

483A.24 When license not required special licenses.

1. Owners or tenants of land, and their juvenile children, may hunt, fish or trap upon such lands and may shoot by lawful means ground squirrels, gophers, or woodchucks upon adjacent roads without securing a license so to do; except, special licenses to hunt deer and wild turkey shall be required of owners and tenants but they shall not be required to have a special wild turkey hunting license to hunt wild turkey on a hunting preserve licensed under chapter 484B.

2. *a.* As used in this subsection:

(1) "*Family member*" means a resident of Iowa who is the spouse or child of the owner or tenant and who resides with the owner or tenant.

(2) "*Farm unit*" means all parcels of land which are certified by the commission pursuant to rule as meeting all of the following requirements:

(a) Are in tracts of two or more contiguous acres.

(b) Are operated as a unit for agricultural purposes.

(c) Are under the lawful control of the owner or the tenant.

(3) "*Owner*" means an owner of a farm unit who is a resident of Iowa and who is one of the following:

(a) Is the sole operator of the farm unit.

(b) Makes all of the farm operation decisions but contracts for custom farming or hires labor for all or part of the work on the farm unit.

(c) Participates annually in farm operation decisions or cropping practices on specific fields of the farm unit that are rented to a tenant.

(d) Raises specialty crops on the farm unit including, but not limited to, orchards, nurseries, or tree farms that do not always produce annual income but require annual operating decisions about maintenance or improvement.

(e) Has all or part of the farm unit enrolled in a long-term agricultural land retirement program of the federal government.

An "*owner*" does not mean a person who owns a farm unit and who employs a farm manager or third party to operate the farm unit, or a person who owns a farm unit and who rents the entire farm unit to a tenant who is responsible for all farm operations. However, this paragraph does not apply to an owner who is a parent of the tenant and who resides in this state.

(4) "*Tenant*" means a person who is a resident of Iowa and who rents and actively farms a farm unit owned by another person. A member of the owner's family may be a tenant. A person who works on the farm for a wage and is not a family member does not qualify as a tenant.

b. Upon written application on forms furnished by the department, the department shall issue annually without fee one wild turkey license to the owner of a farm unit or to a member of the owner's family, but not to both, and to the tenant or to a member of the tenant's family, but not to both. The wild turkey hunting

license issued shall be valid only on the farm unit for which an applicant qualifies pursuant to this subsection and shall be equivalent to the least restrictive license issued under section 481A.38. The owner or the tenant need not reside on the farm unit to qualify for a free license to hunt on that farm unit.

c. Upon written application on forms furnished by the department, the department shall issue annually without fee two deer hunting licenses, one antlered or any sex deer hunting license and one antlerless deer only deer hunting license, to the owner of a farm unit or a member of the owner's family, but only a total of two licenses for both, and to the tenant of a farm unit or a member of the tenant's family, but only a total of two licenses for both. The deer hunting licenses issued shall be valid only for use on the farm unit for which the applicant applies pursuant to this paragraph. The owner or the tenant need not reside on the farm unit to qualify for the free deer hunting licenses to hunt on that farm unit. The free deer hunting licenses issued pursuant to this paragraph shall be valid and may be used during any shotgun deer season. The licenses may be used to harvest deer in two different seasons. In addition, a person who receives a free deer hunting license pursuant to this paragraph shall pay a one dollar fee for each license that shall be used and is appropriated for the purpose of deer herd population management, including assisting with the cost of processing deer donated to the help us stop hunger program administered by the commission.

d. In addition to the free deer hunting licenses received pursuant to paragraph "*c*", an owner of a farm unit or a member of the owner's family and the tenant or a member of the tenant's family may purchase a deer hunting license for any option offered to paying deer hunting licensees. An owner of a farm unit or a member of the owner's family and the tenant or a member of the tenant's family may also purchase two additional antlerless deer hunting licenses which are valid only on the farm unit for a fee of ten dollars each.

e. If the commission establishes a deer hunting season to occur in the first quarter of a calendar year that is separate from a deer hunting season that continues from the last quarter of the preceding calendar year, each owner and each tenant of a farm unit located within a zone where a deer hunting season is established, upon application, shall be issued a free deer hunting license for each of the two calendar quarters. Each license is valid only for hunting on the farm unit of the owner and tenant.

f. A deer hunting license or wild turkey hunting license issued pursuant to this subsection shall be attested by the signature of the person to whom the license is issued and shall contain a statement in substantially the following form:

By signing this license I certify that I qualify as an owner or tenant under Iowa Code section 483A.24.

A person who makes a false attestation as described in this paragraph is guilty of a simple misdemeanor. In addition, the person's hunting license shall be revoked and the person shall not be issued a hunting license for a period of one year.

3. The director shall provide up to twenty-five nonresident deer hunting licenses for allocation as requested by a majority of a committee consisting of the majority leader of the senate, speaker of the house of representatives, and director of the department of economic development, or their designees. The licenses provided pursuant to the subsection shall be in addition to the number of nonresident licenses authorized pursuant to section 483A.8. The purpose of the special nonresident licenses is to allow state officials and local development groups to promote the state and its natural resources to nonresident guests and dignitaries. Photographs, videotapes, or any other form of media resulting from the hunting visitation shall not be used for political campaign purposes. The nonresident licenses shall be issued without application upon payment of the nonresident deer hunting license fee and the wildlife habitat fee. The licenses are valid in all zones open to deer hunting. The hunter safety and ethics education certificate requirement pursuant to section 483A.27 is waived for a nonresident issued a license pursuant to this subsection.

