

CHAPTER 80  
PROPERTY TAX CREDITS AND EXEMPTIONS  
[Prior to 12/17/86, Revenue Department[730]]

**701—80.1(425) Homestead tax credit.**

**80.1(1) *Application for credit.***

*a.* No homestead tax credit shall be allowed unless the first application for homestead tax credit is signed by the owner of the property or the owner's qualified designee and filed with the city or county assessor on or before July 1 of the current assessment year. Once filed, the claim for credit is applicable to subsequent years and no further filing shall be required provided the homestead is owned and occupied by the claimant or the claimant's spouse on July 1 of each year and, in addition, the claimant or the claimant's spouse occupies the homestead for at least six months during each calendar year in which the fiscal year for which the credit is claimed begins. It is not a requirement that the six-month period of time be consecutive. If the credit is disallowed and the claimant failed to give written notice to the assessor that the claimant ceased to use the property as a homestead, a civil penalty equal to 5 percent of the amount of the disallowed credit shall be assessed against the claimant in addition to the amount of credit allowed. The assessor, county auditor, and county board of supervisors shall act on the claim in accordance with Iowa Code section 425.3. A claim filed after July 1 of any calendar year applies to the following assessment year.

*b.* In the event July 1 falls on either a Saturday or Sunday, applications for the homestead tax credit may be filed the following Monday.

*c.* In the event July 1 falls on either a Saturday or Sunday, applications submitted by mail shall be accepted if postmarked on the following Monday.

*d.* An assessor may not refuse to accept an application for homestead tax credit. If it is the opinion of the assessor that a homestead tax credit should not be allowed, the assessor shall accept the application for credit and recommend disallowance.

*e.* If the owner of the homestead is on active duty in the armed forces of this state or of the United States, or is 65 years of age or older or is disabled, the application for homestead tax credit may be signed and delivered by a member of the owner's family or the owner's guardian, conservator or designated attorney-in-fact. For purposes of this rule, any person related to the owner by blood, marriage or adoption shall be considered a member of the owner's family.

*f.* If a person makes a false application for credit with fraudulent intent to obtain the credit, the person is guilty of a fraudulent practice and the claim shall be disallowed. If the credit has been paid, the amount of the credit plus a penalty equal to 25 percent of the amount of the disallowed credit and interest shall be collected by the county treasurer.

*g.* For purposes of the homestead tax credit statute, the occupancy of the homestead may constitute actual occupancy or constructive occupancy. However, more than one homestead cannot be simultaneously occupied by the claimant and multiple simultaneous homestead tax credits are not allowable. Generally, a homestead is occupied by the claimant if the premises constitute the claimant's usual place of abode. Once the claimant's occupancy of the homestead is established, such occupancy is not lost merely because the claimant, for some valid reason, is temporarily absent from the homestead premises with an intention of returning thereto.

**80.1(2) *Eligibility for credit.***

*a.* If homestead property is owned jointly by persons who are not related or formerly related by blood, marriage or adoption, no homestead tax credit shall be allowed unless all the owners actually occupy the homestead property on July 1 of each year.

*b.* No homestead tax credit shall be allowed if the homestead property is owned or listed and assessed to a corporation, partnership, company or any other business or nonbusiness organization. However, a family farm corporation, as defined in Iowa Code section 9H.1, where a shareholder of the family farm corporation occupies a homestead, as defined in Iowa Code section 425.11(1), may receive the homestead tax credit.

c. A person acquiring homestead property under a contract of purchase remains eligible for a homestead tax credit even though such person has assigned equity in the homestead property as security for a loan.

d. A person occupying homestead property pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 499A or 499B is eligible for a homestead tax credit.

e. A person who has a life estate interest in homestead property shall be eligible for a homestead tax credit, provided the remainderman is related or formerly related to the life estate holder by blood, marriage or adoption or the reversionary interest is held by a nonprofit corporation organized under Iowa Code chapter 504.

f. A homestead tax credit may not be allowed upon a mobile home which is not assessed as real estate.

g. A person occupying homestead property under a trust agreement is considered the owner of the property for purposes of the homestead tax credit.

h. A remainder is not eligible to receive a homestead tax credit until expiration of the life estate to which such person has the remainder interest.

i. In order for a person occupying homestead property under a contract of purchase to be eligible for a homestead tax credit, the contract of purchase must be recorded in the office of the county recorder where the property is located. A recorded memorandum or summary of the actual contract of purchase is not sufficient evidence of ownership to qualify a person for a homestead tax credit.

j. An owner of homestead property who is in the military service or confined in a nursing home, extended-care facility or hospital shall be considered as occupying the property during the period of service or confinement. The fact that the owner rents the property during the period of military service is immaterial to the granting of the homestead tax credit. However, no homestead tax credit shall be allowed if the owner received a profit for the use of the property from another person while such owner is confined in a nursing home, extended-care facility or hospital.

k. A person owning a homestead dwelling located upon land owned by another person or entity is not eligible for a homestead tax credit. This rule is not applicable to a person owning a homestead dwelling pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 499B or a person owning a homestead dwelling on land owned by a community land trust pursuant to 42 U.S.C. Section 12773, provided that such a person is liable for and pays property tax on the homestead as required under Iowa Code section 425.11(1) "e."

l. An heir occupying homestead property that is part of an estate in the process of administration is considered an owner of the property and is eligible for the homestead credit.

**80.1(3) Disabled veteran tax credit.**

a. *Qualification for credit.* The disabled veteran tax credit may be claimed by any of the following owners of homestead property:

(1) A veteran who acquired homestead property under 38 U.S.C. Sections 21.801 and 21.802 or Sections 2101 and 2102.

(2) A veteran, as defined in Iowa Code section 35.1, with a permanent service-connected disability rating of 100 percent, as certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, or a permanent and total disability rating based on individual unemployability that is compensated at the 100 percent disability rate, as certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

(3) A former member of the national guard of any state who otherwise meets the service requirements of Iowa Code section 35.1(2) "b"(2) or 35.1(2) "b"(7), with a permanent service-connected disability rating of 100 percent, as certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, or a permanent and total disability rating based on individual unemployability that is compensated at the 100 percent disability rate, as certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

(4) An individual who is a surviving spouse or a child and who is receiving dependency and indemnity compensation pursuant to 38 U.S.C. Section 1301 et seq., as certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

b. *Under honorable conditions.* A veteran, as defined in Iowa Code section 35.1, may qualify for the disabled veteran tax credit. In addition to the other requirements under Iowa Code section 35.1, to qualify as a veteran under Iowa Code section 35.1, an individual must have been discharged

under honorable conditions from the armed forces of the United States, the reserve forces of the United States, the Iowa national guard, or the merchant marines. For purposes of benefits granted under Iowa Code section 425.15 and this rule, “under honorable conditions” means that the character of an enlisted member’s discharge from the armed forces of the United States, the reserve forces of the United States, the Iowa national guard, or the merchant marines was “honorable” or “general (under honorable conditions).” “Under honorable conditions” does not include any other character of discharge, including but not limited to:

- (1) Under other than honorable conditions;
- (2) Dishonorable;
- (3) Bad conduct;
- (4) Uncharacterized; or
- (5) A similar expression indicating that the discharge or release was not under honorable circumstances.

*c. Application for credit.* A valid application for the disabled veteran tax credit is subject to all of the following requirements:

(1) An application for the disabled veteran tax credit must be filed with the local assessor on or before July 1 of the assessment year. Any supporting documentation required by the assessor as evidence of a veteran’s service-connected disability status or rating must be current within the previous 12 months of the date on which the application is filed.

(2) For persons applying for the disabled veteran tax credit under Iowa Code section 425.15(1) “a,” “b,” and “c,” a DD-214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty), or an equivalent document indicating the veteran’s type of separation and character of service, is required with an application for the credit to verify that the applicant meets the requirements of Iowa Code sections 425.15 and 35.1.

(3) For persons applying for the disabled veteran tax credit under Iowa Code section 425.15(1) “b” and “c,” a U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Benefit Summary Letter (also known as a Veterans Affairs award letter) stating the veteran’s qualifying service-connected disability rating(s) is required with an application for the disabled veteran tax credit as certification of the veteran’s service-connected disability by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Where a veteran seeks eligibility as a result of a permanent and total disability rating based on individual unemployability, the Benefit Summary Letter must also indicate that the veteran is entitled to individual unemployability that is compensated at the 100 percent disability rate.

*d. Multiple discharges.* A person who has received a nonqualifying character of discharge may still qualify for the disabled veteran tax credit if it is established through the required documents under paragraph 80.1(3) “c” that the person has a service-connected disability that is related to the person’s service in the armed forces of the United States for which the person was discharged under honorable conditions, and the other requirements of Iowa Code section 425.15 and this rule are also met. In such a case, in addition to a DD-214, the applicant must include a DD-256 (Certificate of Honorable Discharge), a DD-257 (General Discharge Certificate), or an equivalent document from the relevant time of service with the application for the disabled veteran tax credit. The applicant’s Benefit Summary Letter must also indicate the applicant’s periods of service and each character of discharge.

*e. Amount of credit.* The amount of the credit is equal to the entire amount of tax payable on the homestead.

*f. Continuance of credit.* The credit shall continue to the estate or surviving spouse and child who are the beneficiaries of an owner described in subparagraph 80.1(3) “a” (1), (2), or (3) if the surviving spouse remains unmarried. If an owner or beneficiary of an owner ceases to qualify for the credit, the owner or beneficiary must notify the assessor of the termination of eligibility.

**80.1(4) Application of credit.**

*a.* Except as provided in paragraph 80.1(1) “a,” if the homestead property is conveyed to another person prior to July 1 of any year, the new owner must file a claim for credit on or before July 1 to obtain the credit for that year. If the property is conveyed on or after July 1, the credit shall remain with the property for that year provided the previous owner was entitled to the credit. However, when the

property is transferred as part of a distribution made pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 598 (Dissolution of Marriage) the transferee spouse retaining ownership and occupancy of the homestead is not required to refile for the credit.

*b.* A homestead tax credit may be allowed even though the property taxes levied against the homestead property have been suspended by the board of supervisors.

*c.* A homestead tax credit shall not be allowed if the property taxes levied against the homestead property have been canceled or remitted by the board of supervisors.

*d.* Only one homestead tax credit can be allowed per legally described tract of land. For purposes of this rule, a legally described tract of land shall mean all land contained in a single legal description.

*e.* If the owner of homestead property is also eligible for a military service tax exemption and claims the exemption on the homestead property, the military service tax exemption shall be applied prior to the homestead tax credit when computing net property tax.

*f.* If the homestead property contains two dwelling houses and one of the dwelling houses and a portion of the land is sold after a valid application for homestead tax credit has been filed, the assessor shall prorate the assessment so as to allow the seller a homestead tax credit on that portion of the property which is retained and also allow the purchaser a homestead tax credit on that portion of the property which is purchased, provided the purchaser files a valid application for homestead tax credit by July 1 of the claim year.

*g.* A homestead tax credit shall be allowed against the assessed value of the land on which a dwelling house did not exist as of January 1 of the year in which the credit is claimed provided a dwelling house is owned and occupied by the claimant on July 1 of that year.

*h.* The county treasurer shall, pursuant to Iowa Code section 25B.7, be required to extend to the claimant only that portion of the credit estimated by the department to be funded by the state appropriation.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 425.

[ARC 2507C, IAB 4/27/16, effective 6/1/16; ARC 5310C, IAB 12/2/20, effective 1/6/21]

#### **701—80.2(22,35,426A) Military service tax exemption.**

##### **80.2(1) Application for exemption.**

*a.* No military service tax exemption shall be allowed unless the first application for the military service tax exemption is signed by the owner of the property or the owner's qualified designee and filed with the city or county assessor on or before July 1 of the current assessment year. Once filed, the claim for exemption is applicable to subsequent years and no further filing shall be required provided the claimant or the claimant's spouse owns the property on July 1 of each year. The assessor, county auditor, and county board of supervisors shall act on the claim in accordance with Iowa Code section 426A.14. A claim filed after July 1 of any calendar year applies to the following assessment year.

*b.* In the event July 1 falls on either a Saturday or Sunday, applications for the military service tax exemption may be filed the following Monday.

*c.* In the event July 1 falls on either a Saturday or Sunday, applications submitted by mail shall be accepted if postmarked on the following Monday.

*d.* An assessor may not refuse to accept an application for a military service tax exemption. If it is the opinion of the assessor that a military service tax exemption should not be allowed, the assessor shall accept the application for exemption and recommend disallowance.

