Goal 1: Ensure Access to the ISU Experience

Provide an exceptional education offering practical, global, and leadership experiences that shape the well-rounded citizens and informed critical thinkers needed in the 21st century.

- Iowa State’s 2018 bachelor’s graduates enjoyed an overall 95% placement rate within six months of graduation; of those who were employed, 61% of resident students, 22% of nonresidents, and 25% of international students remained in Iowa to begin their careers. Master’s and Ph.D. graduates enjoyed 97% and 96% placement rates, respectively, and 100% of veterinary medicine graduates reported employment within six months of graduation.
- Iowa State is narrowing the “achievement gap” in retention and graduation rates for several student populations, including first-generation, low-income, and multicultural students, as well as veterans.
- Iowa State students earned numerous prestigious awards in FY2019, including a Rhodes Scholar, four Goldwater Scholars, two Udall Scholars, a Fulbright Scholar, and three National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowships.
- Iowa State continues to promote access and affordability for Iowans. Fall 2019 enrollment includes nearly 5,000 domestic multicultural students, who represent a record 15% of the student body, as well as 6,500 undergraduate first-generation students. The incoming class of 2023 set new records for grade point average, class rank, and percent of students in the top 10% of their high school graduating class.

Goal 2: Enhance the University’s Research Profile

Conduct high impact research that addresses the grand challenges of the 21st century.

- An institution-wide commitment to transformative interdisciplinary research has helped Iowa State make progress in addressing society’s grand challenges, and has positioned the university to play a leadership role in the State of Iowa’s biosciences-focused economic development initiatives.
- In collaboration with the Iowa Innovation Corporation, Iowa State is investing initial legislative funding to create leading programs in Biobased Chemicals and Products, Precision and Digital Agriculture, and Vaccines and Immunotherapeutics.
- Researchers in the Nanovaccine Institute earned $5.6 million in funding from the National Institutes of Health to develop universal influenza vaccines that protect against a wide range of flu strains, but do not require refrigeration.
- Researchers are working with Early Childhood Iowa to develop an integrated administrative data system for policy analysis to support care and education for young children and their families. This work is supported by a $1 million grant from the Iowa Department of Management.
- The National Science Foundation granted prestigious CAREER awards to seven early career faculty members to support research projects ranging from ultrathin semiconductor materials, to building machine-learning techniques, and improving electric power networks.
Goal 3: Improve the Quality of Life for All Iowans

Provide services and programs dedicated to economic development and the promotion of healthy communities, people, and environments.

- The Center for Industrial Research and Service served 1,736 Iowa businesses from 96 counties, helping to create or retain nearly 4,500 jobs, and generating more than $419 million in total economic impact.
- Researchers submitted 165 disclosures of intellectual property, filed 98 new patent applications, and received 32 patents last year. ISU technologies resulted in 46 license and option agreements worldwide (25 in Iowa) and provided the basis for four new Iowa startup companies; 155 license/option agreements are currently yielding income; ISU was ranked 69th among the top 100 universities worldwide granted U.S. patents in 2017.
- Students gained valuable professional experience while making contributions to Iowa companies. Career services offices documented 2,600 ISU interns who were employed by more than 1,000 different Iowa employers in 276 communities in 92 counties.
- Iowa is the second leading state in red meat production. ISU Extension and Outreach provided cutting-edge education on meat processing and food safety technologies for 1,447 individuals from small and large Iowa companies. These programs resulted in a reported economic impact of $634,000 in retained or increased sales, $285,000 in cost savings, and $1.3 million in increased investment.
- ISU Extension and Outreach community development specialists helped 27 minority owned businesses start or improve their businesses last year. The Iowa Retail Initiative provided coaching, training, and technical assistance to 26 retail leaders in 8 communities.

Goal 4: Enhance and Cultivate the ISU Experience

Create an environment where faculty, staff, students, and visitors are safe and feel welcomed, supported, included, and valued by the university and each other.

- The Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion, Environmental Health & Safety, Facilities Planning and Management, Live Green!, Student Wellness, and ISU WellBeing created the Campus WellBeing Leadership Alliance to align priorities and mobilize action around wellbeing at Iowa State.
- A new faculty fellow was appointed to assess and develop initiatives around diversity, equity, and inclusion for faculty.
- ISU Dining educated more than 250 staff on ethnic and cultural foods to help ensure meal offerings and cultural interactions are well-informed.
- Iowa State’s Police Department added a mental health advocate and therapy dog to assist with outreach and mental health efforts, and continues to recruit bilingual officers, and officers from diverse backgrounds.
- Multicultural liaison officers from several of Iowa State’s academic colleges, in collaboration with Deere & Company, created the ISU/John Deere Emerging Leaders Program to promote leadership development and job shadow experiences for multicultural scholars.
- The Department of Mathematics provides ongoing support for student veterans through initiatives such as Math Boot Camp and Calc Platoon, a pilot program in which students are incentivized to receive additional calculus tutoring.
- Regional directors in County Services provided training on diversity and Iowa’s changing demographics to 450 county ISU Extension and Outreach employees.
Goal 1: Ensure Access to the ISU Experience

