
BUDGET UNIT BRIEF – FY 2023

Fiscal Services Division

July 1, 2022



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

Administrative Hearings Division — Department of Inspections and Appeals

Overview

The Administrative Hearings Division is one of four divisions within the Department of Inspections and Appeals. The Division holds contested case hearings involving individuals objecting to an adverse action taken by a State department or agency. During a contested case hearing, individuals may present evidence and testimony to refute the department's action. An Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) is assigned to conduct the case and hears the facts for the issue in question. At the conclusion of the hearing, the ALJ issues a proposed decision based on the evidence provided. The proposed decision may sustain, reject, or modify the initial action taken by the department or agency. Any party can appeal the proposed decision to the State agency that initiated the action, and the agency can also review a proposed decision on its own motion. The agency has the authority to sustain, reject, or modify the proposed decision. Iowa law and the Department's administrative rules specify how contested case hearings are conducted.

The Division holds contested case hearings that involve suspensions or revocations of driver's licenses by the Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT), as well as those involving individuals contesting suspension or termination of entitlements by the Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS). In addition to the DOT and the DHS cases, the Division conducts administrative hearings for nearly all State departments and licensing boards and some local government agencies. The Department also handles appeals by Iowans who have been denied a permit to acquire firearms or carry weapons, or cases where a permit has been suspended or revoked by the Commissioner of Public Safety or other law enforcement.

Funding

The Administrative Hearings Division receives an annual General Fund appropriation. The Administrative Hearings Division budget also includes billings to agencies for services and a Road Use Tax Fund appropriation to cover hearings involving suspensions or revocations of driver's licenses.

Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code chapter [10A](#)

Iowa Administrative Code [481](#)

Budget Unit Number

4270Q630001

Doc ID 1284858

More Information

Administrative Hearings Division – Department of Inspections and Appeals:

dia.iowa.gov/administrative-hearings

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