

**Central Rivers AEA  
SUPERINTENDENTS' MEETING  
January 2018**

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**OPEN ENROLLMENT TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE FOR 2017-18**

The transportation reimbursement for the 2017-18 school year for qualifying open enrolled families is \$497. Transportation assistance is only available to families who open enroll between contiguous districts. The cost of transportation reimbursement incurred by the resident district should be deducted from the tuition sent to the receiving district. If the application for transportation assistance is filed after the beginning of the school year, the cost of providing the transportation should be pro-rated. If a parent/guardian qualifies for school transportation assistance, the resident district has the authority to determine how the transportation assistance will be provided. The type of transportation assistance is not a parent/guardian choice. The resident district may meet its statutory obligation in one of three ways:

1. Provide transportation for the pupil(s) to a stop on the bus line of the receiving district;
2. Allow the receiving district to enter the resident district to pick up the pupil(s) if the receiving district requests this arrangement. If either the sending or receiving district does not approve the arrangement, the resident district is still obligated to provide transportation assistance;
3. The resident district may provide a parent/guardian with a cash reimbursement at \$497 per child each year for up to four children in a family. The maximum number of children can include only one secondary (9-12) child and up to three elementary (k-8) children. 281-IAC 17.9

Income guidelines can be found in the [Open Enrollment Handbook](#) on the Iowa Department of Education website:

For additional information, contact Eric Heitz at (515)281-4726 or eric.heitz@iowa.gov.

**SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION**

A reminder to superintendents that every school bus is to be inspected twice every year. This is accomplished by the Department of Education school bus inspection team in conjunction with the Iowa State Patrol. Inspection notices are sent to school district superintendents and business managers prior to the beginning of each inspection cycle (approximately each semester) and also the month prior to the actual inspection date. Please forward these notices on to your transportation staff so they are aware of the inspection date and can be prepared when the inspectors arrive on site. In addition, the full inspection schedule is always available at School Bus Inspections, thus allowing inspection dates to be placed on your calendar prior to receiving the notice from our office. If you have questions or for more information, please contact Max Christensen at 515-281-4749 or max.christensen@iowa.gov

**WINTER STUDENT REPORTING IN IOWA (SRI)**

For all public districts and non-public buildings who report via SRI

The Winter SRI production site opens on January 5th with a certification deadline of January 31st. For districts and non-public buildings housing grades 9-12, the Curriculum Accreditation Report found on the Home page in SRI should be reviewed. Items to review include (but are not limited to) local course title and SCED course title aligning, Carnegie unit on course is accurate, courses are sequenced appropriately so that Carnegie unit calculations are correct, and all courses eligible for accreditation are showing. To access a recorded webcast explaining the Curriculum Accreditation Report, click [here](#). As always, all reports need to be accurate before certifying.

## IOWA GOLD® PROCEDURES

[Iowa Code section 279.60](#) requires the use of the *GOLD*® online system in district sponsored preschool programs.

Preschool programs are encouraged to use the *updated* Iowa *GOLD*® Procedures to assist them in using *GOLD*® online. The Iowa *GOLD*® Procedures are posted on more than one Iowa Department of Education web page as well as the [Iowa dedicated page](#) on Teaching Strategies' website.

For information about *GOLD*® requirements, please contact Jennifer Adkins ([Jennifer.Adkins@iowa.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Adkins@iowa.gov)), Amy Stegeman ([Amy.Stegeman@iowa.gov](mailto:Amy.Stegeman@iowa.gov)), or Kimberly Villotti ([Kimberly.Villotti@iowa.gov](mailto:Kimberly.Villotti@iowa.gov)).

## GRANT OPPORTUNITY

The next McKinney-Vento subgrant competition will begin in the spring of 2018. Subgrant application requirements and forms will be available on the Iowa Department of Education website.

Subgrants are open to any public school district in Iowa that has identified and reported a minimum of 25 homeless students on Student Reporting in Iowa (SRI). Subgrants are awarded through a competitive grant process.

For additional information on homeless education, contact Carolyn Cobb Paulaitis at [Carolyn.paulaitis@iowa.gov](mailto:Carolyn.paulaitis@iowa.gov).

## TEACH IOWA ACCOUNT MAINTENANCE

The Iowa Department of Education is offering webinar support sessions on January 24, 2018, intended to provide technical assistance for Teach Iowa account maintenance. In preparation for the spring hiring season, we will address selecting application pages for specific postings and creating and maintaining appropriate account access. These sessions are appropriate for all HRAdmin account users and participants will have the opportunity to ask questions specific to their context. Registration information can be found in *School Leader Update* (SLU) and through Teach Iowa (TI) email notices. Please contact [Marietta Rives](#) with questions (515-281-6038).

## DESK AUDIT

The universal desk audit for all K-12 districts/schools and AEAs closed on Dec. 15. Thanks everyone for your on time submission! Consultants are beginning the review of the desk audits. As questions or concerns arise, a comment will be entered into the Desk Audit application. An email alert will be sent to the superintendent and/or nonpublic school administrator, in addition to the person who submitted the desk audit, requesting your review of the communication within the application. Any noncompliance items will be entered into a new Corrective Action Log. To learn more about the Corrective Action Log, access the [CASA](#) webpage and scroll to section on Corrective Action Log.

Contact your school improvement consultant or Cindy Butler at [cindy.butler@iowa.gov](mailto:cindy.butler@iowa.gov) with any questions on the universal desk audit or corrective actions.