FY2019 INITIATIVES

- A record 6,900 undergraduates earned degrees in FY2019. Current enrollment includes more than 18,000 Iowans, from all 99 counties, and record diversity.
- ISU tuition and fees remain the lowest of its peer group, $4,000 lower than the peer average for resident undergraduate students, and $11,000 lower for non-residents.
- Iowa State students earned more than $100 million in financial aid in FY2019, including $18 million in gift-funded scholarships, and $650,000 in completion grants.
- Nearly 75% of undergraduates experienced two or more high-impact practices during the last three years via their coursework or co-curricular involvement.
- Placement rates for ISU graduates continue to be strong, with 95% of bachelor’s graduates, 97% of master’s recipients, 96% of Ph.D. recipients, and 100% of veterinary medicine graduates reporting employment within six months of graduation.
- ISU students saved more than $2 million on textbooks and other course materials last year, thanks to faculty adopting open educational resources (OERs) for their courses.

Goal 2: Enhance the University’s Research Profile

FY2019 INITIATIVES

- Iowa State researchers earned a record $261 million in external research funding. Federal and non-federal research funding totals also set records, with $181 million and $80 million, respectively.
- Research funding from the National Institutes of Health has increased steadily and significantly over the past five years, from $9 million in FY2015 to nearly $19 million in FY2019, including a 27% increase in the last year.
- Iowa State earned $23 million in research funding from corporate and industry sources in FY2019, up 6% from the previous year.
- 187 companies invested in Iowa State research in FY2019; 28 of these companies are headquartered or have a significant presence in Iowa, and 10 are in the ISU Research Park.

Iowa State researchers earned a record $261 million in external research funding in FY2019, including new benchmarks in both federal and non-federal funding.
FY2019 INITIATIVES

- The Pappajohn Center for Entrepreneurship placed 46 student interns in startup companies located in the ISU Research Park; the Center also reported over 3,800 students enrolled in entrepreneurship-themed coursework across campus; and more than 10,000 individuals participated in programs and classes focused on entrepreneurship, startups, and small business.

- The ISU Research Park opened a stand-alone sprayer technology facility for Deere and Company in FY2019, representing a substantial investment in the university’s Precision and Digital Agriculture biosciences research platform. The Park, in partnership with the City of Ames, was also awarded a $1.8 million Iowa Economic Development Authority infrastructure grant to support the facility and expanding city services.

- Iowa State University Extension and Outreach connects university research and services to Iowa communities in all 99 counties. More than 1 million Iowans benefited from educational programs for economic growth, thriving communities, and sustainable environments. Beyond Iowa borders, Extension and Outreach education, programs and messages have reached over 10.76 million people, extending the Iowa State name and authority.

- ISU Extension and Outreach offers the Rural Housing Readiness Assessment, a data-gathering tool Iowans can use to assess their community’s housing environment and make informed decisions.

Goal 3: Improve the Quality of Life for All Iowans

- More than 3,200 faculty, staff, and students received training as part of the Green Dot Initiative, a program designed to decrease sexual violence and promote bystander intervention.

- The Veterans Center hosted an inaugural Military/Extension and Outreach Symposium, a statewide event to explore how best to serve active military, veterans, and their families on campus.

- During Destination Iowa State 2018, nearly 1,200 new students participated in a One Cyclone session to learn about diversity and their role in creating an inclusive campus.

- Another 1,200 students, faculty, and staff participated in the 2019 Thomas L. Hill Iowa State Conference on Race and Ethnicity (ISCORE); attendees are encouraged to take what they have learned back to their classrooms, residence halls, and work environments.

- Student Wellness Services interacted with more than 85% of the student body in FY2019; the Student Counseling Service managed 12,000 appointments across its individual counseling, group sessions, workshops, and biofeedback session, and also launched a satellite location at the College of Veterinary Medicine.

Diversity

- Iowa State continues to focus on the recruitment and retention of diverse students, faculty, and staff.

Goal 4: Enhance and Cultivate the ISU Experience

- Campus-wide teams brought forward numerous ideas to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion on campus, including initiatives focused on professional and leadership development, new student onboarding, child care, and civility and collegial behavior.

- ISU Police Department continued to recruit bilingual officers, and officers from diverse backgrounds; the department also added a mental health advocate and therapy dog to assist with outreach and mental health efforts, and expanded its Engagement and Inclusion Officer Program.

- Office of the Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion partnered with the Ames Human Relations Commission and Ames Chamber of Commerce to create the inaugural Symposium on Building Inclusive Organizations, underscoring the need to work deliberatively to support diverse consumers and potential workforce members.

- Office of Equal Opportunity created the Consent is BAE (Before Anything Else) to enhance awareness of sexual misconduct, and to promote active, voluntary consent in sexual activities.

ISU Research Park Productivity

- 17 new companies
- 20 pre-incubator companies in ISU Startup Factory space
- > 103 total companies, $26M in capital raised, and 80 new jobs created since the program’s inception
- 15 student-run CYStarters companies

Research Park Totals

- 96 tenant companies
- > 2,250 tenant employees
- > 500 student interns at ISU Research Park companies and university centers