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Referred to in §12C.6A, 15.106A, 15.106B

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## SUBCHAPTER I

## GENERAL PROVISIONS

**15E.1 Definition.**

As used in [this chapter](#), unless the context otherwise requires, “*authority*” means the economic development authority created in [section 15.105](#).

[2002 Acts, ch 1119, §6](#); [2011 Acts, ch 118, §57, 89](#)

**15E.2 through 15E.10** Reserved.

## SUBCHAPTER II

## CORPORATION FOR RECEIVING AND DISBURSING FUNDS

**15E.11 Corporation for receiving and disbursing funds.**

The Iowa development commission is hereby authorized to form a corporation under the provisions of [chapter 504, Code 1989](#), for the purpose of receiving and disbursing funds from public or private sources to be used to further the overall development and well-being of the state.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §28.11]  
C93, §15E.11

[2003 Acts, ch 108, §7](#)

Referred to in [§15.108](#), [15E.14](#), [15E.15](#), [15E.16](#)

**15E.12 and 15E.13** Reserved.

**15E.14 Incorporators.**

The incorporators of the corporation formed under [sections 15E.11](#), [15E.15](#) and [15E.16](#), shall be:

1. The chairperson of the Iowa development commission.
2. The director of the Iowa development commission.
3. A member of the Iowa development commission selected by the chairperson.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §28.14]  
C93, §15E.14

Referred to in [§15.108](#), [15E.15](#), [15E.16](#)

**15E.15 Board of directors.**

The board of directors of the corporation formed under [sections 15E.11](#), [15E.14](#) and [15E.16](#) shall be the members of the Iowa development commission or their successors in office.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §28.15]  
C93, §15E.15

Referred to in [§15.108](#), [15E.14](#), [15E.16](#)

**15E.16 Accepting grants in aid.**

The corporation formed under [sections 15E.11, 15E.14 and 15E.15](#) is hereby authorized to accept grants of money or property from the federal government or any other source and may upon its own order use its money, property or other resources for any of the purposes herein.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §28.16]

C93, §15E.16

Referred to in [§15.108, 15E.14, 15E.15](#)

## SUBCHAPTER III

REGULATORY INFORMATION AND  
ASSISTANCE**15E.17 Regulatory information service.**

1. The economic development authority shall provide a regulatory information service. The purpose of the service shall be to provide a center of information where a person interested in establishing a commercial facility or engaging in a commercial activity may be informed of any registration, license, or other approval of a state regulatory agency that is required for that facility or activity or of the existence of standards, criteria, or requirements which the laws of this state require that facility or activity to meet.

2. Each state agency which requires a permit, license, or other regulatory approval or maintains standards or criteria with which an activity or facility must comply shall inform the economic development authority of the following:

- a. The activity or facility that is subject to regulation.
- b. The existence of any threshold levels which would exempt the activity or facility from regulation.
- c. The nature of the regulatory program.
- d. The amount of any fees.
- e. How to apply for any permits or regulatory approvals.
- f. A brief statement of the purpose of requiring the permit or regulatory approval or requiring compliance with the standards or criteria.

3. Each state agency shall promptly inform the economic development authority of any changes in the information provided under [subsection 2](#) or the establishment of a new regulatory program. The information provided to or disseminated by the authority shall not be binding upon the regulatory program of a state agency; however, a person shall not be subject to the imposition of a penalty for failure to comply with a regulatory program if the person demonstrates that the person relied upon information provided by the authority indicating compliance was not required and either ceases the activity upon notification by the regulatory agency or brings the activity or facility into compliance.

4. [Subsections 2 and 3](#) do not apply to the following:

- a. The utilities division of the department of commerce insofar as the information relates to public utilities.
- b. The banking division of the department of commerce.
- c. The credit union division of the department of commerce.

[82 Acts, ch 1099, §1]

C83, §28.17

C93, §15E.17

[2008 Acts, ch 1031, §14; 2011 Acts, ch 118, §85, 89](#)

Referred to in [§15.108](#)

**15E.18 Site development consultations — certificates of readiness.**

1. a. The authority shall consult with local governments and local economic development officials in regard to site development techniques. For purposes of [this section](#), “*site development techniques*” include environmental evaluations, property and wetland delineation, and historical evaluations.

b. The authority may charge a fee for providing site development consultations. The fee

shall not exceed the reasonable cost to the authority of providing the consultations. The amount of any fees collected by the authority shall be deposited in the general fund of the state.

2. a. A local government or local economic development official involved with the development of a site may apply to the authority for a certificate of readiness verifying that the site is ready for development.

b. The authority shall develop criteria for evaluating various types of sites in order to determine whether a particular site is ready for development based on the site's individual circumstances and the economic development goals of the applicant.

c. The authority shall review applications for certificates of readiness and may issue a certificate of readiness to any site that meets the criteria developed under paragraph "b".

3. The authority shall adopt rules pursuant to [chapter 17A](#) for the implementation of [this section](#).

[2003 Acts, ch 158, §1; 2003 Acts, 1st Ex, ch 1, §130, 133](#)  
[\[2003 Acts, 1st Ex, ch 1, §130, 133 amendments to section rescinded pursuant to \*Rants v. Vilsack\*, 684 N.W.2d 193\]](#)

[2010 Acts, ch 1184, §36; 2011 Acts, ch 118, §87, 89](#)

#### **15E.19 Regulatory assistance.**

1. The economic development authority shall coordinate all regulatory assistance for the state of Iowa. Each state agency administering regulatory programs for business shall maintain a coordinator within the office of the director or the administrative division of the state agency. Each coordinator shall do all of the following:

a. Serve as the state agency's primary contact for regulatory affairs with the economic development authority.

b. Provide information regarding regulatory requirements to businesses and represent the state agency to the private sector.

c. Monitor permit applications and provide timely permit status information to the economic development authority.

d. Require regulatory staff participation in negotiations and discussions with businesses.

e. Notify the economic development authority regarding proposed rulemaking activities that impact a regulatory program and any subsequent changes to a regulatory program.

2. The economic development authority shall, in consultation with the coordinators described in [this section](#), examine, and to the extent permissible, assist in the implementation of methods, including the possible establishment of an electronic database, to streamline the process for issuing permits to business.

[2005 Acts, ch 150, §7; 2008 Acts, ch 1122, §12; 2011 Acts, ch 118, §85, 89](#)

**15E.20** Reserved.

#### **15E.21 Iowa business resource centers.**

The authority shall establish an Iowa business resource center program for purposes of locating Iowa business resource centers in the state. The authority shall partner with another entity wanting to assist with economic growth and establish an Iowa business resource center. Operational duties of a center shall focus on providing information and referrals to entrepreneurs and businesses. Operational duties of a center shall be determined pursuant to a memorandum of agreement between the authority and the other entity.

[2005 Acts, ch 150, §8; 2011 Acts, ch 118, §87, 89](#)

**15E.22 through 15E.24** Reserved.

SUBCHAPTER IV  
LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATIONS

**15E.25 through 15E.29** Repealed by 2001 Acts, ch 61, §19.

**15E.30 through 15E.40** Reserved.

SUBCHAPTER V  
INVESTMENTS IN QUALIFYING  
BUSINESSES — TAX CREDIT

Referred to in [§2.48](#)

**15E.41 Purpose.**

The purpose of [this subchapter](#) is to stimulate job growth, create wealth, and accelerate the creation of new ventures by using investment tax credits to incentivize the transfer of capital from investors to entrepreneurs, particularly during early-stage growth.

[2002 Acts, ch 1006, §1, 13; 2015 Acts, ch 138, §109, 126, 127; 2017 Acts, ch 54, §76](#)

2015 amendment takes effect July 2, 2015, and applies to equity investments made in a qualifying business on or after that date; [2015 Acts, ch 138, §126, 127](#)

**15E.42 Definitions.**

For purposes of [this subchapter](#), unless the context otherwise requires:

1. “*Affiliate*” means a spouse, child, or sibling of an investor or a corporation, partnership, or trust in which an investor has a controlling equity interest or in which an investor exercises management control.

2. “*Authority*” means the economic development authority created in [section 15.105](#).

3. “*Entrepreneurial assistance program*” includes the entrepreneur investment awards program administered under [section 15E.362](#), the receipt of services from a service provider engaged pursuant to [section 15.411, subsection 1](#), or the program administered under [section 15.411, subsection 2](#).

4. “*Investor*” means a person making a cash investment in a qualifying business. “*Investor*” does not include a person that holds at least a seventy percent ownership interest as an owner, member, or shareholder in a qualifying business.

5. “*Qualifying business*” means a business meeting the criteria defined in [section 15E.44](#).

[2002 Acts, ch 1006, §2, 13; 2002 Acts, ch 1175, §75; 2003 Acts, ch 108, §8; 2003 Acts, ch 179, §95, 159; 2004 Acts, ch 1148, §1, 7; 2011 Acts, ch 130, §37, 46, 47, 71; 2015 Acts, ch 138, §110 – 112, 126, 127; 2017 Acts, ch 54, §76](#)

2015 amendments take effect July 2, 2015, and apply to equity investments made in a qualifying business on or after that date; [2015 Acts, ch 138, §126, 127](#)

**15E.43 Investment tax credits.**

1. *a.* For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2015, a tax credit shall be allowed against the taxes imposed in [chapter 422, divisions II, III, and V](#), and in [chapter 432](#), and against the moneys and credits tax imposed in [section 533.329](#), for a portion of a taxpayer’s equity investment, as provided in [subsection 2](#), in a qualifying business.

*b.* An individual may claim a tax credit under [this section](#) of a partnership, limited liability company, S corporation, estate, or trust electing to have income taxed directly to the individual. The amount claimed by the individual shall be based upon the pro rata share of the individual’s earnings from the partnership, limited liability company, S corporation, estate, or trust.

*c.* A tax credit shall be allowed only for an investment made in the form of cash to purchase equity in a qualifying business.

*d.* For a tax credit claimed against the taxes imposed in [chapter 422, division II](#), any tax credit in excess of the tax liability is refundable. In lieu of claiming a refund, the taxpayer may elect to have the overpayment shown on the taxpayer’s final, completed return credited to the

tax liability for the following tax year. For a tax credit claimed against the taxes imposed in [chapter 422, divisions III and V](#), and in [chapter 432](#), and against the moneys and credits tax imposed in [section 533.329](#), any tax credit in excess of the taxpayer's liability for the tax year may be credited to the tax liability for the following three years or until depleted, whichever is earlier. A tax credit shall not be carried back to a tax year prior to the tax year in which the taxpayer redeems the tax credit.

2. a. The amount of the tax credit shall equal twenty-five percent of the taxpayer's equity investment.

b. The maximum amount of a tax credit that may be issued per calendar year to a natural person and the person's spouse or dependent shall not exceed one hundred thousand dollars combined. For purposes of this paragraph, a tax credit issued to a partnership, limited liability company, S corporation, estate, or trust electing to have income taxed directly to the individual shall be deemed to be issued to the individual owners based upon the pro rata share of the individual's earnings from the entity. For purposes of this paragraph, "dependent" has the same meaning as provided by the Internal Revenue Code.

c. The maximum amount of tax credits that may be issued per calendar year for equity investments in any one qualifying business shall not exceed five hundred thousand dollars.

3. An investment shall be deemed to have been made on the same date as the date of acquisition of the equity interest as determined by the Internal Revenue Code.

4. The authority shall not issue tax credits under this section in excess of the amount approved by the authority for any one fiscal year pursuant to [section 15.119](#).

5. A tax credit shall not be transferred to any other person.

6. The authority shall develop a system for registration and issuance of tax credits authorized pursuant to [this subchapter](#) and shall control distribution of all tax credit certificates to investors pursuant to [this subchapter](#). The authority shall develop rules for the qualification and administration of qualifying businesses. The department of revenue shall adopt rules pursuant to [chapter 17A](#) as necessary for the administration of [this subchapter](#).

[2002 Acts, ch 1006, §3, 13; 2002 Acts, ch 1175, §76; 2003 Acts, ch 145, §286; 2003 Acts, ch 179, §96, 97, 159; 2004 Acts, ch 1148, §2, 7; 2005 Acts, ch 157, §1; 2007 Acts, ch 174, §83; 2011 Acts, ch 118, §87, 89; 2011 Acts, ch 130, §38, 46, 47, 71; 2014 Acts, ch 1124, §1 – 3, 8; 2015 Acts, ch 138, §113 – 115, 126, 127; 2017 Acts, ch 54, §76](#)

Referred to in [§15.119, 15E.44, 422.11F, 422.33, 422.60, 432.12C, 533.329](#)

2015 amendments take effect July 2, 2015, and apply to equity investments in a qualifying business made on or after that date; [2015 Acts, ch 138, §126, 127](#)

#### **15E.44 Qualifying businesses.**

1. In order for an equity investment to qualify for a tax credit, the business in which the equity investment is made shall, within one hundred twenty days of the date of the first investment, notify the authority of the names, addresses, shares issued, consideration paid for the shares, and the amount of any tax credits, of all shareholders who may initially qualify for the tax credits. The list of shareholders who may qualify for the tax credits shall be amended as new equity investments are sold or as any information on the list shall change.

2. In order to be a qualifying business, a business must meet all of the following criteria:

a. The principal business operations of the business are located in this state.

b. The business has been in operation for six years or less.

c. The business is participating in an entrepreneurial assistance program. The authority may waive this requirement if a business establishes that its owners, directors, officers, and employees have an appropriate level of experience such that participation in an entrepreneurial assistance program would not materially change the prospects of the business. The authority may consult with outside service providers in consideration of such a waiver.

d. The business is not a business engaged primarily in retail sales, real estate, or the provision of health care or other services that require a professional license.

e. The business shall not have a net worth that exceeds ten million dollars.

f. The business shall have secured all of the following at the time of application for tax credits:

(1) At least two investors.

(2) Total equity financing, binding investment commitments, or some combination thereof, equal to at least five hundred thousand dollars, from investors. For purposes of this subparagraph, “investor” includes a person who executes a binding investment commitment to a business.

3. A qualifying business shall have the burden of proof to demonstrate to the authority its qualifications under [this section](#), and shall have the obligation to notify the authority in a timely manner of any changes in the qualifications of the business or in the eligibility of investors to redeem the investment tax credits in any tax year.

