

CHAPTER 67*
ADMINISTRATION

701—67.1(452A) Definitions. For purposes of this chapter, 701—Chapter 68, and 701—Chapter 69, the following definitions shall govern:

“*Appropriate state agency*” or “*state agency*” means the department of revenue or the state department of transportation, whichever is responsible for control, maintenance, or supervision of the power, requirement, or duty referred to in Iowa Code chapter 452A.

“*Aviation gasoline*” means any gasoline capable of being used for propelling aircraft which is invoiced as aviation gasoline or is received, sold, stored, or withdrawn from storage for purposes of propelling aircraft. It does not include motor fuel capable of being used for propelling motor vehicles.

“*Biofuel*” means an oxygenated product derived from soybean oil, vegetable oil, or animal fats that can be used in diesel engines or aircraft. Biofuel may be a blend with diesel fuel or it may be 100 percent soybean oil, vegetable oil, or animal fats. Any biofuel product is a special fuel.

“*Blender*” means a person who owns and blends alcohol with gasoline to produce ethanol-blended gasoline and blends the product at a nonterminal location. The blender is not restricted to blending alcohol with gasoline. Products blended with gasoline other than grain alcohol are taxed as gasoline. “Blender” also means a person blending two or more special fuel products at a nonterminal location where the tax has not been paid on all of the products blended. The blend is taxed as a special fuel.

“*Carrier*” means and includes any person who operates or causes to be operated any commercial motor vehicle on any public highway in this state.

“*Common carrier*” or “*contract carrier*” means a person involved in the movement of motor fuel or special fuel from the terminal or movement of the motor fuel or special fuel imported into this state, who is not an owner of the motor fuel or special fuel.

“*Commercial motor vehicle*” means a passenger vehicle that has seats for more than nine passengers in addition to the driver, any road tractor, any truck tractor, or any truck having two or more axles which passenger vehicle, road tractor, truck tractor, or truck is propelled on the public highways by either motor fuel or special fuel. “Commercial motor vehicle” does not include a motor truck with a combined gross weight of less than 26,000 pounds, operated as a part of an identifiable one-way fleet and which is leased for less than 30 days to a lessee for the purpose of moving property which is not owned by the lessor.

“*Dealer*” means a person, other than a distributor, who engages in the business of selling or distributing motor fuel or special fuel to the end user in this state.

“*Denatured ethanol*” means ethanol that is to be blended with gasoline, has been derived from cereal grains, complies with American Society of Testing Materials designation D-4806-95b, and may be denatured only as specified in Code of Federal Regulations, Titles 20, 21, and 27. Alcohol and denatured ethanol have the same meaning.

“*Department*” means the department of revenue.

“*Director*” means the director of the Iowa department of revenue or the director’s authorized representative.

“*Distributor*” means a person who acquires tax-paid motor fuel, special fuel, or alcohol from a supplier, restrictive supplier, or importer, or another distributor for subsequent sale at wholesale and distribution by tank cars or tank trucks or both. The department may require that the distributor be registered to have terminal purchase rights.

“*Eligible purchaser*” means a distributor of motor fuel or special fuel who elects to make delayed payments to a licensed supplier and must use electronic funds transfer.

“*End user*” of special fuel means a person who has purchased a minimum of 240,000 gallons of special fuel each year in the two preceding years who elects to make delayed payments to a licensed supplier and must use electronic funds transfer.

*This chapter effective 1/1/96; see 701—Ch 63, effective through 12/31/95.

“Ethanol-blended gasoline” means motor fuel which has been blended with alcohol distilled from cereal grains, the end product containing at least 10 percent alcohol. When motor fuel is used in these rules, it includes ethanol-blended gasoline.

“Export” means delivery across the boundaries of this state by or for the seller or purchaser from a place of origin in this state.

“Exporter” means a person or other entity who acquires fuel in this state for export to another state.

“Foreign supplier” means a person licensed as a supplier to collect and report the tax, but who does not have jurisdictional connections with this state.

“Fuel(s)” means and includes both motor fuel and special fuel as defined in Iowa Code chapter 452A.

