Regulatory Analysis

Notice of Intended Action to be published: 441—Chapter 201
"Subsidized Adoptions"

Iowa Code section(s) or chapter(s) authorizing rulemaking: 600.17 through 600.23
State or federal law(s) implemented by the rulemaking: 2025 Iowa Acts, House File 1049

Public Hearing

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

October 7, 2025 10 a.m.	Microsoft Teams Meeting ID: 259 285 819 643 8 Passcode: Do6b3vu7

Public Comment

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

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321 East 12th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50319
Phone: 515.829.6021
Email: compliancerules@hhs.iowa.gov

Purpose and Summary

This proposed rulemaking implements 2025 Iowa Acts, House File 1049, section 22, by adding an appropriated increase in foster care and subsidized adoption rates to the Iowa Administrative Code. The program provides financial assistance to interested adoptive parents capable of providing suitable care but lacking in necessary economic resources.

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.

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

Parents and children in subsidized adoptions will benefit from the proposed 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:**

2025 Iowa Acts, House File 1049, section 22, appropriated $308,765 to increase foster and adoption maintenance rates by 5 percent.

- **Qualitative description of impact:**

The increase in foster and adoption maintenance rates will benefit adoptive parents and their children by providing enhanced subsidy support.

3. **Costs to the State:**

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

There are no implementation or enforcement costs beyond the $308,765 appropriation to increase foster and adoption maintenance rates by 5 percent as specified in 2025 Iowa Acts, House File 1049.

- **Anticipated effect on State revenues:**

Adoption subsidy payments are provided out of federal Title IV-E of the Social Security Act funds as well as the State-appropriated funds.

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

6. **Alternative methods considered by the agency:**

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

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?

This proposed rulemaking is not expected to have any impact on small business.

Text of Proposed Rulemaking

ITEM 1. Amend paragraphs **201.5(6)"a"** and **201.5(6)"b"** as follows:

a. The maximum monthly maintenance payment for a child in subsidized adoption shall be made pursuant to the foster family care maintenance rates according to the age and special needs of the child as found in 441—subrule 156.6(1) and 441—paragraph 156.6(4)*"f"* for eligible adoptions that take place on or after July 1, ~~2024~~ 2025. Eligible subsidized and future subsidized adoptions that took place on June 30, ~~2024~~ 2025, or before will remain on the basic rate in effect on June 30, ~~2024~~ 2025.

b. Basic rate effective ~~June 30, 2024~~ July 1, 2025:

Age of child	Daily rate
0 through 5	~~$16.78~~ $18.50
6 through 11	~~$17.45~~ $19.24
12 through 15	~~$19.10~~ $21.06
16 or older	~~$19.35~~ $21.34