4. After verifying the eligibility of a qualifying business, the authority shall issue a tax credit certificate to be included with the equity investor’s tax return. The tax credit certificate shall contain the taxpayer’s name, address, tax identification number, the amount of credit, the name of the qualifying business, and other information required by the department of revenue. The tax credit certificate, unless rescinded by the authority, shall be accepted by the department of revenue as payment for taxes imposed pursuant to [chapter 422, divisions II, III, and V](#), and in [chapter 432](#), and for the moneys and credits tax imposed in [section 533.329](#), subject to any conditions or restrictions placed by the authority upon the face of the tax credit certificate and subject to the limitations of [section 15E.43](#).

2002 Acts, ch 1006, §4, 13; 2003 Acts, ch 145, §286; 2004 Acts, ch 1148, §3, 7; 2005 Acts, ch 157, §2; 2007 Acts, ch 174, §84; 2007 Acts, ch 186, §1; 2011 Acts, ch 130, §39, 46, 47, 71; 2014 Acts, ch 1093, §5; 2014 Acts, ch 1124, §4, 5, 8; 2015 Acts, ch 138, §116, 117, 126, 128

Referred to in [§15E.42](#), [15E.52](#)

2015 amendments to subsection 2 take effect July 2, 2015, and apply to businesses submitting applications to the economic development authority on or after that date to be registered as a qualifying business; 2015 Acts, ch 138, §126, 128

**15E.45 Community-based seed capital funds.** Repealed by 2015 Acts, ch 138, §124, 126, 127.

**15E.46 Confidentiality — reports.**

1. Except as provided in [subsection 2](#), all information or records in the possession of the authority with respect to [this subchapter](#) shall be presumed by the authority to be a trade secret protected under [chapter 550](#) or common law and shall be kept confidential by the authority unless otherwise ordered by a court.

2. All of the following shall be considered public information under [chapter 22](#):

- a. The identity of a qualifying business.
- b. The identity of an investor and the qualifying business in which the investor made an equity investment.
- c. The number of tax credit certificates issued by the authority.
- d. The total dollar amount of tax credits issued by the authority.

3. The authority shall publish an annual report of the activities conducted pursuant to [this subchapter](#) and shall submit the report to the governor and the general assembly. The report shall include a listing of eligible qualifying businesses and the number of tax credit certificates and the amount of tax credits issued by the authority.

2002 Acts, ch 1006, §6, 13; 2011 Acts, ch 118, §87, 89; 2015 Acts, ch 138, §118, 126, 127; 2017 Acts, ch 54, §76

2015 amendment takes effect July 2, 2015, and applies to equity investments made in a qualifying business on or after that date; 2015 Acts, ch 138, §126, 127

**15E.47 through 15E.50** Reserved.

## SUBCHAPTER VI

### INNOVATION FUND INVESTMENT TAX CREDIT

**15E.51 Venture capital fund investment tax credits.** Repealed by 2010 Acts, ch 1138, §25, 26.

**15E.52 Innovation fund investment tax credits.**

1. For purposes of this section, unless the context otherwise requires:
  - a. “Board” means the same as defined in [section 15.102](#).
  - b. “Innovation fund” means one or more early-stage capital funds certified by the board.
  - c. “Innovative business” means a business applying novel or original methods to the manufacture of a product or the delivery of a service. “Innovative business” includes but is not limited to a business engaged in the industries of advanced manufacturing, biosciences, and information technology.
2.
  - a. A tax credit shall be allowed against the taxes imposed in [chapter 422, divisions II, III, and V](#), and in [chapter 432](#), and against the moneys and credits tax imposed in [section 533.329](#), for a portion of a taxpayer’s equity investment in the form of cash in an innovation fund.
  - b. An individual may claim a tax credit under this section of a partnership, limited liability company, S corporation, estate, or trust electing to have income taxed directly to the individual. The amount claimed by the individual shall be based upon the pro rata share of the individual’s earnings from the partnership, limited liability company, S corporation, estate, or trust.
  3. The amount of a tax credit allowed under [this section](#) shall equal twenty-five percent of the taxpayer’s equity investment in an innovation fund.
  4. A taxpayer shall not claim a tax credit under [this section](#) if the taxpayer is a venture capital investment fund allocation manager for the Iowa fund of funds created in [section 15E.65](#) or an investor that receives a tax credit for the same investment in a qualifying business as described in [section 15E.44](#) or in a community-based seed capital fund as described in [section 15E.45](#), Code 2015.
  5.
    - a. To receive a tax credit, a taxpayer must submit an application to the board. The board shall issue certificates under [this section](#) on a first-come, first-served basis, which certificates may be redeemed for tax credits. The board shall issue such certificates so that not more than the amount allocated for such tax credits under [section 15.119, subsection 2](#), may be claimed. The board shall not issue a certificate before September 1, 2014.
    - b. If in a fiscal year the aggregate amount of tax credits applied for exceeds the amount allocated for that fiscal year under [section 15.119, subsection 2](#), the board shall establish a wait list for certificates. Applications that were approved but for which certificates were not issued shall be placed on the wait list in the order the applications were received by the board and shall be given priority for receiving certificates in succeeding fiscal years.
    - c. The board shall not issue a certificate to a taxpayer for an equity investment in an innovation fund until such fund has been certified as an innovation fund pursuant to [subsection 7](#).
    - d. The board shall, in cooperation with the department of revenue, establish criteria and procedures for the allocation and issuance of tax credits by means of certificates issued by the board. The criteria shall include the contingencies that must be met for a certificate to be redeemable in order to receive a tax credit. The procedures established by the board, in cooperation with the department of revenue, shall relate to the procedures for the issuance and transfer of the certificates and for the redemption of a certificate and related tax credit.
    - e. A certificate and related tax credit issued pursuant to [this section](#) shall be deemed a vested right of the original holder or any transferee thereof, and the state shall not cause either to be redeemed in such a way that amends or rescinds the certificate or that curtails, limits, or withdraws the related tax credit, except as otherwise provided in [this section](#) or upon consent of the proper holder. A certificate issued pursuant to [this section](#) cannot pledge the credit of the state and any such certificate so pledged to secure the debt of the original holder or a transferee shall not constitute a contract binding the state.
  6. Any tax credit in excess of the taxpayer’s liability for the tax year may be credited to the tax liability for the following five years or until depleted, whichever is earlier. A tax credit shall not be carried back to a tax year prior to the tax year in which the taxpayer claims the tax credit.
  7. An innovation fund shall submit an application for certification to the board. The board

shall approve the application and certify the innovation fund if all of the following criteria are met:

- a. The fund is organized for the purposes of making investments in promising early-stage companies which have a principal place of business in the state.
- b. The fund proposes to make investments in innovative businesses.
- c. The fund seeks to secure private funding sources for investment in such businesses.
- d. The fund proposes to provide multiple rounds of funding and early-stage private sector funding to innovative businesses with a high growth potential, and proposes to focus such funding on innovative businesses that show a potential to produce commercially viable products or services within a reasonable period of time.
- e. The fund proposes to evaluate all prospective innovative businesses using a rigorous approach and proposes to collaborate and coordinate with the authority and other state and local entities in an effort to achieve policy consistency.
- f. The fund proposes to collaborate with the regents institutions of this state and to leverage relationships with such institutions in order to potentially commercialize research developed at those institutions.
- g. The fund proposes to obtain at least fifteen million dollars in binding investment commitments and to invest a minimum of fifteen million dollars in companies that have a principal place of business in the state.

8. The board shall not certify an innovation fund after June 30, 2023.

9. An innovation fund shall collect and provide to the board the information required in [subsection 10](#), paragraphs “e” and “f”, in the manner and form prescribed by the board. An innovation fund failing to comply with [this subsection](#) may have its certification revoked by the board.

10. On or before January 31 of each year, the board, in cooperation with the department of revenue, shall submit to the general assembly and the governor a report describing the activities of the innovation funds during the preceding fiscal year. The report shall at a minimum include the following information:

- a. The amount of tax credit certificates issued to equity investors in each innovation fund.
- b. The amount of approved tax credit applications that were placed on the wait list for certificates.
- c. The amount of tax credits claimed.
- d. The amount of tax credits transferred to other persons.
- e. The amount of investments in each innovation fund.
- f. For each investment by an innovation fund in a business:
  - (1) The amount of the investment.
  - (2) The name and industry of the business.
  - (3) The location or locations from which the business operates.
  - (4) The number of employees of the business located in Iowa and the number of employees of the business located outside Iowa on the date of the initial investment by the innovation fund in the business.
  - (5) The number of employees of the business located in Iowa and the number of employees of the business located outside Iowa at the close of the fiscal year which is the subject of the report.

11. Tax credit certificates issued pursuant to [this section](#) may be transferred, in whole or in part, to any person. A tax credit certificate shall only be transferred once. Within ninety days of transfer, the transferee shall submit the transferred tax credit certificate to the department of revenue along with a statement containing the transferee’s name, tax identification number, and address, the denomination that each replacement tax credit certificate is to carry, and any other information required by the department of revenue.

12. Within thirty days of receiving the transferred tax credit certificate and the transferee’s statement, the department of revenue shall issue one or more replacement tax credit certificates to the transferee. Each replacement tax credit certificate must contain the information required for the original tax credit certificate. A replacement tax credit certificate may designate a different tax than the tax designated on the original tax credit certificate.

A tax credit shall not be claimed by a transferee under [this section](#) until a replacement tax credit certificate identifying the transferee as the proper holder has been issued.

13. The transferee may use the amount of the tax credit transferred against the taxes imposed in [chapter 422, divisions II, III, and V](#), and in [chapter 432](#), and against the moneys and credits tax imposed in [section 533.329](#), for any tax year the original transferor could have claimed the tax credit. Any consideration received for the transfer of the tax credit shall not be included as income under [chapter 422, divisions II, III, and V](#). Any consideration paid for the transfer of the tax credit shall not be deducted from income under [chapter 422, divisions II, III, and V](#).

[2011 Acts, ch 118, §23, 36, 89; 2011 Acts, ch 130, §40, 47, 71; 2012 Acts, ch 1126, §33; 2013 Acts, ch 117, §2 – 8; 2015 Acts, ch 138, §119, 126, 127; 2018 Acts, ch 1161, §30, 43](#)

Referred to in [§2.48, 15.119, 15.410, 422.11Z, 422.33, 422.60, 432.12M, 511.8\(20\)\(b\), 515.35, 533.329](#)

2015 amendment to subsection 4 takes effect July 2, 2015, and applies to equity investments in a qualifying business made on or after that date; [2015 Acts, ch 138, §126, 127](#)

**15E.53 through 15E.60** Reserved.

## SUBCHAPTER VII

### CAPITAL INVESTMENT — IOWA FUND OF FUNDS

Referred to in [§2.48, 502.102](#)

#### **15E.61 Findings — purpose.**

1. The general assembly finds the following: Fundamental changes have occurred in national and international financial markets and in the financial markets of this state. A critical shortage of seed and venture capital resources exists in the state, and such shortage is impairing the growth of commerce in the state. A need exists to increase the availability of venture equity capital for emerging, expanding, and restructuring enterprises in Iowa, including, without limitation, enterprises in the life sciences, advanced manufacturing, information technology, alternative and renewable energy including the alternative and renewable energy sectors listed in [section 476.42, subsection 1](#), paragraph “a”, subparagraph (1), and value-added agriculture areas. Such investments will create jobs for Iowans and will help to diversify the state’s economic base.

2. [This subchapter](#) is enacted to fulfill the following purposes:

a. To mobilize private investment in a broad variety of venture capital partnerships in diversified industries and locales.

b. To retain the private-sector culture of focusing on rate of return in the investing process.

c. To secure the services of the best managers in the venture capital industry, regardless of location.

d. To facilitate the organization of the Iowa fund of funds in which to seek such private investment and to create interest in such investments by offering state incentives for private persons to make investments in the Iowa fund of funds.

e. To enhance the venture capital culture and infrastructure in the state of Iowa so as to increase venture capital investment within the state and to promote venture capital investing within Iowa.

f. To accomplish these purposes in such a manner as to minimize any appropriations by the state of Iowa.

g. To effectuate specific, measurable results, including all of the following:

(1) The creation of three new venture capital fund offices in Iowa within three years of February 28, 2002.

(2) The investment of resources from the Iowa fund of funds in Iowa businesses within three years of February 28, 2002.

(3) A cumulative rate of return on venture investments of the Iowa fund of funds equal

to a minimum of one and one-half percentage points above the ten-year treasury bill rate in effect at the end of five years following February 28, 2002.

2002 Acts, ch 1005, §1; 2002 Acts, ch 1006, §13, 14; 2006 Acts, ch 1142, §16; 2008 Acts, ch 1032, §201; 2011 Acts, ch 25, §127; 2017 Acts, ch 54, §76

Referred to in §15E.63

### 15E.62 Definitions.

As used in [this subchapter](#), unless the context otherwise requires:

1. “*Board*” means the Iowa capital investment board created in [section 15E.63](#).
2. “*Certificate*” means a contract between the board and a designated investor pursuant to which a tax credit is available and issued to the designated investor.
3. “*Creditor*” means a person, including an assignee of or successor to such person, who extends credit or makes a loan to the Iowa fund of funds or to a designated investor, and includes any person who refinances such credit or loan.
4. “*Designated investor*” means a person, other than the Iowa capital investment corporation, who purchases an equity interest in the Iowa fund of funds or a transferee of a certificate or tax credit.
5. “*Fund documents*” means all agreements relating to matters under the purview of [this subchapter VII](#) entered into prior to June 20, 2013, between or among the state, the Iowa fund of funds, a fund allocation manager or similar manager, the Iowa capital investment corporation, the board, a creditor, a designated investor, and a private seed or venture capital partnership, and includes other documents having the same force and effect between or among such parties, as any of the foregoing may be amended, modified, restated, or replaced from time to time.
6. “*Iowa capital investment corporation*” means a private, nonprofit corporation created pursuant to [section 15E.64](#).
7. “*Iowa fund of funds*” means a private, for-profit limited partnership or limited liability company established by the Iowa capital investment corporation pursuant to [section 15E.65](#) in which a designated investor purchases an equity interest.
8. “*Tax credit*” means a contingent tax credit issued pursuant to [section 15E.66](#) that is available against tax liabilities imposed by [chapter 422, divisions II, III, and V](#), and by [chapter 432](#) and against the moneys and credits tax imposed by [section 533.329](#).