“Fuel taxes” means the per gallon excise taxes imposed under division I of Iowa Code chapter 452A with respect to motor fuel and undyed special fuel.

“Import” means delivery across the boundaries of this state by or for the seller or purchaser from a place of origin outside this state.

“Importer” means a person who imports motor fuel or undyed special fuel in bulk or transport load into the state by truck, rail, or barge.

“Invoiced gallons” means gross gallons as shown on the bill of lading or manifest.

“Iowa urban transit system” means a system whereby motor buses are operated primarily upon the streets of cities for the transportation of passengers for an established fare and which accepts passengers who present themselves for transportation without discrimination up to the limit of the capacity of each motor bus. *“Iowa urban transit system”* also includes motor buses operated upon the streets of adjoining cities, whether interstate or intrastate, for the transportation of passengers without discrimination up to the limit of the capacity of the motor bus.

Privately chartered bus services, motor carriers and interurban carriers subject to the jurisdiction of the state department of transportation, school bus services, and taxicabs shall not be construed to be an urban transit system nor a part of any such system.

“Licensee” means a person holding an uncanceled supplier’s, restrictive supplier’s, importer’s, exporter’s, or blender’s license issued by the department or any other person who possesses fuel for which the tax has not been paid.

“Mobile machinery and equipment” means vehicles self-propelled by an internal combustion engine but not designed or used primarily for the transportation of persons or property on public highways and only incidentally operated or moved over a highway including, but not limited to, corn shellers, truck-mounted feed grinders, roller mills, ditch-digging apparatus, power shovels, draglines, earth-moving equipment and machinery, and road construction and maintenance machinery such as asphalt spreaders, bituminous mixers, bucket loaders, ditchers, leveling graders, finishing machines, motor graders, paving mixers, road rollers, scarifiers, and earth-moving scrapers. However, *“mobile machinery and equipment”* does not include dump trucks or self-propelled vehicles originally designed for the transportation of persons or property on public highways and to which machinery, such as truck-mounted transit mixers, cranes, shovels, welders, air compressors, well-boring apparatus or lime spreaders, has been attached.

“Motor fuel” means both of the following:

1. All products commonly or commercially known or sold as gasoline (including ethanol blended gasoline, casinghead, and absorption or natural gasoline) regardless of their classifications or uses, and including transmix which serves as a buffer between fuel products in the pipeline distribution process.

2. Any liquid advertised, offered for sale, sold for use as, or commonly or commercially used as a fuel for propelling motor vehicles, which when subjected to distillation of gasoline, naphtha, kerosene, and similar petroleum products (American Society of Testing Materials designation D-86), shows not less than 10 percent distilled (recovered) below 347° F (175° C) and not less than 95 percent distilled (recovered) below 464° F (240° C).

“Motor fuel” does not include special fuel and does not include liquefied gases which would not exist as liquids at a temperature of 60° F and a pressure of 14 7/10 pounds per square inch absolute, or naphthas and solvents unless the liquefied gases or naphthas and solvents are used as a component in the manufacture, compounding, or blending of a liquid within paragraph “2,” in which event the resulting product shall be deemed to be motor fuel.

“Motor vehicle” means and includes all vehicles (except those operated on rails) which are propelled by internal combustion engines and are of such design as to permit their mobile use on public highways for transporting persons or property. A farm tractor while operated on a farm or for the purpose of hauling farm machinery, equipment, or produce shall not be deemed to be a motor vehicle. “Motor vehicle” shall not include “mobile machinery and equipment.”

“Naphthas and solvents” means and includes those liquids which come within the distillation specifications for motor fuel, but which are designed and sold for exclusive use other than as a fuel for propelling motor vehicles.

“Nonterminal storage facility” means a facility where motor fuel or special fuel, other than liquefied petroleum gas, is stored that is not supplied by a pipeline or a marine vessel. “Nonterminal storage facility” includes a facility that manufactures products such as alcohol, biofuel, blend stocks, or additives which may be used as motor fuel or special fuel, other than liquefied petroleum gas, for operating motor vehicles or aircraft.

“Person” means and includes natural persons, partnerships, firms, associations, corporations, representatives appointed by any court, and political subdivisions of this state or any other group or combination acting as a unit and the plural as well as the singular number applies.

