

IOWA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FY 2027 OPERATIONAL PLAN

This operational plan is tied to the Iowa Economic Development Authority
& Iowa Finance Authority FY 2025 - FY 2027 STRATEGIC PLAN



MISSION STATEMENT

CREATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR IOWANS, COMMUNITIES, AND BUSINESSES TO THRIVE.

VISION STATEMENTS

MAKING IOWA THE CHOICE FOR PEOPLE AND BUSINESS.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The organizational structure of the Iowa Economic Development Authority is outlined in the IEDA IFA Org Chart 4.8.25
See **Appendix A**.

OPERATIONAL GOALS

BUILDING A CULTURE IN WHICH BUSINESSES CAN PROSPER: Develop policies that support our key industry sectors where we can scale wealth: Advanced manufacturing, biosciences, insurance/ financial services, information technology and educational technology.

BUILDING COMMUNITIES WHERE PEOPLE WANT TO LIVE AND VISIT: Focus on housing, water quality, energy, rural revitalization, downtown districts, tourism, and quality of life initiatives.

RAISING THE STANDARD OF LIVING FOR IOWANS: Create communities, places and jobs for our citizens to thrive. This includes first time homebuyers, families, young professionals and tourists.



ACTION ITEMS AND OUTCOME MEASURES

The following action items and measures are tied to the operational goals and will be used to measure progress

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT			
Program	Program Description	Action Item	FY 2027 Outcome measure/Key Performance Indicator (KPI)
Business Incentives for Growth (BIG) program	Help qualifying businesses offset some of the costs of locating, expanding or modernizing a facility in Iowa.	Assist with creating high quality jobs in Iowa	1500 jobs
Business Incentives for Growth (BIG) program	Help qualifying businesses offset some of the costs of locating, expanding or modernizing a facility in Iowa.	Leverage capital investment in Iowa's economy	\$2.0 billion in capital investment
Business Incentives for Growth (BIG) program	Help qualifying businesses offset some of the costs of locating, expanding or modernizing a facility in Iowa.	Incentivize projects with high wages for Iowans	Average project wage of \$25.56 per hour plus benefits
Renewable Chemical Tax Credit program	Incentivizes the production of 30 high-value chemicals and sustainable aviation fuel derived from biomass feedstocks.	Assist with funding the production of chemicals and sustainable aviation fuel	57 million lbs. in chemicals
Iowa Research and Development Tax Credit (R&D)	The Iowa Research and Development Tax Credit is an annual tax credit based on qualified expenses as allowed under Section 26 USC 41 of the Internal Revenue Code. Businesses must first be certified by the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) as eligible to apply for the credit. IEDA will allocate available tax credits on a pro rata basis to businesses actively investing in innovation that occurs within the State of Iowa. Tax credits are refundable, but not transferable.	Assist with certifying companies in Iowa	400 companies certified
Iowa Research and Development Tax Credit (R&D)	See previous program description for Iowa Research and Development Tax Credit (R&D)	Approving tax credits	\$0 (implementation/transition year due to differences between state fiscal year and federal tax year)

Program	Program Description	Action Item	FY 2027 Outcome measure/Key Performance Indicator (KPI)
Seed Investor Tax Credit	Use tax credits to incentivize the transfer of capital from investors to entrepreneurs, particularly during early-stage growth.	Facilitate investment in Iowa at the seed investor stage by awarding tax credits to individual investors investing cash for equity in innovative Iowa businesses	\$2,000,000 investment New program in FY2026
Innovation Fund Tax Credit	Tax credits created to stimulate venture capital investment in innovative Iowa businesses.	Award tax credits to encourage investment	\$2 million invested in Iowa businesses by certified funds
Innovation Entrepreneurial Investment Award (EIA) program	Promote the development of startup businesses in Iowa.	Make awards to increase the number of entrepreneurs in Iowa	5% increase
Innovation Entrepreneurial Investment Award (EIA) program	Promote the development of startup businesses in Iowa.	Increase number of referrals from EIA awardees to innovation state assistance programs	5% increase
Manufacturing 4.0 program	Grants to assist small- and mid-sized enterprises with the adoption and integration of smart technologies into existing operations in the state.	Make awards to increase in the number of units produced in completed projects	60% increase
Manufacturing 4.0 program	See previous Manufacturing 4.0 program description	Report an increase in annual revenues in completed projects	Increase in 80% of completed projects
Insurance Development/ Insure your Future	Provides an opportunity targeted at college freshmen and sophomores to gain experience in Iowa's insurance industry	Secure insurance companies to participate in the Insure Your Future internship program	25 companies
Insurance Development/ Insure your Future	See previous Insurance Development program description	Meet with insurance companies to encourage additional growth and reinvestment in Iowa	25 companies
Insurance Development/ Insure your Future	See previous Insurance Development program description	Secure students to participate in the Insure Your Future internship program	70 students
Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP) Assistance program	Helps Iowa business owners complete the first step of setting up an ESOP - a feasibility study conducted by an independent financial professional.	Assist businesses with the creation of ESOPs	3 new companies
Major Economic Growth Attraction (MEGA)	Provides financial assistance to large development projects with substantial investment in Iowa	Award incentives that will have a substantial impact on Iowa's economy	2 projects before January 1, 2027