2002 Acts, ch 1005, §2; 2002 Acts, ch 1006, §13, 14; 2007 Acts, ch 174, §87; 2013 Acts, ch 140, §129, 132; 2017 Acts, ch 54, §76

Referred to in §511.8(20)(b), 515.35

### 15E.63 Iowa capital investment board.

1. The Iowa capital investment board is created as a state governmental board and the exercise by the board of powers conferred by [this subchapter](#) shall be deemed and held to be the performance of essential public purposes. The purpose of the board shall be to mobilize venture equity capital for investment in such a manner that will result in a significant potential to create jobs and to diversify and stabilize the economy of the state.

2. The board shall consist of five voting members and four nonvoting advisory members who are members of the general assembly. Members shall be selected based upon demonstrated expertise and competence in the supervision of investment managers, in the fiduciary management of investment funds, or in the management and administration of tax credit allocation programs. Members shall not have an interest in any person to whom a tax credit is allocated and issued by the board.

a. The five voting members shall be appointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate pursuant to [section 2.32](#). One nonvoting member shall be appointed by the majority leader of the senate after consultation with the president of the senate and one nonvoting member shall be appointed by the minority leader of the senate. One nonvoting member shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives after consultation with the majority leader of the house of representatives and one nonvoting member shall be appointed by the minority leader of the house of representatives.

b. The five voting members shall be appointed to five-year staggered terms that shall be

structured to allow the term of one member to expire each year. The nonvoting members shall serve terms as provided in [section 69.16B](#). Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as the appointment of the original members.

c. Members shall be compensated by the board for direct expenses and mileage but members shall not receive a director's fee, per diem, or salary for service on the board.

3. The board shall have the power to engage consultants, expend funds, invest funds, contract, bond or insure against loss, or perform any other act necessary to carry out its purpose, provided, however, that the board shall not hire employees.

4. Members of the board shall be indemnified against loss to the broadest extent permissible under [chapter 669](#).

5. Meetings of the board shall, except to the extent necessary to protect confidential information with respect to investments in the Iowa fund of funds, be subject to [chapter 21](#).

6. The board shall, in cooperation with the department of revenue, establish criteria and procedures for the allocation and issuance of tax credits to designated investors by means of certificates issued by the board. The criteria shall include the contingencies that must be met for a certificate to be redeemable by a designated investor or transferee in order to receive a tax credit. The contingencies to redemption shall be tied to the scheduled rates of return of equity interests purchased by designated investors in the Iowa fund of funds. The procedures established by the board, in cooperation with the department of revenue, shall relate to the procedures for the issuance of the certificates and the related tax credits, for the transfer of a certificate and related tax credit by a designated investor, and for the redemption of a certificate and related tax credit by a designated investor or transferee. The board shall also establish criteria and procedures for assessing the likelihood of future certificate redemptions by designated investors and transferees, including, without limitation, criteria and procedures for evaluating the value of investments made by the Iowa fund of funds and the returns from the Iowa fund of funds.

7. Pursuant to [section 15E.66](#), the board shall issue certificates which may be redeemable for tax credits to provide incentives to designated investors to make equity investments in the Iowa fund of funds. The board shall issue the certificates so that not more than twenty million dollars of tax credits may be initially redeemable in any fiscal year. The board shall indicate on the tax certificate the principal amount of the tax credit and the date or dates on which the credit may be first claimed.

8. The board may charge a placement fee to the Iowa fund of funds with respect to the issuance of a certificate and related tax credit to a designated investor, but the fee shall be charged only to pay for reasonable and necessary costs of the board and shall not exceed one-half of one percent of the equity investment of the designated investor.

9. The board shall, in consultation with the Iowa capital investment corporation, publish an annual report of the activities conducted by the Iowa fund of funds, and present the report to the governor and the general assembly. The annual report shall include a copy of the audit of the Iowa fund of funds and a valuation of the assets of the Iowa fund of funds, review the progress of the investment fund allocation manager in implementing its investment plan, and describe any redemption or transfer of a certificate issued pursuant to [this subchapter](#), provided, however, that the annual report shall not identify any specific designated investor who has redeemed or transferred a certificate. Every five years, the board shall publish a progress report which shall evaluate the progress of the state of Iowa in accomplishing the purposes stated in [section 15E.61](#).

10. The board shall redeem a certificate submitted to the board by a designated investor and shall calculate the amount of the allowable tax credit based upon the investment returns received by the designated investor and its predecessors in interest and the provisions of the certificate. Upon submission of a certificate for redemption, the board shall issue a verification to the department of revenue setting forth the maximum tax credit which may be claimed by the designated investor with respect to the redemption of the certificate.

11. The board shall adopt rules pursuant to [chapter 17A](#) necessary to administer the duties of the board.

[2002 Acts, ch 1005, §3](#); [2002 Acts, ch 1006, §13, 14](#); [2003 Acts, ch 145, §286](#); [2005 Acts, ch 7, §1, 4](#); [2008 Acts, ch 1156, §18, 58](#); [2009 Acts, ch 41, §16](#); [2017 Acts, ch 54, §76](#)

Referred to in [§15E.62](#)

#### **15E.64 Iowa capital investment corporation.**

1. An Iowa capital investment corporation may be organized as a private, not-for-profit corporation under [chapter 504](#). The Iowa capital investment corporation is not a public corporation or instrumentality of the state and shall not enjoy any of the privileges and shall not be required to comply with the requirements of a state agency. Except as otherwise provided in [this subchapter](#), [this subchapter](#) does not exempt the corporation from the requirements under state law which apply to other corporations organized under [chapter 504](#). The purposes of an Iowa capital investment corporation shall be to organize the Iowa fund of funds, to select a venture capital investment fund allocation manager to select venture capital fund investments by the Iowa fund of funds, to negotiate the terms of a contract with the venture capital investment fund allocation manager, to execute the contract with the selected venture capital investment fund allocation manager on behalf of the Iowa fund of funds, to receive investment returns from the Iowa fund of funds, and to reinvest the investment returns in additional venture capital investments designed to result in a significant potential to create jobs and to diversify and stabilize the economy of the state. The corporation shall not exercise governmental functions and shall not have members. The obligations of the corporation are not obligations of this state or any political subdivision of this state within the meaning of any constitutional or statutory debt limitations, but are obligations of the corporation payable solely and only from the corporation's funds. The corporation shall not and cannot pledge the credit or taxing power of this state or any political subdivision of this state or make its debts payable out of any moneys except those of the corporation.

2. To facilitate the organization of an Iowa capital investment corporation, both of the following persons shall serve as incorporators as provided in [section 504.201](#):

a. The chairperson of the economic development authority board or a designee of the chairperson.

b. The director of the economic development authority or a designee of the director.

3. After incorporation, the initial board of directors shall be elected by the members of an appointment committee. The members of the appointment committee shall be appointed by the economic development authority. The initial board of directors shall consist of five members. The persons elected to the initial board of directors by the appointment committee shall include persons who have an expertise in the areas of the selection and supervision of investment managers or in the fiduciary management of investment funds, and other areas of expertise as deemed appropriate by the appointment committee. After the election of the initial board of directors, vacancies in the board of directors of the corporation shall be elected by the remaining directors of the corporation. Members of the board of directors shall be subject to any restrictions on conflicts of interest specified in the organizational documents and shall have no interest in any venture capital investment fund allocation manager selected by the corporation pursuant to the provisions of [this subchapter](#) or in any investments made by the Iowa fund of funds.

4. The members of the appointment committee shall exercise due care to assure that persons elected to the initial board of directors have the requisite financial experience necessary in order to carry out the duties of the corporation as established in [this subchapter](#), including in areas related to venture capital investment, investment management, and supervision of investment managers and investment funds.

5. Upon the election of the initial board of directors, the terms of the members of the appointment committee shall expire.

6. The economic development authority shall assist the incorporators and the appointment committee in any manner determined necessary and appropriate by the incorporators and appointment committee in order to administer [this section](#).

7. After incorporation, the Iowa capital investment corporation shall conduct a national

solicitation for investment plan proposals from qualified venture capital investment fund allocation managers for the raising and investing of capital by the Iowa fund of funds in accordance with the requirements of [this subchapter](#). Any proposed investment plan shall address the applicant's level of experience, quality of management, investment philosophy and process, probability of success in fund-raising, prior investment fund results, and plan for achieving the purposes of [this subchapter](#). The selected venture capital investment fund allocation manager shall be a person with substantial, successful experience in the design, implementation, and management of seed and venture capital investment programs and in capital formation. The corporation shall only select a venture capital investment fund allocation manager with demonstrated expertise in the management and fund allocation of investments in venture capital funds. The corporation shall select the venture capital investment fund allocation manager deemed best qualified to generate the amount of capital required by [this subchapter](#) and to invest the capital of the Iowa fund of funds.

8. The Iowa capital investment corporation may charge a management fee on assets under management in the Iowa fund of funds. The fee shall be in addition to any fee charged to the Iowa fund of funds by the venture capital investment fund allocation manager selected by the corporation, but the fee shall be charged only to pay for reasonable and necessary costs of the Iowa capital investment corporation and shall not exceed one-half of one percent per year of the value of assets under management.

9. Directors of the Iowa capital investment corporation shall be compensated for direct expenses and mileage but shall not receive a director's fee or salary for service as directors.

10. The Iowa capital investment corporation shall have the power to engage consultants, expend funds, invest funds, contract, bond or insure against loss, or perform any other act necessary to carry out its purpose. However, the corporation shall not hire staff as employees except to administer the rural and small business loan guarantee program of the Iowa fund of funds.

11. Upon the dissolution of the Iowa fund of funds, the Iowa capital investment corporation shall be liquidated and dissolved, and any assets owned by the corporation shall be distributed to the state of Iowa and deposited in the general fund.

[2002 Acts, ch 1005, §4](#); [2002 Acts, ch 1006, §13, 14](#); [2002 Acts, ch 1175, §77](#); [2004 Acts, ch 1049, §181, 191, 192](#); [2004 Acts, ch 1175, §393](#); [2011 Acts, ch 118, §58, 59, 84, 85, 89](#); [2012 Acts, ch 1021, §18](#); [2017 Acts, ch 54, §76](#)

Referred to in [§15E.62](#), [15E.65](#), [15E.72](#)

#### **15E.65 Iowa fund of funds.**

1. The Iowa capital investment corporation shall organize the Iowa fund of funds. The Iowa fund of funds shall be authorized to make investments in private seed and venture capital partnerships or entities in a manner which will encourage the availability of a wide variety of venture capital in the state, strengthen the economy of the state, help business in Iowa gain access to sources of capital, help build a significant, permanent source of capital available to serve the needs of Iowa businesses, and accomplish all these benefits in a way that minimizes the use of tax credits.

2. The Iowa capital investment corporation shall organize the Iowa fund of funds in the following manner:

a. The Iowa fund of funds shall be organized as a private, for-profit, limited partnership or limited liability company under Iowa law pursuant to which the Iowa capital investment corporation shall be the general partner or manager. The entity shall be organized so as to provide for equity interests for designated investors which provide for a designated scheduled rate of return. The interest of the Iowa capital investment corporation in the Iowa fund of funds shall be to serve as general partner or manager and to be paid a management fee for the service as provided in [section 15E.64, subsection 8](#), and to receive investment returns of the Iowa fund of funds in excess of those payable to designated investors. Any returns in excess of those payable to designated investors shall be reinvested by the Iowa capital investment corporation by being held in the Iowa fund of funds as a revolving fund for reinvestment in venture capital funds or investments until the termination of the Iowa fund of funds. Any returns received from these reinvestments shall be deposited in the revolving fund.

b. The Iowa fund of funds shall principally make investments in high-quality venture capital funds managed by investment managers who have made a commitment to consider equity investments in businesses located within the state of Iowa and which have committed to maintain a physical presence within the state of Iowa. The investments by the Iowa fund of funds shall be focused principally on partnership interests in private venture capital funds and not in direct investments in individual businesses. The Iowa fund of funds shall invest in venture capital funds with experienced managers or management teams with demonstrated expertise and a successful history in the investment of venture capital funds. The Iowa fund of funds may invest in newly created venture capital funds as long as the managers or management teams of the funds have the experience, expertise, and a successful history in the investment of venture capital funds described in this paragraph.

c. The Iowa fund of funds shall establish and administer a program to provide loan guarantees and other related credit enhancements on loans to rural and small business borrowers within the state of Iowa. The Iowa fund of funds shall invest five percent of its assets in investments for this program.

d. The Iowa fund of funds shall have the power to engage consultants, expend funds, invest funds, contract, bond or insure against loss, or perform any other act necessary to carry out its purpose, including, without limitation, engaging and agreeing to compensate a venture capital investment fund allocation manager. Such compensation shall be in addition to the management fee paid to the Iowa capital investment corporation. However, the Iowa fund of funds shall not hire employees except to administer its rural and small business loan guarantee and credit enhancement program.

e. The Iowa fund of funds may issue debt and borrow such funds as may be needed to accomplish its goals. However, such debt shall not be secured by tax credits issued by the board. The Iowa fund of funds may open and manage bank and short-term investment accounts as deemed necessary by the venture capital investment fund allocation manager.

f. The Iowa fund of funds may expend moneys to secure investment ratings for investments by designated investors in the Iowa fund of funds.

g. Each calendar year, the auditor of state shall conduct an annual audit of the activities of the Iowa fund of funds or shall engage an independent auditor to conduct the audit, provided that the independent auditor has no business, contractual, or other connection to the Iowa capital investment corporation or the Iowa fund of funds. The corporation shall reimburse the auditor of state for costs associated with the annual audit. The audit shall be delivered to the Iowa capital investment corporation and the board each year and shall include a valuation of the assets owned by the Iowa fund of funds as of the end of each year.

h. As soon as practicable after June 20, 2013, the Iowa capital investment corporation, in conjunction with the department of revenue, the board, and the attorney general, shall wind up the Iowa fund of funds pursuant to [section 15E.72](#) and shall cause the Iowa fund of funds to be liquidated with all of its assets distributed to its owners in accordance with the provisions of its organizational documents and in accordance with the fund documents. In liquidating such assets, the capital investment corporation, the department of revenue, the board, and the attorney general shall act with prudence and caution in order to minimize costs and fees and to preserve investment assets to the extent reasonably possible.

i. Upon the liquidation of the Iowa fund of funds, the Iowa capital investment corporation shall file a report with the general assembly stating how many jobs in this state were created through investments made by the Iowa fund of funds.

