



# Evaluation and Monitoring in a Decentralized State

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Iowa Department of Education

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# Types of Juvenile Justice Education Facilities in Iowa

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- Consortia – operated by more than one public school district.
- Juvenile Shelters and Detention Centers – operated by the Area Education Agency (AEA).
- Day Treatment & Day Schools – operated by private agencies.
- Psychiatric Medical Institute for Children (PMIC) – operated by private and State agencies.
- Chapter 34 Schools – operated by the Department of Human Services.
- Adult Correctional Facilities – operated by the Department of Corrections.
- All Other Residential Facilities – operated by private agencies.



# Placement in Juvenile Justice Facilities

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Students are placed in these facilities by the following entities:

- Court System,
- Department of Human Services,
- Department of Corrections,
- Public School District,
- Parents,
- Health Care Facilities, or
- IEP Teams



# Problems With a Decentralized System

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- Ineffective communication between agencies,
- Varying standards depending on the type of facility,
- Numerous State agencies responsible for oversight and operation of the educational program,
- Untrained persons responsible for educating students,
- Varying forms of educational finance,
- Lack of control on how private entities enter the field of education,
- Facilities accepting students with wide ranging educational skills, and
- Conflict between treatment and education.



# Positives With a Decentralized System

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- Numerous entities with some responsibility over the educational program,
- Continuously changing system to meet student needs,
- More student needs can be met than with a one size fits all educational program, and
- Various facilities can be utilized to meet student needs.



# Iowa's Approach to Monitoring Juvenile Justice Facilities

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- Monitored Through the AEA Accreditation Process – Juvenile Shelters, Detention Centers, and Adult Correctional Facilities.
- Monitored Through the LEA Accreditation Process – Consortia, Day Treatment and Day Schools, Non-State operated PMIC, and all other residential facilities.
- Monitored Through State Law – State operated PMIC and Chapter 34 Institutions.



# Future Improvements to Iowa's System

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Establishment of a centralized, juvenile justice data collection system with the ability to provide guidance and training for all types of juvenile justice facilities.



# Contact Information

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