
IOWA UCR PROGRAM UPDATE

ICRIME Update

ICRIME, the new web-based state crime database, has been available for agency use since late April. Several agencies have achieved certification, and numerous others are in the process of certifying. As a reminder, all agencies must certify. [The Iowa UCR Program Policy Manual](#) details the process, which starts with a completed [Letter of Interest for UCR Program Participation](#). Although the Iowa UCR program has suspended monthly submission deadlines, agencies should begin the certification process as soon as possible.

While initial error rates have been high, this is part of the process. Agency certification helps address programming and data quality issues and, as agencies achieve certification, error rates should decline. When errors relate to programming issues, which are inevitable with any new software, the Iowa UCR program works with RMS vendors and Optimum Technology to resolve them. Importantly, as part of the transition to ICRIME, the Iowa UCR program has strengthened its data validation process - ICRIME may reject data previously accepted. As a result, anticipate receiving both errors and warnings when starting certification.

The [Iowa UCR Program User Manual](#) provides information on the data elements and values reported; it's an excellent resource for agencies as they work to achieve certification. The manual, and numerous other documents, have been uploaded into the Resources section in ICRIME.

Thank you all for your patience throughout this process. Although there will be an adjustment period, the transition to ICRIME will help ensure that the Iowa UCR program receives and publishes more accurate crime data.

Training Opportunities

The virtual FBI NIBRS training scheduled for June 8 through 10 filled quickly. Registered participants have received confirmation as well as meeting details. While the FBI is unable to record the training, they anticipate offering another virtual training in September. Additional information will be sent once it's available.

The Iowa UCR program will offer state-specific training on two different dates in June: [Thursday, June 17 from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm](#) and [Tuesday, June 29 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm](#). The training sessions will be offered virtually through Zoom and participants must register in advance. The sessions will provide an overview of crime reporting in Iowa, including the data elements and values used by the Iowa UCR program.

These training sessions are offered in addition to those focused on data processing with ICRIME. Please refer to email for recorded versions of these sessions.

As always, please contact me with any questions or concerns. I can be reached at loynacha@dps.state.ia.us or (515) 725-6251.