“Public highways” means and includes any way or place available to the public for purposes of vehicular travel notwithstanding temporarily closed.

“Racing fuel” means leaded gasoline of 110 octane or more that does not meet American Society of Testing Materials designation D-4814 for gasoline and is sold in bulk for use in nonregistered motor vehicles.

“Regional transit system” means a public transit system serving one county or all or part of a multi-county area whose boundaries correspond to the same boundaries as those of the regional planning areas designated by the governor, except as agreed upon by the department. Each county board of supervisors within the region is responsible for determining the service and funding within its county. However, the administration and overhead support services for the overall regional transit system shall be consolidated into one existing or new agency to be mutually agreed upon by the participating members. Privately chartered bus services and uses other than providing services that are open and public on a shared-ride basis shall not be construed to be a regional transit system.

“Restrictive supplier” means a person not otherwise licensed as an importer who imports motor fuel or undyed special fuel into this state in amounts of less than 4,000 gallons in tank wagons or in small tanks.

“Special fuel” means fuel oils, kerosene and all combustible gases and liquids suitable for the generation of power for propulsion of motor vehicles or turbine-powered aircraft, and includes any substance used for that purpose, except that it does not include motor fuel. Kerosene shall not be considered to be a special fuel, unless the kerosene is blended with other special fuels for use in a motor vehicle with a diesel engine.

“Supplier” means a person who acquires motor fuel or special fuel by pipeline or marine vessel from a state, territory, or possession of the United States, or from a foreign country for storage at and distribution from a terminal and who is registered under 26 U.S.C. § 4101 for tax-free transactions in gasoline; a person who produces in this state or acquires by truck, railcar, or barge for storage at and distribution from a terminal, alcohol or alcohol derivative substances; or a person who produces, manufactures, or refines motor fuel or special fuel in this state. “Supplier” includes a person who does not meet the jurisdictional connection to this state but voluntarily agrees to act as a supplier for purposes of collecting and reporting the motor fuel or special fuel tax. “Supplier” does not include a retail dealer or wholesaler who merely blends alcohol with gasoline before the sale or distribution of the product or a terminal operator who merely handles, in a terminal, motor fuel or special fuel consigned to the terminal operator.

“Taxpayer” means anyone responsible for paying fuel taxes directly to the department of revenue under Iowa Code chapter 452A.

“Terminal” means a motor fuel, alcohol, or special fuel storage and distribution facility that is supplied by a pipeline or a marine vessel and from which the fuel may be removed at a rack. “Terminal” does not include a facility at which motor fuel or special fuel blend stocks and additives are used in the manufacture of products other than motor fuel or special fuel and from which no motor fuel or special fuel is removed.

“Terminal operator” means the person who by ownership or contractual agreement is charged with the responsibility for, or physical control over, and operation of a terminal. If coventurers own a terminal, “terminal operator” means the person who is appointed to exercise the responsibility for, or physical control over, and operation of the terminal.

“Withdrawn from terminal” means physical movement from a supplier to a distributor or eligible end user or from an alcohol manufacturer to a nonterminal location and includes an importer going out of state and obtaining fuel from a terminal and bringing the fuel into the state, and a restrictive supplier bringing fuel into the state even though not purchased directly from a terminal. Exchange of product by suppliers while in the distribution channel and the physical movement of alcohol from an alcohol manufacturer to an Iowa licensed supplier’s alcohol storage at a terminal are not to be considered “withdrawn from terminal.”

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 452A.2 as amended by 2003 Iowa Acts, Senate File 458.

701—67.2(452A) Statute of limitations, supplemental assessments and refund adjustments. After a return is filed, the department must examine it, determine fuel taxes due, and give notice of assessment to the taxpayer. If no return is filed, the department may determine the tax due and give notice thereof. See rule 67.5(452A). The period for the examination and determination of the correct amount of tax is unlimited in the case of a false or fraudulent return made with the intent to evade tax or in the case of a failure to file a return.

The department may, at any time within the period prescribed for assessment or refund adjustment, make a supplemental assessment or refund adjustment whenever it is ascertained that any assessment or refund adjustment is imperfect or incomplete in any respect.