*e.* If the owner of the property is on active duty in the armed forces of this state or of the United States, or is 65 years of age or older or is disabled, the application for military service tax exemption may be signed and delivered by a member of the owner's family or the owner's guardian, conservator or designated attorney-in-fact. For purposes of this rule, any person related to the owner by blood, marriage or adoption shall be considered a member of the owner's family.

##### **80.2(2) Eligibility for exemption.**

*a.* A person who was discharged from the draft is not considered a veteran of the military service and is not entitled to a military service tax exemption.

*b.* A military service tax exemption shall not be allowed to a person whose only service in the military was with a foreign government.

*c.* Former members of the United States armed forces, including members of the Coast Guard, who were on active duty for less than 18 months must have served on active duty during one of the war or conflict time periods enumerated in Iowa Code section 35.1. If former members were on active duty for at least 18 months, it is not necessary that their service be performed during one of the war or conflict time periods. Former members who opted to serve five years in the reserve forces of the United States qualify if any portion of their enlistment would have occurred during the Korean Conflict (June 25, 1950, to January 31, 1955). There is no minimum number of days a former member of the armed forces of the United States must have served on active duty if the service was performed during one of the war or conflict time periods, nor is there a minimum number of days a former member of the armed forces of the United States must have served on active duty if the person was honorably discharged because of a service-related injury sustained while on active duty.

Former and current members of the Iowa national guard and reserve forces of the United States need not have performed any active duty if they served at least 20 years. Otherwise, they must have been activated for federal duty, for purposes other than training, for a minimum of 90 days. Also, it is not a requirement for a member of the Iowa national guard or a reservist to have performed service within a designated war or conflict time period.

*d.* With the exception of members of the Iowa national guard and members of the reserve forces of the United States who have served at least 20 years and continue to serve, a military service tax exemption shall not be allowed unless the veteran has received a complete and final separation from active duty service.

*e.* As used in Iowa Code subsection 426A.12(3), the term minor child means a person less than 18 years of age or less than 21 years of age and enrolled as a full-time student at an educational institution.

*f.* A veteran of more than one qualifying war period is entitled to only one military service tax exemption, which shall be the greater of the two exemptions.

*g.* The person claiming a military service tax exemption must be an Iowa resident. Therefore, if the exemption is claimed by a qualified individual enumerated in Iowa Code section 426A.12, the veteran need not be an Iowa resident but the individual enumerated in Iowa Code section 426A.12 claiming the exemption must be an Iowa resident.

*h.* A person who has a life estate interest in property may claim a military service tax exemption on such property.

*i.* A remainder is not eligible to receive a military service tax exemption on property to which a remainder interest is held until expiration of the life estate.

*j.* A military service tax exemption shall not be allowed on a mobile home which is not assessed as real estate.

*k.* A divorced person may not claim the military service tax exemption of a former spouse who qualifies for the exemption.

*l.* A surviving spouse of a qualified veteran, upon remarriage, loses the right to claim the deceased veteran's military exemption as the surviving spouse is no longer an unremarried surviving spouse of the qualified veteran.

*m.* An annulled marriage is considered to have never taken place and the parties to such a marriage are restored to their former status. Neither party to an annulled marriage can thereafter be considered a spouse or surviving spouse of the other party for purposes of receiving the military service tax exemption.

*n.* No military service tax exemption shall be allowed on property that is owned by a corporation, partnership, company or any other business or nonbusiness organization. However, a family farm corporation, as defined in Iowa Code section 9H.1, where a shareholder of the family farm corporation occupies a homestead, as defined in Iowa Code section 425.11(1), may receive the military service tax exemption.

*o.* In the event both a husband and wife are qualified veterans, they may each claim their military service tax exemption on their jointly owned property. If property is solely owned by one spouse, the

owner spouse may claim both exemptions on the property providing the nonowner spouse's exemption is not claimed on other property.

*p.* No military service tax exemption shall be allowed if on July 1 of the claim year, the claimant or the claimant's unmarried surviving spouse is no longer the owner of the property upon which the exemption was claimed.

*q.* A person shall not be denied a military service tax exemption even though the property upon which the exemption is claimed has been pledged to another person as security for a loan.

*r.* A qualified veteran who has conveyed property to a trustee shall be eligible to receive a military service tax exemption on such property providing the trust agreement gives the claimant a beneficial interest in the property.

*s.* A person owning property pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 499A or 499B is eligible for a military service tax exemption.

*t.* The person claiming the exemption shall have recorded in the office of the county recorder evidence of property ownership and either the military certificate of satisfactory service or, for a current member of the Iowa national guard or a member of the reserve forces of the United States, the veteran's retirement points accounting statement issued by the armed forces of the United States or the state adjutant general. The military certificate of satisfactory service shall be considered a confidential record pursuant to Iowa Code section 22.7.

*u.* An heir of property that is part of an estate in the process of administration is considered an owner of the property and is eligible for the military exemption.

*v.* Under honorable conditions. A veteran, as defined in Iowa Code section 35.1, may qualify for the military service tax exemption. In addition to the other requirements under Iowa Code section 35.1, to qualify as a veteran under Iowa Code section 35.1, an individual must have been discharged under honorable conditions from the armed forces of the United States, the reserve forces of the United States, the Iowa national guard, or the merchant marines. For purposes of benefits granted under Iowa Code chapter 426A and this rule, "under honorable conditions" means that the character of an enlisted member's discharge from the armed forces of the United States, the reserve forces of the United States, the Iowa national guard, or the merchant marines was "honorable" or "general (under honorable conditions)." "Under honorable conditions" does not include any other character of discharge including but not limited to:

(1) Under other than honorable conditions;

(2) Dishonorable;

(3) Bad conduct;

(4) Uncharacterized; or

(5) A similar expression indicating that the discharge or release was not under honorable circumstances.

**80.2(3)** *Application of exemption.*

*a.* When the owner of homestead property is also eligible for a military service tax exemption and claims the exemption on the homestead property, the military service tax exemption shall be applied prior to the homestead tax credit when computing net property tax.

*b.* If a portion of the property upon which a valid military service tax exemption was claimed is sold on or before July 1 of the year in which the exemption is claimed, the seller shall be allowed a military service tax exemption on that portion of the property which is retained by the seller on July 1. The purchaser is also eligible to receive a military service tax exemption on that portion of the property which was purchased, provided the purchaser is qualified for the exemptions and files a valid application for the exemption on or before July 1 of the claim year.

*c.* A military service tax exemption may be allowed even though the taxes levied on the property upon which the exemption is claimed have been suspended by the board of supervisors.

*d.* A military service tax exemption shall not be allowed if the taxes levied on the property upon which the exemption is claimed have been canceled or remitted by the board of supervisors.

e. The county treasurer shall, pursuant to Iowa Code section 25B.7, be required to extend to the claimant only that portion of the exemption estimated by the department to be funded by the state appropriation.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 22.7, 35.1, and 35.2 and chapter 426A. [ARC 7726B, IAB 4/22/09, effective 5/27/09; ARC 5310C, IAB 12/2/20, effective 1/6/21]

**701—80.3(427) Pollution control and recycling property tax exemption.**

**80.3(1)** To secure an exemption for pollution control or recycling property, an application must be filed with the assessing authority on or before February 1 of the assessment year for which the exemption is first claimed. It is the responsibility of the taxpayer to secure the necessary certification from the department of natural resources in sufficient time to file the application for exemption with the assessing authority on or before February 1. An exemption for new pollution control or recycling property can be secured by filing an application with the assessing authority by February 1 of the assessment year following the year in which the property is installed or constructed. If no application is timely filed in that year, the property will first qualify for exemption in any subsequent year in which an application is filed with the assessing authority on or before February 1.

**80.3(2)** In the event February 1 falls on either a Saturday or Sunday, applications for the exemption may be filed the following Monday.

**80.3(3)** In the event February 1 falls on either a Saturday or Sunday, applications submitted by mail shall be accepted if postmarked on the following Monday.

**80.3(4)** No exemption shall be allowed unless the application is signed by the owner of the property or the owner’s qualified designee.

**80.3(5)** An assessor may not refuse to accept an application for a pollution control exemption if timely filed and if the necessary certification has been obtained from the department of natural resources.

**80.3(6)** The sale, transfer, or lease of property does not affect its eligibility for exemption as long as the requirements of Iowa Code subsection 427.1(19) and rule 701—80.3(427), Iowa Administrative Code, are satisfied.

**80.3(7)** No exemption shall be allowed unless the department of natural resources has certified that the primary use of the property for which the taxpayer is seeking an exemption is to control or abate air or water pollution or to enhance the quality of any air or water in this state or that the primary use of the property is for recycling. Recycling property is property used primarily in the manufacturing process and resulting directly in the conversion of waste glass, waste plastic, wastepaper products, waste paperboard, or waste wood products into new raw materials or products composed primarily of recycled material.

**80.3(8)** In the event that qualified property is assessed as a unit with other property not having a pollution control or recycling function, the exemption shall be limited to the increase in the assessed valuation of the unit which is attributable to the pollution control or recycling property.

EXAMPLE

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| Valuation of unit with pollution control or recycling property    | \$100,000     |
| Valuation of unit without pollution control or recycling property | <u>50,000</u> |
| Allowable amount of exemption                                     | \$ 50,000     |

**80.3(9)** The value of property to be exempt from taxation shall be the fair and reasonable market value of such property as of January 1 of each year for which the exemption is claimed, rather than the original cost of such property.

**80.3(10)** An assessor shall not exempt property from taxation without first assessing the property for taxation and subsequently receiving an application for tax exemption from the taxpayer.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code Supplement section 427.1(19) as amended by 2006 Iowa Acts, House File 2633, and Iowa Code sections 427.1(18) and 441.21(1)(i). [ARC 7726B, IAB 4/22/09, effective 5/27/09]

**701—80.4(427) Low-rent housing for the elderly and persons with disabilities.**

**80.4(1)** As used in Iowa Code subsection 427.1(21), the term “nonprofit organization” means an organization, no part of the net income of which is distributable to its members, directors or officers.

**80.4(2)** As used in Iowa Code subsection 427.1(21), the term “low-rent housing” means housing the rent for which is less than that being received or which could be received for similar properties on the open market in the same assessing jurisdiction. Federal rent subsidies received by the occupant shall be excluded in determining whether the rental fee charged meets this definition.

**80.4(3)** As used in Iowa Code subsection 427.1(21), the term “elderly” means any person at least 62 years of age.

**80.4(4)** As used in Iowa Code subsection 427.1(21), the term “persons with physical or mental disabilities” means a person whose physical or mental condition is such that the person is unable to engage in substantial gainful employment.

**80.4(5)** The exemption granted in Iowa Code subsection 427.1(21) extends only to property which is owned and operated, or controlled, by a nonprofit organization recognized as such by the Internal Revenue Service. Property owned and operated, or controlled, by a private person is not eligible for exemption under Iowa Code subsection 427.1(21).

**80.4(6)** The income of persons living in housing eligible for exemption under Iowa Code subsection 427.1(21) shall not be considered in determining the property’s taxable status.

**80.4(7)** An organization seeking an exemption under Iowa Code subsection 427.1(21) shall file a statement with the local assessor pursuant to Iowa Code subsection 427.1(14).

**80.4(8)** The exemption authorized by Iowa Code subsection 427.1(21) extends only until the final payment due date of the borrower’s original low-rent housing development mortgage on the property or until the borrower’s original low-rent housing development mortgage is paid in full or expires, whichever is sooner. If the original mortgage is refinanced, the exemption shall apply only until what would have been the final payment due date under the original mortgage or until the refinanced mortgage is paid in full or expires, whichever is sooner. This exemption for refinanced projects applies to those projects refinanced on or after January 1, 2005.

**80.4(9)** In complying with the requirements of Iowa Code subsection 427.1(14), the provisions of rule 701—78.4(427) shall apply.

**80.4(10)** In determining the taxable status of property for which an exemption is claimed under Iowa Code subsection 427.1(21), the appropriate assessor shall follow rules 701—78.1(427,441) to 701—78.5(427).

**80.4(11)** If a portion of a structure is used to provide low-rent housing units to elderly persons and persons with disabilities and the other portion is used to provide housing to persons who are not elderly or disabled, the exemption for the property on which the structure is located shall be limited to that portion of the structure used to provide housing to the elderly and disabled. Vacant units and projects under construction that are designated for use to provide housing to elderly and disabled persons shall be considered as being used to provide housing to elderly and disabled persons. The valuation exempted shall bear the same relationship to the total value of the property as the area of the structure used to provide low-rent housing for the elderly and persons with disabilities bears to the total area of the structure unless a better method for determining the exempt valuation is available. The valuation of the land shall be exempted in the same proportion.

