

INSPECTIONS AND APPEALS DEPARTMENT[481]

Regulatory Analysis

Notice of Intended Action to be published: 481—Chapters 300 and 325
“State Building Code—Administration; Manufactured Housing Installer Certification”

Iowa Code section(s) or chapter(s) authorizing rulemaking: 103A.7 and 103A.23 and 2026 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2289

State or federal law(s) implemented by the rulemaking: Iowa Code chapter 103A and 2026 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2289

Public Hearing

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

September 8, 2026
10 a.m.

6200 Park Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa

Public Comment

Any interested person may submit written or oral comments concerning this Regulatory Analysis, which must be received by the Department of Inspections, Appeals, and Licensing no later than 4:30 p.m. on the date of the public hearing. Comments should be directed to:

Sheri Howard
6200 Park Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50321
Phone: 515.779.3299
Email: sheri.howard@dia.iowa.gov

Purpose and Summary

Pursuant to Iowa Code section 103A.23, the State Building Code Commissioner shall establish by rule a schedule of fees based upon the costs of administration and for the purpose of obtaining revenue to defray the costs of administering the provisions of Iowa Code chapter 103A. Fees shall be collected from persons whose manufacture, installation, or construction is subject to the provisions of the State Building Code. For the performance of building plan reviews by the Department, the Commissioner shall establish by rule a fee, chargeable to the owner of the building; the fee shall be equal to a percentage of the estimated total valuation of the building and shall be in an amount reasonably related to the cost of conducting the review. 2026 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2289, authorizes the payment of these funds into the Licensing and Regulation Fund created in Iowa Code section 10A.507.

Analysis of Impact

1. Persons affected by the proposed rulemaking:

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

There are no costs associated with this proposed rulemaking; legislation changed the fund into which the fees collected by the Commission shall be deposited.

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

Iowans and non-Iowans who live in, work in, and utilize buildings that are subject to the State Building Code during construction benefit when building projects are safe and plan reviews and inspections are conducted in a timely manner.

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:**

There is no quantitative impact of this proposed rulemaking.

- **Qualitative description of impact:**

This proposed rulemaking implements legislation that directs fees collected by the Department pursuant to the State Building Code are deposited into a fund specifically geared toward licensing and regulation. The public and the industry appreciate fees that are directed toward the governmental entity governing the fees.

3. Costs to the State:

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

There are no costs to the Department specifically associated with this rulemaking.

- **Anticipated effect on State revenues:**

There is no anticipated impact on State revenues.

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

There are no costs to the proposed rulemaking to weigh against the benefits.

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

There are no less costly or less intrusive methods for achieving the purpose of the proposed rulemaking.

6. Alternative methods considered by the agency:

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

See response in section “5” above.

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

See response in section “5” above.

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?

There is no substantial impact on small business.

Text of Proposed Rulemaking

ITEM 1. Amend paragraph 300.4(2)“b” as follows:

b. The fees for plan reviews completed by the building code bureau are calculated as follows:

Estimated Construction Costs	Calculation of Plan Review Fee
Up to and including \$1 million	\$.58 per thousand dollars or fraction thereof (minimum fee \$200)
More than \$1 million	\$580 for the first \$1 million plus \$.32 for each additional thousand dollars or fraction thereof
The plan review fees for fire suppression systems and fire alarm systems are separate fees and are calculated as follows:	
Fire Protection System Costs	Plan Review Fee
Fire suppression systems whose construction cost for materials and installation is calculated to be up to and including \$5,000	\$100
Fire suppression systems whose construction cost for materials and installation is calculated to be more than \$5,000 and up to and including \$20,000	\$200
Fire suppression systems whose construction cost for materials and installation is estimated to be more than \$20,000	\$400
Fire alarm systems whose construction cost for materials and installation is calculated to be up to and including \$5,000	\$100
Fire alarm systems whose construction cost for materials and installation is calculated to be more than \$5,000 and up to and including \$20,000	\$200
Fire alarm systems whose construction cost for materials and installation is estimated to be more than \$20,000	\$400

Payment of the assigned fee has to accompany each plan when submitted for review. ~~Payment may be made by money order, check, or draft made payable to the Treasurer, State of Iowa. All remittances are to be:~~

1. In the form of checks or money orders;
2. Made payable to Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals, and Licensing; and
3. Addressed to:
State Building Code Bureau
Department of Inspections, Appeals, and Licensing
6200 Park Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50321

NOTE: Plan review fees for assisted living projects are contained in Iowa Code section 231C.18(2) “c.” Elder group home plan review fees are contained in Iowa Code section 231B.17. Adult day services plan review fees are contained in Iowa Code section 231D.4.

