

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY[261]

Regulatory Analysis

Notice of Intended Action to be published: 261—Chapter 306
“Artist Professional Development Program”

Iowa Code section(s) or chapter(s) authorizing rulemaking: 15.106A(1)“m” and 17A.7(3)
State or federal law(s) implemented by the rulemaking: Iowa Code sections 15.106A(1)“m,”
15.436 and 15.467 and 2 CFR Part 200

Public Hearing

A public hearing at which persons may present their views orally or in writing will be held as follows:

June 30, 2026
9:15 to 9:30 a.m.

Via Microsoft Teams
Information about Teams participation can be found at
opportunityiowa.gov/about/iowa-economic-development-authority/ieda-red-tape-review

Public Comment

Any interested person may submit written comments concerning this Regulatory Analysis, which must be received by the Economic Development Authority no later than 4:30 p.m. on the date of the public hearing. Comments should be directed to:

Christopher West
Iowa Economic Development Authority
1963 Bell Avenue, Suite 200
Des Moines, Iowa 50315
Email: christopher.west@iowafinance.com

Purpose and Summary

Pursuant to Executive Order 10, the Authority proposes to rescind Chapter 306 and adopt a new chapter in lieu thereof. The current chapter describes the Operational Support Partnership Program for Major Arts Organizations, which provided financial support for general operational expenses of arts organizations and will be discontinued.

The proposed new chapter is titled “Artist Professional Development Program.” The Artist Professional Development Program (program) will provide financial assistance to individual Iowa artists to advance their artistic practices and elevate the creative industry in Iowa. The new chapter implements the consolidation of arts appropriations and programs in 2025 Iowa Acts, House File 975. The legislation authorized creation of an Arts and Culture Enhancement Fund, which will be utilized for broad purposes related to the arts, including the program.

Analysis of Impact

1. **Persons affected by the proposed rulemaking:**

- **Classes of persons that will bear the costs of the proposed rulemaking:**

The proposed rulemaking does not impose any costs.

- **Classes of persons that will benefit from the proposed rulemaking:**

Persons who apply and are approved for program grants will benefit from the rulemaking.

2. Impact of the proposed rulemaking, economic or otherwise, including the nature and amount of all the different kinds of costs that would be incurred:

• **Quantitative description of impact:**

The proposed rulemaking does not impose any costs.

• **Qualitative description of impact:**

Persons who apply and are approved for program grants will benefit from the rulemaking.

3. Costs to the State:

• **Implementation and enforcement costs borne by the agency or any other agency:**

Authority staff time is required to administer the program covered in this chapter.

• **Anticipated effect on State revenues:**

The proposed rulemaking has no anticipated effect on State revenues. In addition to moneys available in the Arts and Culture Enhancement Fund established pursuant to Iowa Code section 15.436, funding from the National Endowment for the Arts may also be used for the purposes described in this chapter.

4. Comparison of the costs and benefits of the proposed rulemaking to the costs and benefits of inaction:

The proposed rulemaking has no anticipated effect on State revenues.

5. Determination whether less costly methods or less intrusive methods exist for achieving the purpose of the proposed rulemaking:

The Authority has not identified any less costly or less intrusive methods.

6. Alternative methods considered by the agency:

• **Description of any alternative methods that were seriously considered by the agency:**

The Authority did not consider any other methods.

• **Reasons why alternative methods were rejected in favor of the proposed rulemaking:**

The Authority did not consider any other methods.

Small Business Impact

If the rulemaking will have a substantial impact on small business, include a discussion of whether it would be feasible and practicable to do any of the following to reduce the impact of the rulemaking on small business:

• Establish less stringent compliance or reporting requirements in the rulemaking for small business.

• Establish less stringent schedules or deadlines in the rulemaking for compliance or reporting requirements for small business.

• Consolidate or simplify the rulemaking's compliance or reporting requirements for small business.

• Establish performance standards to replace design or operational standards in the rulemaking for small business.

• Exempt small business from any or all requirements of the rulemaking.

If legal and feasible, how does the rulemaking use a method discussed above to reduce the substantial impact on small business?

The proposed rulemaking does not have a substantial impact on small business.

Text of Proposed Rulemaking

ITEM 1. Rescind 261—Chapter 306 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 306
ARTIST PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

261—306.1(15) Purpose. The artist professional development program (program) provides financial support to individual Iowa artists to undertake activities that advance the artists’ artistic practices and elevate the creative industry in Iowa.

261—306.2(15) Definitions. The definitions listed in 261—Chapter 305 apply to this chapter.

261—306.3(15) Eligible applicants. To be eligible for program funding, an applicant must meet the definition of “artist” in rule 261—305.1(15) by creating, practicing, or producing work as a visual or performing artist, filmmaker, musician, or creative writer and must otherwise meet the requirements of rule 261—305.5(15).

261—306.4(15) Eligible projects. Eligible projects are one-time professional development activities that advance applicants’ professional or artistic capacity, enhance their artistic practice, or allow them to learn new or more advanced techniques to support their artistic work. Types of eligible projects include participating in professional development conferences, workshops, courses, apprenticeships, and mentorships.

261—306.5(15) Ineligible projects. Projects that fall outside the scope of rule 261—306.4(15) or can be categorized as follows are ineligible:

1. Initiated by, managed by, or that benefit an entity or organization with which the applicant has a formal affiliation such as employment or volunteer service.
2. Result in the applicant receiving course credit, a degree, or certification.
3. Involve fundraising activities, including benefit events.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 15.436 and 15.467.