



Our mission

We advocate for and support Iowans as they explore, finance and complete educational opportunities beyond high school to increase family and community success.

Our motto

Because college changes everything.

Our vision

All Iowans can achieve an education beyond high school.

Our values

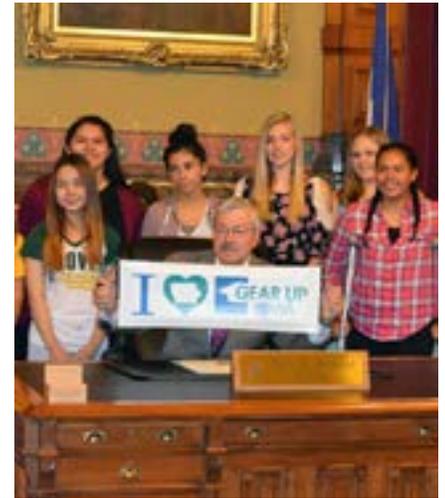
- Put students first
- Respect and honor the dignity of each other and all those we serve
- Uphold the public trust
- Create and nurture internal and external partnerships that benefit our customers
- Provide services to our customers that exceed expectations and address their changing needs
- Develop and empower a motivated, compassionate, professional and accountable team
- Utilize evidence-based decision-making
- Strive to improve internal and external communication and increase transparency

September 30, 2016

Iowa College Aid Programs

Governor declares GEAR UP Week

Gov. Terry Branstad declared September 19-23 to be GEAR UP Week in the state of Iowa. He signed a proclamation and held a news conference highlighting GEAR UP Iowa, a program that administers a \$22 million federal grant to get more low-income students to college. GEAR UP Iowa currently supports more than 7,000 students who are beginning their freshman year in 26 high schools. Find more information about [GEAR UP Iowa](#).



Grants and scholarships in Iowa

In fiscal year 2016, Iowa College Aid administered nearly \$70 million in grants, scholarships and loan repayment programs. The largest was the Iowa Tuition Grant, which made an average award of \$4,368 to 11,245 students at not-for-profit schools and \$1,273 to 1,250 students at for-profit schools, for a total of more than \$50 million in grants in that cycle. Find out more about [state grants and scholarships](#).

Success stories: Beating the odds

Randie Camp beat the odds for youth aging out of foster care. While only 3 percent of former foster youth complete a bachelor's degree by age 26, Randie, who entered the system in fifth grade, not only completed her bachelor's degree, but finished her master's and is currently a doctoral student at Iowa State University. A recipient of the All Iowa Opportunity Foster Care Grant and the Education and Training Voucher Grant, Camp hopes [her story](#) will inspire other foster youth take the next step beyond high school.