**80.4(12)** The property tax exemption provided in Iowa Code subsection 427.1(21) shall be based upon occupancy by elderly or persons with disabilities as of July 1 of the assessment year. However, nothing in this subrule shall prevent the taxation of such property in accordance with the provisions of Iowa Code section 427.19.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 427.1(14) and Supplement section 427.1(21). [ARC 7726B, IAB 4/22/09, effective 5/27/09]

**701—80.5(427) Speculative shell buildings.**

**80.5(1)** *Authority of city council and board of supervisors.* A city council or county board of supervisors may enact an ordinance granting property tax exemptions for value added as a result of



new construction of speculative shell buildings or additions to existing buildings or structures, or may exempt the value of an existing building or structure being reconstructed or renovated and the value of the land on which the building or structure is located, if the reconstruction or renovation constitutes complete replacement or refitting of an existing building or structure owned by community development organizations, not-for-profit cooperative associations under Iowa Code chapter 499A, or for-profit entities. See Iowa Code Supplement section 427.1(27) as amended by 2008 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2419, for definitions. The value added exemption for new construction includes reconstruction and renovation constituting complete replacement or refitting of existing buildings and structures if the reconstruction or renovation is required due to economic obsolescence, or to implement industry standards in order to competitively manufacture or process products, or to market a building or structure as a speculative shell building. The exemption for reconstruction or renovation not constituting new construction does not have to meet these requirements but has to meet only the requirements set forth in the definition of a speculative shell building. The council or board in the ordinance authorizing the exemption shall specify if the exemption will be allowed to community development organizations, not-for-profit cooperative associations under Iowa Code chapter 499B, or for-profit entities, and the length of time the exemption is to be allowed.

**80.5(2) Eligibility for exemption.** The value added by new construction, reconstruction, or renovation and first assessed prior to January 1 of the calendar year in which an ordinance authorizing a tax exemption becomes effective is not eligible for exemption. However, the value added as of January 1 of the calendar year in which the ordinance becomes effective is eligible for exemption if the ordinance is in effect on February 1 of that calendar year. This subrule does not apply to new construction projects having received prior approval. For reconstruction and renovation projects not constituting new construction, the ordinance authorizing the exemption must be in effect by February 1 of the year the project commences for the exemption to be allowable in the subsequent assessment year.

**80.5(3) Application for exemption.**

*a.* A community development organization, not-for-profit cooperative association, or for-profit entity must file an application for exemption with the assessor between January 1 and February 1, inclusive, of the year in which the value added for new construction is first assessed for the exemption to be allowable for that assessment year. For reconstruction and renovation projects not constituting new construction, an application for exemption must be filed by February 1 of the assessment year in which the project commences for the exemption to be allowable the following assessment year. If approved, no application for exemption is required to be filed in subsequent years for the value added exemption or the reconstruction or renovation exemption not constituting new construction. An application cannot be filed if a valid ordinance has not been enacted. If an application is not filed by February 1 of the year in which the value added for new construction is first assessed, the organization, association, or entity cannot receive, in subsequent years, the exemption for that value added. However, if the organization, association, or entity has received prior approval, the application must be filed by February 1 of the year in which the total value added for the new construction is first assessed.

*b.* If February 1 falls on either a Saturday or Sunday, applications for exemption may be filed the following Monday.

*c.* Applications submitted by mail must be accepted if postmarked on or before February 1 or, if February 1 falls on either a Saturday or Sunday, a postmark date of the following Monday is acceptable.

**80.5(4) Prior approval.** To obtain prior approval for a project, the proposal of the organization, association, or entity must be approved by a specific ordinance addressing the proposal and passed by the city council or board of supervisors. The original ordinance providing for the exemption does not constitute the granting of prior approval for a project. If an organization, association, or entity has obtained a prior approval ordinance from a city council or board of supervisors, the exemption for new construction cannot be obtained until the year in which all value added for the completed project is first assessed. Reconstruction and renovation projects constituting new construction must receive prior approval to qualify for exemption. Reconstruction and renovation projects that do not constitute new construction need not receive prior approval.

**80.5(5) Termination of exemption.** The exemption continues until the property is leased or sold, the time period for the exemption specified in the ordinance elapses, or the exemption is terminated by ordinance of the city council or board of supervisors. If the ordinance authorizing the exemption is repealed, all existing exemptions continue until their expiration and any projects having received prior approval for exemption for new construction are to be granted an exemption upon completion of the project. If the shell building or any portion of the shell building is leased or sold, the exemption for new construction shall not be allowed on that portion of the shell building leased or sold in subsequent years. If the shell building or any portion of the shell building is leased or sold, the exemption for reconstruction or renovation not constituting new construction shall not be allowed on that portion of the shell building leased or sold and a proportionate share of the land on which the shell building is located in subsequent years.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code Supplement section 427.1(27) as amended by 2008 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2419.

**701—80.6(427B) Industrial property tax exemption.**

**80.6(1) Authority of city council and board of supervisors.** A partial exemption ordinance enacted pursuant to Iowa Code section 427B.1 shall be available to all qualifying property. A city council or county board of supervisors does not have the authority to enact an ordinance granting a partial exemption to only certain qualifying properties (1980 O.A.G. 639). As used in this rule, the term “qualifying property” means property classified and assessed as real estate pursuant to 701—subrule 71.1(7), warehouses and distribution centers, research service facilities, and owner-operated cattle facilities. “Warehouse” means a building or structure used as a public warehouse for the storage of goods pursuant to Iowa Code sections 554.7101 to 554.7603, except that it does not mean a building or structure used primarily to store raw agricultural products or from which goods are sold at retail. “Distribution center” means a building or structure used primarily for the storage of goods which are intended for subsequent shipment to retail outlets. Distribution center does not mean a building or structure used primarily to store raw agricultural products, used primarily by a manufacturer to store goods to be used in the manufacturing process, used primarily for the storage of petroleum products, or used for the retail sale of goods. A “research service facility” is one or more buildings devoted primarily to research and development activities or corporate research services. Research and development activities include, but are not limited to, the design and production or manufacture of prototype products for experimental use. A research service facility does not have as its primary purpose the providing of on-site services to the public. “Owner-operated cattle facility” means a building or structure used primarily in the raising of cattle and which is operated by the person owning the facility.

**80.6(2) Prior approval.** Only upon enactment of a partial property tax exemption ordinance in accordance with Iowa Code section 427B.1 may a city council or board of supervisors enact a prior approval ordinance for pending individual projects in accordance with Iowa Code section 427B.4. To obtain prior approval for a project, a property owner’s proposal must be approved by a specific ordinance addressing the proposal and passed by the city council or board of supervisors. The original ordinance providing for the partial exemption does not constitute the granting of prior approval for a project. Also, prior approval for a project can only be granted by ordinance of the city council or board of supervisors; an official or representative of a city or county does not have the independent authority to grant prior approval for a project. If a taxpayer has obtained a prior approval ordinance from a city council or board of supervisors, the partial exemption cannot be obtained until the year in which all value added for the project is first assessed. (1980 O.A.G. 639)

**80.6(3) Repeal of ordinance.** A new construction project having received prior approval for exemption in accordance with subrule 80.6(2) shall be granted such exemption upon completion of the project even if the city council or board of supervisors subsequently repeals the ordinance passed in accordance with Iowa Code section 427B.1. (1980 O.A.G. 639)

**80.6(4) Annexation of property previously granted exemption.** A partial property tax exemption which has been granted and is in existence shall not be discontinued or disallowed in the event that the property upon which such exemption has been previously granted is located in an area which is

subsequently annexed by a city or becomes subject to the jurisdiction of a county in which an ordinance has not been passed by the city council or county board of supervisors allowing such exemptions within that jurisdiction. The existing exemption shall continue until its expiration.

**80.6(5) Eligibility for exemption.**

a. The value added by new construction or reconstruction and first assessed prior to January 1 of the calendar year in which an ordinance authorizing a partial property tax exemption becomes effective, and new machinery and equipment assessed as real estate acquired and utilized prior to January 1 of the calendar year in which the ordinance or resolution becomes effective, are not eligible for exemption. However, the value added as of January 1 of the calendar year in which the ordinance becomes effective is eligible for exemption if the ordinance is in effect prior to February 1 of that calendar year and if all other eligibility and application requirements are satisfied.

EXAMPLE 1: A \$1,000,000 new construction project on qualifying property is begun in July 1984. \$500,000 in value of the partially completed project is completed in 1984 and first assessed as of January 1, 1985. The project is completed in 1985 adding an additional value of \$500,000 which is first assessed as of January 1, 1986, bringing the total assessed value of the completed project to \$1,000,000 as of the January 1, 1986, assessment.

A city ordinance authorizing the partial exemption program is passed and becomes effective January 15, 1987. This project is not eligible for a property tax exemption for any value added as a result of the new construction project.

EXAMPLE 2: Assuming the same factual situation as in Example 1, except that the ordinance authorizing the partial exemption program becomes effective on January 15, 1986, the \$500,000 in assessed value added as of the January 1, 1986, assessment is eligible for the partial exemption if an application is filed with the assessor between January 1 and February 1, 1986, inclusive.

EXAMPLE 3: Assuming the same factual situation as in Example 1, except that the ordinance authorizing the partial exemption program becomes effective on February 15, 1986. Since the statutory application filing deadline is February 1, no value added and first assessed as of January 1, 1986, is eligible for a partial exemption. The project in this example would receive no exemption for any value added as a result of the new construction.

This subrule does not apply to new construction projects having received prior approval in accordance with subrule 80.6(2).

b. New machinery and equipment assessed as real estate shall be eligible for partial exemption only if used primarily in the manufacturing process. For example, computer equipment used primarily to maintain payroll records would not be eligible for exemption, whereas computer equipment utilized primarily to control or monitor actual product assembly would be eligible.

c. If any other property tax exemption is granted for the same assessment year for all or any of the property which has been granted a partial exemption, the partial property tax exemption shall be disallowed for the year in which the other exemption is actually received.

d. Only qualifying property is eligible to receive the partial property tax exemption (O.A.G. 81-2-18).

e. A taxpayer cannot receive the partial property tax exemption for industrial machinery or equipment if the machinery or equipment was previously assessed in the state of Iowa. Industrial machinery and equipment previously used in another state may qualify for the partial exemption if all criteria for receiving the partial exemption are satisfied.

f. Industrial machinery and equipment is eligible to receive the partial property tax exemption if it changes the existing operational status other than by merely maintaining or expanding the existing operational status. This rule applies whether the machinery and equipment is placed in a new building, an existing building, or a reconstructed building. If new machinery is used to produce an existing product more efficiently or to produce merely a more advanced version of the existing product, the existing operational status would only be maintained or expanded and the machinery would not be eligible for the exemption. However, if the new machinery produces a product distinctly different from that currently produced, the existing operational status has been changed.

**80.6(6) Application for exemption.**

*a.* An eligible property owner shall file an application for exemption with the assessor between January 1 and February 1, inclusive, of the year for which the value added is first assessed for tax purposes. The amount of “actual value added” shall be the difference between the assessed value of the property on January 1 of the year value is added to the property and the assessed value of the property the following assessment year. An application cannot be filed if a valid ordinance has not been enacted in accordance with Iowa Code section 427B.1 (O.A.G. 82-3-5). If an application is not filed by February 1 of the year for which the value added is first assessed, the taxpayer cannot receive in subsequent years the partial exemption for that value added (O.A.G. 82-1-17). However, if a taxpayer has received prior approval in accordance with Iowa Code section 427B.4 and subrule 80.6(2), the application is to be filed by not later than February 1 of the year for which the total value added is first assessed as the approved completed project.

*b.* In the event that February 1 falls on either a Saturday or Sunday, applications for the industrial property tax exemption may be filed the following Monday.

*c.* Applications submitted by mail shall be accepted if postmarked on or before February 1, or in the event that February 1 falls on either a Saturday or Sunday, a postmark date of the following Monday shall be accepted.

**80.6(7) *Change in use of property.*** If property ceases to be used as qualifying property, no partial exemption shall be allowed as of January 1 of the year following the calendar year in which the change in use takes place or for subsequent years. If property under construction ceases to be constructed for use as qualifying property, no partial exemption shall be allowed as of January 1 of the year following the calendar year in which this cessation occurs. However, such a change in the use of the property does not affect the validity of any partial exemption received for the property while it was used or under construction as qualifying property.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 427B.1 to 427B.7.  
[ARC 7726B, IAB 4/22/09, effective 5/27/09; ARC 3804C, IAB 5/9/18, effective 6/13/18]

#### **701—80.7(427B) Assessment of computers and industrial machinery and equipment.**

**80.7(1)** Computers and industrial machinery and equipment are to be assessed at 30 percent of the property’s net acquisition cost through the 1998 assessment year, 22 percent of the net acquisition cost in the 1999 assessment year, 14 percent of the net acquisition cost in the 2000 assessment year, and 6 percent of the net acquisition cost in the 2001 assessment year. The property will be exempt from tax beginning with the 2002 assessment year.

