

Iowa Family Support Credential Quarterly Newsletter

October 2026



Iowa
Family Support
Credential



The Iowa Family Support Credential program would like to say **“THANK YOU”** to Iowa’s Family Support Programs for your outstanding work. Your dedication makes a meaningful difference in the lives of the families you serve.



Upcoming Webinars

October 22, 2026

November 19, 2026

December 2026- Holiday Break

January 21, 2027

*Monthly IFSC Webinars are held on Thursday afternoons at 1:00. If there is a topic/standard you would like to see discussed, please contact your [IFSC Program Specialist](#) or the [IFSC Coordinator](#).

Iowa Family Support Credential Website



The Iowa Family Support Credential (IFSC) website is a “one stop shop” for all things Iowa Family Support Credential. The website answers the questions:

What is the purpose and philosophy behind the IFSC program?

Where do I find an application for an initial or renewal credential?

Where can I access the IFSC Standards?

What resources are available for programs to help them earn the IFSC?

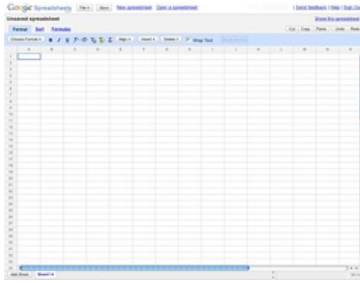
How can I find out what family support programs in Iowa are credentialed?

<https://lsiowa.org/ifsc/>



IFSC Annual Fees Reminder

Invoices for IFSC Annual Fees were sent out in September 2026. IFSC Annual Fees are due by December 31, 2026. Any fees not collected by January 1, 2027, will be charged a late fee. The fee will be based on each program's assigned tier. The fee will be 10% of their annual fee and will be charged monthly until the fee is paid. Programs may also have their Iowa Family Support Credential rescinded until the fee is paid in full.



IFSC TA Time

Programs are awarded 40 hours of technical assistance per fiscal year.

If an organization is credentialing multiple programs, **each** program receives 20 hours of technical assistance for the program standards, along with 20 hours of technical assistance for the organizational standards.

Multi-organizations who are credentialing together will receive 20 hours of program standard technical assistance and 20 additional technical assistance hours for each agency being credentialed.

The program specialist records any time used to the nearest 15 minutes (reviewing materials, phone calls, virtual meetings, emails, etc.) The time used is recorded in a spreadsheet. The IFSC Coordinator then uses the spreadsheet to track each program's TA to ensure the program does not exceed 40 hours in a fiscal year.

The program specialist will discuss with the program and ask the IFSC coordinator for more time if an additional 10 hours is needed. The program specialist will complete a Request Additional Time Form. The IFSC coordinator will either approve or deny this request based on information received.

Note: The program is responsible to make contact with their program specialist at a minimum monthly, per signed MOU, and meet virtually based on the program specialist's and program's discretion. This should include any updates to the SEQIP, policy changes that need to be reviewed, and any other updates.



Quality Standards Workgroup Recruitment

The Quality Standards Workgroup is currently looking for new members. The Quality Standards Workgroup is responsible for reviewing the IFSC Standards annually and recommending any interim changes to them. Representation is needed from Family Support Organizations and Family Support Programs across Iowa. Contact [Lisa Hilsenbeck](#), IFSC Coordinator, if interested.



TA Corner

Linking Standards

Linking standards are standards that are similar. They are “linked” together by a common topic.

When writing policies and procedures, it is helpful to know if a standard is “linked” to another standard. The policy and procedure for one standard may be the same or similar for the other standard.

IFSC Linked Standard Topics:

- Assessments
- Service delivery
- Education topics

- Community referrals
- Support systems
- Group parenting
- Case closing
- Supervision
- Confidentiality
- Training
- Human resources
- Early access



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IFSC Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/iowafamilysupportcredential>

IFSC Email: IFSCprogram@Iowa.org

**Be the
person
you want
to work
with.**