ELL) Adult Literacy Program

The FY2025 ELL adult literacy appropriation will be distributed using a special distribution formula developed by the Department of Education as provided for in the appropriation language.

### Workforce Development Fund

Appropriates \$7,750,000 to the Iowa Workforce Development from the Workforce Development Fund Account. This is level funding with the FY2024 allocation. Community colleges receive \$4,750,000 for job training projects authorized under Chapter 260F and \$3,000,000 is distributed to apprenticeship programs authorized under section 84D. These two appropriations are standing appropriations.

The \$4,750,000 260F allocation will be distributed based on each community college's proportional share of FY2024 state general aid as provided for by administrative rule.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT FUND APPROPRIATIONS HISTORY		
FY2017	\$6,000,000	\$3,000,000 allocated to apprenticeship program
FY2018	\$6,000,000	\$3,000,000 allocated to apprenticeship program
FY2019	\$6,000,000	\$3,000,000 allocated to apprenticeship program
FY2020	\$6,000,000	\$3,000,000 allocated to apprenticeship program
FY2021	\$6,000,000	\$3,000,000 allocated to apprenticeship program
FY2022	\$7,750,000	\$3,000,000 allocated to apprenticeship program
FY2023	\$7,750,000	\$3,000,000 allocated to apprenticeship program
FY2024	\$7,750,000	\$3,000,000 allocated to apprenticeship program
FY2025	\$7,750,000	\$3,000,000 allocated to apprenticeship program

### Workforce Development Field Offices

Appropriates \$6,902,636 from the State General Fund to support the state's system workforce development field offices and the Iowa Workforce Development state board. This is a 3.4% increase from FY2024.

Allocates \$150,000 to the State Library for licensing Learning Express Library, an online resource which prepares persons to succeed in the workplace through programs, which improve job skills and vocational test-taking abilities. This level funding with FY2024.

Appropriates \$2,200,000 to Iowa Workforce Development from the Unemployment Compensation Reserve Fund for the operation of their Field Offices. This is a 22.8% decrease from the FY2024 allocation.



Appropriates \$2,416,084 to Iowa Workforce Development Field Offices from the Special Employment Security Contingency Fund. This is a 9.8% increase from FY2024.

### **Offender Reentry Program**

Appropriates \$387,158 to Iowa Workforce Development for the support of an initiative begun in FY2009 that provides for the development and administration of an offender reentry program to provide offenders with employment skills. Iowa Workforce Development is partnering with the Department of Corrections to provide staff within the correctional facilities to improve offender's abilities to find and retain productive employment. This is level funding with FY2024.

### **STEM Internships**

Appropriates \$633,325 to the Economic Development Authority from the Iowa Skilled Worker and Job Creation Fund to support an internship program for students studying STEM disciplines with Iowa employers. An existing apprenticeship program was amended to add this new internship program. The program is administered by the Iowa Workforce Development. This is level funding from the FY2024 allocation.

### **Registered Apprenticeship Program**

Appropriates \$760,000 to the Iowa Workforce Development to support a registered apprenticeship development program designed to encourage small to midsize businesses to start and/or grow registered apprenticeships. This is level funding with FY2024.

### **Summer Youth Intern Pilot Program**

Appropriates \$250,000 from State General Fund appropriation, to Iowa Workforce Development for a Summer Youth Intern Pilot Program intended to help young people at risk of not graduating from high school to explore and prepare for high-demand career through summer work experience, including the development of soft skills. This is level funding with FY2024.

## **Justice Systems – House File 2693**

***Signed by the Governor on May 9, 2024***

**Effective Date: Upon Enactment**

Appropriates \$2,608,109 for educational programs for inmates at the state penal institutions. This is level funding with the FY2024 appropriation. This level of funding has not changed since FY2012.

Specifies that the Department of Corrections shall establish guidelines and procedures to prioritize the availability of educational and vocational training for inmates based upon the goal of facilitating an inmate's successful release from the correctional institution. The director of the DOC may transfer money from Iowa prison industries and the canteen operating funds for use in educational programs for inmates.

# CONCLUSION

The 2024 legislative session had a significant focus on education. There were many successful outcomes, with immediate and long-term impact, for Iowa community colleges and their current and future students. It's the honor of Community Colleges for Iowa to serve our network of Iowa's 15 community colleges; the leaders, staff, faculty, and students of these institutions; and all Iowans in every corner of the state who benefit from the accessible, excellent higher education opportunities uniquely provided in our state.

*Iowa's community colleges!*

*Stay connected!*



# COMMUNITY COLLEGES *for* IOWA