[2002 Acts, ch 1005, §5](#); [2002 Acts, ch 1006, §13, 14](#); [2005 Acts, ch 7, §2, 4](#); [2013 Acts, ch 140, §130, 132](#)

Referred to in [§15E.52](#), [15E.62](#), [15E.72](#)

#### **15E.66 Certificates and tax credits.**

1. The board may issue certificates and related tax credits to designated investors which, if redeemed for the maximum possible amount, shall not exceed a total aggregate of sixty million dollars of tax credits. The certificates shall be issued contemporaneously with a commitment to invest in the Iowa fund of funds by a designated investor. A certificate issued by the board shall have a specific maturity date or dates designated by the board and

shall be redeemable only in accordance with the contingencies reflected on the certificate or incorporated therein by reference. A certificate and the related tax credit shall be transferable by the designated investor. A tax credit shall not be claimed or redeemed except by a designated investor or transferee in accordance with the terms of a certificate from the board. A tax credit shall not be claimed for a tax year that begins earlier than the maturity date or dates stated on the certificate. An individual may claim the credit of a partnership, limited liability company, S corporation, estate, or trust electing to have the income taxed directly to the individual. The amount claimed by the individual shall be based upon the pro rata share of the individual's earnings from the partnership, limited liability company, S corporation, estate, or trust. Any tax credit in excess of the taxpayer's tax liability for the tax year may be credited to the tax liability for the following seven years, or until depleted, whichever is earlier.

2. The board shall certify the maximum amount of a tax credit which could be issued to a designated investor and identify the specific earliest date or dates the certificate may be redeemed pursuant to [this subchapter](#). The amount of the tax credit shall be limited to an amount equivalent to any difference between the scheduled aggregate return to the designated investor at rates of return authorized by the board and aggregate actual return received by the designated investor and any predecessor in interest of capital and interest on the capital. The rates, whether fixed rates or variable rates, shall be determined pursuant to a formula stipulated in the certificate or incorporated therein by reference. The board shall clearly indicate on the certificate, or incorporate therein by reference, the schedule, the amount of equity investment, the calculation formula for determining the scheduled aggregate return on invested capital, and the calculation formula for determining the amount of the tax credit that may be claimed. Once issued to a designated investor, a certificate shall be binding on the board and the department of revenue and shall not be modified, terminated, or rescinded.

3. If a designated investor or transferee elects to redeem a certificate, the certificate shall not be redeemed prior to the maturity date or dates stated on the certificate. At the time of redemption, the board shall determine the amount of the tax credit that may be claimed by the designated investor based upon the returns received by the designated investor and its predecessors in interest and the provisions of the certificate. The board shall issue a verification to the department of revenue setting forth the maximum tax credit which can be claimed by the designated investor with respect to the redemption of the certificate.

4. The board shall, in conjunction with the department of revenue, develop a system for registration of any certificate and related tax credit issued or transferred pursuant to [this section](#) and a system that permits verification that any tax credit claimed upon a tax return is valid and that any transfers of the certificate and related tax credit are made in accordance with the requirements of [this subchapter](#).

5. The board shall issue the tax credits in such a manner that not more than twenty million dollars of tax credits may be initially redeemable in any fiscal year. The board shall indicate on the tax certificate the principal amount of the tax credit and the maturity date or dates on which the credit may be first claimed.

6. A certificate or tax credit issued or transferred pursuant to [this subchapter](#) shall not be considered a security pursuant to [chapter 502](#).

7. In determining the maximum aggregate limit in [subsection 1](#) and the fiscal year limitation in [subsection 5](#), the board shall use the cumulative amount of scheduled aggregate returns on certificates issued by the board to designated investors. However, certificates and related tax credits which have expired shall not be included and certificates and related tax credits which have been redeemed shall be included only to the extent of tax credits actually allowed.

[2002 Acts, ch 1005, §6](#); [2002 Acts, ch 1006, §13, 14](#); [2003 Acts, ch 145, §286](#); [2005 Acts, ch 7, §3, 4](#); [2010 Acts, ch 1138, §20, 21](#); [2017 Acts, ch 54, §76](#)

Referred to in [§15E.62](#), [15E.63](#), [422.11Q](#), [422.33](#), [422.60](#), [432.12I](#), [533.329](#)

**15E.67 Powers and effectiveness.**

[This subchapter](#) shall not be construed as a restriction or limitation upon any power which the board might otherwise have under any other law of this state and the provisions of [this subchapter](#) are cumulative to such powers. [This subchapter](#) shall be construed to provide a complete, additional, and alternative method for performing the duties authorized and shall be regarded as supplemental and additional to the powers conferred by any other law. The level, timing, or degree of success of the Iowa fund of funds or the investment funds in which the Iowa fund of funds invests in, or the extent to which the investment funds are invested in Iowa venture capital projects, or are successful in accomplishing any economic development objectives, shall not compromise, diminish, invalidate, or affect the provisions of any contract entered into by the board or the Iowa fund of funds.

[2002 Acts, ch 1005, §7; 2002 Acts, ch 1006, §13, 14; 2003 Acts, ch 44, §12; 2017 Acts, ch 54, §76](#)

**15E.68 Permissible investments.**

Investments by designated investors in the Iowa fund of funds shall be deemed permissible investments for state-chartered banks, for credit unions, and for domestic insurance companies under applicable state laws.

[2002 Acts, ch 1005, §8; 2002 Acts, ch 1006, §13, 14](#)

Insurance companies; §511.8, 515.35

Banks; §524.901

Credit unions; §533.304

**15E.69 Enforcement.**

The attorney general may enforce the provisions of [this subchapter](#) and conduct any investigations necessary for such enforcement.

[2002 Acts, ch 1005, §9; 2002 Acts, ch 1006, §13, 14; 2017 Acts, ch 54, §76](#)

**15E.70 Financial statements — auditor of state.**

By July 1 of each year, the Iowa fund of funds, the Iowa capital investment corporation, and designated investors shall submit a financial statement for the previous calendar year to the auditor of state.

[2009 Acts, ch 179, §193](#)

**15E.71 Executive council action.**

Notwithstanding [section 7D.29, subsection 1](#), the executive council in full consultation with the attorney general, and with the agreement of the attorney general, shall take any action deemed necessary to protect the interests of the state with respect to any certificates, tax credits, entities created, or action taken in relation to this subchapter. Such actions may include but are not limited to initiation of legal action, commencement of special investigations, institution of special audits of any involved entity, or establishment of receiverships. If such action is taken, the council may incur the necessary expense to perform such a duty or cause such a duty to be performed, and pay the same out of any money in the state treasury not otherwise appropriated.

[2012 Acts, ch 1138, §15; 2017 Acts, ch 54, §76](#)

**15E.72 Program wind-up and future repeal.**

1. *Organization of additional funds prohibited.* Notwithstanding [section 15E.65](#), an Iowa fund of funds shall not be organized on or after June 20, 2013.

2. *New investments by the fund of funds prohibited.* Notwithstanding [section 15E.65](#), the Iowa fund of funds shall not make new investments in private seed and venture capital partnerships or entities on or after June 20, 2013, except as required by the fund documents.

3. *New investments by designated investors prohibited.*

a. Except as provided in paragraph “b”, and notwithstanding any other provision in [this subchapter VII](#), a designated investor shall not invest in the Iowa fund of funds on or after June 20, 2013.

b. Notwithstanding the prohibition in paragraph “a”, a designated investor may invest in

the Iowa fund of funds on or after June 20, 2013, to the extent such investment is required by the fund documents. In addition, the director of revenue, with the approval of the attorney general, may authorize additional investment in the Iowa fund of funds but only if such an investment is necessary to preserve fund assets, repay creditors, pay taxes, or otherwise effectuate an orderly wind-up of the program pursuant to [this section](#).

4. *Issuance, verification, and redemption of new certificates prohibited.*

a. Except as provided in paragraph “b”, and notwithstanding any other provision in [this subchapter VII](#), the board shall not issue, verify, or redeem a certificate or a related tax credit on or after June 20, 2013.

b. Notwithstanding the prohibition in paragraph “a”, the board may issue, redeem, or verify a certificate or a related tax credit under any of the following conditions:

(1) The board is required to do so under the terms of the fund documents.

(2) The issuance, redemption, or verification is deemed necessary by the director of revenue and the attorney general in order to arrange new financing terms with a creditor.

(3) The issuance, redemption, or verification is deemed necessary by the director of revenue and the attorney general to preserve fund assets, repay creditors, or otherwise effectuate an orderly wind-up of the program pursuant to [this section](#).

5. *New fund allocation managers prohibited.*

a. Notwithstanding any other provision in [this subchapter VII](#), the Iowa capital investment corporation shall not have authority to solicit, select, terminate, or change a fund allocation manager or similar manager on or after June 20, 2013.

b. On or after June 20, 2013, all decisions pertaining to relationships with a fund allocation manager or similar manager selected prior to June 20, 2013, shall be made by the director of revenue with the approval of the attorney general. [This subsection](#) shall not be construed to impair the terms of the fund documents.

6. *Pledging of certificates prohibited.*

a. Except as provided in paragraph “b”, and notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a certificate and a related tax credit or verified tax credit issued by the board shall not be pledged by a designated investor as security for a loan or an extension of credit on or after June 20, 2013.

b. Notwithstanding the prohibition in paragraph “a”, a certificate and related tax credit or verified tax credit issued by the board may be pledged by a designated investor as security for a loan or an extension of credit to the extent such pledge is required by the fund documents. In addition, the board, with the approval of the director of revenue and the attorney general, may authorize a certificate and related tax credit to be pledged as security for a loan or an extension of credit, but only if such a pledge is necessary to arrange new financing terms with a creditor or to repay creditors for moneys loaned or credit extended to a designated investor.

7. *Rural and small business loan guarantees prohibited.* Notwithstanding any other provision in [this subchapter VII](#) to the contrary, the Iowa capital investment corporation shall not make rural and small business loan guarantees or otherwise administer a program to provide loan guarantees and other related credit enhancements on loans to rural and small business borrowers within the state of Iowa on or after June 20, 2013.

8. *Iowa capital investment corporation purposes amended.* Notwithstanding [section 15E.64](#), on or after June 20, 2013, the purposes of the Iowa capital investment corporation shall be to comply with its obligations under the fund documents and to assist the board, the director of revenue, and the attorney general in effectuating the orderly wind-up of the Iowa fund of funds. In effectuating such a wind-up, the Iowa capital investment corporation shall comply with all reasonable requests by the board, the director of revenue, the attorney general, or the auditor of state.

9. *Use of revolving fund prohibited.*

a. Notwithstanding [section 15E.65, subsection 2](#), paragraph “a”, on or after June 20, 2013, all investment returns received by the Iowa capital investment corporation that are in excess of those payable to designated investors shall be deposited in the general fund of the state.

b. [This subsection](#) shall not be construed to impair the terms of the fund documents. It is the intent of the general assembly that [this subsection](#) only applies in the event that there are

investment returns in excess of those necessary to repay creditors and designated investors under the terms of the fund documents.

10. *Preservation of existing rights.* This section is not intended to and shall not limit, modify, or otherwise adversely affect the fund documents, including any certificate, verified tax credit, or related tax credit issued before June 20, 2013, or limit, modify, or otherwise adversely affect the redemption of any tax credit, verified tax credit, or certificate.

11. *Future repeal.* This subchapter VII is repealed upon the occurrence of one of the following, whichever is earlier:

a. The expiration or termination of all fund documents. The director of revenue shall notify the Iowa Code editor upon the occurrence of this condition.

b. December 31, 2027.

[2013 Acts, ch 140, §131, 132; 2017 Acts, ch 54, §76](#)

Referred to in [§15E.65](#)

**15E.73 through 15E.80** Reserved.

#### SUBCHAPTER VIII

##### IOWA SEED CAPITAL CORPORATION

**15E.81 through 15E.85** Repealed by 2001 Acts, ch 61, §19.

**15E.86 President.** Repealed by 98 Acts, ch 1225, §39.

**15E.87 through 15E.94** Repealed by 2001 Acts, ch 61, §19.

**15E.95 through 15E.105** Reserved.

#### SUBCHAPTER IX

##### IOWA EXPORT TRADING COMPANY

**15E.106 through 15E.108** Repealed by 2001 Acts, ch 61, §19.

**15E.109 and 15E.110** Reserved.

#### SUBCHAPTER X

##### VALUE-ADDED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND PROCESSES — ASSISTANCE

**15E.111 and 15E.112** Repealed by 2009 Acts, ch 123, §8.

**15E.113 through 15E.115** Reserved.

#### SUBCHAPTER XI

##### IOWA WINE AND BEER PROMOTION

**15E.116 Iowa wine and beer promotion board.**

An Iowa wine and beer promotion board is created. The board consists of three members appointed by the director of the economic development authority. Each member shall serve a term of two years on the board. One member shall represent the authority, one member shall

represent the Iowa wine makers, and one member shall represent the Iowa beer makers. The board shall advise the authority on the best means to promote wine and beer made in Iowa.

[86 Acts, ch 1246, §719](#)

C87, §28.116

C93, §15E.116

[2011 Acts, ch 118, §85, 89](#)

**15E.117 Promotion of Iowa wine and beer.**

1. The economic development authority shall consult with the Iowa wine and beer promotion board on the best means to promote wine and beer made in Iowa.

2. The authority has the authority to contract with private persons for the promotion of beer and wine made in Iowa.

3. Moneys appropriated to the authority pursuant to [sections 123.143 and 123.183](#) may be used by the authority for the purposes of [this section](#), including administrative expenses incurred under [this section](#).

