

Iowa Legislative Agenda

2024 Governing Principles

- Economic development should remain a top priority in the state and include leveraging the benefits of private/public partnerships.
- Continued investment in transportation infrastructure is critical to Iowa's economic development success.
- We support a strong preschool through post-secondary education system to ensure that Iowa has a globally-prepared, informed and civically-engaged workforce.
- We support a transparent health care access, delivery and financing system for all Iowans.
- We support continued progress towards a simplified regulatory and tax climate conducive to making Iowa a more competitive location for attracting business expansion opportunities and fostering business growth.
- We support streamlined governments at all levels that are efficient, cost effective and responsive to business needs.
- We support a fiscally-disciplined approach to state spending, including limiting the growth in state expenditures to a rate that does not exceed the rate of inflation.
- State environmental policies and regulations should be no more stringent than their federal counterparts.
- We support protection of Iowa's Right to Work law.

2024 Legislative Priorities

Economic Development

- Maintain Tax Increment Financing (TIF) as an economic development tool.
- Protect the responsible use of economic development tools, including the Redevelopment Tax Credit, the Targeted Jobs Withholding Tax Credit, the Historic Preservation Tax Credit, and the Research Activities Credit.
- Fully fund the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) and its programs, including tourism.
- Restructure economic development incentive programs to allow Iowa to compete for large scale projects.

Workforce Growth

- Support full funding and stable eligibility for the *Last Dollar Scholarship*.
- Continue emphasis on STEM fields and Career and Technical Education (CTE).
- Preserve existing workforce training funds.
- Support affordable workforce housing incentives and initiatives.
- Support access to quality and affordable child care assistance with consideration of serving culturally-diverse populations.

Quality of Life

- Support funding for quality-of-life projects that directly correlate to business and employee recruitment and retention. These placemaking projects leverage local communities' assets.
- Address a long-term, equitable solution to Iowa's water quality challenge.

Pre-K-12 Education Funding

- Embrace a system to fund each student at a uniform district cost per pupil, while pursuing equalized property tax receipts per pupil statewide.
- Increase weighted preschool funding for children living below 200% of the federal poverty level and allow flexible spending of preschool dollars to meet student needs.
- Support updates to the school funding formula to address additional resources and services for districts serving a disproportionate number of at-risk and students from low-income families.
- Support English Language Learners (ELL) and greater flexibility in expending ELL funds.
- Expand support for addressing children's mental health needs in schools.
- Encourage the Legislature to set Supplemental State Aid levels at least 14 months prior to the certification of the school district's budgets per statute.

Higher Education Funding

- Support adequate funding for Iowa Community Colleges to keep total costs affordable.
- Support continued funding of the Iowa Tuition Grant and National Guard Education Assistance Program.

Budget & Taxes

- Support simplification and continued reduction of business and personal income taxes.
- Support continued modernization of the property tax system to be predictable, stable, and competitive.

Health Care

- Maintain level funding at \$750,000 for the Iowa Poison Control Center (IPCC).
- Support employer-directed medical care in workers' compensation cases.
- Invest in initiatives to help retain and attract health care providers.
- Support the commitment to ensure equitable access to mental health care services for all Iowans.
- Support extending Medicaid coverage for the entire 12-month postpartum period.

Transportation

- Sustain current funding and service levels at Iowa's commercial service airports.
- Support the Iowa Department of Transportation's RISE program.