Program	Program Description	Action Item	FY 2027 Outcome measure/Key Performance Indicator (KPI)
Certified sites	Provides certification that site is development ready. The Iowa Rural Certified Site Initiative (IRCSI) was created during the 2024 legislative session to facilitate the development of shovel-ready locations in rural Iowa.	Certify sites in the 88-least populated counties	2 certified sites with overall goal to establish 2 new sites in each congressional district
Core Function - Business attraction, expansion and investment	Attract investment to Iowa	Attend in-person meetings with businesses in our targeted sectors to increase engagement	Increase engagement by 10%
State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) - Small Business Collateral Support Program	The State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) is a \$96 million investment in growing Iowa's small businesses, startups and manufacturers. The funding is available through the U.S. Treasury Department. The SSBCI Review Committee reviews and scores some applications with the purpose of making a recommendation to the Director of IEDA for final approval of awards.	Provide businesses funding for collateral gap needed to secure a loan through a commercial lender for loans	30% of all awards to rural business owners.
State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) - Venture Capital Co-Investment Fund	See previous SSBCI program description	Leverage private funds to support entrepreneurship	Average 1:3 public: private leverage ratio across all new transactions
State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) - Manufacturing 4.0 Loan Participation Program	See previous SSBCI program description	Partner with lenders throughout Iowa to assist manufacturers through loan participation	5 new companies assisted
State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) - IEDA Innovation Continuum	See previous SSBCI program description	Increase funding opportunities for entrepreneurs	Award 20% of funds to rural business owners

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT - INTERNATIONAL

Program	Program Description	Action Item	FY 2027 Outcome measure/Key Performance Indicator (KPI)
International export assistance	Programs to support export efforts of eligible small businesses in Iowa.	Secure new companies to utilize STEP funding to receive technical assistance on HTS schedule codes and export services	10 new companies
International export assistance	Programs to support export efforts of eligible small businesses in Iowa.	Measure company satisfaction scores on trade development and export growth scores	Satisfaction score of 4 or higher
Foreign representation	Facilitate foreign investment into Iowa	Facilitate company sales interactions in defined IEDA trade regions that lead to international export/trade development for Iowa	50 company sales interactions
Foreign representation	Facilitate foreign investment into Iowa	Increase number of trade leads and contacts that result in international business development for Iowa companies	10% increase
International Trade/ Partner State program	Managing Iowa's partner state relationships and the government and business-related exchanges associated with these entities and collaborating with IIC to facilitate cultural and educational connections.	Engage Partner States in program activities	80% of Partner States participating

TOURISM & MARKETING

Program	Program Description	Action Item	FY 2027 Outcome measure/Key Performance Indicator (KPI)
Tourism Office	Promote and support Iowa's tourism industry.	Assist with generating state and local tax revenue as a result of tourism	\$1.2 billion in state/ local taxes
Tourism Office	Promote and support Iowa's tourism industry.	Assist with generating state and local tax revenue as a result of tourism	5% increase in visitor spending from previous year
Regional Sports Authority Districts	Promote tourism in Iowa by funding projects tied to the active promotion of nonprofessional sporting events in the state.	Host attendees at funded events	500,000 attendees
Regional Sports Authority Districts	Promote tourism in Iowa by funding projects tied to the active promotion of nonprofessional sporting events in the state.	Generate hotel/motel room nights associated with funded events	100,000 hotel/motel nights