If the assessment or refund adjustment is appealed (protested under rule 701—7.41(17A)) and is resolved whether by informal proceedings or by adjudication, the department and the taxpayer are precluded from making a supplemental assessment or refund adjustment concerning the same issue involved in such appeal for the same tax period unless there is a showing of mathematical or clerical error or a showing of fraud or misrepresentation.

The three-year period of limitation may be extended by a taxpayer by signing a waiver agreement form to be provided by the department. The agreement must stipulate the period of extension and must also provide that a claim for refund may be filed by the taxpayer at any time during the period of extension.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 452A.67 as amended by 1999 Iowa Acts, Senate File 136.

701—67.3(452A) Taxpayers required to keep records. The records required to be kept by this rule must be preserved for a period of three years and will be open for examination by the department during this period of time. The department, after an audit and examination of the records, may authorize the disposal of the records required to be kept upon written request by the taxpayer. For taxpayers using an electronic data interchange process or technology also see 701—subrule 11.4(4).

67.3(1) Motor fuel and special fuel supplier. Every supplier required to file a monthly return under Iowa Code section 452A.8 is required to keep and preserve the following records relating to the purchase or sale of fuel:

- a. Copies of bills of lading or manifests.
- b. Copies of sales invoices.
- c. Sales records.
- d. Copies of filed returns and supporting schedules.
- e. Canceled checks and check register.
- f. Export schedules.

67.3(2) Restrictive supplier. Every restrictive supplier required to file a monthly return under Iowa Code section 452A.8 is required to keep and preserve the following records relating to the purchase or sale of fuel:

- a. Copies of bills of lading or manifests.
- b. Purchase invoices.
- c. Copies of sales invoices.
- d. Purchase records.
- e. Sales records.
- f. Copies of filed returns and supporting schedules.
- g. Canceled checks and check register.

67.3(3) Importer. Every importer required to file a semimonthly return under Iowa Code section 452A.8 is required to keep and preserve the following records relating to the purchase or sale of fuel:

- a. Copies of bills of lading or manifests.
- b. Purchase invoices.
- c. Copies of sales invoices.
- d. Purchase records.
- e. Sales records.
- f. Copies of filed returns and supporting schedules.
- g. Canceled checks and check register.

67.3(4) Exporter. Every exporter is required to keep and preserve the following records relating to the purchase of fuel for export:

- a. Copies of bills of lading or manifests.
- b. Purchase invoices and purchase records.
- c. Copies of reports, returns, and supporting schedules filed with the importing state.
- d. Canceled checks and check register.

67.3(5) *Compressed natural gas and liquefied petroleum gas dealers and users.* Every compressed natural gas and liquefied petroleum gas dealer and user is required to keep and preserve the following records:

- a. Copies of purchase invoice or bills of lading.
- b. Copies of sales invoices and sales records.
- c. Canceled checks and check register.
- d. Exemption certificates.
- e. Copies of filed returns and supporting schedules.

67.3(6) *Terminal or nonterminal storage facility operator.* Every person required to report under Iowa Code section 452A.15(2) or 2002 Iowa Acts, House File 2622, section 25, as an operator of a terminal or nonterminal storage facility shall keep and preserve the following records:

- a. Records to evidence the acquisition of fuel.
- b. Bills of lading or manifests covering the withdrawal of fuel.
- c. Copies of filed reports and supporting schedules.

67.3(7) *Distributor.* Every distributor handling motor fuel or special fuel is required to preserve and keep the following records:

- a. Delivery tickets.
- b. Sales invoices.
- c. Bills of lading.
- d. Canceled checks and check register.

67.3(8) *Blender.* Every blender is required to keep and preserve the following records:

- a. Purchase invoices for motor fuel, special fuel, and alcohol.
- b. Bills of lading.
- c. Copies of filed returns and supporting schedules.
- d. Canceled checks and check register.
- e. Copies of sales invoices.

67.3(9) *Dealer.* Every dealer (retailer) is required to keep and preserve the following records:

- a. Purchase invoices.
- b. Purchase records.
- c. Delivery tickets.
- d. Sales invoices.
- e. Sales records.
- f. Canceled checks and check register.

