



Contact Us!

gwaea.org

Staff Directory: staffdirectory.gwaea.org

Facebook and Instagram: [@gwaea](https://www.facebook.com/gwaea)

Twitter: [@GrantWoodAEA](https://twitter.com/GrantWoodAEA)

Phone: 319-399-6700

Email: grantwoodaea@gwaea.org



GRANT WOOD
AREA EDUCATION AGENCY

Grant Wood Area Education Agency extends equal opportunities in its employment practices, educational programs and services, and does not discriminate on the basis of color, gender, race, national origin, religion, creed, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, disability, veteran status or as otherwise prohibited by law. If you believe you or your child has been discriminated against or treated unjustly, please contact the Agency's Equity Coordinator, Maria Cashman, at 319-399-6847 or 800-332-8488, Grant Wood AEA, 4401 Sixth St SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404.



Teacher Introduction

to Grant Wood Area Education Agency

AEA

Iowa Area
Education Agencies
PARTNERS IN EDUCATION



OUR MISSION:
TO ENSURE SUCCESS
FOR **ALL** LEARNERS



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Grant Wood Area Education Agency is one of Iowa's nine AEAs that collaborate as a system to ensure all Iowa children have equal opportunity for an exceptional education.

Grant Wood Area Education Agency is proud to support families and schools in Benton, Cedar, Iowa, Johnson, Jones, Linn and Washington Counties. This partnership ensures families and school communities receive resources, specialized training, and support needed to reduce learning barriers and increase student learning.

WHAT IS AN AEA?

In 1974 the Iowa legislature created the Area Education Agency system to fulfill three important roles in schools: equity, efficiency and excellence. Many of the roles that AEA staff support, especially in the many rural school districts across Iowa, require less than full-time work by individuals. The AEAs can hire many of these professionals as full-time employees and provide critical services to multiple schools more efficiently.

Unlike school districts, the AEA system has no taxing authority. Instead, the agency is funded by a per-pupil assessment through federal funds, state funds, and various grants. Some services are supported by fees charged to participants.

WHAT THE AEA PROVIDES YOU

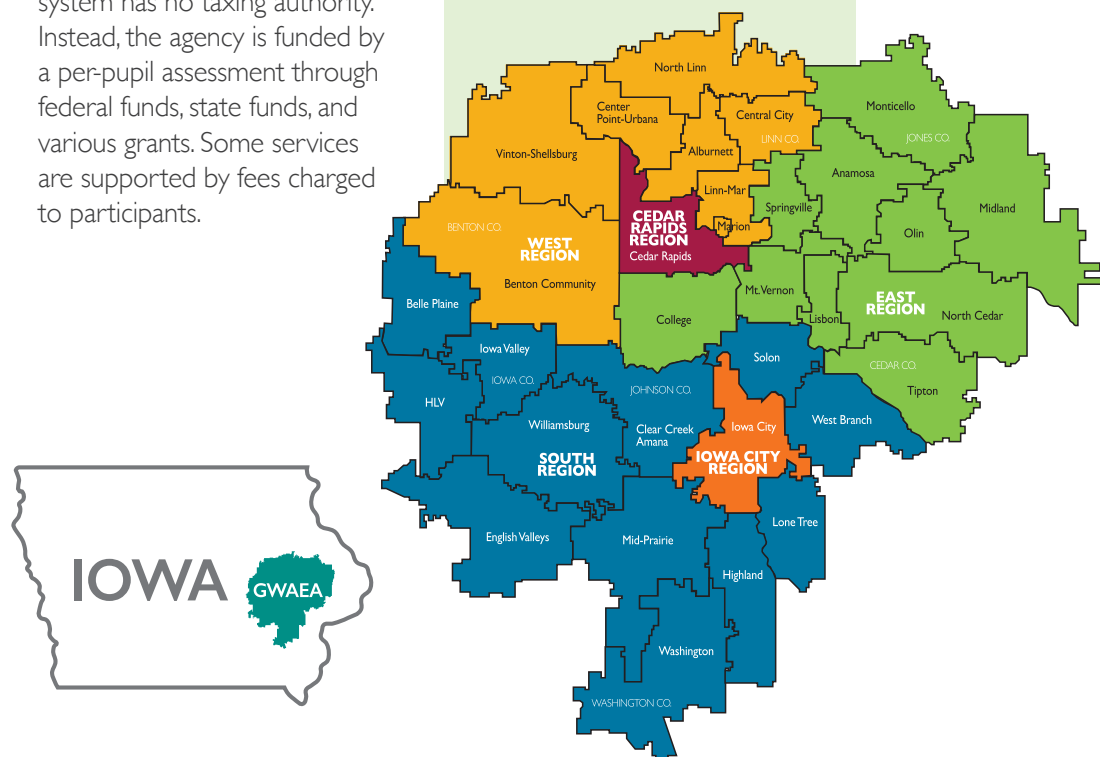
Iowa state law mandates a minimum of nine services to be provided by the AEAs. These include support for:

