

## SERVICES

### Grounds Hours

- August 8-17: 8 a.m. to midnight
- August 18: 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- *\*August 8-17: After 10 p.m., there are no on-site ticket sales or entry/re-entry at the gates.*
- *\*August 18: After 7 p.m., there are no on-site ticket sales or entry/re-entry at the gates.*

### Building Hours

- 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. (Some building and exhibit hours may vary.)

### Thrill Parks Hours

- Thrill Ville: 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.\*
- Thrill Town: 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.\*
- Thrill Zone: 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.\*

*\*August 18: All Thrill Park areas close at 9 p.m.*

The Fair is committed to making our facilities accessible to all. No qualified individual with a disability shall, by reason of such disability, be excluded from participating in or be denied the benefits of public services, programs or activities held on the Fairgrounds.

The Iowa State Fairgrounds are located at East 30th and East University in Des Moines:

- Telephone number: 515-262-3111
- Gate Admission: Adults \$16, Children (ages 6-11) \$10, free for ages 5 and under
- Lot A, Lot B and Lot C parking lots: \$10 per vehicle, and per motorcycle (all vehicles/motorcycles must be removed by 1 a.m.)
- Bicycle parking available at Gate 11 for free

Iowa State Fair Safety: Weapons of any kind are not permitted on the Fairgrounds. Firearms are prohibited on the Iowa State Fairgrounds with or without a valid Iowa permit to carry. Please allow additional time for bag checks, park entrance and metal detectors. The Iowa State Fair reserves the right to search all bags, backpacks, coolers, purses, containers, etc. upon entry to the Fair and upon request while on the Fairgrounds. Refusal to comply will result in denied entry. There will be bag searches upon entering the main gates and the Grandstand. All Fairgoers will walk through metal detectors at the gates. For a list of prohibited items at the Iowa State Fair and in the Grandstand, please see [iowastatefair.org/safety](http://iowastatefair.org/safety).

Accessibility Guide: Available at information booths, the Administration Building and [iowastatefair.org/visit/disability-assistance](http://iowastatefair.org/visit/disability-assistance).

ADA/Accessible Parking: Parking spaces are available in Lots A, B and C on the Iowa State Fairgrounds on a first-come, first-served basis. Please note that these lots often fill up early each day, and there is no guarantee that space will be available. Proper decals or license plates must be displayed.

Enter Gate 2 (East 33rd and East University Ave) to access Lot A and Gate 3 (East 36th St and East University) to access Lots B and C. Lot A contains both paved and hard-packed surface parking. Lots B and C contain hard-packed surfaces. Designated accessible parking spaces on main streets in the inner grounds will not be available during the Fair. Parking personnel will do their best to direct visitor vehicles to the closest, most convenient parking available.

Adult Changing Station: An adult changing station is available in the Hy-Vee Health and First Aid Center east of the John Deere Agriculture Building.

Advance admission tickets before August 8: Buy your admission tickets before 11:59 p.m. on August 7 and save! Regular \$16 adult admission tickets are just \$11, and \$10 tickets for children (ages 6-11) are \$7 when purchased in advance. Children 5 and under are admitted to the Fair free every day. You can buy your advance admission tickets online at [iowastatefair.org](http://iowastatefair.org), the Iowa State Fair Ticket Office or at participating Iowa Hy-Vee and Fareway stores. Not valid with any other discount.

- Monday – Thursday Evenings from 5 p.m.-10 p.m.: \$12 adult (ages 12 and up) admission and \$8 child admission (ages 6-11).

Air Conditioned Buildings: Bruce L. Rastetter 4-H Exhibits Building, Penningroth Media Center in the John and Emily Putney Family Cattle Barn, Patty and Jim Cownie Cultural Center, Elwell Family Food Center, FFA Display Building, Pioneer Livestock Pavilion, Maytag Family Theaters, Oman Family Youth Inn, Paul R. Knapp Animal Learning Center, Ralph H. Deets Historical Museum, Richard L. Easter Museum Complex, Richard O. Jacobson Hall/Kenyon Gallery, Richard O. Jacobson Exhibition Center, Robert G. Horner and Sheri Avis Horner Service Center, Walnut Center and William C. Knapp Varied Industries Building.

Assisted Listening Devices: Available in the John and Emily Putney Family Cattle Barn Penningroth Media Center, Pioneer Livestock Pavilion, Sheep Barn Show Ring, Swine Barn Show Ring and Richard O. Jacobson Exhibition Center when the State Fair sound system is being used. For more information, call 515-262-3111, ext. 322, at least 72 hours in advance.

Automated Teller Machines (ATMs): Approximately 25 ATMS are located throughout the grounds, including outside or inside the major entrance gates. Some other locations include just outside the Robert G. Horner and Sheri Avis Horner Service Center and on the northeast side of the William C. Knapp Varied Industries Building. See the grounds map for additional locations.

Baby Diaper Changing/Nursing Station: Nursing stations located in both the Paul R. Knapp Animal Learning Center and Walnut Center provide parents and children with a safe, comfortable and private atmosphere. Rocking chairs and an area for diaper changing are available. Diaper changing and family

restrooms are also available at the Heritage Village restroom facility adjacent to the Susan Knapp Amphitheater, north of Ye Old Mill and inside the Richard O. Jacobson Exhibition Center.