Computers and industrial machinery and equipment acquired after December 31, 1993, and not previously assessed in Iowa, are exempt from tax.

Computers and industrial machinery and equipment assessed pursuant to Iowa Code section 427B.17 are not eligible to receive the partial property tax exemption under Iowa Code sections 427B.1 to 427B.7.

**80.7(2)** Computers assessed under Iowa Code section 427A.1(1)“j” are limited to the percent of the computer’s net acquisition cost as provided in Iowa Code section 427B.17 regardless of the classification of the real estate in which the computer is located.

**80.7(3)** For computers and industrial machinery and equipment, the net acquisition cost shall be the acquired cost of the property.

**80.7(4)** Computation of taxpayer’s value. Assume a machine is acquired at a net acquisition cost of \$10,000. Assume also that the actual depreciated value of the machine is \$9,000. The value on which taxes would be levied would be limited to \$3,000 ( $\$10,000 \times .30$ ). This percent will change over the course of the phaseout of the tax.

**80.7(5)** If all or a portion of the value of property assessed pursuant to Iowa Code section 427B.17 is eligible to receive an exemption from taxation, the amount of value to be exempt shall be subtracted from the net acquisition cost of the property before the taxpayer’s value prescribed in Iowa Code section 427B.17 is determined. For example, if property has a net acquisition cost of \$30,000 and is eligible to receive a pollution exemption for \$15,000 of value, the taxable net acquisition cost would be \$15,000 and the taxpayer’s value would be \$4,500 ( $\$15,000 \times .30$ ). This percent will change over the course of the phaseout of the tax.

**80.7(6)** In the event the actual depreciated fair market value of property assessed pursuant to Iowa Code section 427B.17 is less than the valuation determined as a percent of the net acquisition cost of the property as provided in Iowa Code section 427B.17, the taxpayer's assessed value would be equal to the actual depreciated fair market value of the property.

**80.7(7)** Property ineligible for phaseout and exemption. Computers and industrial machinery and equipment, the taxes on which are used to fund a new jobs training project approved on or before June 30, 1995, do not qualify for the exemption provided in Iowa Code section 427B.17(2) nor the phaseout contained in Iowa Code section 427B.17(3) until the assessment year following the calendar year in which the funding obligations have been retired, refinanced, or refunded. At that time, the property will be subject to phaseout if acquired prior to January 1, 1994, or exempt from tax if acquired after December 31, 1993, and not previously assessed in Iowa. See subrule 80.7(1). The community college must notify the assessor by February 15 of each assessment year if the community college will be using a taxpayer's machinery and equipment taxes to finance a project that year. In any year in which the community college does rely on a taxpayer's machinery and equipment taxes for funding, the phaseout and exemption will not apply to that taxpayer that year.

**80.7(8)** County replacement.

a. For fiscal years beginning July 1, 1996, and ending June 30, 2001, the county replacement amount shall be equal to the difference between the assessed value of computers and industrial machinery and equipment as of January 1 of the previous calendar year and the assessed value of such property as of January 1, 1994, multiplied by the tax levy rate for that fiscal year. If there is an increase in valuation (the January 1, 1994, value is less), there will be no replacement for that fiscal year.

b. For fiscal years beginning July 1, 2001, and ending June 30, 2004, the county replacement amount shall be equal to the difference between the assessed value of computers and industrial machinery and equipment as of January 1 of the previous calendar year and the assessed value of such property as of January 1, 1994, less, if any, the increase in the assessed value of commercial and industrial property as of January 1 of the previous calendar year and the assessed value of such property as of January 1, 1994, multiplied by the tax levy rate for that fiscal year. If the calculation results in a negative amount, there will be no replacement for that fiscal year.

c. The replacement amounts shall be determined for each taxing district and a replacement claim summarizing the total amounts for the county prepared and submitted by the county auditor to the department of revenue by September 1 of each year. The department shall pay the replacement amount to the county treasurer in September and March of each year.

d. No replacement is allowable if a community college elects not to fund a new jobs training project with a tax on computers and industrial machinery and equipment.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 427B as amended by 2003 Iowa Acts, Senate File 453.

#### **701—80.8(404) Urban revitalization partial exemption.**

**80.8(1)** *Area designated.* An area containing only one building or structure cannot be designated as an urban revitalization area (1980 O.A.G. 786).

**80.8(2)** *Prior approval.* To obtain prior approval for a project, a property owner's proposal must be approved by a specific resolution addressing the proposal and passed by the city council or county board of supervisors. The original ordinance providing for the urban revitalization area does not constitute the granting of prior approval for any particular project. Also, prior approval for a project can only be granted by resolution of the city council or county board of supervisors; an official or representative of a city or county does not have the independent authority to grant prior approval for a project.

**80.8(3)** *Eligibility for exemption.* Improvements made as a result of a project begun more than one year prior to a city's or county's adoption of an urban revitalization ordinance are not eligible to receive the partial exemption even though some of the improvements are added during the time the area was designated as an urban revitalization area. For a project commenced within one year prior to the adoption of an urban revitalization ordinance, the partial exemption can be allowed only for those improvements constructed on or after the effective date of the ordinance. (1982 O.A.G. 358)

**80.8(4) *Minimum value added.*** Once the minimum value added required by Iowa Code section 404.3(7) has been assessed, any amount of additional value added to the property in subsequent years is eligible for the partial exemption. The value added subject to partial exemption for the first year for which an exemption is claimed and allowed shall include value added to the property for a previous year even if the value added in the previous year was not by itself sufficient to qualify for the partial exemption.

For example, assume that an urban revitalization project is begun on commercial property having an actual value of \$50,000 as of January 1, 1984. As a result of improvements made during 1984, the actual value of the property as of January 1, 1985, is determined to be \$55,000. Additional improvements made during 1985 increase the actual value of the property to \$70,000 for the 1986 assessment. In this example, no partial exemption can be allowed for 1985 since the value added for that year is less than 15 percent of the actual value of the property prior to construction of the improvements. A partial exemption can be allowed for 1986 and subsequent years for the \$20,000 value added in both 1985 and 1986, providing a valid application for the partial exemption is filed between January 1, 1986, and February 1, 1986, inclusive.

**80.8(5) *Application for partial exemption.***

*a. Prior approval.* If a taxpayer has secured a prior approval resolution from the city council or the county board of supervisors, the partial exemption cannot be obtained until the year in which all value added for the project is first assessed. A partial exemption can be allowed only if an application is filed between January 1 and February 1, inclusive, of the year in which all value added for the project is first assessed. If an application is not filed during that period, no partial exemption can be allowed for that year or any subsequent year. The submission to the city council or the county board of supervisors of a proposal to receive prior approval does not by itself constitute an application for the partial exemption.

For example, assume a city council or county board of supervisors approves a prior approval resolution in April 1984 for a revitalization project to be completed in September 1986. Assuming all construction on the project is completed in 1986, no partial exemption can be allowed until 1987 since that would be the year in which all value added for the project is first assessed. To receive the partial exemption, a valid application would have to be filed between January 1, 1987, and February 1, 1987, inclusive.

*b. No prior approval.* If a project has not received a prior approval resolution, a taxpayer has the option of receiving the partial exemption beginning with any year in which value is added to the property or waiting until all value added to the property is first assessed in its entirety. To secure a partial exemption prior to the completion of the project, an application must be filed between January 1 and February 1, inclusive, in each year for which the exemption is claimed.

For example, assume a revitalization project is begun in June 1984 and completed in September 1985, that no prior approval resolution for the project has been approved, and that a ten-year exemption period has been selected. Assume further that as a result of construction on the project, value is added for the assessment years 1985 and 1986. If an application is filed between January 1, 1985, and February 1, 1985, inclusive, a partial exemption could be allowed for the value added for 1985 beginning with the 1985 assessment and ending with the 1994 assessment. If an application is filed between January 1, 1986, and February 1, 1986, inclusive, a partial exemption could be allowed for the value added for 1986 beginning with the 1986 assessment and ending with the 1995 assessment. The partial exemption allowable for the years 1986 through 1995 would be against the value added for 1986 as a result of improvements made during calendar year 1985.

In the example above, the taxpayer may elect not to file an application for the partial exemption in 1985. In this situation, if an application is filed between January 1, 1986, and February 1, 1986, inclusive, a partial exemption could be allowed for the total value added for 1985 and 1986 and would apply to assessments for the years 1986 through 1995.

*c. Filing deadline.* If February 1 falls on a Saturday or Sunday, an application for the partial exemption may be filed the following Monday. Applications submitted by mail must be postmarked on or before February 1, or on or before the following Monday if February 1 falls on a Saturday or Sunday.

*d. Extended filing deadline.* The exemption is allowable for the total number of years in the exemption schedule if a claim for exemption is filed within two years of the original February 1 filing deadline. The city council or county board of supervisors may by resolution provide that an application for the partial exemption can be filed by February 1 of any assessment year the area is designated as an urban revitalization area. The exemption shall be allowed for the same number of years remaining in the exemption schedule selected as would have been remaining had the claim for exemption been timely filed.

**80.8(6) Value exempt.** The partial exemption allowed for a year in which an application is filed shall apply to the value added and first assessed for that year and any value added to the project and assessed for a preceding year or years and for which a partial exemption had not been received.

**80.8(7) Minimum assessment.** The partial exemption shall apply only to the value added in excess of the actual value of the property as of the year immediately preceding the year in which value added was first assessed. If the actual value of the property is reduced for any year during the period in which the partial exemption applies, any reduction in value resulting from the partial exemption shall not reduce the assessment of the property below its actual value as of January 1 of the assessment year immediately preceding the year in which value added was first assessed. This subrule applies regardless of whether the reduction in actual value is made by the assessor, the board of review, a court order, or an equalization order of the department of revenue.

**80.8(8) Value added.** As used in this rule, the term “value added” means the amount of increase in the actual value of real estate directly attributable to improvements made as part of a revitalization project. The amount of “actual value added” shall be the difference between the assessed value of the property on January 1 of the year value is added to the property and the assessed value of the property the following assessment year. “Value added” does not include any increase in actual (market) value attributable to that portion of the real estate assessed prior to the year in which revitalization improvements are first assessed. The sales price of the property rather than the assessed value of the property may be used in determining the percentage increase required to qualify for exemption if the improvements were begun within one year of the date the property was purchased.

**80.8(9) Repeal of ordinance.** An urban revitalization project which has received proper prior approval shall be eligible to receive the partial exemption following completion of the project even if the city council or county board of supervisors subsequently repeals the urban revitalization ordinance before improvements in the project are first assessed (1980 O.A.G. 639).

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 404 as amended by 2002 Iowa Acts, House File 2622.

[ARC 7726B, IAB 4/22/09, effective 5/27/09; ARC 2657C, IAB 8/3/16, effective 9/7/16]

#### **701—80.9(427C,441) Forest and fruit-tree reservations.**

**80.9(1) Determination of eligibility for exemption.** Property for which an application for exemption as a forest or fruit-tree reservation has been filed shall be inspected by the assessor or county conservation board. The county board of supervisors designates whether all inspections in the county are to be made by the assessor, including any city assessor, or by the county conservation board. When appropriate, aerial photographs may be used in place of an on-site inspection of the property. The assessment or exemption of the property is to be based upon criteria established by the state conservation commission and findings obtained by the inspection of the property or the examination of aerial photographs of the property.

##### **80.9(2) Application for exemption.**

*a.* An application for exemption must be filed with the appropriate assessor between January 1 and February 1, inclusive, of the assessment year for which the exemption is first claimed. If the inspection of the property is to be made by the county conservation board, the assessor shall forward the application to the board for its recommendation. Once the application has been accepted, the exemption is applicable to the current and subsequent assessment years and no further application shall be required so long as the property remains eligible for the exemption.

*b.* If February 1 falls on a Saturday or Sunday, an application for exemption may be filed the following Monday.

*c.* An application shall be considered to be timely filed if postmarked on or before February 1 or the following Monday if February 1 falls on a Saturday or Sunday.