67.3(10) *Microfilm and related record systems.* Microfilm, microfiche, COM (computer on machine), and other related reduction in storage systems will be referred to as "microfilm" in this rule.

Microfilm reproductions of general books of account, such as a cash book, journals, voucher registers, and ledgers, are not acceptable other than those that have been approved by the Internal Revenue Service under Revenue Procedure 76-43, Section 3.02. However, microfilm reproductions of supporting records of detail, such as sales invoices and purchase invoices, may be allowed providing there is no administrative rule or Iowa Code section requiring the original and all of the following conditions are met and accepted by the taxpayer:

- a. Appropriate facilities are provided to ensure the preservation and readability of the films.
- b. Microfilm rolls are indexed, cross-referenced, labeled to show beginning and ending numbers or beginning and ending alphabetical listing of documents included, and are systematically filed.
- c. The taxpayer agrees to provide transcripts of any information contained on microfilm which may be required for purposes of verification of tax liability.
- d. Proper facilities are provided for the ready inspection and location of the particular records, including modern projectors for viewing and for the copying of records.

e. Any audit of “detail” on microfilm may be subject to sample audit procedures, to be determined at the discretion of the director or the director’s designated representative.

f. A posting reference must be on each invoice.

g. Documents necessary to support claimed exemptions from tax liability, such as bills of lading and purchase orders, must be maintained in an order by which they readily can be related to the transaction for which exemption is sought.

67.3(11) *Automatic data processing records.* Automatic data processing (ADP) is defined in this rule as including electronic data processing (EDP) and will be referred to as ADP.

a. An ADP tax accounting system must have built into its program a method of producing visible and legible records which will provide the necessary information for verification of the taxpayer’s tax liability.

b. ADP records must provide an opportunity to trace any transaction back to the original source or to a final total. If detailed printouts are not made of transactions at the time they are processed, then the system must have the ability to reconstruct these transactions.

c. A general ledger with source references will be produced as hard copy to coincide with financial reports of tax reporting periods. In cases where subsidiary ledgers are used to support the general ledger accounts, the subsidiary ledgers should also be produced periodically.

d. Supporting documents and audit trail. The audit trail should be designed so that the details underlying the summary accounting data may be identified and made available to the director or the director’s designated representative upon request. The system should be designed so that the supporting documents, such as sales invoices and purchase invoices, are readily available. (An audit trail is defined as the condition of having sufficient documentary evidence to trace an item from source, such as invoice or check, to a financial statement or tax return or report; or the reverse, that is, to have an auditable system.)

e. Program documentation. A description of the ADP portion of the accounting program should be available. The statements and illustrations as to the scope of operations should be sufficiently detailed to indicate:

- (1) The application being performed;
- (2) The procedure employed in each application (which, for example, might be supported by flow charts, block diagrams or other satisfactory description of the input or output procedures); and
- (3) The controls used to ensure accurate and reliable processing. Program and systems changes, together with their effective dates, should be noted in order to preserve an accurate chronological record.

f. Storage of ADP output will be in appropriate facilities to ensure preservation and readability of output.

67.3(12) *Electronic data interchange or EDI technology.* The purpose of this subrule is to adopt the “Model Recordkeeping and Retention Regulation” report as promulgated by the Federation of Tax Administrators’ Steering Committee Task Force on EDI Audit and Legal Issues for Tax Administration (March 1996). This subrule defines the requirements imposed on taxpayers for the maintenance and retention of books, records, and other sources of information under Iowa Code sections 452A.10, 452A.12, 452A.55, 452A.60, 452A.62, 452A.69, 452A.76, and 452A.80. It is also the purpose of this subrule to address these requirements where all or part of a taxpayer’s records are received, created, maintained, or generated through various computer, electronic, and imaging processes and systems. A taxpayer must maintain all records that are necessary for determination of the correct tax liability as set forth in this subrule and the other subrules within rule 701—67.3(452A). Upon request, all required records must be made available to the department or its authorized representatives as provided in Iowa Code sections 452A.10 and 452A.62. If a taxpayer retains records required to be retained under this subrule in both machine-sensible and hard-copy formats, the taxpayer must make the records available to the department in machine-sensible format upon request of the department. Nothing in this subrule will be construed to prohibit a taxpayer from demonstrating tax compliance with traditional hard-copy documents or reproductions thereof, in whole or in part, whether or not the taxpayer also has retained or has the capability to retain records on electronic or other storage media in accordance with this subrule. However, as previously stated, this will not relieve a taxpayer of the obligation to comply with the requirement to make records available to the department.