[86 Acts, ch 1246, §720](#)

C87, §28.117

C93, §15E.117

[2002 Acts, ch 1050, §6; 2003 Acts, ch 145, §286; 2010 Acts, ch 1188, §23; 2011 Acts, ch 118, §85, 89; 2011 Acts, ch 130, §27, 71](#)

Referred to in [§123.143, 123.183](#)

**15E.118 and 15E.119** Reserved.

SUBCHAPTER XII

LOAN REPAYMENTS

**15E.120 Loan repayments.** Repealed by 2014 Acts, ch 1124, §24, 25.

**15E.121 through 15E.130** Reserved.

SUBCHAPTER XIII

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT FINANCE

**15E.131 through 15E.149** Repealed by 2007 Acts, ch 126, §114.

**15E.150 and 15E.151** Reserved.

SUBCHAPTER XIV

RESERVED

**15E.152 through 15E.166** Reserved.

SUBCHAPTER XV

IOWA BUSINESS INVESTMENT  
CORPORATION

**15E.167 and 15E.168** Reserved.

**15E.169 through 15E.171** Repealed by 2001 Acts, ch 61, §19.

15E.172 through 15E.174 Reserved.

SUBCHAPTER XVI  
PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE ASSISTANCE

15E.175 **Physical infrastructure assistance program.** Repealed by [2009 Acts, ch 123, §8](#).

15E.176 through 15E.180 Reserved.

SUBCHAPTER XVII  
IOWA CAPITAL INVESTMENT BOARD

15E.181 through 15E.184 Repealed by 2001 Acts, ch 61, §19.

15E.185 through 15E.190 Reserved.

SUBCHAPTER XVIII  
ENTERPRISE ZONES

For provisions concerning the issuance, extension, and transferability of investment tax credits issued to eligible housing businesses and other applicability provisions related to the elimination of the enterprise zone program, see [2014 Acts, ch 1130, §27, 42, 43](#); [2015 Acts, ch 138, §85 – 88, 134](#); [2016 Acts, ch 1109, §13](#)

15E.191 through 15E.193 Repealed by 2014 Acts, ch 1130, §41.

15E.193A **Alternative eligible business criteria.** Repealed by [2002 Acts, ch 1145, §9](#).

15E.193B **Eligible housing business.** Repealed by [2014 Acts, ch 1130, §41](#).

15E.193C **Eligible development business.** Repealed by [2004 Acts, ch 1003, §11, 12](#).

15E.194 through 15E.198 Repealed by 2014 Acts, ch 1130, §41.

15E.199 and 15E.200 Reserved.

SUBCHAPTER XIX  
IOWA AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY  
FINANCE ACT

**15E.201 Short title.**

[This subchapter](#) shall be known and may be cited as the “*Iowa Agricultural Industry Finance Act*”.

[98 Acts, ch 1207, §2](#); [2017 Acts, ch 54, §76](#)

**15E.202 Definitions.**

Except as otherwise provided in [this subchapter](#), or unless the context otherwise requires, the words and phrases used in [this subchapter](#) shall have the same meaning as the words and phrases used in [chapter 490](#), including but not limited to the words and phrases used in [section 490.140](#). In addition, all of the following shall apply:

1. “*Actively engaged in agriculture*” means to do any of the following:

a. Inspect agricultural operations periodically and furnish at least half the direct cost of the operations.

b. Regularly and frequently make or take an important part in making management decisions substantially contributing to or affecting the success of the agricultural operation.

c. Perform physical work which significantly contributes to agricultural operation.

2. “*Agricultural commodity*” means any unprocessed agricultural product, including livestock as defined in [section 717.1](#), agricultural crops, and forestry products grown, raised, produced, or fed in this state for sale in commercial channels.

3. “*Agricultural operation*” means an operation concerned with the production of agricultural commodities for processing into agricultural processed products.

4. “*Agricultural processed product*” means an agricultural commodity that has been processed for sale in commercial markets.

5. “*Agricultural producer*” means a person who is any of the following:

a. An individual actively engaged in agricultural production.

b. A person other than an individual, if the person is any of the following:

(1) A general partnership in which all the partners are natural persons, and one of the partners is actively engaged in agricultural production.

(2) A family farm entity if any of the following individuals is actively engaged in agricultural production:

(a) A shareholder and an officer, director, or employee of a family farm corporation.

(b) A member or manager of a family farm limited liability company.

(c) A general partner of a family farm limited partnership.

(d) A beneficiary of a family trust.

(3) A networking farmers entity.

6. “*Agricultural product*” means an agricultural commodity or an agricultural processed product.

7. “*Biotechnology enterprise*” means an enterprise organized under the laws of this state using biological techniques for the development of specialized plant or animal characteristics for beneficial nutritional, commercial, or industrial purposes.

8. “*Certified facility*” means a facility used to process agricultural products as certified by a corporation pursuant to [section 15E.209](#).

9. “*Economic development authority*” or “*authority*” means the economic development authority created pursuant to [section 15.105](#).

10. “*Family farm entity*” means a family farm corporation, family farm limited liability company, family farm limited partnership, or family trust as defined in [section 9H.1](#).

11. “*Iowa agricultural industry finance corporation*” or “*corporation*” means a corporation formed under [this subchapter](#).

12. “*Iowa agricultural industry finance loan*” means a loan made to a qualified Iowa agricultural industry finance corporation pursuant to [section 15E.208](#).

13. “*Iowa agricultural industry venture*” means an enterprise involving any of the following:

a. Agricultural producers investing in a new facility or acquiring or expanding an existing facility in this state which is used to process agricultural commodities produced in this state, if the purpose of the enterprise is to accomplish all of the following:

(1) The creation and retention of wealth in this state derived from processing and marketing agricultural commodities produced in this state.

(2) Increasing production, processing, and marketing of value-added agricultural products in this state.

(3) Providing for a substantial equitable ownership interest in the enterprise by Iowa agricultural producers.

(4) Providing an alternative in this state to corporate vertical integration in the production, processing, and marketing of agricultural products.

b. An agricultural biotechnology enterprise located in this state, if the purpose of research and application of biological techniques conducted by the enterprise is to accomplish all of the following:

(1) The creation and retention of wealth in this state.

(2) Increasing the value of agricultural commodities.

14. “*Loan*” means providing financing to a person under an agreement requiring that the amount in financing be repaid at a maturity date, with an interest rate, and other conditions as specified in the agreement.

15. “*Networking farmers entity*” means the same as defined in [section 10.1](#).

16. “*Qualified investor*” means any of the following:

a. An agricultural producer.

b. A cooperative organized under [chapter 501](#) or [501A](#).

c. A networking farmers entity.

17. “*Qualified Iowa agricultural industry finance corporation*” or “*qualified corporation*” means an Iowa agricultural industry financing corporation which meets the eligibility requirements of and is approved by the authority pursuant to [section 15E.208](#).

[98 Acts, ch 1207, §3](#); [2002 Acts, ch 1050, §7](#); [2005 Acts, ch 135, §105](#); [2011 Acts, ch 118, §61, 62, 87, 89](#); [2017 Acts, ch 54, §76](#)

### **15E.203 Findings — intent and purposes.**

1. The general assembly finds that this state is in a period when the economic structure of agriculture and the production, processing, and marketing of agricultural products is undergoing a period of rapid transformation.

2. It is the intent of the general assembly and purpose of [this subchapter](#) that this state capture the greatest benefit from opportunities created during this period, by encouraging local agricultural producer-led ventures to expand production and processing of high value agricultural products, including agricultural processed products, to organize new business structures within the state to carry out these ventures, and to market and deliver increasingly high value agricultural products to consumers around the world. In carrying out this purpose, state resources provided by [this subchapter](#) shall be used to assure all of the following:

a. That the majority of the wealth created by Iowa agricultural productivity is retained in this state.

b. That employment in the production, processing, and marketing of agricultural products, and especially agricultural processed products, is increased in this state.

c. That agricultural producers in this state are provided with an opportunity to acquire a majority ownership interest in Iowa agricultural industry ventures promoted under [this subchapter](#).

d. That this state becomes a world model for agricultural producer-based vertical cooperation which depends upon broadly shared access to information, capital, and cooperative action.

e. That the use of private resources with state incentives establish Iowa as the world leader in responsibly produced agricultural products that meet the needs of consumers throughout the world.

3. It is the intent of the general assembly and the purpose of [this subchapter](#) that the state encourage Iowa agricultural industry ventures which promote the research and application of biological techniques for the development of specialized plant or animal characteristics for beneficial nutritional, commercial, or industrial purposes.

[98 Acts, ch 1207, §4](#); [2017 Acts, ch 54, §76](#)

Referred to in [§15E.209](#)

Additional legislative findings; [98 Acts, ch 1207, §1](#)

### **15E.204 Iowa agricultural industry finance corporations — scope of powers and duties.**

1. An Iowa agricultural industry finance corporation formed under [this subchapter](#) shall be subject to and have the powers and privileges conferred by provisions of [chapter 490](#), unless otherwise limited by or inconsistent with the provisions of [this subchapter](#).

2. Nothing in [this subchapter](#) requires any of the following:

a. That a limited number of Iowa agricultural industry finance corporations are authorized to be formed. However, the authority may strictly interpret and apply the requirements of [this subchapter](#) in determining whether a corporation is a qualified corporation under [section 15E.208](#).

b. That a corporation be organized on a cooperative basis, including structured, organized, or operated pursuant to 26 U.S.C. §1381(a).

c. That a corporation is restricted from holding, acquiring, or transferring financial or security instruments, including but not limited to a security regulated under [chapter 502](#), money, accounts, and chattel paper under [chapter 554](#), security interests under [chapter 554](#), or a mortgage or deed of trust under [chapter 654](#).

3. An Iowa agricultural industry finance corporation is a private business corporation and not a public corporation or instrumentality of the state. Except as provided in [this subchapter](#), nothing in [this subchapter](#) exempts an Iowa agricultural industry finance corporation from the same requirements under state law which apply to other corporations organized under [chapter 490](#), including taxation provisions under [chapter 422](#) or [Title X, subtitle 2 of this Code](#), or security regulations under [chapter 502](#).

[98 Acts, ch 1207, §5; 2011 Acts, ch 118, §87, 89; 2017 Acts, ch 54, §76](#)

#### **15E.205 Iowa agricultural industry finance corporations — requirements.**

1. A corporation incorporated under [chapter 490](#) is an Iowa agricultural industry finance corporation if the corporation complies with the requirements of [this section](#) and [section 15E.206](#). In addition to the other requirements for a corporation organized under [chapter 490](#), all of the following shall apply:

a. Agricultural producers must hold at least fifty-one percent of the corporation's common stock and at least fifty-one percent of the corporation's voting stock. The status of an agricultural producer shall be determined at the time of the transfer of stock from the corporation to the shareholder in a manner and as provided in the corporation's articles of incorporation or bylaws.

b. A director of the corporation's board of directors shall not serve for more than seven consecutive years as a board director.

c. The purpose of the corporation must be limited to providing financing to eligible persons under [section 15E.209](#) who are engaging in Iowa agricultural industry ventures limited to establishing a business structure in which agricultural producers produce agricultural commodities for processing and marketing as agricultural processed products.

2. The requirements of [this section](#) shall be memorialized in the corporation's articles of incorporation.

[98 Acts, ch 1207, §6; 99 Acts, ch 66, §1](#)

Referred to in [§15E.208](#)

#### **15E.206 Formation of an Iowa agricultural industry finance corporation.**

1. [This section](#) authorizes the formation of Iowa agricultural industry finance corporations in order to perfect the manner in which such corporations are formed and operate. Such a corporation is a private business corporation and not a public corporation or instrumentality of the state. The corporation shall not enjoy any of the privileges nor be required to comply with any of the requirements of a state agency.

2. In facilitating the formation of an Iowa agricultural industry finance corporation, the following persons shall serve as incorporators as provided in [section 490.201](#):

a. A member of the economic development authority chosen by the members of the authority or a designee of the member.

b. The director of the economic development authority, or a designee of the director.

c. The secretary of agriculture or a designee of the secretary.

3. a. After incorporation, such a corporation shall be organized by an initial board of directors as provided in [chapter 490, subchapter II](#). The initial board of directors shall be elected by the members of an appointment committee. The members of the appointment committee shall be appointed by the economic development authority. The initial board of directors shall consist of seven members. The members of the appointment committee shall include persons who have an expertise in areas of banking, agricultural lending, business development, agricultural production and processing, seed and venture capital investment, and other areas of expertise as deemed appropriate by the interim board of directors.

b. The members of the appointment committee shall exercise due care to assure that

persons appointed to the initial board of directors have the requisite financial experience necessary in order to carry out the duties of the corporation as established in [this subchapter](#), including in areas related to agricultural lending, commercial banking, and investment management.

c. Upon the election of the initial board of directors, the terms of the members of the appointment committee shall expire.

d. The authority shall assist the incorporators and the appointment committee in any manner determined necessary and appropriate by the economic development authority and the director of the authority in order to administer [this section](#).

[98 Acts, ch 1207, §7](#); [2011 Acts, ch 118, §63, 64, 84, 85, 89](#); [2017 Acts, ch 54, §76](#); [2019 Acts, ch 24, §104](#)

Referred to in [§15E.205](#)

Code editor directive applied

### **15E.207 Iowa agricultural industry finance corporations — guiding principles.**

In carrying out its duties and exercising its powers under [this subchapter](#), an Iowa agricultural industry finance corporation shall be guided by the following principles:

1. a. The corporation must exercise diligence and care in the selection of persons and projects to receive financing as provided in [section 15E.209](#). The corporation must apply customary and acceptable business and lending standards and practices in selecting persons and projects designated for financing and managing agreements under which financing is provided.

b. In selecting projects to receive financing, it is the intent of the general assembly that the corporation seek projects with wage, benefit, and work safety plans which improve the quality of employment in the state and which would not displace employees of existing Iowa agricultural industry ventures.

2. Except as otherwise provided in [this section](#), the corporation shall not become an owner of real or depreciable property, including agricultural land, as provided in [section 9H.4](#). However, [this subsection](#) shall not preclude the corporation from holding an interest in real or depreciable property if any of the following apply:

a. The corporation holds nonagricultural property for purposes of carrying out the management of its corporate affairs, including office space, furniture, and supplies.

b. The corporation holds an interest in real or depreciable property on a temporary basis, and any of the following apply:

(1) The interest is a bona fide encumbrance taken for purposes of security in connection with providing financing under [section 15E.209](#).