Blue Ribbon Foundation Iowa State Fair Merchandise: Official Iowa State Fair souvenirs, including ornaments, cookbooks, charm bracelets, lapel pins, pottery, T-shirts, sweatshirts, tote bags, hats and more. Six locations at the Robert G. Horner and Sheri Avis Horner Service Center, William C. Knapp Varied Industries Building, John and Emily Putney Family Cattle Barn Foyer, John Deere Agriculture Building, Little Hands on the Farm and Jacobson Hall/Kenyon Gallery (Museum Complex). Profits from the store are used to preserve and improve the Iowa State Fairgrounds.

Blue Ribbon Foundation Water Booths: Bottled water is sold at seven stands located at the Robert G. Horner and Sheri Avis Horner Service Center, Anne and Bill Riley Stage, Little Hands on the Farm, Thrill Town, Heritage Village, John and Emily Putney Family Cattle Barn and the John Deere Agriculture Building. Proceeds are used for preserving and improving the Iowa State Fairgrounds. Bottles cost \$3.

DART Park & Ride: Fairgoers can park their car for free at one of three convenient DART Park & Ride locations around the metro and ride directly to the Fair.

DART Park & Ride Locations:

- 7th & Center St. Park & Ride (830 6th Ave, Des Moines, IA 50309)
- Iowa State Capitol Building (Located on E 12th St., between E Grand Ave. & E Walnut St.)
- Southeast Polk High School (7945 N E University Ave, Pleasant Hill, IA 50327)

Park & Ride Shuttles drop off and pick up from DART Transit Hub (Gate 10 of the Fairgrounds) sponsored by Select Iowa Buick GMC Dealers.

DART Ticket Prices:

- \$2 Bus Ticket
- \$1 Discounted Bus Ticket (Children 6-10, persons 65+, or person with disabilities)
- FREE Children 5 and under (free ticket required for boarding)

Receive half-off your DART shuttle tickets when you purchase them through the MyDART® app, available on iOS and Android. As of 2024, showing advance admission tickets to the Iowa State Fair will no longer provide a discount.

All buses are accessible by mobility devices. For additional information about DART Park & Ride services to the Iowa State Fair, visit [ridedart.com/fair](http://ridedart.com/fair) or contact DART Customer Service at 515-283-8100.

Device charging stations sponsored by Mediacom: 7 convenient device charging stations are located throughout the Fairgrounds, both indoors and outdoors. Charging stations are located at the Administration Building porch\*, Elwell Family Food Center, William C. Knapp Varied Industries Building (South Hallway)\*, Richard O. Jacobson Exhibition Center\*, Little Hands on the Farm and the Patty and Jim Cownie Cultural Center (outside NW entrance)\*. (\* Wheelchair accessible.)

#### Electric Scooters/Wheelchairs:

- For personal scooter requirements, please visit [iowastatefair.org](http://iowastatefair.org).
- A limited number of wheelchairs and electric scooters will be held for walk-up customers on a first-come, first-served basis. Wheelchairs rent for \$30 per day; electric scooters rent for \$75 per full day (8 a.m. to 11 p.m.). Scooters cannot be reserved for a half day. A driver's license or State ID is required for scanning for security.
- Online and phone reservations will be accepted for wheelchairs and electric scooters. There is an additional \$5 processing fee for all call-in reservations.
- It is highly recommended to reserve online at [www.htmia.com](http://www.htmia.com) or call HomeTown Mobility at 712-938-2029.
- Rental locations are at Gate 8, Gate 10, Gate 11, Gate 13 and Gate 15.

First Aid Stations: The Hy-Vee Health and First Aid Center is located east of the John Deere Agriculture Building. A satellite station is located in the Robert G. Horner and Sheri Avis Horner Service Center, west of the Administration Building. Both are staffed by Des Moines Fire and Rescue.

Hand Sanitizer and Hand Washing Stations signs can be located throughout the Fairgrounds emphasizing the importance of hand-washing after handling/petting animals. Portable hand-washing sink and hand-sanitizing stations are located on the Fairgrounds around livestock displays and animal containment areas. There are 40 hand-sanitizing stations and 6 hand-washing stations.

Information Booths sponsored by Hy-Vee: Fair information booths are staffed by volunteers from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Locations are in front of the John and Emily Putney Family Cattle Barn, outside of the First Church, near Gate 10, near Gate 11, at the Pepsi Clock, on the Grand Concourse east of Ye Old Mill and on the Administration Building porch.

- Credential pickup can be found at the Volunteer Office, located at E 30th St. and Logan Avenue, from 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Lost and Found: Found articles and inquiries about lost articles are handled by the Iowa State Fair Police Department. The Public Safety Building is located at the west end of the Grand Concourse, 515-401-1614.