a. Definitions. The following definitions are applicable to this subrule:

“*Database management system*” means a software system that controls, relates, retrieves, and provides accessibility to data stored in a database.

“*Electronic data interchange*” or “*EDI technology*” means the computer-to-computer exchange of business transactions in a standardized, structured electronic format.

“*Hard copy*” means any documents, records, reports, or other data printed on paper.

“*Machine-sensible record*” means a collection of related information in an electronic format. Machine-sensible records do not include hard-copy records that are created or recorded on paper or stored in or by an imaging system such as microfilm, microfiche, or storage-only imaging systems.

“*Storage-only imaging system*” means a system of computer hardware and software that provides for the storage, retention, and retrieval of documents originally created on paper. It does not include any system, or part of a system, that manipulates or processes any information or data contained on the document in any manner other than to reproduce the document in hard copy or as an optical image.

“*Taxpayer*” as used in this subrule means any person, business, corporation, fiduciary, or other entity that is required to file a return or report with the department of revenue.

b. Record-keeping requirements — machine-sensible records. A taxpayer that maintains and retains books, records, and other sources of information in the form of machine-sensible records must comply with the following:

(1) General requirements. A taxpayer must comply with the following general requirements regarding the retention of machine-sensible records:

1. Machine-sensible records used to establish tax compliance must contain sufficient transaction-level detail information so that the details underlying the machine-sensible records can be identified and made available to the department upon request. A taxpayer has discretion to discard duplicated records and redundant information provided its responsibilities under this regulation are met.

2. At the time of an examination, the retained records must be capable of being retrieved and converted to a standard record format. The term “standard record format” does not mean that every taxpayer must keep records in an identical manner. Instead, it requires that if a taxpayer utilizes a code system to identify elements of information in each record when creating and maintaining records, the taxpayer is required to maintain a record of the meaning of each code and any code changes so that the department may effectively review the taxpayer’s records.

3. Taxpayers are not required to construct machine-sensible records other than those created in the ordinary course of business. A taxpayer that does not create the electronic equivalent of a traditional paper document in the ordinary course of business is not required to construct a traditional paper document for tax purposes.

(2) Electronic data interchange requirements. A taxpayer must comply with the following requirements for records received through electronic data interchange:

1. Where a taxpayer uses an electronic data interchange process and technology, the level of record detail, in combination with other records related to the transactions, must be equivalent to that contained in an acceptable paper record. For example, for motor fuel tax purposes the retained records should contain the following minimal information: bills of lading or manifests; invoices; sales and purchase records; returns, reports, and supporting schedules; canceled checks and check register; export schedules; exemption certificates; and delivery tickets. Codes may be used to identify some or all of the data elements, provided that the taxpayer provides a method which allows the department to interpret the coded information.

2. The taxpayer may capture the information necessary to satisfy the requirements set forth in the preceding paragraph at any level within the accounting system and need not retain the original EDI transaction records provided that the audit trail, authenticity, and integrity of the retained records can be established. For example, a taxpayer using electronic data interchange technology receives electronic invoices from its suppliers. The taxpayer decides to retain the invoice data from completed and verified EDI transactions in its accounts payable system rather than to retain the EDI transactions themselves. Since neither the EDI transaction nor the accounts payable system captures information from the invoice pertaining to product description and vendor name (i.e., they contain only codes for that information), the taxpayer also retains the other records such as its vendor master file and product code description lists and makes them available to the department. In this example, the taxpayer need not retain its original EDI transaction for tax purposes.