(2) The interest is acquired by operation of law, including by any of the following:

(a) Devise or bequest.

(b) Court order.

(c) Dissolution under [chapter 490, subchapter XIV](#).

(d) Order in bankruptcy.

(e) Pursuant to a proceeding to enforce a debt against real property under [chapter 654](#), to forfeit a contract to purchase real property under [chapter 656](#), to enforce a secured interest in real or depreciable property under [chapter 554](#), or to otherwise garnish, levy on, execute on, seize, or attach real or depreciable property in the collection of debts, or by any procedure for the enforcement of a lien or claim.

(3) The interest is acquired in order to facilitate a transfer between persons pursuant to a transaction authorized under [this subchapter](#).

[98 Acts, ch 1207, §8](#); [2008 Acts, ch 1032, §201](#); [2017 Acts, ch 54, §76](#); [2019 Acts, ch 24, §104](#)

Referred to in [§15E.208, 16.79](#)

Code editor directive applied

### **15E.208 Qualified corporations — Iowa agricultural industry finance loans.**

1. The authority may award an Iowa agricultural industry finance loan to an Iowa agricultural industry finance corporation if the authority in its discretion determines that the corporation is qualified under [this section](#).

2. The corporation must apply for an Iowa agricultural industry finance loan on forms and according to procedures required by the authority.

3. The authority shall loan all of the amounts available to the authority pursuant to [this subchapter](#) to a qualified corporation with provisions and restrictions as determined by the authority and contained in a loan agreement executed between the authority and the qualified corporation.

a. The authority may attach conditions to the granting of the loan as it deems desirable, including any restrictions on the subordination of the moneys loaned. The attorney general shall assist the authority in drafting loan agreements and in collecting on the loan agreement.

b. The Iowa agricultural industry finance loan shall be repayable upon terms and conditions negotiated by the parties.

(1) The repayment period shall begin six years following the date when the Iowa agricultural industry finance loan is awarded and end twenty-five years after the date that the repayment period begins.

(2) At least four percent of the amount of the Iowa agricultural industry finance loan due shall be paid each year to the authority. However, the authority may accept an assignment of a loan made by the corporation providing financing to an eligible person pursuant to [section 15E.209](#). The assigned loan shall grant to the authority the corporation's right to payment under the loan. Any such assignment shall be made by an agreement executed by the authority and the corporation. The assignment agreement shall be subject to all of the following:

(a) The period of assignment may be for any number of years. The authority shall apply to the amounts due under the Iowa agricultural industry finance loan the principal, interest, and fees which the eligible person is obligated to pay under the assigned loan. The total amount of the principal, interest, and fees that the eligible person is obligated to pay to the authority during the period of assignment plus any other repayment of the Iowa agricultural industry finance loan made by the corporation to the authority must equal the amount of the Iowa agricultural industry finance loan that the corporation would otherwise be obligated to repay the authority during that same period. However, the agreement may provide that during any year of the assignment period the eligible person may pay more or less than four percent of the amount of the Iowa agricultural industry finance loan that the corporation would otherwise be obligated to repay during that year.

(b) The assignment agreement shall contain conditions relating to the right of payment assigned to the authority which may include securing the payment obligation in any manner that allows the authority to enforce a debt against the property of the eligible person. The authority shall not have a right of recourse against the corporation for any amount required to be applied from the assigned loan to the Iowa agricultural industry finance loan.

(c) Notwithstanding any provision of [this subchapter](#) to the contrary, payments on the principal balance of the loan granted by the corporation to an eligible person and assigned to the department of economic development pursuant to this subparagraph during calendar year 2003 shall be deferred until October 1, 2007. The eligible person shall make principal payments to the department of economic development in the amount of one million dollars for each year on October 1, 2007, October 1, 2008, and October 1, 2009. The eligible person shall pay the department of economic development four hundred eighty-two thousand seven hundred sixty-one dollars in interest, which shall be deemed to be the total amount of interest accruing on the principal amount of the loan. The eligible person shall pay the interest amount on October 1, 2010. Upon the payment of the principal balance of the loan and the accrued interest, the debt shall be retired.

(d) Notwithstanding any provision of [this subchapter](#) to the contrary, the corporation shall repay the department of economic development, or its successor entity, the principal balance of the Iowa agricultural industry finance loan beginning on October 1, 2007. The principal balance of the loan equals twenty-one million five hundred seventeen thousand two hundred thirty-nine dollars. The corporation shall repay the department of economic development, or its successor entity, five hundred seventeen thousand two hundred thirty-nine dollars by October 1, 2007, and for each subsequent year the corporation shall repay the department, or its successor entity, at least one million dollars by October 1 until

the total principal balance of the loan is repaid. This subparagraph shall not be construed to limit the authority of the department of economic development, or its successor entity, to negotiate the payment of interest accruing on the principal balance which shall be paid as provided by an agreement executed by the department of economic development, or its successor entity, and the corporation.

(e) Notwithstanding any provision of [this subchapter](#) to the contrary, payments of principal and interest of the loan granted by the corporation to an eligible person and assigned to the department of economic development pursuant to this subparagraph during calendar year 2003 which were deferred pursuant to subparagraph division (c) shall be forgiven and the total debt, including interest, shall be retired.

(3) The corporation shall not be subject to a prepayment penalty.

c. The corporation shall not expend moneys originating from the state, including moneys loaned under [this section](#), on political activity or on any attempt to influence legislation.

4. A corporation shall not provide financing to support a person who is any of the following:

a. An agricultural producer, if any of the following applies:

(1) The agricultural producer is a party to a pending action for a violation of [chapter 455B](#) or [459, subchapters II and III](#), concerning a confinement feeding operation in which the person has a controlling interest and the action is commenced in district court by the attorney general.

(2) The agricultural producer or a confinement feeding operation in which the agricultural producer holds a controlling interest is classified as a habitual violator under [section 459.604](#).

b. An agricultural products processor, if the processor or a person owning a controlling interest in the processor has demonstrated, within the most recent consecutive three-year period prior to the application for financing, a continuous and flagrant disregard for the health and safety of its employees or the quality of the environment. Violations of environmental protection statutes, rules, or regulations shall be reported for the most recent five-year period prior to application. Evidence of such disregard shall include a history of serious or uncorrected violations of state or federal law protecting occupational health and safety or the environment, including but not limited to serious or uncorrected violations of occupational safety and health standards enforced by the division of labor services of the department of workforce development pursuant to [chapter 84A](#), or rules enforced by the department of natural resources pursuant to [chapter 455B](#) or [459, subchapters II and III](#).

c. A member of the economic development authority, an employee of the economic development authority, an elected state official, or any director or other officer or an employee of the corporation.

5. In order to be eligible as a qualified Iowa agricultural industry finance corporation, all of the following conditions must be satisfied:

a. The corporation must only provide financing to persons and ventures eligible under [section 15E.209](#).

b. The corporation must demonstrate that it complies with guiding principles for the corporation as provided in [section 15E.207](#).

c. The corporation must adopt policies and procedures which maximize public oversight into the affairs of the corporation, by providing a forum for public comment, an opportunity for public review of the corporation's actions, and methods to ensure accountability for the expenditure of public moneys loaned to the corporation.

d. The corporation's articles of incorporation must comply with requirements established by the authority relating to the capacity and integrity of the corporation to carry out the purposes of [this subchapter](#), including but not limited to all of the following:

(1) The capitalization of the corporation.

(2) The manner in which financing is provided by the corporation, including the manner in which an Iowa agricultural industry finance loan can be used by the corporation.

(3) The composition of the corporation's board of directors. The board must be composed of persons knowledgeable in Iowa agricultural industries including a representative number of individuals experienced and knowledgeable in financing new agricultural industries.

(4) The manner of oversight required by the authority or the auditor of state. The

articles must provide that the corporation shall submit a report to the governor, the general assembly, and the authority. The report shall provide a description of the corporation's activities and a summary of its finances, including financial awards. The report shall be submitted not later than January 10 of each year. The articles shall provide that an audit of the corporation must be conducted each year for the preceding year by a certified public accountant licensed pursuant to [chapter 542](#). The auditor of state may audit the books and accounts of the corporation at any time. The results of the annual audit and any audit for the current year conducted by the auditor of state shall be included as part of the report.

(5) The execution of an agreement between the corporation and an eligible recipient as required by the authority as a condition of providing financing, in which the eligible recipient agrees to become a shareholder in the corporation. If the eligible recipient is an agricultural producer as provided in [section 15E.209](#), the agreement shall provide that the agricultural producer becomes a shareholder of voting common stock in the corporation equal to at least five percent of the financing provided to the agricultural producer pursuant to the agreement. The agreement shall be for a period of not less than ten years. An agreement shall at least provide all of the following:

(a) The establishment of a common stock pricing system. The stock shall be frozen against price appreciation for the first five years of the life of the corporation. The articles shall contain waivers for death and disability.

(b) The maintenance of stock ownership by an eligible recipient until a financial assistance obligation due the corporation is satisfied.

(c) A requirement that the par value of participating common stock be established prior to providing financial assistance to an eligible recipient.

e. To the extent feasible and fiscally prudent, the corporation must maintain a portfolio which is diversified among the various types of agricultural commodities and agribusiness.

f. Not more than seventy-five percent of moneys originating from the state, including moneys loaned to the corporation pursuant to [this section](#), may be used to finance any one Iowa agricultural industry venture.

g. The corporation may only be terminated by the following methods, unless approved by the authority:

(1) Merger or share exchange under [chapter 490, subchapter XI](#).

(2) Dissolution as provided in [chapter 490, subchapter XIV, part A](#).

(3) A sale, lease, exchange, mortgage, pledge, transfer, or other disposition, in one or more transactions of assets of the corporation which has an aggregate market value equal to fifty percent or more of either the aggregate market value of all of the assets of the corporation determined on a consolidated basis, or the aggregate market value of all the outstanding stock of the corporation.

6. The authority shall provide for the default of the loan if the qualified corporation does any of the following:

a. Violates a provision of the articles of incorporation or an amendment to the articles of incorporation that is required by [this subchapter](#) which violation is not approved by the authority.

b. Violates the terms of the loan agreement executed between the authority and the corporation, which violation is not approved by the authority.

c. Fails to comply with the requirements of [section 15E.205](#).

d. Completes a transaction, if all of the following apply:

(1) The transaction involves any of the following:

(a) A merger or share exchange under [chapter 490, subchapter XI](#).

(b) The sale, lease, exchange, mortgage, pledge, transfer, or other disposition, in one or more transactions of assets of the corporation which has an aggregate market value equal to fifty percent or more of either the aggregate market value of all of the assets of the corporation determined on a consolidated basis, or the aggregate market value of all the outstanding stock of the corporation.

(2) The surviving entity of a merger or share exchange, or the entity acquiring the assets of the corporation fails to meet the requirements of [section 15E.205](#).

7. In an action to enforce a judgment against a qualified corporation, the interest of the state shall be subrogated to the interests of holders of bonds issued by the corporation.

8. Moneys repaid or collected by the authority under [this section](#) shall be deposited into the road use tax fund created pursuant to [section 312.1](#).

98 Acts, ch 1207, §9; 99 Acts, ch 66, §2; 2000 Acts, ch 1058, §6; 2001 Acts, ch 55, §20, 38; 2002 Acts, ch 1162, §29; 2003 Acts, ch 122, §1, 2; 2004 Acts, ch 1175, §324; 2006 Acts, ch 1185, §55; 2009 Acts, ch 41, §263; 2011 Acts, ch 118, §65, 66, 85, 89; 2012 Acts, ch 1021, §21; 2017 Acts, ch 54, §76; 2019 Acts, ch 24, §104

Referred to in §15E.202, 15E.204

Duties of former department of economic development were assumed by economic development authority beginning July 1, 2011, pursuant to 2011 Acts, ch 118

Code editor directive applied

### **15E.209 Financing provided by an Iowa agricultural industry finance corporation.**

1. An Iowa agricultural industry finance corporation may only provide financing to a person determined eligible by the corporation according to requirements of the corporation and [this section](#). At a minimum, an eligible person must be one of the following:

a. An agricultural producer participating in an Iowa agricultural industry venture as provided according to the terms of an agreement executed by the agricultural producer and the corporation. The agreement may require that the agricultural producer acquire an interest in an agricultural products processor certified by the corporation, or enter into a marketing agreement under which the agricultural producer agrees to market an amount of the agricultural producer's agricultural commodities to the agricultural products processor.

b. An agricultural products processor which participates as part of an Iowa agricultural industry venture as provided according to the terms of an agreement executed by the agricultural products processor and the corporation. The corporation shall only provide financing if the venture involves the construction, expansion, or acquisition of an agricultural products processing facility as certified by the corporation and if all of the following apply:

(1) The certified facility must be located in this state.

(2) Either of the following apply:

(a) More than fifty percent of the ownership interest in the certified facility must be held by qualified investors. If the certified facility is owned by an entity rather than by individuals, more than fifty percent of the interest in the entity and more than fifty percent of the voting interest in the entity must be held by qualified investors.

(b) More than fifty percent of the commodities processed by the certified facility during any twelve-month period is produced in this state. However, the corporation may provide financing, if its board of directors determines that adequate supplies of the commodity are not available for processing as otherwise required in this subparagraph division.

c. An agricultural biotechnology enterprise which qualifies as an Iowa agricultural industry venture as provided according to the terms of an agreement executed by the agricultural biotechnology enterprise and the corporation, if the board of directors for the corporation determines that the enterprise would advance the intent and purposes set out in [section 15E.203](#).

2. Financing may be in the form of a loan, loan guarantee, sale and purchase of mortgage instruments for eligible recipients, or other similar forms of financing. The financing shall be awarded pursuant to an agreement between the corporation and the eligible person.

3. A corporation shall not provide financing to support an outstanding debt or other obligation, regardless of whether the original financing was provided by a corporation.

98 Acts, ch 1207, §10; 2009 Acts, ch 41, §263

Referred to in §15E.202, 15E.203, 15E.207, 15E.208

### **15E.210 Obligations.**

The obligations of the corporation are not obligations of this state or any political subdivision of this state within the meaning of any constitutional or statutory debt limitations, but are obligations of the corporation payable solely and only from the corporation's funds. The corporation shall not pledge the credit or taxing power of this state or any political

subdivision of this state or make its debts payable out of any moneys except for those of the corporation.