**80.9(3) Notification to property owner.** If the property is to be inspected by the county conservation board, the board shall make every effort to submit its recommendation to the assessor in sufficient time for the assessor to notify the claimant by April 1. The assessor shall notify the claimant by April 1 of the disposition of the application for exemption. If because of the date on which an application is filed a determination of eligibility for the exemption cannot be made in sufficient time for notification to be made by April 1, the assessor shall assess the property and notify the property owner of the inability to act on the application. The notification shall contain the actual value and classification of the property and a statement of the claimant's right of appeal to the local board of review.

**80.9(4) Appeal of eligibility determination.** If a property for which a claim for exemption as a forest or fruit-tree reservation is assessed for taxation, the property owner may appeal the assessment to the board of review under Iowa Code section 441.37.

**80.9(5) Valuation of property.** For each assessment year for which property is exempt as a forest or fruit-tree reservation, the assessor shall determine the actual value and classification that would apply to the property were it assessed for taxation that year. In any year for which the actual value or classification of property so determined is changed, the assessor shall notify the property owner pursuant to Iowa Code sections 441.23, 441.26 and 441.28.

**80.9(6) Recapture tax.**

*a. Assessment of property.* If the county conservation board or the assessor determines a property has ceased to meet the eligibility criteria established by the state conservation commission, the property shall be assessed for taxation and subject to the recapture tax. The property shall be subject to taxes levied against the assessment made as of January 1 of the calendar year in which the property ceased to qualify for exemption. In addition, the property shall be subject to the tax which would have been levied against the assessment made as of January 1 of each of the five preceding calendar years for which the property received an exemption.

*b. Assessment procedure.* If the determination that a property has ceased to be eligible for exemption is made by the assessor by April 15, the assessor shall notify the property owner of the assessment as of January 1 of the year in which the determination is made in accordance with Iowa Code sections 441.23, 441.26, and 441.28. The assessment of the property for any of the five preceding years and for the current year, if timely notice by April 15 cannot be given, shall be by means of an omitted assessment as provided in Iowa Code section 443.6 (*Talley v. Brown*, 146 Iowa 360, 125 N.W. 243(1910)). Appeal of the omitted assessment may be taken pursuant to Iowa Code sections 443.7 and 443.8.

*c. Computation of tax.* The county auditor shall compute the tax liability for each year for which an assessment has been made pursuant to subrule 80.9(6), paragraph "b." The tax liability shall be the amount of tax that would have been levied against each year's assessment had the property not received the exemption. In computing the tax, the valuations established by the assessor shall be adjusted to reflect any equalization order or assessment limitation percentage applicable to each year's assessment.

*d. Entry on tax list.* The tax liability levied against assessments made as of January 1 of any year preceding the calendar year in which the property ceased to qualify for exemption shall be entered on the tax list for taxes levied against all assessments made as of January 1 of the year immediately preceding the calendar year in which the property ceased to qualify for exemption. However, if those taxes have already been certified to the county treasurer, the recapture taxes shall be entered on the tax list for taxes levied against assessments made as of January 1 of the year in which the property ceased to qualify for exemption. The tax against the assessment made as of January 1 of the year in which the property ceased to qualify for exemption shall be levied at the time taxes are levied against all assessments made as of that date.

*e. Delinquencies.* Recapture taxes shall not become delinquent until the time when all other unpaid taxes entered on the same tax list become delinquent.



*f. Exceptions to recapture tax.*

(1) Fruit-tree or forest reservations. Property which has received an exemption as a fruit-tree or forest reservation is not subject to the recapture tax if the property is maintained as a fruit-tree or forest reservation for at least five full calendar years following the last calendar year for which the property was exempt as a fruit-tree or forest reservation.

(2) Property which has been owned by the same person or the person's direct descendants or antecedents for at least ten years prior to the time the property ceases to qualify for exemption shall not be subject to the recapture tax.

(3) Property described in subparagraphs 80.9(6) "f"(1) and 80.9(6) "f"(2) is subject to assessment as of January 1 of the calendar year in which the property ceases to qualify for exemption.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 427C as amended by 2001 Iowa Acts, House File 736, and Iowa Code section 441.22.

[ARC 7726B, IAB 4/22/09, effective 5/27/09; ARC 3805C, IAB 5/9/18, effective 6/13/18]

**701—80.10(427B) Underground storage tanks.**

**80.10(1) Authority of city councils and county boards of supervisors.** A city council or county board of supervisors may provide by ordinance to grant property tax credits to small business owners for payment of underground storage tank cleanup costs. The ordinance is to designate the period of time over which the credit is to be granted (not to exceed ten years) and the percentage of credit to be granted each year. If the ordinance is repealed, existing credits are to continue through their designated expiration date. A small business means a business with gross receipts of less than \$500,000 per year.

**80.10(2) Application for credit.** The small business owner is required to file an application for credit with the respective city council or county board of supervisors by September 30 of the year following the calendar year in which cleanup costs were paid and each succeeding year the credit is applicable. The application for credit shall be prescribed by the director of revenue and shall contain, but not be limited to, the small business owner's cleanup costs and gross receipts for the most recent tax year.

**80.10(3) Allowance of credit.** Credits granted by a county board of supervisors are applicable only to property located outside the corporate limits of a city and credits granted by a city council are only applicable to property located within the corporate limits of the city. The amount of the credit granted cannot exceed the small business owner's cleanup costs nor the amount of city or county taxes paid on the property where the underground storage tank is located for any fiscal year the credit is applicable. Upon approval of the application for credit, the city council or county board of supervisors shall direct its city clerk or county treasurer to reimburse the small business owner in the amount of the designated credit.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 427B.20 to 427B.22.

**701—80.11(425A) Family farm tax credit.**

**80.11(1) Eligibility for credit.** Generally, the family farm tax credit is only intended to benefit tracts of agricultural land that are owned by certain individuals or enumerated legal entities if the owner or other specified persons are actively engaged in farming.

*a.* In order for a tract of land to qualify for the family farm tax credit, the following three criteria must be satisfied:

(1) The tract of land must be an "eligible tract of agricultural land" as defined in Iowa Code subsection 425A.2(5). This means the tract must be ten acres or more or contiguous to a tract of more than ten acres and used in good faith for agricultural or horticultural purposes. More than half of the acres in the tract must be devoted to the production of crops or livestock by a designated person. Contiguous tracts under the same legal ownership and located within the same county are considered one tract. Only tracts of land that are classified as agricultural real estate qualify for the credit.

(2) The tract of land must be owned by:

1. An individual or persons related or formerly related to each other, or
2. A partnership where all the partners are related or formerly related to each other, or
3. A family farm corporation as defined in Iowa Code subsection 9H.1(8), or

4. An authorized farm corporation as defined in Iowa Code subsection 9H.1(3). The ownership criteria must be met on June 30 of the fiscal year prior to the fiscal year in which the application for credit is filed. For example, the ownership criteria must be met on June 30, 1990, for applications for credit filed in 1990.

(3) A designated person must be “actively engaged in farming” the tract during the fiscal year prior to the fiscal year in which the application for credit is filed. If the tract is owned by an individual or related persons, the designated person who is actively engaged in farming must be an owner of the tract, the owner’s spouse, or the owner’s relative within the third degree of consanguinity or their spouses. This includes the owner’s child, stepchild, grandchild, great-grandchild, parent, grandparent, great-grandparent, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, niece, or nephew or their spouses. The only step relative that may qualify as a designated person is a stepchild. If the owner of the tract is a partnership, the designated person who is actively engaged in farming must be a partner or a partner’s spouse. If the owner of the tract of land is a family farm corporation, the designated person who is actively engaged in farming must be a family member who is a shareholder of the family farm corporation or the shareholder’s spouse. If the owner of the tract of land is an authorized farm corporation, the designated person who is actively engaged in farming must be the shareholder who owns at least 51 percent of the stock of the authorized farm corporation or that shareholder’s spouse.

If the owner is an individual who leases the land to a family farm corporation or partnership, a shareholder of the corporation or a partner of the partnership shall be considered a designated person if the combined stock of the family farm corporation or the combined partnership interest owned by the owner, the owner’s spouse and persons related to the owner within the third degree of consanguinity and their spouses is equal to at least 51 percent of the stock of the family farm corporation or the ownership interest in the partnership.

*b.* In order to be “actively engaged in farming” the designated person must be personally involved in the production of crops or livestock on the “eligible tract” on a regular, continuous and substantial basis. Personal involvement in the production of crops or livestock includes not only field activities such as soil preparation and testing, planting, fertilizing, spraying, inspecting, cultivating and harvesting but also managerial decision-making activities relating to hybrid selection, crop rotation planning, crop selection, equipment purchases and marketing strategies. Personal involvement in the production of crops or livestock also includes activities pertaining to crop insurance selection, loan selection, and financial record maintenance and preparation. A person performing activities in the capacity of a lessor, whether under a cash or crop-share lease and whether under a written or oral lease, is not actively engaged in farming on the area of the tract covered by the lease.

*c.* Tracts subject to a federal program pertaining to agricultural land. In lieu of satisfying the “actively engaged in farming” test, a designated person may demonstrate that the person was in general control of the tract which was subject to a federal program pertaining to agricultural land during the prior fiscal year. This alternative test is intended to apply in circumstances where the active farming criteria cannot be met because the land is in the Conservation Reserve Program (commonly referred to as the CRP) or a program substantially similar to the 0/92 option where the tract has been taken out of production.

*d.* The following examples illustrate family farm tax credit eligibility under various circumstances:

EXAMPLE 1. A and B jointly own land and were both personally involved in the farming operation. They are not related. No credit is allowable because it is a requirement that individual owners be related. If A and B were brothers, the land would qualify for the credit.

EXAMPLE 2. A owns the land and is retired. A leased the land to B, his son. B was personally involved in the farming operation. The land is eligible for the credit even though a lease arrangement existed because the actively engaged in farming requirement can be satisfied through the activities of the owner’s spouse, or the owner’s relative within the third degree of consanguinity or the relative’s spouse. See paragraph “a,” subparagraph (3), of this subrule. No credit would be allowable if A and B were not related.

EXAMPLE 3. A owns two contiguous 40-acre tracts. A farmed all of one tract but only 15 acres of the other tract. The other 25 acres of the second tract were leased to a nondesignated person. Both tracts

qualify for the credit because contiguous tracts under the same legal ownership are considered one tract and more than half of the total of 80 acres ( $40 + 15 = 55$ ) were farmed by A.

EXAMPLE 4. The land is owned by a partnership in which the partners A, B, C and D are brothers. A and B farm the land but C and D have no involvement in the farming operation. The land is eligible for the credit because it makes no difference what level of involvement each partner had nor does it matter that one or more of the partners were not personally involved in the farming operation. The only requirement for qualifying for the credit is that at least one of the partners or one of the partners' spouses was personally involved in the farming operation. No credit would be allowable if all the partners were not related to each other.

EXAMPLE 5. The land is owned by a family farm corporation in which the stock is owned equally by A, B and C. A and B are brothers but not related to C. All three partners were personally involved in the farming operation. The land qualifies for the credit because it is only a requirement that a family member who is a shareholder in the family farm corporation be involved in the farming operation. The land would qualify for the credit even if B was not involved in the farming operation. However, no credit would be allowable if only C was involved in the farming operation.

EXAMPLE 6. The land is owned by an authorized farm corporation in which 60 percent of the stock is owned by A and 40 percent of the stock is owned by B. Both A and B were personally involved in the farming operation. The credit is allowable as long as the stockholder who owns at least 51 percent of the stock was personally involved in the farming operation. No credit would be allowable if A was not personally involved in the farming operation.

**80.11(2) *Application for credit.*** To obtain the credit, the owner must file an application for credit with the assessor by November 1. If the claim for credit is approved, no further filing shall be required provided the ownership and the designated person actively engaged in farming the property remain the same during successive years. A new application for credit shall be required only if the property is sold or the designated person changes. The county board of supervisors shall review all claims and make a determination as to eligibility. The claimant may appeal a decision of the board to district court by giving written notice to the board within 20 days of the board's notice.

**80.11(3) *Application of credit.*** The county auditor shall certify to the department of revenue by April 1 the total amount of family farm tax credits due the county. The county auditor shall apply the credit to each eligible tract of land in an amount equal to the school district tax rate which is in excess of \$5.40 multiplied by the taxable value of the eligible tract.

**80.11(4) *Penalty.*** The owner shall provide written notice to the assessor if the designated person changes. Failure to do so shall result in the owner's being liable for the amount of the credit plus a penalty equal to 5 percent of the amount of the credit granted.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 425A as amended by 2001 Iowa Acts, House Files 712 and 713.