4. The director shall provide up to twenty-five nonresident wild turkey hunting licenses for allocation as requested by a majority of a committee consisting of the majority leader of the senate, speaker of the house of

representatives, and director of the department of economic development, or their designees. The licenses provided pursuant to the subsection shall be in addition to the number of nonresident licenses authorized pursuant to section 483A.7. The purpose of the special nonresident licenses is to allow state officials and local development groups to promote the state and its natural resources to nonresident guests and dignitaries. Photographs, videotapes, or any other form of media resulting from the hunting visitation shall not be used for political campaign purposes. The nonresident licenses shall be issued without application upon payment of the nonresident wild turkey hunting license fee and the wildlife habitat fee. The licenses are valid in all zones open to wild turkey hunting. The hunter safety and ethics education certificate requirement pursuant to section 483A.27 is waived for a nonresident issued a license pursuant to this subsection.

5. A resident or nonresident of the state under sixteen years of age is not required to have a license to fish in the waters of the state. However, residents and nonresidents under sixteen years of age must pay the trout fishing fee to possess trout or they must fish for trout with a licensed adult who has paid the trout fishing fee and limit their combined catch to the daily limit established by the commission.

6. A license shall not be required of minor pupils of the state school for the blind, state school for the deaf, or of minor residents of other state institutions under the control of an administrator of a division of the department of human services. In addition, a person who is on active duty with the armed forces of the United States, on authorized leave from a duty station located outside of this state, and a resident of the state of Iowa shall not be required to have a license to hunt or fish in this state. The military person shall carry the person's leave papers and a copy of the person's current earnings statement showing a deduction for Iowa income taxes while hunting or fishing. In lieu of carrying the person's earnings statement, the military person may also claim residency if the person is registered to vote in this state. If a deer or wild turkey is taken, the military person shall immediately contact a state conservation officer to obtain an appropriate tag to transport the animal. A license shall not be required of residents of county care facilities or any person who is receiving old-age assistance under chapter 249.

7. A resident of the state under sixteen years of age is not required to have a hunting license to hunt game if accompanied by the minor's parent or guardian or in company with any other competent adult with the consent of the minor's parent or guardian, if the person accompanying the minor possesses a valid hunting license; however, there must be one licensed adult accompanying each person under sixteen years of age. The minor must have a deer hunting license to hunt deer and a wild turkey hunting license to hunt wild turkey.

8. A person having a dog entered in a licensed field trial is not required to have a hunting license or fur harvester license to participate in the event or to exercise the person's dog on the area on which the field trial is to be held during the twenty-four hour period immediately preceding the trial.

9. The commission shall issue without charge a special fishing license to residents of Iowa sixteen years or more of age who the commission finds have severe mental or physical disabilities. The commission is hereby authorized to prepare an application to be used by the person requesting the special license, which would require that the person's attending physician sign the form declaring that the person has a severe mental or physical disability and is eligible for exempt status.

10. No person shall be required to have a special wild turkey license to hunt wild turkey on a hunting preserve licensed under chapter 484B.

11. A lessee of a camping space at a campground may fish on a private lake or pond on the premises of the campground without a license if the lease confers an exclusive right to fish in common with the rights of the owner and other lessees.

12. The department may issue a permit, subject to conditions established by the department, which authorizes patients of a substance abuse facility, residents of health care facilities licensed under chapter 135C, and persons cared for in juvenile shelter care homes as provided for in chapter 232 to fish without a license as a

supervised group.

13. Upon payment of the fee of thirty dollars for a lifetime hunting and fishing combined license, the department shall issue a hunting and fishing combined license to a resident of Iowa who served in the armed forces of the United States for a minimum aggregate of ninety days of active federal service and who was disabled or was a prisoner of war during that veteran's military service. The department shall prepare an application to be used by a person requesting a hunting and fishing combined license under this subsection. The department of veterans affairs shall assist the department in verifying the status or claims of applicants under this subsection. As used in this subsection, "*disabled*" means entitled to compensation under the United States Code, Title 38, ch. 11.

14. The department shall issue without charge a special annual fishing or combined hunting and fishing license to residents of this state who have permanent disabilities and whose income falls below the federal poverty guidelines as published by the United States department of health and human services or residents of this state who are sixty-five years of age or older and whose income falls below the federal poverty guidelines as published by the United States department of health and human services. The commission shall provide for, by rule, an application to be used by an applicant requesting a special license. The commission shall require proof of age, income, and proof of permanent disability.

[S13, § 2563-a3; C24, 27, 31, § 1720, 1723; C35, § 1794-e15; C39, § **1794.098**; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, § 110.17; C79, 81, § 110.24; 82 Acts, ch 1260, § 16]

83 Acts, ch 96, § 59, 159; 84 Acts, ch 1260, § 10; 85 Acts, ch 10, §3; 85 Acts, ch 67, § 15; 86 Acts, ch 1240, § 57; 86 Acts, ch 1245, § 1877; 88 Acts, ch 1216, §42; 89 Acts, ch 74, § 1; 89 Acts, ch 87, §2, 3; 90 Acts, ch 1178, § 1, 2; 91 Acts, ch 237, § 4, 5; 92 Acts, ch 1140, § 12

C93, § 483A.24

94 Acts, ch 1018, §1; 94 Acts, ch 1023, §58; 96 Acts, ch 1129, § 100; 96 Acts, ch 1172, § 1; 97 Acts, ch 180, §6; 98 Acts, ch 1199, §19, 20, 27; 98 Acts, ch 1223, §30; 99 Acts, ch 180, §20; 2000 Acts, ch 1175, §3; 2001 Acts, ch 134, §15; 2001 Acts, ch 148, §8, 9; 2005 Acts, ch 115, §35, 40; 2005 Acts, ch 139, §610; 2005 Acts, ch 172, §24

Footnotes

For applicable scheduled fines, see §805.8B, subsection 3, paragraph c