

Q2 UP Newsletter: Returning Your Money to Where it Belongs

Preheader: Over \$4.5 Million Reunited with Iowan

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Treasurer's Note

Over \$4.5 Million Reunited with Iowan

Who loves a pop quiz as a newsletter ice-breaker? How many McDonalds Happy Meals could you buy with \$4.5 million? If you guessed 1.2 million, you're right! Now to the relevance of that quiz...

I recently had the pleasure of reuniting an Iowan with a record-breaking \$4.5 million in unclaimed property from the Great Iowa Treasure Hunt. The individual had over 15,000 shares in McDonald's Corporation, and when the company deemed the property unclaimed, it was turned over to the State since the address they had on file was in Iowa.

Like we do for all owners, my office sent a due diligence letter to the last known address, which informed the individual of the unclaimed funds. Since they were prompt in responding to our due diligence letter, we were able to return the shares and the dividends that accrued while we were the custodian.

There are two things we can learn from this experience:

1. It is crucial to log in to your investments periodically so the account doesn't go dormant. While we love returning property to the owners, we want to prevent it from being turned over in the first place.
2. If your assets are turned over to the Great Iowa Treasure Hunt and you receive a due diligence letter, make sure to use the property ID to search online.

Success stories like this are what puts the thrill into searching your name at GreatIowaTreasureHunt.gov each year. You really never know what or how much you are going to find. The result might even be better than a Happy Meal!

Roby Smith
Iowa State Treasurer



Fairgoers search for their unclaimed assets.

Thousands of you came to visit the Great Iowa Treasure Hunt booth at the Iowa State Fair this year, and for many – it's an annual tradition! In a short 11-day span, over 2,830 claims were filed at the Fair and

more than \$538,900 was claimed. One individual even found \$24,385 belonging to them! As the State Fair would say, 'Nothing Compares' to finding your lost money!

If you weren't able to make it, rest assured, you can search online at GreatIowaTreasureHunt.gov – anytime, anywhere.

[Search Now](#)



Help us reunite 4H & FFA clubs with their lost funds.

Starting as young as kindergarteners, local 4H and FFA clubs support important skills that go beyond agriculture. From leadership and career success to embracing diversity and building a sense of community, these programs are teaching invaluable lessons!

Multiple 4H and FFA clubs in Iowa have unclaimed funds waiting for them in the Great Iowa Treasure Hunt, and we need your help getting them reunited. Here's a glimpse of who is on our list:

Benton High School FFA
East Sac FFA
Fort Madison HS FFA
Grinnell FFA Iowa Junior Beef
Iowa FFA Foundation
Knoxville High School FFA
Lively Oaks 4H Club
Louisa-Muscatine FFA
Maple Valley FFA
Mills County 4H Clubs
Monticello HS FFA
Northwest District FFA

Oskaloosa HS FFA
Pella High School FFA
Red Rangers 4H
Roscoe Prairie Ramblers 4H
Sioux Central High School FFA
South Central District FFA
Tama County 4H Fair
Triple C 4H Club
Van Buren FFA
Wapello County 4H Expo Inc
Williamsburg High School FFA

If you find one you know, contact the 4H leader or FFA teacher and ask them to search the club's name at GreatIowaTreasureHunt.gov. Then, all they have to do is follow the screen prompts to claim the funds – it's that easy!



Search for your unclaimed retirement accounts.

The average American worker has [12 jobs](#) throughout a lifetime. That's a dozen different retirement accounts to keep track of!

Unclaimed retirement accounts are a common occurrence at the Great Iowa Treasure Hunt, and now you know why. Keeping track of each employer and any retirement plans you may have invested in can be difficult. The good news? Getting the money back can be easy. Just search your name at GreatIowaTreasureHunt.gov or contact a [claim expert](#) for help!

Search Now



Expert tips for organizations.

There is a lot of teamwork happening during reporting season, which is when organizations turn over their unclaimed funds to my office so we can start our outreach to find the owners. All unclaimed property reports must be submitted electronically by November 1, and I want to help make the process seamless. Check out these top tips:

1. **Review our manuals:** Find out everything you need to know about reporting in Iowa with the [Business Reporting Manual \(PDF\)](#) or [Financial Institution Reporting Manual \(PDF\)](#), depending on your type of entity.
2. **Report the last known address:** Even if you know the owner's address you have on file is not current, we want you to submit what you have. Any address, even if it's not correct, is what we can use to link the owner to the property.
3. **Remit funds with ease:** After your report is submitted, utilize the [payment portal](#) to turn over your funds.

Have questions? Check out the [Reporting Property](#) section of GreatlowaTreasureHunt.gov for information on deadlines, access to more manuals and to discover more tips. You can also [contact us](#).

[Reporting Property](#)

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