## IOWA LEARNING ONLINE (ILO)

Enrollment is closing soon for the ILO Spring term. With more than 40 [course offerings](#) available, you're sure to find high quality opportunities for your students to improve their digital learning skills. Each term includes a grace period so that students and schools can make sure that it is a good match. Visit [IowaLearningOnline.com](http://IowaLearningOnline.com) for more information.

**Spring 2018 Cohort A:** January 2 to May 4 (early enrollment ends at 4pm January 16)

**Spring 2018 Cohort B:** January 16 to May 18 (early enrollment ends at 4pm January 29)

## IOWA ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Thank you for your continued work to implement Iowa's Academic Standards.

Please find a one-page document that summarizes standards and curriculum [newsletters/networks](#).

**Is standards implementation coherent in your district?** Educators can find out [here](#). Access tools [here](#).

**RESOURCES**[Open Enrollment](#)[Resources for Schools to Use for Anti-bullying Professional Development](#)[Each and Every Child!](#)**DATES TO REMEMBER**

January 1	Secondary Career and Technical Education (CTE) Reporting Application opens for Fiscal Year (FY) Reporting	Pat Thieben <a href="mailto:pat.thieben@iowa.gov">pat.thieben@iowa.gov</a>
January 1	Last date to certify to the Department of Education (DE) reorganization or dissolution action effective July 1 (Iowa Code 275)	Carla Schimelfenig <a href="mailto:carla.schimelfenig@iowa.gov">carla.schimelfenig@iowa.gov</a>
January 1	Juvenile Home Program Budget Due (AEA only)	Denise Ragias <a href="mailto:denise.ragias@iowa.gov">denise.ragias@iowa.gov</a>
January 5	Winter VRF/SRI production site opens	Rachel Kruse <a href="mailto:rachel.kurse@iowa.gov">rachel.kurse@iowa.gov</a> Margaret Hanson <a href="mailto:margaret.hanson@iowa.gov">margaret.hanson@iowa.gov</a>
Second Friday in January	Determine number of students participating in whole-grade sharing for 2 <sup>nd</sup> semester. Not required to report to the Department of Education	Carla Schimelfenig <a href="mailto:carla.schimelfenig@iowa.gov">carla.schimelfenig@iowa.gov</a>
January 15	Last date to resubmit an unapproved At Risk, Returning Dropout/Dropout Prevention Program application for modified supplemental amount (Iowa Code 257.40)	Steve Crew <a href="mailto:steve.crew@iowa.gov">steve.crew@iowa.gov</a> Gary Schwartz <a href="mailto:gary.schwartz@iowa.gov">gary.schwartz@iowa.gov</a>
January 27	National School Lunch Program (NSLP) <i>hawk-i</i> submission due	Deb Linderblood <a href="mailto:deb.linderblood@iowa.gov">deb.linderblood@iowa.gov</a>
January 31	Last day to submit Courses in a Program on the Secondary CTE Reporting Application (IAC 281.12.5)	Pat Thieben <a href="mailto:pat.thieben@iowa.gov">pat.thieben@iowa.gov</a>
January 31	Winter SRI certification deadline	Rachel Kruse <a href="mailto:rachel.kurse@iowa.gov">rachel.kurse@iowa.gov</a> Margaret Hanson <a href="mailto:margaret.hanson@iowa.gov">margaret.hanson@iowa.gov</a>
February 1	National School Lunch Program (NSLP) Self-monitoring review completion due	Patti Harding <a href="mailto:patti.harding@iowa.gov">patti.harding@iowa.gov</a>
February 1	Last date for boards to sign a whole grade sharing agreement (28E contract) for the next school year. (Iowa Code 282.10)	Barb Byrd <a href="mailto:barb.byrd@iowa.gov">barb.byrd@iowa.gov</a>
February 1	Last date to request authority to charge administrative costs to the special education program for the subsequent fiscal year (IAC 289--6.3(3)"j")	Bill Roederer <a href="mailto:bill.roederer@iowa.gov">bill.roederer@iowa.gov</a>
February 8	On-line request for hearing at the March School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) meeting due and exhibits due.	Tom Cooley <a href="mailto:tom.cooley@iowa.gov">tom.cooley@iowa.gov</a>
February 15	Last date to bill for first semester tuition. This includes open enrollment billing.	Carla Schimelfenig <a href="mailto:carla.schimelfenig@iowa.gov">carla.schimelfenig@iowa.gov</a>
March 1	Open Enrollment Grades 1-12 Deadline (Iowa Code 282.18)	Eric Heitz <a href="mailto:eric.heitz@iowa.gov">eric.heitz@iowa.gov</a>
March 13	March School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) meeting	Tom Cooley

Additional information at [Deadlines](#) or [Calendar](#).

**AFFIRMATIVE ACTION POLICY**

It is the policy of the Iowa Department of Education not to discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, gender, disability, religion, age, political party affiliation, socioeconomic status, or actual or potential parental, family or marital status in its programs, activities, or employment practices as required by the Iowa Code sections 216.9 and 256.10(2), Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. § 2000d and 2000e), the Equal Pay Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. § 206, et seq.), Title IX (Educational Amendments, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1681 – 1688) Section 504 (Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. § 794), and the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. § 12101, et seq.). If you have questions or grievances related to compliance with this policy by the Iowa Department of Education, please contact the legal counsel for the Iowa Department of Education, Grimes State Office Building, 400 E 14th St, Des Moines IA 50319-0146, telephone number 515-281-5295, or the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, 500 W. Madison Street, Suite 1475, Chicago, IL 60661.