#### **701—80.12(427) Methane gas conversion property.**

**80.12(1) *Application for exemption.*** An application for exemption is required to be filed with the appropriate assessing authority by February 1 of each year. The assessed value of the property is to be prorated to reflect the appropriate amount of exemption if the property used to convert the methane gas to energy also uses another fuel. The first year exemption shall be equal to the estimated ratio that the methane gas consumed bears to the total fuel consumed times the assessed value of the property. The exemption for subsequent years shall be based on the actual ratio for the previous year.

**80.12(2) *Eligibility for exemption.*** To qualify for exemption, the property must be used either in an operation that decomposes waste and converts it to methane gas or other gases produced as a byproduct of waste decomposition, then collects the gases and converts them to energy; or in an operation that collects waste in order to decompose it to produce methane gas or other gases for conversion into energy. The exemption applies to both property used in connection with, or in conjunction with, a publicly owned sanitary landfill and to property not used in connection with, or in conjunction with, a publicly owned sanitary landfill.

The exemption for property not used in an operation connected with, or in conjunction with, a publicly owned sanitary landfill is limited to property originally placed in operation on or after January 1, 2008, and on or before December 31, 2012, and will be available for the ten-year period following the date the property was originally placed in operation.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 427.1(29) as amended by 2009 Iowa Acts, Senate File 478, section 224.

[ARC 7726B, IAB 4/22/09, effective 5/27/09; ARC 8358B, IAB 12/2/09, effective 1/6/10]

**701—80.13(427B,476B) Wind energy conversion property.**

**80.13(1) *Special valuation allowed by ordinance.*** A city council or county board of supervisors may provide by ordinance for the special valuation of wind energy conversion property. If the ordinance is repealed, the special valuation applies through the nineteenth assessment year following the first year the property was assessed. Once the ordinance has been repealed and the special valuation is no longer applicable, the property must be valued at market value rather than at 30 percent of net acquisition cost. The special valuation applies to property first assessed on or after the effective date of the ordinance. The local assessor must value the property in accordance with the schedule provided in Iowa Code section 427B.26(2). The property qualifies for special valuation provided the taxpayer files a declaration of intent with the local assessor by February 1 of the assessment year in which the property is first assessed for tax to have the property locally assessed. The property must not be assessed until the assessment year following the year the entire wind plant is completed. A wind plant is completed when it is placed in service.

**80.13(2) *Special valuation not allowed by ordinance.*** If a city council or county board of supervisors has not passed an ordinance providing for the special valuation of wind energy conversion property, property that was placed in service after July 1, 2005, and before July 1, 2012, is to be assessed by the department of revenue for a period of 12 years, and the taxes payable on the facilities are to be paid to the department at the same time as regular property taxes. The owner of the facility must file an annual report with the department by May 1 of each year during the 12-year assessment period, and the department must certify the assessed value of the facility by November 1 of each year to the county auditor. The board of supervisors must notify the county treasurer to state on the tax statement that the property taxes are to be paid to the department. The board must also notify the department of those facilities that are required to pay the property taxes to the department. The department must notify the county treasurer of the date the taxes were paid within five business days of receipt, and the notification is authorization for the county treasurer to mark the record as paid in the county system.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 427B.26 and chapter 476B.

[ARC 7726B, IAB 4/22/09, effective 5/27/09; ARC 8358B, IAB 12/2/09, effective 1/6/10; ARC 3314C, IAB 9/13/17, effective 10/18/17]

**701—80.14(427) Mobile home park storm shelter.**

**80.14(1) *Application for exemption.*** An application for exemption must be filed with the assessing authority by February 1 of the first year the exemption is requested. Applications for exemption are not required in subsequent years if the property remains eligible for exemption.

**80.14(2) *Eligibility for exemption.*** The structure must be located in a mobile home park as defined in Iowa Code section 435.1.

**80.14(3) *Valuation exempted.*** If the structure is used exclusively as a storm shelter, it shall be fully exempt from taxation. If the structure is not used exclusively as a storm shelter, the exemption shall be limited to 50 percent of the structure's commercial valuation.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code Supplement section 427.1(30).

**701—80.15(427) Barn and one-room schoolhouse preservation.** The increase in value added to a farm structure constructed prior to 1937 or one-room schoolhouse as a result of improvements made is exempt from tax. An application must be filed with the assessor by February 1 of the first assessment year only and the exemption is to continue as long as the structure continues to be used as a barn or in the case of

a one-room schoolhouse is not used for dwelling purposes. A “barn” is an agricultural structure that is used for the storage of farm products or feed or the housing of farm animals, poultry, or farm equipment.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 427.1(31) and 427.1(32) as amended by 2000 Iowa Acts, House File 2560.

**701—80.16(426) Agricultural land tax credit.**

**80.16(1) Eligibility for credit.** The credit shall be allowed on land in tracts of ten acres or more, or land of less than ten acres if part of other land of more than ten acres, and used for agricultural or horticultural purposes.

**80.16(2) Application for credit.** No application for credit is required.

**80.16(3) Application of credit.** The county auditor shall certify to the department of revenue by April 1 the total amount of agricultural land tax credits due the county. The county auditor shall apply the credit to each eligible tract of land in an amount equal to the school district tax rate which is in excess of \$5.40 multiplied by the taxable value of the eligible tract.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 426 as amended by 2001 Iowa Acts, House File 713.

**701—80.17(427) Indian housing property.** Property owned and operated by an Indian housing authority, as defined in 24 CFR 950.102, is exempt from taxation provided the exemption has been approved by the city council or county board of supervisors, whichever is applicable, and a valid claim for exemption has been filed pursuant to Iowa Code section 427.1(14) by February 1.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 427.1 as amended by 2001 Iowa Acts, Senate File 449.

**701—80.18(427) Property used in value-added agricultural product operations.** Fixtures used for cooking, refrigeration, or freezing of value-added agricultural products used in value-added agricultural processing or used in direct support of value-added agricultural processing are exempt from tax. Direct support includes storage by public refrigerated warehouses for processors of value-added agricultural products prior to the start of the value-added agricultural processing operation. The exemption does not apply to fixtures used primarily for retail sale or display. If the taxpayer is a retailer, there is a presumption that the fixtures are being used primarily for retail sale or display. The exemption applies only to fixtures that are attached in a manner set forth in Iowa Code section 427A.1(2).

The following definitions apply to this rule:

“*Fixture*” means property which was originally personal property but which by being physically attached to the realty becomes part of the realty and upon removal does not destroy the property to which it is attached.

“*Value-added agricultural processing*” means an operation whereby an agricultural product is subjected to some special treatment by artificial or natural means which changes its form, context, or condition, and results in a marketable agricultural product to be sold at retail. These operations are commonly associated with fabricating, compounding, germinating, or manufacturing.

“*Value-added agricultural product*” means an agricultural product which, through a series of activities or processes, may be sold at a higher price than its original purchase price.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 427A.1 as amended by 2001 Iowa Acts, House File 715.

**701—80.19(427) Dwelling unit property within certain cities.** Dwelling unit property owned and managed by a nonprofit community housing development organization that owns and manages more than 150 dwelling units in a city with a population of more than 110,000 is exempt from tax. The organization must be recognized by the state and the federal government pursuant to criteria contained in the HOME program of the federal National Affordable Housing Act of 1990 and must be exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The exemption does not extend to dwelling units located outside the city. The organization must file an application for exemption

with the assessing authority not later than February 1 of the assessment year. Applications for exemption are not required in successive years if the property continues to qualify for the exemption.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code Supplement section 427.1(21A) as amended by 2006 Iowa Acts, House File 2792.

**701—80.20(427) Nursing facilities.** If the assessor determines that property is being used for a charitable purpose pursuant to Iowa Code section 427.1(8), it shall be fully exempt from tax if it is licensed under Iowa Code section 135C.1(13) by the department of inspections and appeals, exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and a valid application for exemption has been filed with the assessor by February 1 of the assessment year.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code Supplement section 427.1(14).

**701—80.21(368) Annexation of property by a city.** A city council may provide a partial tax exemption from city taxes against annexed property for a period of ten years. The exemption schedule is contained in Iowa Code Supplement section 368.11(3) “m.” All property owners included in the annexed area must receive the exemption if the city elects to allow the exemption.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code Supplement section 368.11(3) “m” as amended by 2006 Iowa Acts, House File 2794.

**701—80.22(427) Port authority.** The property of a port authority created pursuant to Iowa Code Supplement section 28J.2 when devoted to public use and not held for pecuniary profit is exempt from taxation.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code Supplement section 427.1(34).

**701—80.23(427A) Concrete batch plants and hot mix asphalt facilities.** A concrete batch plant includes the machinery, equipment, and fixtures used at a concrete mixing facility to process cement dry additive and other raw materials into concrete. A hot mix asphalt facility is any facility used to manufacture hot mix asphalt by heating and drying aggregate and mixing it with asphalt cements. These facilities shall not be assessed and taxed as real property regardless of the property’s attachment to real estate. The land on which the facilities are located is taxable.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 427A.1 as amended by 2006 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2391.

**701—80.24(427) Airport property.** Property owned by a city or county at an airport and leased to a fixed base operator providing aeronautical services to the public is exempt from taxation.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 427.1(2) as amended by 2006 Iowa Acts, House File 2794.

**701—80.25(427A) Car wash equipment.** Property that is equipment used for the washing, waxing, drying, or vacuuming of motor vehicles and point-of-sale equipment necessary for the purchase of car wash services shall not be assessed and taxed as real property.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 427A.1 as amended by 2006 Iowa Acts, House File 2794.

**701—80.26(427) Web search portal and data center business property.** This exemption includes computers and equipment necessary for the maintenance and operation of a web search portal or data center business, including cooling systems, cooling towers, and other temperature control infrastructure; power infrastructure for transformation, distribution, or management of electricity, including but not limited to exterior dedicated business-owned substations, and power distribution systems which are not subject to assessment under Iowa Code chapter 437A; back-up power generation systems, battery systems, and related infrastructure; and racking systems, cabling, and trays. The exemption does not apply to land, buildings, and improvements. The web search portal or data center business must meet the requirements contained in Iowa Code section 423.3, subsection 92, subsection 93, or subsection 95,

for the exemption to be allowable. The owner of the property must file a claim for exemption with the assessor by February 1 of the first year the exemption is claimed. Claims for exemption in successive years will be required only for property additions.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 427.1(35) and 427.1(36) and section 427.1 as amended by 2009 Iowa Acts, Senate File 478, section 200.  
[ARC 8358B, IAB 12/2/09, effective 1/6/10]

**701—80.27(427) Privately owned libraries and art galleries.** Claims for exemption for libraries and art galleries owned and kept by private individuals, associations, or corporations for public use and not for private profit must be filed with the local assessor by February 1 of the first year the exemption is requested. Once the exemption is granted, the exemption shall continue to be granted for subsequent assessment years without further filing of claims as long as the property continues to be used as a library or art gallery for public use and not for private profit.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code Supplement section 427.1(7) as amended by 2008 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2400.

**701—80.28(404B) Disaster revitalization area.** The governing body of a city or county may, by ordinance, designate an area of the city or county a disaster revitalization area if that area is within a county or portion of a county in which the governor has proclaimed a disaster emergency or the United States president has declared a major disaster. All real property within a disaster revitalization area is eligible to receive a 100 percent exemption from taxation on the increase in assessed value of the property if the increase in assessed value is attributable to revitalization of the property occurring between May 25, 2008, and December 31, 2013. The amount of increase in value shall be the difference between the assessed value of the property on January 1, 2007, and the assessed value of the property on January 1, 2010, and subsequent assessment years. The exemption is for a period not to exceed five years, starting with an assessment year beginning on or after January 1, 2010. A city or county may adopt a tax exemption percentage different from the 100 percent exemption. The different percentage adopted must not allow a greater exemption, but may allow a smaller exemption. If the homeowner elects to take the exemption provided in this rule, the homeowner may not claim any other value-added exemption. An application must be filed for each revitalization project resulting in increased assessed value for which an exemption is claimed. The application for exemption must be filed by the owner of the property with the local assessor by February 1 of the first assessment year for which the exemption is requested. After the tax exemption is granted, the exemption will continue for succeeding years without the taxpayer's having to file an application for exemption unless additional revitalization projects occur on the property. The ordinance must expire or be repealed no later than December 31, 2016.