98 Acts, ch 1207, §11

**15E.211 Rules.**

The authority may adopt rules pursuant to [chapter 17A](#) necessary to administer [this subchapter](#).

98 Acts, ch 1207, §12; 2011 Acts, ch 118, §87, 89; 2017 Acts, ch 54, §76

**15E.212 through 15E.220** Reserved.

## SUBCHAPTER XX

### IOWA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOAN AND CREDIT GUARANTEE FUND

**15E.221 through 15E.225** Repealed by 2009 Acts, ch 123, §8.

**15E.226** Reserved.

**15E.227 Loan and credit guarantee fund.** Repealed by 2009 Acts, ch 123, §8.

**15E.228 through 15E.230** Reserved.

## SUBCHAPTER XXI

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REGIONS AND ENTERPRISE AREAS

**15E.231 Economic development regions.**

In order for an economic development region to receive assistance pursuant to [section 15.335B](#), an economic development region's regional development plan must be approved by the authority. An economic development region shall consist of three or more contiguous counties or two or more contiguous counties and one or more public or private, nonprofit entities that have entered into an agreement to pursue mutual economic development goals with a regional focus. An economic development region shall establish a focused economic development effort that shall include a regional development plan relating to one or more of the following areas:

1. Regional marketing strategies.
2. Development of the information solutions sector.
3. Development of the advanced manufacturing sector.
4. Development of the life sciences and biotechnology sector.
5. Development of the insurance or financial services sector.
6. Physical infrastructure including, but not limited to, horizontal infrastructure, water and sewer infrastructure, and telecommunications infrastructure.

7. Entrepreneurship.

8. Development of the alternative and renewable energy sector.

2005 Acts, ch 150, §9; 2006 Acts, ch 1142, §18; 2009 Acts, ch 123, §27; 2010 Acts, ch 1138, §10, 16; 2011 Acts, ch 118, §86, 87, 89; 2012 Acts, ch 1126, §18; 2014 Acts, ch 1124, §28, 29

Allocation of funds for regional financial assistance, see §15.335B(2)(a)(2)

**15E.232 Regional economic development — financial assistance.**

1. An economic development region may apply for financial assistance from a fund established pursuant to [section 15.335B](#) to assist with the installation of physical infrastructure needs including, but not limited to, horizontal infrastructure, water and sewer

infrastructure, and telecommunications infrastructure, related to the development of fully served business and industrial sites by one or more of the region's economic development partners or for the installation of infrastructure related to a new business location or expansion. In order to receive financial assistance pursuant to [this subsection](#), the economic development region must demonstrate all of the following:

a. The ability to provide matching moneys on a basis of a one dollar contribution of local matching moneys for every two dollars received from a fund established pursuant to [section 15.335B](#).

b. The commitment of the specific business partner including, but not limited to, a letter of intent defining a capital commitment or a percentage of equity.

c. That all other funding alternatives have been exhausted.

2. The authority may establish and administer a regional economic development revenue sharing pilot project for one or more regions. The authority shall take into consideration the geographical dispersion of the pilot projects. The authority shall provide technical assistance to the regions participating in a pilot project.

3. An economic development region may apply for financial assistance from a fund established pursuant to [section 15.335B](#) to assist an existing business threatened with closure due to a potential consolidation to an out-of-state location. The economic development region may apply for financial assistance from a fund established pursuant to [section 15.335B](#) for the purchase, rehabilitation, or marketing of a building that has become available due to the closing of an existing business due to a consolidation to an out-of-state location. In order to receive financial assistance under [this subsection](#), an economic development region must demonstrate the ability to provide local matching moneys on a basis of a one dollar contribution of local moneys for every three dollars received from a fund established pursuant to [section 15.335B](#).

4. An economic development region may apply for financial assistance from a fund established pursuant to [section 15.335B](#) to establish and operate an entrepreneurial initiative. In order to receive financial assistance under [this subsection](#), an economic development region must demonstrate the ability to provide local matching moneys on a basis of a one dollar contribution of local moneys for every two dollars received from a fund established pursuant to [section 15.335B](#).

5. a. An economic development region may apply for financial assistance from a fund established pursuant to [section 15.335B](#) to establish and operate a business succession assistance program for the region.

b. In order to receive financial assistance under [this subsection](#), an economic development region must demonstrate the ability to provide local matching moneys on a basis of a one dollar contribution of local moneys for every two dollars received from a fund established pursuant to [section 15.335B](#).

6. An economic development region may apply for financial assistance from a fund established pursuant to [section 15.335B](#) to implement economic development initiatives that are either unique to the region or innovative in design and implementation. In order to receive financial assistance under [this subsection](#), an economic development region must demonstrate the ability to provide local matching moneys on a one-to-one basis.

7. Financial assistance under [subsections 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6](#), and [section 15E.233](#) shall be limited to a total of one million dollars each fiscal year for the fiscal period beginning July 1, 2005, and ending June 30, 2015, and shall not be provided to assist in the establishment, operation, or installation of a project, initiative, or activity that may result in the provision, lease, or sale of goods or services by a government body that competes with private enterprise.

[2005 Acts, ch 150, §10; 2007 Acts, ch 174, §88; 2010 Acts, ch 1138, §11, 16; 2011 Acts, ch 118, §86, 87, 89; 2012 Acts, ch 1126, §19; 2013 Acts, ch 90, §9 – 11](#)

Referred to in [§15.335B](#)

### **15E.233 Economic enterprise areas.**

1. An economic development region may apply to the authority for approval to be designated as an economic enterprise area based on criteria provided in [subsection 3](#). The authority shall approve no more than ten regions as economic enterprise areas.

2. a. An approved economic enterprise area may apply to the authority for financial assistance from a fund established pursuant to [section 15.335B](#) for up to seventy-five thousand dollars each fiscal year during the fiscal period beginning July 1, 2005, and ending June 30, 2015, for any of the following purposes:

(1) Economic development-related strategic planning and marketing for the region as a whole.

(2) Economic development of fully-served business sites.

(3) The construction of speculative buildings on a fully served lot.

(4) The rehabilitation of an existing building to marketable standards.

b. In order to receive financial assistance under [this subsection](#), an economic enterprise area must demonstrate the ability to provide local matching moneys on a basis of a one dollar contribution of local moneys for every three dollars received from a fund established pursuant to [section 15.335B](#).

3. An economic enterprise area shall consist of at least one county containing no city with a population of more than twenty-three thousand five hundred and shall meet at least three of the following criteria:

a. A per capita income of eighty percent or less than the national average.

b. A household median income of eighty percent or less than the national average.

c. Twenty-five percent or more of the population of the economic enterprise area with an income level of one hundred fifty percent or less of the United States poverty level as defined by the most recently revised poverty income guidelines published by the United States department of health and human services.

d. A population density in the economic enterprise area of less than ten people per square mile.

e. A loss of population as shown by the 2000 certified federal census when compared with the 1990 certified federal census.

f. An unemployment rate greater than the national rate of unemployment.

g. More than twenty percent of the population of the economic enterprise area consisting of people over the age of sixty-five.

[2005 Acts, ch 150, §11; 2011 Acts, ch 118, §86, 87, 89; 2013 Acts, ch 90, §12, 13](#)

Referred to in [§15E.232](#)

**15E.234 through 15E.300** Reserved.

## SUBCHAPTER XXII

### ENDOW IOWA PROGRAM

#### **15E.301 Short title.**

[This subchapter](#) shall be known as and may be cited as the “*Endow Iowa Program Act*”.

[2003 Acts, 1st Ex, ch 1, §88, 93](#)

[2003 enactment of section rescinded pursuant to *Rants v. Vilsack*, 684 N.W.2d 193]

[2004 Acts, 1st Ex, ch 1001, §3, 4; 2017 Acts, ch 54, §76](#)

#### **15E.302 Purpose.**

The purpose of [this subchapter](#) is to enhance the quality of life for citizens of this state through increased philanthropic activity by providing capital to new and existing citizen groups of this state organized to establish endowment funds that will address community needs. The purpose of [this subchapter](#) is also to encourage individuals, businesses, and organizations to invest in community foundations.

[2003 Acts, 1st Ex, ch 1, §89, 93](#)

[2003 enactment of section rescinded pursuant to *Rants v. Vilsack*, 684 N.W.2d 193]

[2004 Acts, 1st Ex, ch 1001, §3, 4; 2017 Acts, ch 54, §76](#)

#### **15E.303 Definitions.**

As used in [this subchapter](#), unless the context otherwise requires:

1. “Board” means the governing board of the lead philanthropic entity identified by the authority pursuant to [section 15E.304](#).

2. “Business” means a business operating within the state and includes individuals operating a sole proprietorship or having rental, royalty, or farm income in this state and includes a consortium of businesses.

3. “Community affiliate organization” means a group of five or more community leaders or advocates organized for the purpose of increasing philanthropic activity in an identified community or geographic area in this state with the intention of establishing a community affiliate endowment fund.

4. “Endow Iowa qualified community foundation” means a community foundation organized or operating in this state that attains the national standards established by the national council on foundations as determined by the authority in collaboration with the Iowa council of foundations.

5. “Endowment gift” means an irrevocable contribution to a permanent endowment held by an endow Iowa qualified community foundation.

6. “Lead philanthropic entity” means the entity identified by the authority pursuant to [section 15E.304](#).

[2003 Acts, 1st Ex, ch 1, §90, 93](#)

[2003 enactment of section rescinded pursuant to *Rants v. Vilsack*, 684 N.W.2d 193]

[2004 Acts, 1st Ex, ch 1001, §3, 4](#); [2005 Acts, ch 150, §71, 81](#); [2011 Acts, ch 118, §87, 89](#); [2014 Acts, ch 1124, §27](#); [2017 Acts, ch 54, §76](#)

Referred to in [§15E.311, 22.7\(52\)\(a\)](#)

#### **15E.304 Endow Iowa grants.**

1. The authority shall identify a lead philanthropic entity for purposes of encouraging the development of qualified community foundations in this state. A lead philanthropic entity shall meet all of the following qualifications:

a. The entity shall be a nonprofit entity which is exempt from federal income taxation pursuant to section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

b. The entity shall be a statewide organization with membership consisting of organizations, such as community, corporate, and private foundations, whose principal function is the making of grants within the state of Iowa.

c. The entity shall have a minimum of forty members and that membership shall include qualified community foundations.

2. A lead philanthropic entity may receive a grant from the authority. The board shall use the grant moneys to award endow Iowa grants to new and existing qualified community foundations and to community affiliate organizations that do all of the following:

a. Provide the board with all information required by the board.

b. Demonstrate a dollar-for-dollar funding match in a form approved by the board.

c. Identify an endow Iowa qualified community foundation to hold all funds. An endow Iowa qualified community foundation shall not be required to meet this requirement.

d. Provide a plan to the board demonstrating the method for distributing grant moneys received from the board to organizations within the community or geographic area as defined by the endow Iowa qualified community foundation or the community affiliate organization.

3. Endow Iowa grants awarded to new and existing endow Iowa qualified community foundations and to community affiliate organizations shall not exceed twenty-five thousand dollars per foundation or organization unless a foundation or organization demonstrates a multiple county or regional approach. Endow Iowa grants may be awarded on an annual basis with not more than three grants going to one county in a fiscal year.

4. In ranking applications for grants, the board shall consider a variety of factors including the following:

a. The demonstrated need for financial assistance.

b. The potential for future philanthropic activity in the area represented by or being considered for assistance.

c. The proportion of the funding match being provided.

d. For community affiliate organizations, the demonstrated need for the creation of a community affiliate endowment fund in the applicant's geographic area.

e. The identification of community needs and the manner in which additional funding will address those needs.

f. The geographic diversity of awards.

5. Of any moneys received by a lead philanthropic entity from the state, not more than five percent of such moneys shall be used by the entity for administrative purposes.

2003 Acts, 1st Ex, ch 1, §91, 93

[2003 enactment of section rescinded pursuant to *Rants v. Vilsack*, 684 N.W.2d 193]

2004 Acts, 1st Ex, ch 1001, §3, 4; 2005 Acts, ch 150, §72, 73, 81; 2011 Acts, ch 118, §87, 89

Referred to in §15E.303, 15E.311

#### **15E.305 Endow Iowa tax credit.**

1. For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2003, a tax credit shall be allowed against the taxes imposed in [chapter 422, divisions II, III, and V](#), and in [chapter 432](#), and against the moneys and credits tax imposed in [section 533.329](#) equal to twenty-five percent of a taxpayer's endowment gift to an endow Iowa qualified community foundation. An individual may claim a tax credit under [this section](#) of a partnership, limited liability company, S corporation, estate, or trust electing to have income taxed directly to the individual. The amount claimed by the individual shall be based upon the pro rata share of the individual's earnings from the partnership, limited liability company, S corporation, estate, or trust. A tax credit shall be allowed only for an endowment gift made to an endow Iowa qualified community foundation for a permanent endowment fund established to benefit a charitable cause in this state. The amount of the endowment gift for which the tax credit is claimed shall not be deductible in determining taxable income for state income tax purposes. Any tax credit in excess of the taxpayer's tax liability for the tax year may be credited to the tax liability for the following five years or until depleted, whichever occurs first. A tax credit shall not be carried back to a tax year prior to the tax year in which the taxpayer claims the tax credit.

2. The aggregate amount of tax credits authorized pursuant to [this section](#) shall not exceed a total of six million dollars annually.

a. The maximum amount of tax credits granted to a taxpayer shall not exceed five percent of the aggregate amount of tax credits authorized.

b. Ten percent of the aggregate amount of tax credits authorized in a calendar year shall be reserved for those endowment gifts in amounts of thirty thousand dollars or less. If by September 1 of a calendar year the entire ten percent of the reserved tax credits is not distributed, the remaining tax credits shall be available to any other eligible applicants.

3. A tax credit shall not be transferable to any other taxpayer.

4. The authority shall develop a system for registration and authorization of tax credits under [this section](#) and shall control the distribution of all tax credits to taxpayers providing an endowment gift subject to [this section](#). The authority shall adopt administrative rules pursuant to [chapter 17A](#) for the qualification and administration of endowment gifts.