ITEM 2. Amend subrule 300.5(3) as follows:

300.5(3) Buildings subject to inspection by the commissioner, except construction involving any building or facility owned by the board of regents or by any institution subject to the authority of the board of regents, shall pay an inspection fee based upon the construction cost of the project. The inspection fee is calculated as follows:

Construction Cost	Base Inspection Fee
Up to \$100,000	\$598
\$100,001 to \$1,000,000	\$645
\$1,000,001 to \$10,000,000	\$722
\$10,000,001 and above	\$783

Follow-up inspection	\$214
----------------------	-------

The base inspection fee covers three inspections—a foundation, rough-in, and final. The base inspection fee is due and payable at the time completed construction documents are submitted for review. The plan review will not be conducted until the proper base inspection fee is paid. ~~Checks should be made payable to the Treasurer, State of Iowa, and delivered to the bureau office. All~~ remittances are to be:

1. In the form of checks or money orders;
2. Made payable to Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals, and Licensing; and
3. Addressed to:

State Building Code Bureau
Department of Inspections, Appeals, and Licensing
6200 Park Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50321

This fee is separate and distinct from the plan review fee established in subrule 300.4(2).

Additional inspections may occur for any of the following reasons:

- a. to d. No change.

The fee for each additional inspection is calculated as follows:

One hour on site = \$206

One to two hours on site = \$240

Two to three hours on site = \$273

Three to four hours on site = \$307

Four to five hours on site = \$341

Five to six hours on site = \$374

Additional inspection fees will be billed to the responsible architect or building contractor on a monthly basis. The building may receive only temporary approval for occupancy if unpaid inspection fees remain at the time of final inspection.

Inspection fees and standard operating procedures for construction involving any building or facility owned by the board of regents or by any institution subject to the authority of the board of regents will be established through a written agreement between the commissioner and the board of regents.

ITEM 3. Amend rule 481—325.4(103A) as follows:

481—325.4(103A) Certification fee. The certification fee shall be \$300, payable at the time of application, and shall cover certification for three years. Fees shall be remitted in the form of a check or money order, ~~payable to the Iowa Department of Public Safety—Building Code Bureau. All~~ remittances are to be:

1. In the form of checks or money orders;
2. Made payable to Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals, and Licensing; and
3. Addressed to:

State Building Code Bureau
Department of Inspections, Appeals, and Licensing
6200 Park Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50321

The following should be written in the memo portion of the check: “Manufactured Housing Installer Certification.” Applications and fees received after July 1 of any year will cover the remainder of the fiscal year in which they are received and the following two state fiscal years. Applications and fees received prior to July 1 of any year shall cover the period through June 30 of the third year following.

Exception: If as of June 1, 2009, statutory language regarding fees collected for certification and recertification of manufactured housing installers does not clearly provide that any such fees collected

are exempt from reversion to the state treasury pursuant to Iowa Code section 8.33, then all current certificate holders who paid the \$300 fee shall have \$200 of the fee refunded.

ITEM 4. Amend subrule 325.7(4) as follows:

325.7(4) The recertification fee shall be \$300, payable at the time of application. Fees shall be remitted in the form of a check or money order, ~~payable to the Iowa Department of Public Safety—~~
~~Building Code Bureau.~~ All remittances are to be:

1. In the form of checks or money orders;
2. Made payable to Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals, and Licensing; and
3. Addressed to:
State Building Code Bureau
Department of Inspections, Appeals, and Licensing
6200 Park Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50321

The following shall be written in the memo portion of the check: “Manufactured Housing Installer Certification.” Applications and fees received after July 1 shall cover the remainder of the fiscal year in which they are received and the following two years.

ITEM 5. Amend subrule 325.11(4) as follows:

325.11(4) The application shall be accompanied by a check or money order for \$50 to cover the certification fee. This fee is nonrefundable. ~~The check or money order shall be made out to “Iowa Department of Public Safety,” and the memo portion of the check or money order shall say “Manufactured Housing Installer Certification.”~~ All remittances are to be:

1. In the form of checks or money orders;
2. Made payable to Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals, and Licensing; and
3. Addressed to:
State Building Code Bureau
Department of Inspections, Appeals, and Licensing
6200 Park Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50321