Program	Program Description	Action Item	FY 2027 Outcome measure/Key Performance Indicator (KPI)
IEDA Strategic Marketing and Communications Plan	Attract/retain Iowans through promotion of Iowa's business climate, quality of life, and its special places/experiences to help drive economic growth through business and community development and visitor spending.	Secure leads	1,000 annually

ENERGY

Program	Program Description	Action Item	FY 2027 Outcome measure/Key Performance Indicator (KPI)
Energy Infrastructure Revolving Loan fund	Provides low-interest loans for energy infrastructure projects that facilitate electricity or gas generation, transmission, storage, or distribution	Make awards to energy infrastructure projects	3 awards
Energy Infrastructure Revolving Loan fund	See previous Energy Infrastructure Revolving Loan program description	Increase number of marketing and technical assistance meetings and events implemented by IEDA staff	20% increase
Iowa Energy Center grant program	Provides grants to eligible applicants for projects that provide a benefit to Iowa ratepayers The Iowa Energy Center Board is appointed by the Governor and oversees, approves and provides direction and implementation of programs established by the Iowa Energy Center. The board will oversee the center in the development of a budget, policies and procedures, funding of grant proposals, and in matters relating to program planning and review.	Host outreach events/ presentations to organizations representing private industry	3 outreach events/ presentations
Iowa Energy Center grant program	See previous Iowa Energy Center Grant program description	Increase number of awards made to implementation ready projects	100% increase
State Heating Oil and Propane Program (SHOPP)	Collects state-level residential heating oil and propane price data, primarily during the winter heating season, to help track market developments and inform state governments.	Perform weekly surveys of propane and heating oil retailers and share reports with other state agencies. *IEDA has an MOU with IDALS to carry out these tasks.	25 weekly surveys (A survey a week for 25 weeks)

Program	Program Description	Action Item	FY 2027 Outcome measure/Key Performance Indicator (KPI)
Grid Resiliency program	Provides funding to support efforts to improve the all-hazards resilience of the electric grid and reduce the frequency and duration of outages.	Obligate available federal funds to subrecipient agreements for grid resilience improvements	75% of available funds Note: the earliest proposed completion date for projects funded by this program is February 2026, so we will likely not see a change in the number of outages or time to repair outages until projects are completed.
State Energy Program Formula	U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) provides funding for states to enhance energy security, advance state-led energy initiatives, and increase energy affordability by advancing energy technologies in Iowa and updating the state Energy Security Plan	Participate in workshops/ training/ education sessions to share information with partners	Attend or host 10 workshops, training and education sessions related to energy security and increasing energy affordability
State Energy Program (Bipartisan Infrastructure fund)	Federally funded rebate programs for home energy efficiency and electrification projects.	Participate in workshops/ training/ education sessions to share information with partners	Attend or host 4 sessions

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Program	Program Description	Action Item	FY 2027 Outcome measure/Key Performance Indicator (KPI)
Downtown Development and Main Street Iowa	The Downtown Resource Center educates on the importance of downtown development and provides programming and strategies to make downtown more viable.	Provide resources to assist in creating new jobs in Iowa downtown districts	500 new jobs
Downtown Development and Main Street Iowa	See previous Downtown Development and Main Street Iowa program description	Leverage private investment in designated Main Street districts	\$150 million leveraged
Downtown Development and Main Street Iowa	See previous Downtown Development and Main Street Iowa program description	Provide technical resources to assist in creating new businesses in designated Main Street districts	120 new businesses
Downtown Development and Main Street Iowa	See previous Downtown Development and Main Street Iowa program description	Provide technical resources and services from the Iowa Downtown Resource Center	Impact 200 communities