2003 Acts, 1st Ex, ch 2, §83, 89; 2005 Acts, ch 150, §74 – 77, 81; 2006 Acts, ch 1151, §1 – 3, 7, 8; 2007 Acts, ch 174, §89; 2008 Acts, ch 1032, §201; 2009 Acts, ch 179, §105, 106, 153; 2010 Acts, ch 1138, §17 – 19; 2011 Acts, ch 107, §1, 2; 2011 Acts, ch 118, §87, 89; 2013 Acts, ch 126, §11, 13, 14

Referred to in §2.48, 422.11H, 422.33, 422.60, 432.12D, 533.329

**15E.306 Reports.** Repealed by 2008 Acts, ch 1122, §16.

**15E.307 through 15E.310** Reserved.

SUBCHAPTER XXIII  
COUNTY ENDOWMENT FUND

**15E.311 County endowment fund.**

1. The purpose of [this section](#) is to enhance the quality of life for citizens of Iowa by providing moneys to new or existing citizen groups of this state organized to establish county affiliate funds or community foundations that will address countywide needs.

2. A county endowment fund is created in the state treasury under the control of the department of revenue. The fund consists of all moneys appropriated to the fund. Moneys in the fund shall be distributed by the department as provided in [this section](#).

3. *a.* At the end of each fiscal year, moneys in the fund shall be transferred into separate accounts within the fund and designated for use by each county in which no licensee authorized to conduct gambling games under [chapter 99F](#) was located during that fiscal year. Moneys transferred to county accounts shall be divided equally among the counties. Moneys transferred into an account for a county shall be transferred by the department to an eligible county recipient for that county. Of the moneys transferred, an eligible county recipient shall distribute seventy-five percent of the moneys as grants to charitable organizations for charitable purposes in that county and shall retain twenty-five percent of the moneys for use in establishing a permanent endowment fund for the benefit of charitable organizations for charitable purposes. In addition, of the moneys transferred from moneys appropriated to the fund from the sports wagering receipts fund created in [section 8.57, subsection 6](#), and distributed, eligible county recipients shall give consideration for grants, upon application, to a charitable organization that operates a racetrack facility that conducts automobile races in that county. Of the amounts distributed, eligible county recipients shall give special consideration to grants for projects that include significant vertical infrastructure components designed to enhance quality of life aspects within local communities. In addition, as a condition of receiving a grant, the governing body of a charitable organization receiving a grant shall approve all expenditures of grant moneys and shall allow a state audit of expenditures of all grant moneys.

*b.* If a county does not have an eligible county recipient, moneys in the account for that county shall remain in that account until an eligible county recipient for that county is established.

4. As used in [this section](#), unless the context otherwise requires:

*a.* “*Charitable organization*” means an organization that is described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code that is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code or an organization that is established for a charitable purpose.

*b.* “*Charitable purpose*” means a purpose described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or a benevolent, educational, philanthropic, humane, scientific, patriotic, social welfare or advocacy, public health, environmental conservation, civic, or other eleemosynary objective.

*c.* “*Eligible county recipient*” means an endow Iowa qualified community foundation or community affiliate organization, as defined in [section 15E.303](#), that is selected, in accordance with the procedures described in [section 15E.304](#), to receive moneys from an account created in [this section](#) for a particular county. To be selected as an eligible county recipient, a community affiliate organization shall establish a county affiliate fund to receive moneys as provided by [this section](#).

5. Notwithstanding [section 12C.7, subsection 2](#), interest or earnings on moneys deposited in the county endowment fund shall be credited to the county endowment fund. Notwithstanding [section 8.33](#), moneys credited to the county endowment fund shall not revert at the close of a fiscal year.

6. Three percent of the moneys deposited in the county endowment fund shall be used by the lead philanthropic organization identified by the authority pursuant to [section 15E.304](#) for purposes of administering and marketing the county endowment fund. Of the amounts available to be used by the lead philanthropic organization pursuant to [this subsection](#),

seventy thousand dollars is appropriated to the economic development authority each fiscal year for administrative costs related to the endow Iowa program.

2004 Acts, ch 1136, §1; 2005 Acts, ch 150, §78, 79, 81; 2006 Acts, ch 1151, §4, 5, 8; 2011 Acts, ch 118, §85, 89; 2019 Acts, ch 132, §48

Referred to in §99F.11, 421.17

Subsection 3, paragraph a amended

**15E.312 through 15E.320** Reserved.

SUBCHAPTER XXIV  
REGIONAL SPORTS  
AUTHORITY DISTRICTS

**15E.321 Regional sports authority districts.**

1. As used in [this section](#), “*district*” means a regional sports authority district certified under [this section](#).

2. *a.* A convention and visitors bureau may apply to the authority for certification of a regional sports authority district which may include more than one city and more than one convention and visitors bureau within the district. The authority shall not certify more than ten such districts.

*b.* If more than ten applications are received in any certification year, the authority shall certify the districts on a competitive basis. In evaluating the applications for certification, the authority shall consider the economic impact to the state of the activities proposed in the application, the geographic diversity of the districts applying, and any other factors the authority deems relevant.

3. Each district shall actively promote youth sports, high school athletic activities, the special olympics, and other nonprofessional sporting events in the local area.

4. Each district may apply for and receive financial assistance under the sports tourism program established by the authority pursuant to [section 15F.401](#).

5. Each district shall be governed by a seven-member board consisting of seven members appointed by the convention and visitors bureau filing the application pursuant to [subsection 2](#). At least three members of the board shall consist of city council members of any cities located in the district. Each board shall be responsible for administering programs designed to promote the activities enumerated in [subsection 3](#).

2007 Acts, ch 219, §32; 2011 Acts, ch 118, §87, 89; 2012 Acts, ch 1018, §8; 2016 Acts, ch 1115, §16

Referred to in §15F.401

**15E.322 through 15E.350** Reserved.

SUBCHAPTER XXV  
BUSINESS ACCELERATORS

**15E.351 Business accelerators.**

1. The authority shall establish and administer a business accelerator program to provide financial assistance for the establishment and operation of a business accelerator for technology-based, value-added agricultural, information solutions, alternative and renewable energy including the alternative and renewable energy sectors listed in [section 476.42, subsection 1](#), paragraph “*a*”, subparagraph (1), or advanced manufacturing start-up businesses or for a satellite of an existing business accelerator. The program shall be designed to foster the accelerated growth of new and existing businesses through the provision of technical assistance. The authority may provide financial assistance under [this](#)

[section](#) from moneys allocated for financial assistance for business accelerators pursuant to [section 15.335B, subsection 2](#).

2. In determining whether a business accelerator qualifies for financial assistance, the authority must find that a business accelerator meets all of the following criteria:

a. The business accelerator must be a not-for-profit organization affiliated with an area chamber of commerce, a community or county organization, or economic development region.

b. The geographic area served by a business accelerator must include more than one county.

c. The business accelerator must possess the ability to provide service to a specific type of business as well as to meet the broad-based needs of other types of start-up entrepreneurs.

d. The business accelerator must possess the ability to market business accelerator services in the region and the state.

e. The business accelerator must possess the ability to communicate with and cooperate with other business accelerators and similar service providers in the state.

f. The business accelerator must possess the ability to engage various funding sources for start-up entrepreneurs.

g. The business accelerator must possess the ability to communicate with and cooperate with various entities for purposes of locating suitable facilities for clients of the business accelerator.

h. The business accelerator must possess the willingness to accept referrals from the authority.

3. In determining whether a business accelerator qualifies for financial assistance, the authority may consider any of the following:

a. The business experience of the business accelerator's professional staff.

b. The business plan review capacity of the business accelerator's professional staff.

c. The business accelerator's professional staff with demonstrated experience in all aspects of business disciplines.

d. The business accelerator's professional staff with access to external service providers including legal, accounting, marketing, and financial services.

4. In order to receive financial assistance under [this section](#), the financial assistance recipient must demonstrate the ability to provide matching moneys on a basis of a two dollar contribution of recipient moneys for every one dollar received in financial assistance.

[2005 Acts, ch 150, §12; 2006 Acts, ch 1030, §4; 2006 Acts, ch 1142, §19; 2009 Acts, ch 123, §28; 2011 Acts, ch 25, §128; 2011 Acts, ch 118, §67, 84, 85, 89; 2012 Acts, ch 1021, §22, 23; 2012 Acts, ch 1126, §20](#)

Referred to in [§15.335B](#)

**15E.352 through 15E.360** Reserved.

## SUBCHAPTER XXVI

### SMALL BUSINESS DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

#### **15E.361 Small business disaster recovery financial assistance program.**

1. The authority shall establish and administer a small business disaster recovery financial assistance program. Under the program, the authority shall provide grants to administrative entities for purposes of providing financial assistance to eligible businesses that sustained physical damage or economic loss due to a natural disaster occurring after May 24, 2008, and before August 14, 2008. Moneys shall be allocated to administrative entities on the basis of the percentage of disaster loans awarded by the United States small business administration to businesses located within a city's jurisdiction or a disaster recovery area as defined by the authority.

2. An eligible business is a business that sustained physical damage or economic loss

due to a natural disaster occurring after May 24, 2008, and before August 14, 2008, and has executed loan documents for a disaster loan from an eligible lender as defined by the authority. Financial assistance shall be in the form of forgivable loans and reimbursement for acquisition of energy-efficient equipment. The maximum amount of a forgivable loan is twenty-five percent of the loan amount from the eligible lender up to a maximum of fifty thousand dollars. Up to an additional five thousand dollars of assistance shall be available for the reimbursement of energy-efficient purchases and installation.

3. As determined by the authority, unused or unobligated moneys may be reclaimed and reallocated by the authority to other administrative agencies.

4. For purposes of [this section](#), “*administrative entity*” means cities identified by the authority that administer local disaster recovery programs and councils of government.

[2009 Acts, ch 170, §1, 11; 2011 Acts, ch 118, §87, 89](#)

## SUBCHAPTER XXVII

### ENTREPRENEUR INVESTMENT AWARDS PROGRAM

#### **15E.362 Entrepreneur investment awards program.**

1. For purposes of [this subchapter](#), unless the context otherwise requires:

a. “*Business development services*” includes but is not limited to corporate development services, business model development services, business planning services, marketing services, financial strategies and management services, mentoring and management coaching, and networking services.

b. “*Eligible entrepreneurial assistance provider*” means a person meeting the requirements of [subsection 3](#).

c. “*Financial assistance*” means the same as defined in [section 15.327](#).

d. “*Program*” means the entrepreneur investment awards program administered pursuant to [this subchapter](#).

2. The authority shall establish and administer an entrepreneur investment awards program for purposes of providing financial assistance to eligible entrepreneurial assistance providers that provide technical and financial assistance to entrepreneurs and start-up companies seeking to create, locate, or expand a business in the state. Financial assistance under the program shall be provided from the entrepreneur investment awards program fund created in [section 15E.363](#).

3. In order to be eligible for financial assistance under the program an entrepreneurial assistance provider must meet all of the following requirements:

a. The provider must have its principal place of operations located in this state.

b. The provider must offer a comprehensive set of business development services to emerging and early-stage innovation companies to assist in the creation, location, growth, and long-term success of the company in this state.

c. The business development services may be performed at the physical location of the provider or the company.

d. The business development services may be provided in consideration of equity participation in the company, a fee for services, a membership agreement with the company, or any combination thereof.

4. Entrepreneurial assistance providers may apply for financial assistance under the program in the manner and form prescribed by the authority.

5. The economic development authority board in its discretion may approve, deny, or defer each application for financial assistance under the program from persons it determines to be an eligible entrepreneurial assistance provider.

6. Subject to [subsection 7](#), the amount of financial assistance awarded to an eligible entrepreneurial assistance provider shall be within the discretion of the authority.

7. a. The maximum amount of financial assistance awarded to an eligible entrepreneurial assistance provider shall not exceed two hundred thousand dollars.

b. The maximum amount of financial assistance provided under the program shall not exceed one million dollars in a fiscal year.

8. The authority shall award financial assistance on a competitive basis. In making awards of financial assistance, the authority may develop scoring criteria and establish minimum requirements for the receipt of financial assistance under the program. In making awards of financial assistance, the authority may consider all of the following:

a. The business experience of the professional staff employed or retained by the eligible entrepreneurial assistance provider.

b. The business plan review capacity of the professional staff of the eligible entrepreneurial assistance provider.

c. The expertise in all aspects of business disciplines of the professional staff of the eligible entrepreneurial assistance provider.

d. The access of the eligible entrepreneurial assistance provider to external service providers, including legal, accounting, marketing, and financial services.

e. The service model and likelihood of success of the eligible entrepreneurial assistance provider and its similarity to other successful entrepreneurial assistance providers in the country.

f. The financial need of the eligible entrepreneurial assistance provider.

9. Financial assistance awarded to an eligible entrepreneurial assistance provider shall only be used for the purpose of operating costs incurred by the eligible entrepreneurial assistance provider in providing business development services to emerging and early-stage innovation companies in this state. Such financial assistance shall not be distributed to owners or investors of the company to which business development services are provided and shall not be distributed to other persons assisting with the provision of business development services to the company.

10. The authority may contract with outside service providers for assistance with the program or may delegate the administration of the program to the Iowa innovation corporation pursuant to [section 15.106B](#).

11. The authority may make client referrals to eligible entrepreneurial assistance providers.

[2012 Acts, ch 1126, §21; 2015 Acts, ch 138, §83, 161, 162; 2017 Acts, ch 54, §76](#)

Referred to in [§15.106B](#), [15E.42](#)

### **15E.363 Entrepreneur investment awards program fund.**

1. An entrepreneur investment awards program fund is created in the state treasury under the control of the authority and consisting of any moneys appropriated by the general assembly and any other moneys available to and obtained or accepted by the authority for placement in the fund.

2. Payments of interest, repayments of moneys provided, and recaptures of moneys provided shall be deposited in the fund.

3. Moneys credited to the fund are appropriated to the authority and shall be used to provide financial assistance under the program.

4. Moneys in the fund are not subject to [section 8.33](#). Notwithstanding [section 12C.7](#), interest or earnings on moneys in the fund shall be credited to the fund.

[2012 Acts, ch 1126, §22; 2015 Acts, ch 138, §84, 161, 162](#)

Referred to in [§15.335B](#), [15E.362](#)