

Iowa's Area Education Agencies

STRATEGIC PLAN 2025-2030

Our Mission

To deliver high-quality, evidence-based, and strategic services to our educational partners that meet the diverse needs of Iowa's learners (birth-21), educators, and school communities.

Our Vision

Iowa's Area Education Agencies are educational partners embedded in Iowa schools. We exist to create a thriving educational landscape where all learners and educators have access to high-quality, evidence-based and strategic supports and services, collaboratively provided within districts, to help all learners achieve their full potential.

Our Core Values



C

Collaboration

Emphasizing the importance of working together with schools, districts, and families to achieve common educational goals.



A

Accountability

Prioritizing strategies that create measurable impact (using analytics) and being accountable for outcomes.



R

Relationships

Driving positive change through the power of strong partnerships. We partner with educators to create a shared vision for student success.



E

Excellence

Striving for excellence in all aspects of service delivery, including the quality, evidence-based nature and strategic alignment of supports and services.



S

Sustainability

Committing to ongoing reflection, learning and improvement to ensure the sustainability and impact of effective services.

Serve

Engage and address the immediate needs

Support

Provide continuous assistance and backing

Impact

Achieve meaningful and lasting positive outcomes



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Education
Agencies

Our Goals

1 Promote safe, orderly, and welcoming learning environments.

Objectives

- Improve Student Behavior and Social-Emotional Skills
- Strengthen School Climate and Culture
- Support Effective Crisis Prevention and Response Systems
- Increase Staff Capacity to Effectively Manage Classrooms and Support Students Needs

AEA Actions

- Support schools in applying appropriate behavioral principles to implement effective problem analysis practices and design and deliver instructional/ intervention supports at all Tiers.
- Provide Department of Education approved professional development which includes ongoing coaching and consultation to support implementation.

Measurements

For those districts engaged with the AEA to improve the learning environment, beginning and end of the year data (PK-12 Education Statistics from DE):

- Chronic absenteeism
- # of suspensions
- # of incidents of seclusion
- # of incidents of restraints
- Early Childhood Outcomes: Positive Social Emotional Skills
- Showcase districts or buildings engaged in learning environment improvement work

2 Promote equity in education by closing achievement and opportunity gaps.

Objectives

- Increase Academic Achievement for All Learners
- Expand Access to High-Quality Instruction and Programs
- Monitor Disproportionality in Special Education Identification
- Strengthen Educator Capacity

AEA Actions

- Support schools in implementing appropriate instructional practices across all Tiers, including specially designed instruction.
- Provide Department of Education approved professional development which includes ongoing coaching and consultation to support implementation.

Measurements

For those districts engaged with the AEA to promote equity in education by closing achievement and opportunity gaps

- FASTbridge growth data (K-6) literacy and math
- Access to secondary course work, Algebra II (DE database for subgroup access to core content)
- Least Restrictive Environment data (% of students who participate in general education classes - 80% or more of their day)
- Early Childhood Outcomes: Knowledge and Skills
- Showcase districts or buildings engaged in work to promote equity in education by closing achievement and opportunity gaps

3 Implement measures to ensure consistent quality in the delivery of AEA services to Iowa's accredited schools.

Objectives

- Increase AEA Practitioner Effectiveness Through Evidence-Based Professional Learning
- Strengthen Child Find and Early Childhood Special Education Practices
- Build Staff Capacity Through Targeted, Data Driven Professional Development and Coaching

AEA Actions

- Systemwide Professional Learning for AEA Educational Services Staff on Implementation Science for Educational Initiatives with Ongoing Coaching
- Ensure consistent and effective evaluation and eligibility practices across all nine agencies
- Ensure consistent delivery of support and related services across all nine agencies

Measurements

- Growth of Implementation Science Practitioner Core Competencies (pre and post)
- Fidelity data of child find practices
- Fidelity data delivery of Specially Designed Direct Services

***Note:** direct alignment to required and recommended actions from state site visits from spring 2025