This rule is intended to implement 2009 Iowa Acts, Senate File 457, sections 23 to 30.  
[ARC 8358B, IAB 12/2/09, effective 1/6/10]

**701—80.29(427) Geothermal heating and cooling systems installed on property classified as residential.**

**80.29(1) In general.** An exemption from property tax shall be allowed for any value added to property by any new construction or refitted installation of a geothermal heating or cooling system if the geothermal heating or cooling system is constructed or installed on or after July 1, 2012, on property classified as residential. The exemption shall also be allowed for a residential dwelling on agricultural land. The exemption does not have to be claimed the year subsequent to the year the geothermal system is constructed or installed. However, every individual claiming the exemption under this rule shall file with the appropriate assessor, not later than February 1 of the year for which the exemption is requested, an application for exemption. The assessor shall then allow or disallow the exemption.

Upon the filing and allowance of the claim, the claim shall be allowed on the property for ten consecutive years without further filing as long as the property continues to be classified as residential. However, if the property ceases to be classified as residential or if the geothermal heating and cooling system ceases to exist before the ten years have expired, no exemption is allowed for the year in which

the change in classification took place or for any subsequent years. The exemption amount shall remain fixed at the same amount that was allowed in the first year the exemption was allowed.

The property tax exemption applies to any value added by the addition of mechanical, electrical, plumbing, ductwork, or other equipment, labor, and expenses included in or required for the construction or installation of the geothermal system that would not have been included in the home if not for the installation of the geothermal heating and cooling system. Additionally, the proportionate value of any well field associated with the system and attributable to the owner is exempt.

**80.29(2) Calculation of value added.** As used in this rule, the terms “any value added” and “value added” mean the amount of increase in the actual assessed value of the property that is directly attributable to the new construction or refit installation of a geothermal heating or cooling system as of the first year for which the geothermal heating and cooling system is actually assessed. “Any value added” does not include speculative or indirect increases in value which, for example, may be attributable to reductions in energy consumption or reductions in the negative impact to the environment. “Any value added” does not include changes in value which are attributable to general housing market fluctuations. Cost of the new construction or refit installation of the geothermal heating or cooling system is not determinative of the value added to a property. In the event the exemption is not filed in the same year the geothermal heating and cooling system is first assessed, the amount of the exemption, upon filing, shall be the same amount as it would have been had the exemption been filed in the year the geothermal heating and cooling system was first assessed.

In the case of new construction and refit installation of a geothermal heating or cooling system, the value added is the value that would not have been included in the home if not for the construction or refit installation of the geothermal heating and cooling system. That is, the value of mechanical, electrical, plumbing, ductwork, or other equipment, labor, and expenses that would have been included with a standard heating and cooling system shall not be considered in calculating the value added. To measure the value added by a geothermal heating and cooling system, the assessor shall compute the difference between the assessed value of the residential property if the property were outfitted with a non-geothermal (standard) heating and cooling system and the assessed value of the property outfitted with the geothermal system. In the case that the new construction or refit installation takes more than one year, the assessor shall make the comparison in the year the new construction or refit installation is completed.

EXAMPLE A: Mrs. Smith wants to upgrade her current standard heating and cooling system in her home with a geothermal system. The geothermal system installation is completed on August 1, 2012. On January 22, 2013, Mrs. Smith files a claim for exemption for the value added to her property that is directly attributable to the refit installation of the geothermal system. To determine the value added that is directly attributable to the geothermal system, the assessor shall compare the value of the home as though it was outfitted with the standard heating and cooling system which was upgraded with the value of the home outfitted with the geothermal heating and cooling system; the difference between the two values is the exemption amount. That exemption amount will remain fixed for the next ten years, until Mrs. Smith’s home ceases to be classified as residential, or until the geothermal system ceases to exist, whichever occurs first. For years subsequent to 2013, any increase in the value of Mrs. Smith’s home beyond the assessed value of the home outfitted with the geothermal heating and cooling system is not attributable to the geothermal system and is subject to property tax. The property tax exemption amount for the geothermal heating and cooling system will remain the same as the first year for which the exemption was received even if the assessed value of Mrs. Smith’s home drops.

EXAMPLE B: Same facts as Example A, except that on January 1 of year seven, Mrs. Smith’s home is reclassified as commercial property. No property tax exemption is allowed for the value added by the geothermal system for year seven or any subsequent years.

EXAMPLE C: Mr. Larson is building a new home and plans to construct a new geothermal system in lieu of a standard heating and cooling system. The home and geothermal system are completed on October 24, 2012. To determine the value added that is directly attributable to the installation of the geothermal system, the assessor shall assess the home as though it had been outfitted with a standard heating and cooling system and compare that value with the assessed value of the home outfitted with the



geothermal heating and cooling system. The difference between the two amounts is the value added that is directly attributable to the geothermal system and is the exemption amount. In 2013, the assessed value of Mr. Larson's home with a standard heating and cooling system is \$200,000. The assessed value of Mr. Larson's home with the geothermal system is \$210,000. Therefore, the value added to the property that is directly attributable to the geothermal system is \$10,000. Mr. Larson may claim an exemption amount of \$10,000 starting in assessment year 2013. Mr. Larson does not lose the exemption if he fails to claim the exemption by February 1, 2013; he may claim the exemption in any year subsequent to the completion of the construction of the home. An exemption amount of \$10,000 will continue for ten consecutive years after the exemption is claimed, until the property ceases to be classified as residential, or until the geothermal system ceases to exist, whichever occurs first.

EXAMPLE D: Same facts as Example C, except that Mr. Larson claims the exemption in 2019. The exemption amount in 2019, and the nine subsequent years, is the value added in the year the geothermal heating and cooling system was first assessed; here, \$10,000 in 2013. The value added and exemption amount is not calculated in the year Mr. Larson claims the exemption. The \$10,000 exemption will then continue until 2028, until the property ceases to be classified as residential or until the geothermal system ceases to exist, whichever occurs first.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 427.1.  
[ARC 0467C, IAB 11/28/12, effective 1/2/13]

### **701—80.30(426C) Business property tax credit.**

**80.30(1) Definitions.** For purposes of this rule, the following definitions shall govern.

*“Contiguous parcels”* means any of the following:

1. Parcels that share a common boundary. There is a rebuttable presumption that parcels separated by a roadway, alley, or waterway do not share a common boundary. The burden of proof shall be upon the property owners to provide evidence or verification that parcels separated by a roadway, alley, or waterway share a common boundary. Parcels owned to the middle of a road, waterway, alley, or railway in fee simple title are considered to share a common boundary.

2. Parcels within the same building or structure regardless of whether the parcels share a common boundary.

3. Permanent improvements to the land that are situated on one or more parcels of land that are assessed and taxed separately from the permanent improvements if the parcels of land upon which the permanent improvements are situated share a common boundary. This arrangement is more commonly referred to as buildings or permanent improvements that are taxed as buildings upon leased land.

*“Dwelling unit”* means an apartment, group of rooms, or single room that is occupied as separate living quarters, or, if vacant, is intended for occupancy as separate living quarters, in which a tenant can live and sleep separately from any other persons in the building. A vacant dwelling unit that does not have active utility services is not considered to be intended for occupancy. Dwelling units do not include hotels, motels, inns, or other buildings where rooms are rented for less than one month.

*“Parcel”* means each separate item shown on the tax list, manufactured or mobile home tax list, schedule of assessment, or schedule of rate change or charge. For fiscal years beginning on or after January 1, 2016, “parcel” also means each portion of a parcel assigned a distinct classification as set forth in rule 701—71.1(405,427A,428,441,499B).

*“Person”* means individual, corporation, limited liability company, government or governmental subdivision or agency, business trust, estate, trust, partnership or association, or any other legal entity.

*“Property unit”* means contiguous parcels all of which are located within the same county, with the same property tax classification, are owned by the same person, and are operated by that person for a common use and purpose.

**80.30(2) In general.** Except as provided in subrule 80.30(8), for property taxes due and payable in fiscal years beginning on and after July 1, 2014, one business property tax credit is available to each parcel classified and taxed as commercial property, industrial property, or railway property unless the parcel is part of a property unit for which a business property tax credit is claimed. For property taxes due and payable in fiscal years beginning on and after July 1, 2014, one business property tax credit is

available to each property unit made up of property assessed as commercial property, industrial property, or railway property.

**80.30(3) Application for credit.**

*a.* Notwithstanding paragraph 80.30(3) “*b*,” for a business property tax credit against property taxes due and payable during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014, the claim for credit shall be received in the office of the applicable city or county assessor not later than January 15, 2014.

*b.* For a business property tax credit against property taxes due and payable during fiscal years beginning on and after July 1, 2015, and before July 1, 2017, no business property tax credit shall be allowed unless the first application for business property tax credit is received in the office of the applicable city or county assessor on or before March 15 preceding the fiscal year during which the credit first is claimed. For example, the first application for a business property tax credit against property taxes due and payable during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016, must be received in the office of the applicable city or county assessor on or before March 15, 2016.

*c.* For a business property tax credit against property taxes due and payable during fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 2017, no business property tax credit shall be allowed unless the first application for the business property tax credit is received in the office of the applicable city or county assessor on or before July 1 preceding the fiscal year during which the credit is first claimed. For example, the first application for a business property tax credit against property taxes due and payable during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017, must be received in the office of the applicable city or county assessor on or before July 1, 2016.

*d.* A claim filed after the filing deadlines set forth in paragraphs 80.30(3) “*a*,” 80.30(3) “*b*,” and 80.30(3) “*c*” will be applied against property taxes due and payable for the following year.

*e.* Once filed, the claim for credit is applicable to subsequent years, and no further filing shall be required as long as the parcel or property unit satisfies the requirements of the credit. If the parcel or property unit ceases to qualify for the credit, the owner shall provide written notice to the assessor by the date for filing claims in paragraphs 80.30(3) “*b*” and 80.30(3) “*c*,” as applicable, following the date on which the parcel or property unit ceases to qualify for the credit. When all or a portion of a parcel or property unit that is allowed a credit is sold or transferred or ownership otherwise changes, the buyer, transferee, or new owner who wishes to receive the credit shall refile the claim for credit. When a portion of a parcel or property unit that is allowed a credit is sold or transferred or ownership otherwise changes, the owner of the portion of the parcel or property unit for which ownership did not change shall refile the claim for credit. A transfer entered in the auditor’s transfer books under 2015 Iowa Code section 558.57 shall be prima facie evidence of a change in ownership of the parcel or property unit. The burden shall be on the claimant to prove that a transfer entered in the auditor’s transfer books did not result in a change in ownership. The deadline for refiling the claim shall be the same as the deadline for filing the claim.

*f.* In the event the application deadline falls on either a Saturday or Sunday, applications for the business property tax credit may be received in the office of the applicable city or county assessor the following Monday.

*g.* In the event the application deadline falls on a state holiday, applications for the business property tax credit may be received in the office of the applicable city or county assessor the following business day.

*h.* Table 1 shows the applicable claim receipt deadlines and the taxes toward which the claim applies.

Table 1

|                           | Assessment Year<br>2013        | Assessment Year<br>2014        | Assessment Year<br>2015        | Assessment Year<br>2016        | Assessment Year<br>2017        |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Claim Receipt<br>Deadline | January 15, 2014               | March 16, 2015 <sup>1</sup>    | March 15, 2016                 | July 1, 2016                   | July 3, 2017 <sup>2</sup>      |
| For Taxes<br>Payable      | September 2014<br>& March 2015 | September 2015<br>& March 2016 | September 2016<br>& March 2017 | September 2017<br>& March 2018 | September 2018<br>& March 2019 |

<sup>1</sup> March 15, 2015, falls on a Sunday.

<sup>2</sup> July 1, 2017, falls on a Saturday.

*i.* An assessor may not refuse to accept an application for business property tax credit. Assessors shall remit claims for credit to the county auditor with a recommendation to allow or disallow the claim. If it is the opinion of the assessor that a business property tax credit should not be allowed, the assessor's recommendation to the county auditor shall include in writing the reasons for recommending disallowance.

*j.* Upon receipt from the assessor of the claims and recommendations, the county auditor shall forward the claims to the board of supervisors. The board shall allow or disallow the claims. If the board disallows a claim for credit, the board shall send written notice by mail to the claimant at the claimant's last-known address. The written notice shall state the reasons for disallowing the claim for the credit. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the board is not required to send notice that a claim for credit is disallowed if the claimant voluntarily withdraws the claim.

**80.30(4) Appeals.**

*a. Initial appeal.* Any person whose claim is disallowed by the board of supervisors may appeal that action to the district court of the county in which the parcel or property unit is located. Notice of appeal must be given to the county auditor within 20 days from the date on which the notification of disallowance was mailed by the board of supervisors.