Lost Children/Lost People Headquarters: Lost children or persons with special needs should be taken to the Hall of Law – Iowa State Patrol Booth, located underneath the east end of the Grandstand, until 8 p.m. After 8 p.m., lost children and persons with special needs should be taken to the Public Safety Building at the west end of Grand Avenue. Paging is done from the Public Safety Building from 9 a.m. until midnight, and is only available for lost children or persons with special needs and medical emergencies. "Kid Find" wristbands will be available at all information booths, the Public Safety Building, the Hall of Law and at the Des Moines Radio Group booth at the west end of the Grandstand. Wristbands are sponsored by Goodwill Industries in partnership with STAR 102.5, the Iowa State Fair Police and the Iowa State Patrol.

Official Iowa State Fair App: Download the Official Iowa State Fair App to access the daily schedule, food vendor locations, Grandstand shows, food lists and more! Available for Android and Apple devices.

Older Iowans' Day presented by Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield (August 14 only): Fairgoers ages 60 and older get in for \$12 with ID from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Check out the Older Iowans' Day Tent inside Gate 13 along with special programming throughout the day such as the Older Iowans' Cookie Decorating Contest.

#### On-Grounds Transportation:

- Blue Line Parking shuttles sponsored by Chevron run daily from 5:30 a.m. until 1 a.m. The Blue Line Parking shuttles have 5 routine stops and will stop at Gate 13 & 15 for entry to the Fair.
  - Stop 1 Lot C
  - Stop 2 Lot C
  - Stop 3 Lot B
  - Stop 4 Gate 15 Unload
  - Stop 5 Gate 13 Unload/Load
  - Stop 6 Gate 15 Load
- Free Campgrounds shuttles sponsored by the Iowa Soybean Association, operated by Clearfield Lions and pulled by John Deere tractors powered by Soy Bio Diesel run daily beginning at 8 a.m. One wheelchair-accessible unit will be available approximately every 15 minutes. These shuttles run continuously up the hill, round-trip, from Gate 4, to First Church, to Pioneer Hall, to Gate 5, and reverse. Shuttles are open to all Fairgoers and stop at Pioneer Hall.
- Golf-cart mini-shuttle service (not wheelchair accessible) is available from Lots A, B and C parking lots to Gates 13 and 15 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. While offered as a free service, riders may make donations to the Shriners Children's Hospital and the Za-Ga-Zig Shrine Transportation Fund. Golf carts are not available for rent for safety and liability reasons.
- Scooters and wheelchairs are available for rent from HomeTown Mobility. Call 712.938.2029 to reserve a scooter ahead of time or scooters and wheelchairs are available at Gates 8, 10, 11, 13 and 15. Personal golf carts are not allowed on the Fairgrounds.

Severe Weather Policy: When the National Weather Service issues a severe weather warning impacting the Fairgrounds, an announcement will be made over the grounds-wide public address system alerting Fairgoers to seek shelter. The announcement will be repeated every two minutes until the severe weather warning has expired. Fairgoers may get general Fair alerts at 'FAIR' to 844.844.8508.

- When the National Weather Service issues a severe weather warning impacting the Grandstand, an announcement will be communicated over the public address system as well as video boards advising to shelter in place, move to the interior of the Grandstand, or evacuate the Grandstand. If a severe weather event occurs, Grandstand ushers, security personnel and law enforcement will give instructions. This may delay the event start time.

Sign Language Interpreters: To arrange for a sign language interpreter in the Grandstand, please call 515-262-3111, ext. 305 or email [ticketoffice@iowastatefair.org](mailto:ticketoffice@iowastatefair.org) at least two weeks in advance of the event.

Storage Facilities: Available on the west side of the Administration Building at a cost of \$7 per day for a small bin or \$10 per day for a large bin. Storage facilities are open 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. (or after Grandstand shows).

Strollers and Wagon Rental: Available on a first-come, first-served basis inside Gate 11 and Gate 15 from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.; stroller rental is \$20 per day, double stroller rental is \$25 per day (driver's license or State ID is required for security). Strollers and wagons are provided by Hometown Mobility.

Sunday Funday presented by Hy-Vee (August 18 only): Regular admission is \$12 for adults and \$8 for kids ages 6-11; 8 a.m.-5 p.m.: with donations of 3 cans of non-perishable food, adult admission (ages 12 and up) is \$9. No entry or re-entry after 7 p.m. on the last Sunday.

Taxi, Uber, Lyft and Rideshare: Pick-up and drop-off are at Gate 8 off Dean Avenue. To order a ride to the State Fair call 515-282-8111 for a taxi or 515-288-7433 for Rideshare. Download the Uber or Lyft App and use the GPS address (203 Rock Island, Des Moines, Iowa 50317) when trying to locate the drop-off and pick-up locations.

TDD (Telecommunications Device): During the 11 days of the Fair, a Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) will be available for outgoing local calls inside the Administration Building from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Veterans Day (August 12 only): Active and former members of the United States military who show proof of veteran or active military status and their spouse enjoy \$12 gate admission from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Veterans Day Parade sponsored by the Deb and Jeff Hansen Foundation.

Waste and Recycling Services: The Iowa State Fair has a recycling program. Several Big Bottle recycling receptacles are stationed throughout the grounds to help keep the Fairgrounds clean and trash-free. Livestock bedding is recycled for compost with Metro Waste Authority.