(3) Electronic data processing accounting systems requirements. The requirements for an electronic data processing accounting system should be similar to that of a manual accounting system, in that an adequately designed accounting system should incorporate methods and records that will satisfy the requirements of this rule. In addition, pursuant to Iowa Code sections 452A.10, 452A.12, 452A.55, 452A.60, 452A.62, 452A.69, 452A.76, and 452A.80, the department must have access to the taxpayer's EDI processing, accounting, or other systems for the purposes of verifying or evaluating the integrity and reliability of those systems to provide accurate and complete records.

(4) Business process information. To verify the accuracy of the records being retained, the taxpayer must comply with the following:

1. Upon the request of the department, the taxpayer shall provide a description of the business process that created the retained records. The description must include the relationship between the records and the tax documents prepared by the taxpayer and include the measures employed to ensure the integrity of the records.

2. The taxpayer must be capable of demonstrating the following:

- The functions being performed as they relate to the flow of data through the system;
- The internal controls used to ensure accurate and reliable processing; and
- The internal controls used to prevent unauthorized addition to, alteration of, or deletion of retained records.

3. The following specific documentation is required for machine-sensible records retained pursuant to this rule:

- Record formats or layouts;
- Field definitions (including a record of any changes in the system or codes and the meaning of all codes used to represent information);
- File descriptions (e.g., data set name); and
- Detailed charts of accounts and account descriptions.

c. *Record maintenance requirements.* The department recommends, but does not require, that taxpayers refer to the National Archives and Record Administration's (NARA) standards for guidance on the maintenance and storage of electronic records such as the labeling of records, the location and security of the storage environment, the creation of backup copies, and the use of periodic testing to confirm the continued integrity of the records. (The NARA standards may be found at 36 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1234, July 1, 1995, Edition.) The taxpayer's computer hardware and software must accommodate the extraction and conversion of retained machine-sensible records.

d. *Access to machine-sensible records.* If a taxpayer retains records required to be retained under this regulation in both machine-sensible and hard-copy formats, the taxpayer must make the records available to the department in machine-sensible format upon the request of the department.

(1) The manner in which the department is provided access to machine-sensible records may be satisfied through a variety of means that must take into account a taxpayer's facts and circumstances through consultation with the taxpayer.

(2) Access shall be provided in one or more of the following manners:

1. The taxpayer may arrange to provide the department with the hardware, software, and personnel resources to access the machine-sensible records.

2. The taxpayer may arrange for a third party to provide the hardware, software, and personnel resources necessary to access the machine-sensible records.

3. The taxpayer may convert the machine-sensible records to a standard record format specified by the department, including copies of files, on magnetic medium that is agreed to by the department.

4. The taxpayer and the department may agree on other means of providing access to the machine-sensible records.

e. *Taxpayer's responsibility and discretionary authority.* In conjunction with meeting the requirements of paragraph "b" of this subrule, a taxpayer may create files solely for the use of the department. For example, if a database management system is used, it is consistent with this subrule for the taxpayer to create and retain a file that contains the transaction-level detail from the database management system and that meets the requirements of paragraph "b" of this subrule. The taxpayer shall document the process that created the separate file to show the relationship between that file and the original records. A taxpayer may contract with a third party to provide custodial or management services of the records. Such a contract will not relieve the taxpayer of its responsibilities under this rule.

f. *Alternative storage media.* For purposes of storage and retention, taxpayers may convert hard-copy documents received or produced in the normal course of business and required to be retained under this rule to microfilm, microfiche, or other storage-only imaging systems and may discard the original hard-copy documents provided that the rules governing alternative storage media are met. For details regarding alternative storage, see subrule 67.3(9), "Microfilm and related record systems."

g. *Effect on hard-copy record-keeping requirements.* Except as otherwise provided, the provisions of this subrule do not relieve taxpayers of the responsibility to retain hard-copy records that are created or received in the ordinary course of business as required by existing law and rules. Hard-copy records may be retained on alternative storage media as indicated in paragraph "f" above and subrule 67.3(9).

If hard-copy records are not produced or received in the ordinary course of transacting business (e.g., when the taxpayer uses electronic data interchange technology), hard-copy records need not be created.