Program	Program Description	Action Item	FY 2027 Outcome measure/Key Performance Indicator (KPI)
Downtown Development and Main Street Iowa	See previous Downtown Development and Main Street Iowa program description	Provide funding to assist with downtown housing units	50 new housing units
Downtown Development and Main Street Iowa	See previous Downtown Development and Main Street Iowa program description	Leverage local investment through Iowa Downtown Resource Center funded projects	Leverage a 1:1.25 ratio
Downtown Development and Main Street Iowa	See previous Downtown Development and Main Street Iowa program description	Provide funding to assist with projects that increase property valuation in Iowa downtowns	25% valuation increase
Community Attraction and Tourism (CAT) program	Provides grant funds to assist projects that provide recreational, cultural, entertainment and educational attractions.	Fund projects in counties that have not had a state investment in recreational, cultural, entertainment or educational amenity in the previous 5 years	5 new projects
Destination Iowa	Provide grants to help communities move forward on transformational, shovel-ready attractions to increase visitors and new residents to Iowa.	Provide funding to increase number of new Primary Destinations in the state	Increase by 3
Reinvestment Districts	Assists communities in developing transformative projects that improve the quality of life, create and enhance unique opportunities, and substantially benefit the community, region, and state.	Generate new excise tax and sales tax within approved districts.	2% increase per year
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	Provides funding to communities to assist with infrastructure and development projects with a focus on benefits to low and moderate income persons.	Provide funding rehabilitate downtown building facades	40 downtown building facades
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	See previous CDBG program description	Provide funding to serve individuals through improved water/sewer infrastructure	35,000 individuals
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	See previous CDBG program description	Provide funding to assist with development of community facilities in Iowa communities	600 individuals
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	See previous CDBG program description	Process correctly submitted CDBG reimbursement claims within 30 days	100% of claims
Nuisance Property and Abandoned Building Remediation Assistance Fund	Provides financial assistance to help communities demolish or remediate buildings and structures that are a hazard to public health and safety.	Award funding to remediation projects in communities to allow for economic development to occur.	Award at least 2 new projects
Endow Iowa Tax Credit	Provides tax credits to donors to qualified community foundations	Issue tax credit certificates to qualified donors	Issue 100% of tax credit certificates by May 1
Redevelopment Tax Credit	Tax credits for redeveloping properties known as brownfield and grayfield sites.	Award tax credits for underutilized industrial or commercial properties	Award 100% of available tax credits

Program	Program Description	Action Item	FY 2027 Outcome measure/Key Performance Indicator (KPI)
Redevelopment Tax Credit	See previous Redevelopment Tax Credit program description	Increase property valuation of funded, complete projects	25% increase in property valuation
Redevelopment Tax Credit	See previous Redevelopment Tax Credit program description	Leverage private investment in brownfield and grayfield sites	\$10 of private investment for each \$1 awarded
Historic Preservation Tax Credit	Provides tax credits to encourage the reuse of historic properties, while retaining historic character-defining features.	Review Part 1, Part 2 and Part 3 applications before the review due date	Complete review of 80% applications before the due date
Historic Preservation Tax Credit	See previous Historic Preservation Tax Credit program description	Increase property valuation of funded, complete projects	25% increase in property valuation
Historic Preservation Tax Credit	See previous Historic Preservation Tax Credit program description	Leverage private investment in historic preservation projects	Leverage \$4 of private investment for each \$1 of tax credits awarded
Historic Preservation Tax Credit	See previous Historic Preservation Tax Credit program description	Award tax credits to eligible historic preservation projects	Awards to 15 projects
Empower Rural Iowa: Iowa United First Aid (IUFA)	Programs to assist rural communities through programming including child care and housing planning, EMS response, community development technical assistance and leadership and innovation initiatives	Recruit and train individuals	45 individuals
Empower Rural Iowa: Leadership Programming	See previous Empower Rural Iowa program description	Launch new leadership programs	3 new programs
Empower Rural Iowa: Building Ownership & Organization by Strengthening Teams (BOOST) Programming	See previous Empower Rural Iowa program description	Provide technical assistance to communities to identifying and implementing action steps to growth	Assist 4 communities
Empower Rural Iowa: Childcare Planning grant	See previous Empower Rural Iowa program description	Provide grant funds to communities for childcare planning	3 awards to rural communities
Empower Rural Iowa: Housing Readiness Assessment Grant Program	See previous Empower Rural Iowa program description	Provide grant funds to communities to determine assessment readiness	3 awards to rural communities
Empower Rural Iowa: Innovation Grant program	See previous Empower Rural Iowa program description	Provide grant funds to support creative ideas that address current issues and challenges faced by rural communities associated with the themes of community investment, growth, and connection	6 awards