- Diverse learners
- Curriculum instruction and assessment
- Professional learning
- Instructional media
- School technology
- Leadership
- Multicultural, gender-fair
- School-community planning
- School management

HOW TO ACCESS AEA SERVICES

AEA staff are available to help you, but which staff can be of most assistance will depend on which district you work in. Grant Wood AEA staff are divided into regions, and many AEA staff are assigned to support districts within those regions. Some agency specialists provide services to multiple buildings or regions.

Access a directory to see which AEA team members serve your district or building at staffdirectory.gwaea.org.



AT GRANT WOOD AEA WE:

ACCELERATE CHILDREN'S LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Iowa's AEAs provide educational equity for all Iowa children with an emphasis on those with diverse learning needs.

Supporting Diverse Learners

Many AEA staff work in your building on a regular basis, providing support for students who may need extra help or who have IEPs. These staff might include school psychologists, social workers, speech-language pathologists, special education consultants, occupational therapists and physical therapists.

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Supporting Children from Birth-Age 21

The AEAs are not only involved with school-aged children who are diverse learners. The AEAs also are responsible for identifying and serving children from birth to age five through Early ACCESS and early childhood services.

Learn more about Early ACCESS and early childhood services at gwaea.org/childhood.

Supporting Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

Grant Wood Area Education Agency's curriculum, instruction and assessment services for schools support reading, language arts, mathematics, social studies, social, emotional and behavioral health, career and technical education, and science. This support includes

establishing standards and competencies, collecting and analyzing student achievement and learning climate data, and using this information to help educators improve student learning.

Our curriculum consultants assignments can be found at staffdirectory.gwaea.org.

Supporting School Counselors and Families

The AEA understands the importance of supporting students and families. Grant Wood AEA has school counselor consultants on staff and available to help school counselors design and guide their school counseling programs. Additionally, the AEA has two Family and Educator Partnership (FEP) partners who can help develop and sustain effective partnerships between families, educators, and community providers to promote success for all children and youth with disabilities.

Learn more about FEP and our school counselors at gwaea.org.

INNOVATE WITH SCHOOLS TO MAXIMIZE SYSTEM EFFECTIVENESS AND RESOURCES

Instructional Materials and Technology Resources

Your AEA can be an extension of your school's library by offering media and technology resources for students and teachers. Grant Wood AEA's media library includes an online catalog and printed collections to support PreK-12 classroom instruction and school improvement efforts. These materials can be accessed or ordered online,

and physical materials are delivered on the AEA vans to your building. Media resources include:

Digital Resources - The AEA provides more than 30 digital curriculum resources from leading producers of PreK-12 content including resources like AP Newsroom, BookFLIX, EBSCO, FolletShelf, MackinVIA, Learn360 and more.

Rotating Reads - Teachers in grades 1-4 can sign up to receive sets of 25 fiction and nonfiction books delivered to their classroom each month.

Boxed Book Sets - Request boxed sets that can include multiple copies of the same title or a variety of titles grouped around a similar topic or reading level.

Additional Resources - We also have classroom instruction materials, resources to support English Language Learners, and professional titles for education professionals.

Access our media library resources at gwaea.org/media.

Technology and Digital Learning Support

Grant Wood AEA has consultants to support teachers and administrators with Infinite Campus and PowerSchool challenges including training, consultation and help desk services. The AEA also has a team of digital learning specialists who can help classroom teachers integrate technology into their classrooms to improve instruction and classroom engagement.

Look for more information on these two services at gwaea.org.

Printing and Graphic Support

Grant Wood AEA offers creative services to our partners including graphic design and full-color printing, and can create items like posters, signs, curriculum, bound books, stickers and large format wall decals.

See what creative solutions we can make for you at gwaea.org/creative.

INSPIRE EDUCATORS TO SUSTAIN SUPERIOR LEARNING OUTCOMES

Iowa's AEAs provide professional tools and learning experiences to support the implementation of evidence-based curriculum, instruction, and assessment.

Providing Professional Learning

Grant Wood AEA offers opportunities for professional learning for educators to enhance their skills and practices to improve student learning. These opportunities include:

- A variety of courses for credit
- Workshops that offer the latest evidence-based professional learning for educators
- Paraeducator and substitute authorization training programs

Find out what classes are available in our area at gwaea.org/learning.