

2.B - Core Component 2.B

The institution presents itself clearly and completely to its students and to the public with regard to its programs, requirements, faculty and staff, costs to students, control, and accreditation relationships.

Argument

Through its website, ISU makes a vast array of resources and information publicly available to prospective students and families, current students, alumni, employees, and other constituents. The university's homepage (www.iastate.edu) includes a student/staff directory, a search engine and an A-Z index. The homepage has direct links to:

- "Admissions"
- "Academics"
- "Information for "Students"
- "Info for" various audiences such as faculty & staff, parents & families, Alumni, visitors, etc.
- "About" various topics including an ISU profile, Extension & Outreach, IT, Employment, Diversity, and Consumer Information.
- Athletics

The ISU Fact Book (available under the *ISU profile* tab under the "About" tab on the ISU homepage) provides easy access to both current and historical data about the university, including enrollment data, retention/graduation rates, faculty and staff data, and post-graduate success data.

In addition to the directory available on the homepage, unit and departmental websites contain detailed information about faculty and staff. A [faculty listing](#) with credentials is available from the Catalog.

Programs offered and degree requirements

Information on degree programs is available via the Fact Book. Undergraduate degree programs are available in the [Catalog](#) and from the Admissions website. Graduate degree programs are available from the Graduate College website (www.grad-college.iastate.edu).

The [Catalog](#) (catalog.iastate.edu), provides curriculum requirements for all undergraduate and D.V.M. programs and academic policies. It also contains templates that show how course requirements might be completed in four years.

The [Graduate Handbook](#) provides general requirement information for graduate programs. Specific graduate program websites (linked from the Graduate College program listings) provide detailed curriculum information for graduate degree programs.

Information on courses and programs available via distance education is available from the Online and Distance Learning website (www.distance.iastate.edu/programs). Program curriculum and degree requirements are the same whether a student is meeting those requirements on-campus or at a distance.

Admissions requirements

The [Catalog](#) and the Admissions website (www.admissions.iastate.edu) contain admissions requirements for undergraduate students, including both direct from high school and transfer students. Admission criteria for high school students are very transparent and based on a Regent Admission Index (RAI) that is common across Iowa's three public universities. The RAI is computed based on ACT composite score, high school GPA, high school rank (if the student's high school provides rank), and the number of high school courses completed in core subject areas. The RAI formula is available on the Admissions website; students can enter their information into an on-line calculator to determine an unofficial RAI score. An alternative RAI is available for students attending high schools that do not provide class rank. All resident students who have completed the required core courses and have an RAI of 245 are automatically admitted to ISU.

Graduate Student Admission requirements are available in the [Catalog](#) and from the Graduate College website. Admissions information is available for each graduate program at: <http://www.grad-college.iastate.edu/academics/programs/apprograms.php>. D.V.M. admissions requirements are available from the College of Veterinary Medicine website at: <http://vetmed.iastate.edu/academics/prospective-students/apply-college-entering-fall-2016>.

Costs to students

Information on Tuition and Fees is available under "T" in the ISU Index. This site includes information for undergraduate, graduate and professional students, and outlines differential tuition information based on student major or year in school. Room and Board rates for the various housing options provided by the Department of Residence are available from the "Facts Figures and Forms" tab under Student Housing.

For an individual course, any [special course fees](#) (e.g. fees for field trips) are included as a part of the course description in the online schedule of classes. The schedule of classes also includes information on any [special course fees associated with distance education](#) offerings. In partnership with the Iowa State University Book Store, the [costs for textbooks are included as a link](#) from the course in the Schedule of Classes. The Book Store provides links to price comparisons for other sources and rental options directly from their website.

The Office of Financial Aid website provides resources to assist students in understanding their cost of attendance that includes room and board, personal expenses, travel, books, etc. The office provides an online calculator for newly entering freshman to estimate their net cost of attendance. Students receive an [individualized letter](#) that outlines their financial aid and costs.

Title IV required disclosures

As required by Title IV, ISU makes information available publicly on a broad range of topics of interest to consumers (from graduation rate to information on campus crime). ISU provides links to the required information from "Consumer Disclosures" under the "About" button on the university's homepage.

Control and Accreditations

The [Catalog's "Accreditation"](#) tab provides information about ISU's accreditation with the Higher Learning Commission and the University's governance by the Board. It also provides the list of Officers of the Institution. The University has the following major representative governance organizations: Faculty Senate, Graduate Council, Professional and Scientific Council, Supervisory Confidential Council, Student Government, Post-doctoral Association, and the Graduate and

Professional Student Senate.

The [Fact Book](#) general information section contains information on the regional and specialized accreditations maintained by the University. Information about the processes for accreditation and program reviews is available from the ISU Index under “Accreditation and Program Review.”

Sources

- 15-16 Catalog - Accreditation Section
- 15-16 Catalog - Admissions Section
- 15-16 Catalog - Graduate College Section
- 15-16 Catalog Colleges and Curricula Section
- Accreditations Listing
- Graduate College Handbook May 2015
- Sample Student Aid Cost Info Sheet
- Schedule of Classes Course Fee and Textbook Link Example
- Schedule of Classes Distance Ed Fee Example