Program	Program Description	Action Item	FY 2027 Outcome measure/Key Performance Indicator (KPI)
Iowa Arts Council	Provide technical and financial assistance to support arts and culture in Iowa communities.	Provide training and financial assistance to a majority of Iowa communities.	Serve 90% or more of Iowa's counties over a rolling three year period.
Iowa Arts Council	See previous Iowa Arts Council program description	Measure program participant satisfaction scores	80% or above satisfaction score
Council of Governments (COG) Assistance	State assistance provided to Iowa's Councils of Governments	Provide pass through funding to COGs to leverage federal and state grants for local communities	Measured by COG Impact Map, which is updated annually.
World Food Prize	Pass through appropriation to the World Food Prize.	Bring international, national and Iowa food-security experts, agribusiness leaders, policy makers, ministers, Heads of State and students from at least 55 countries to the annual Borlaug Dialogue and Global Youth Institute in Des Moines, resulting in at least \$800,000 direct economic impact for Iowa.	1,000 experts
World Food Prize	See previous World Food Prize program description	Grow the number of World Food Prize Youth Institutes, promoting youth education in agriculture and inspiring the next generation of agricultural innovators and scientists.	5% increase
World Food Prize	See previous World Food Prize program description	Grow the number of Iowa high school students participating in the Iowa Youth Institute	5% increase
World Food Prize	See previous World Food Prize program description	Welcome visitors to the Hall of Laureates through public/private tours and events in an effort to educate Iowans and non-Iowans about Dr. Norman Borlaug and Iowa's many other agricultural and humanitarian heroes.	15,000 visitors
World Food Prize	See previous World Food Prize program description	Implement all-expenses paid summer internships for high school students to experience agricultural and cultural enrichment at agricultural research centers around the world.	14 international internships
Iowa Film Rebate Program	Offers rebates to qualified production facilities creating qualified productions in Iowa that result in overall long-term positive impact to the state and provide education, training and recruitment opportunities to residents. Four (\$4) million dollars is available through this fund through June 30, 2027.	See 50 Iowans employed on funded projects	50 Iowan jobs

Program	Program Description	Action Item	FY 2027 Outcome measure/Key Performance Indicator (KPI)
Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP)	Recognizes and rewards the dedicated service of volunteer firefighters, emergency medical service providers, and reserve peace officers. Municipalities that choose to establish a LOSAP can provide tax-deferred financial benefits or grants to participants, with the State of Iowa matching funds up to \$500 per participant, to encourage volunteer participation and honor their commitment to community safety.	Approve Iowa municipalities	100 approved municipalities
Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP)	See previous LOSAP program description	Approve matching funds	\$900,000 in approved matching funds
Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP)	See previous LOSAP program description	Assist with encouraging volunteerism in first responder positions	2,000 volunteers awarded/impacted

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - HOUSING

Program	Program Description	Action Item	FY 2027 Outcome measure/Key Performance Indicator (KPI)
Workforce Housing Tax Incentive program	Provides tax benefits to developers to provide housing in Iowa communities, focusing especially on those projects using abandoned, empty, or dilapidated properties.	Provide tax credits to develop/rehabilitate units in urban communities	1,000 housing units
Workforce Housing Tax Incentive program	See previous Workforce Housing Tax Incentive program description	Provide tax credits to develop/rehabilitate units in small cities, as defined by the program	500 housing units
Workforce Housing Tax Incentive program	See previous Workforce Housing Tax Incentive program description	Provide tax credits to projects that have not previously received a program award	3 new counties

APPENDIX:

IEDA IFA Org Chart 4.8.26

IEDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) Board is appointed by the Governor and acts on administrative rules, approvals to contract, applications for state incentive programs, among other items.

In addition to 11 appointed members, the board includes six ex-officio members, comprised of four state legislators (two senators, two representatives), one president of a private college or university, one president of a community college and a Board of Regents representative.