Hard-copy records generated at the time of the transaction with the use of a credit or debit card must be retained unless all the details necessary to determine correct tax liability relating to the transaction are subsequently received and retained by the taxpayer in accordance with this rule.

Computer printouts that are created for validation, control, or other temporary purposes need not be retained.

Nothing in this rule shall prevent the department from requesting hard-copy printouts in lieu of retained machine-sensible records at the time of examination.

67.3(13) General requirements. If a tax liability has been assessed and an appeal is pending to the department, state board of tax review, or district or supreme court, books, papers, records, memoranda, or documents specified in this rule which relate to the period covered by the assessment must be preserved until the final disposition of the appeal.

If the requirements of this rule are not met, the records will be considered inadequate and rule 67.5(452A), estimate gallongage, applies.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 452A.6 and 452A.15 as amended by 2002 Iowa Acts, House File 2622, and sections 452A.8, 452A.9, 452A.10, 452A.17, 452A.59, 452A.60, 452A.62, and 452A.69.

701—67.4(452A) Audit—costs. The department has the right and duty to examine or cause to be examined the books, records, memoranda, or documents of a taxpayer for the purpose of verifying the correctness of a return filed or determining the tax liability of any taxpayer. The costs incurred in examining the records of a taxpayer are at the taxpayer's expense when the records are kept at an out-of-state location. Cost will include meals, lodging, and travel expenses, but will not include salaries of department personnel. (See 1976 O.A.G. 611.)

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 452A.10 and 452A.62 as amended by 1995 Iowa Acts, chapter 155, and Iowa Code sections 452A.55 and 452A.69.

701—67.5(452A) Estimate gallongage. It is the duty of the department to collect all taxes on fuel due the state of Iowa. In the event the taxpayer's records are lacking or inadequate to support any return filed by the taxpayer, or to determine the taxpayer's liability, the department has the power to estimate the gallongage upon which tax is due. This estimation will be based upon such factors as, but not limited to, the following: (1) prior experience of the taxpayer, (2) taxpayers in similar situations, (3) industry averages, (4) records of suppliers or customers, and (5) other pertinent information the department may possess, obtain or examine.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 452A.64.

701—67.6(452A) Timely filing of returns, reports, remittances, or application requests. The returns, reports, remittances, applications, or requests required under Iowa Code chapter 452A shall be deemed filed within the required time if (1) postpaid, (2) properly addressed, and (3) postmarked on or before midnight of the day on which due and payable. Any return that is not signed and any return which does not contain substantially all of the pertinent information is not considered "filed" until such time as the taxpayer signs or supplies the information to the department. *Miller Oil Company v. Abrahamson*, 252 Iowa 1058, 109 N.W.2d 610 (1961), *Severs v. Abrahamson*, 255 Iowa 979, 124 N.W.2d 150 (1963). The filing of a return within the period prescribed by law and payment of the tax required to be shown thereon are simultaneous acts, unless remittance is required to be transmitted electronically; and if either condition is not met, a penalty will be assessed. Remittances transmitted electronically are considered to have been made on the date the remittance is added to the bank account designated by the treasurer of the state of Iowa. If the final filing date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the next secular or business day is the final filing date.

All returns, reports, remittances, applications, or requests should be addressed to: Iowa Department of Revenue, Hoover State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319, unless electronic transmission is required.

In the event a dispute arises as to the time of filing, or a return, report, or remittance is not received by the department, the provisions of Iowa Code section 622.105 are controlling. This rule applies only where the document is not received or the postmark on the envelope is illegible, erroneous, or omitted.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 452A.61.

701—67.7(452A) Extension of time to file. The department may grant an extension for the filing of any required return or tax payment or both.

In order for an extension to be granted, the application requesting the extension must be filed, in writing, with the department prior to the due date of the return or remittance. In determining whether an application for extension is timely filed, the provisions of rule 67.6(452A) shall apply. The application for extension must be accompanied by an explanation of the circumstances justifying such extension, and in no event will the extension period exceed 30 days.

In the event an extension is granted, the penalties under Iowa Code section 452A.65 applicable to late-filed returns or remittances will not accrue until the expiration of the extension period, but the interest on tax due under the same section will accrue as of the original filing date.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 452A.61.