*b. Reversal.* If the board of supervisors' disallowance of the claim for credit is reversed upon appeal, the credit shall be allowed on the applicable parcel or property unit. The department of revenue, the county auditor, and the county treasurer shall provide the credit and change their books and records accordingly. If the claimant has paid one or both of the installments of the tax payable in the year or years in question, the county treasurer shall remit the amount of the credit to the claimant and submit a request to the department for reimbursement from the business property tax credit fund. The amounts payable as credits awarded on appeal shall be allocated and paid from the balance remaining in the business property tax credit fund established in Iowa Code section 426C.2.

**80.30(5) Audit.**

*a. Authority and period.* The department of revenue may audit any credit provided under Iowa Code section 426C.4. However, the department shall not adjust a credit allowed more than three years from October 31 of the year in which the claim for credit was filed.

*b. Recalculation or denial.* If an audit reveals that the amount of the credit was incorrectly calculated or that the credit should not have been allowed, the department shall recalculate the credit, if applicable, and notify both the claimant and the county auditor of the recalculation and the reasons it is being made.

*c. Recapture.* If the credit has already been paid, the department shall notify the claimant, the county treasurer, and the applicable assessor of the recalculation or denial of the credit. If the claimant still owns the parcel or property unit for which the credit was claimed, the county treasurer shall collect the tax owed in the same manner as other due and payable property taxes are collected. If the claimant no longer owns the parcel or property unit for which the credit was claimed, the department may recover the amount of tax owed by filing a lien under Iowa Code section 422.26 or by issuing a jeopardy assessment under Iowa Code section 422.30. Upon collection, the amount of the erroneously allowed credit shall be deposited in the business property tax credit fund.

*d. Appeal of recalculation or denial.* The claimant or the board of supervisors may appeal any decision of the department to the director of revenue. The director shall review the department's decision within 30 days from the date of the notice of recalculation or denial provided to the claimant and county auditor. The director shall grant a hearing, at which the director shall determine the correct credit, if any. The director shall notify the claimant, board of supervisors, county auditor, and county treasurer of the decision by mail. The claimant or the board of supervisors may seek judicial review of the director's decision pursuant to the provisions of Iowa Code chapter 17A.

*e. False claim and penalty.* Any person who makes a false claim for the purpose of obtaining a credit or who knowingly receives the credit without being legally entitled to it is guilty of a fraudulent practice. The claim for a credit for such a person shall be disallowed, and the director shall send a notice

of disallowance. If the credit has been paid, the amount shall be recovered in the manner described in paragraph 80.30(5) "c."

**80.30(6) Property eligible for credit.**

*a. Eligible parcels and property units.*

Parcels and property units classified and taxed as commercial property, industrial property, or railway property under Iowa Code chapter 434 are eligible for the business property tax credit for the unit. The assessor shall keep a permanent file of all eligible property units in the assessor's jurisdiction. Each assessment year, the assessor shall update the file based on transfers of property from the auditor's transfer book.

*b. Taxable status of parcels and property units.*

(1) Property that is fully exempt from property tax is not eligible to receive the business property tax credit.

(2) An application for the business property tax credit shall be denied if a parcel or parcels are fully exempt from property tax at the time the application for credit is filed with the city or county assessor.

(3) Determination of eligibility of parcel or property unit based on taxable status.

1. The taxable status of the property on July 1 of the assessment year shall determine the eligibility of the parcel or property unit to receive the credit. If the parcel or property unit becomes exempt from property tax prior to July 1 of the assessment year, the credit shall be disallowed. If the parcel or property unit was taxable on July 1 of the assessment year, but becomes exempt after July 1, the parcel or property unit may receive the credit only in the prorated amount that corresponds to the amount of tax paid in that fiscal year, if any.

2. The assessor shall give notice to the auditor of partial credits allowed due to a change in taxable status of a parcel or property unit. The auditor shall update the auditor's file and give notice on forms prescribed by the department to the department of revenue of partial credits allowed due to a change in taxable status of a parcel or property unit.

(4) The owner of any parcel or property unit that has been granted the credit but becomes exempt from property tax prior to July 1 of the assessment year shall provide written notice to the city or county assessor by the date for filing claims.

(5) The taxable portion of any partially exempted property shall receive the credit only in an amount applicable to the taxable portion.

**80.30(7) Common use and purpose.** Whether parcels are operated for a common use and purpose depends on all the facts and circumstances of each set of parcels. The following nonexclusive examples illustrate common use and purpose.

EXAMPLE 1. ABC Properties is in the business of building, owning, leasing, and managing large retail spaces. ABC builds and owns a large shopping mall that covers contiguous parcels, all of which are located within the same county. Although the retail establishments that lease retail space in the shopping mall offer different products and services, the shopping mall is owned and operated by ABC for the common use and purpose of being a lessor. Thus, the parcels that make up the mall are eligible as a single property unit.

EXAMPLE 2. John's LLC owns four commercial parcels located within the same building, and they are, therefore, contiguous as defined in subrule 80.30(1). John's owns and operates two parcels as a beauty parlor. John's rents the other two parcels to a bicycle shop. The four parcels, together, do not have a common use and purpose. However, the two parcels used by John's as an owner-operator of the beauty parlor business are operated with the common use and purpose of providing beauty services and are eligible as one property unit. The two parcels that John's rents to the bicycle shop are operated with the common use and purpose of being rented out for profit as a landlord and are eligible as a second property unit.

**80.30(8) Property ineligible for credit.** The following are not eligible to receive a business property tax credit or to be part of a property unit that receives the business property tax credit:

*a.* Property that is rented or leased to low-income individuals and families as authorized by Section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, and that is subject to assessment procedures relating to Section 42 property under Iowa Code section 441.21, subsection 2, for the applicable assessment year.

b. Property classified as multiresidential under 701—subrule 71.1(5).

**80.30(9) Application of credit.**

a. A person may claim and receive one business property tax credit for each eligible parcel unless the parcel is part of a property unit for which a credit is claimed.

b. A person may claim and receive one business property tax credit for each property unit. A claim for credit on a parcel that is part of a property unit constitutes a claim for credit on the entire unit.

c. A credit approved for a property unit shall be allocated to the several parcels within the property unit in the proportion that each parcel's total amount of property taxes due and payable bears to the total amount of property taxes due and payable on the property unit.

d. The classification of property used to determine eligibility for the business property tax credit shall be the classification of the property for the assessment year used to calculate the taxes due and payable in the fiscal year for which the credit is claimed.

e. Once filed and allowed, the credit shall continue to be allowed on the parcel or property unit for successive years without further filing of an application unless the parcel or property unit ceases to qualify for the credit under Iowa Code chapter 426C.

f. When all or a portion of a parcel or property unit is sold or transferred or ownership otherwise changes, the new owner must reapply for the credit. The owner of the portion of a parcel or property unit that did not change shall also reapply for the credit. When the composition of a property unit changes as the result of a sale, transfer, or change in ownership, the owner of the property unit must reapply for the credit on the entire unit.

g. The following noninclusive examples illustrate the application of the business property tax credit under various circumstances.

EXAMPLE 1. On February 13, 2015, Mr. Jones files with his county assessor an application for the business property tax credit for taxes due and payable in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015. The property that Mr. Jones claims is eligible for the credit is a single parcel that is classified as commercial property. The property is not rented or leased to low-income individuals and families as authorized by Section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code. The property is not a mobile home park, manufactured home community, land-leased community, or assisted living facility nor is it primarily used or intended for human habitation with three or more separate dwelling units. Therefore, Mr. Jones' application should be approved as a credit against the taxes due and payable in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015.

EXAMPLE 2. Same facts as in EXAMPLE 1, but Mr. Jones files his application on July 3, 2016. Mr. Jones' application should be approved, but the credit will be against taxes due and payable in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018.

EXAMPLE 3. Davidoff LLC owns two parcels of land, both of which are classified as industrial property. Each parcel is being operated for a common use and purpose. The parcels are separated by a road. If Davidoff owns the property parcels to the middle of the road in fee simple title, the parcels are considered contiguous and would qualify as a unit, and Davidoff would be eligible for a single business property tax credit. If a third party, including the state, a municipality, or other government entity, owned the road in fee simple title, the parcels would not be considered contiguous, and Davidoff would be eligible for two separate business property tax credits.

EXAMPLE 4. In Madison County, Iowa, there is a wind farm that consists of four wind turbines that are taxed separately as permanent improvements to the land. All the wind turbines are owned by Windy LLC. The turbines sit upon four parcels of land that share a common boundary. Each parcel of land is owned by a different owner. The four wind turbines are contiguous because the wind turbines are taxed as permanent improvements to the land, they are situated upon four parcels of land that share a common boundary, and the land is assessed and taxed separately from the wind turbines. The four wind turbines qualify as a property unit and would be eligible for one business property tax credit.

**80.30(10) Calculation of credit.**

a. *Auditor certification.* On or before June 30 of each year, the county auditor shall certify to the department the following:

- (1) The claims allowed by the board of supervisors in that county;

(2) The actual value, prior to the imposition of any applicable assessment limitations, of the parcels and property units for which credits were allowed in that county; and

(3) The information applicable to the location of the parcels and property units.

*b. Department process and methodology.*

(1) Department of management information. The department shall obtain from the department of management tax district and applicable consolidated rates. The department shall calculate the credit using the estimated consolidated levy rates obtained from the department of management. The department shall modify the credit accordingly upon certification by the auditor of the actual consolidated levy rates.

(2) Initial amount of actual value. For each parcel or property unit certified by the county auditor, the department shall calculate, for each fiscal year, an initial amount of actual value to use for determining the amount of credit for each such parcel or property unit that provides the maximum possible credit according to the credit formula and limitations prescribed by Iowa Code section 426C.3(5). The department shall also calculate the initial amount of actual value so as to provide that the total dollar amount of credits against the taxes due and payable in the fiscal year equals 98 percent of the moneys in the business property tax credit fund following the deposit of the appropriation for the fiscal year, including any interest or earnings that have been credited to the fund.

(3) Credit amount. The amount of the credit shall be calculated as follows:

Step 1. Determine the lesser of the actual value calculated in paragraph 80.30(10) "a" and the initial value calculated in subparagraph 80.30(10) "b"(2).

Step 2. Multiply the amount determined in Step 1 by the difference between the assessment limitation percentage applicable to the parcel or property unit under Iowa Code section 441.21(5) and the assessment limitation applicable to residential property under Iowa Code section 441.21(4). For purposes of this calculation, such difference shall be stated as a percentage.

Step 3. Divide the product of Steps 1 and 2 by \$1000.

Step 4. Multiply the quotient obtained in Step 3 by the consolidated levy rate or average consolidated levy rate per \$1000 of taxable value applicable to the parcel or property unit for the fiscal year for which the credit is claimed as certified by the county auditor under Iowa Code section 426C.3(5).

(4) Allocation to parcels. The business property tax credit approved for a property unit shall be allocated to the several parcels within the property unit in the proportion that each parcel's total amount of property taxes due and payable bears to the total amount of property taxes due and payable on the property unit.

(5) Limitation on information. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the department's calculations shall be based upon the certified information it has received by June 30 of each fiscal year. Any information, whether certified or uncertified, received after June 30 of each fiscal year will not be included in the department's credit calculations for the applicable fiscal year.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 426C.

[ARC 1382C, IAB 3/19/14, effective 4/23/14; ARC 2508C, IAB 4/27/16, effective 6/1/16]

## **701—80.31(427) Broadband infrastructure.**

**80.31(1) Definitions.** For purposes of this rule, the following definitions shall govern.

"Broadband" means a high-speed, high-capacity electronic transmission medium, including fixed wireless and mobile wireless mediums, that can carry data signals from independent network sources by establishing different bandwidth channels and that is commonly used to deliver Internet services to the public.

"Broadband infrastructure" means the physical infrastructure used for the transmission of data that provides broadband services. "Broadband infrastructure" does not include land, buildings, structures, improvements, or equipment not directly used in the transmission of data via broadband.

"Certified project" means the installation of broadband infrastructure certified by the office of the chief information officer to serve a targeted service area.

"Communications service provider" means a service provider that provides broadband service.

“*Date of commencement*” means the date first occurring after July 1, 2015, and before July 1, 2020, in which broadband infrastructure used in a certified project becomes property taxed as real property as determined by Iowa Code section 427A.1.

“*Date of completion*” or “*completed*” means the date that a communications service provider offers or facilitates broadband service delivered at or above 25 megabits per second of download speed and 3 megabits per second of upload speed in a targeted service area.

“*Installation of the broadband infrastructure*” means the labor, construction, building, and furnishing of new physical infrastructure used for the transmission of data that provides broadband services. “Installation of the broadband infrastructure” does not include the process of removing existing infrastructure, fixtures, or other real property in preparation of installation of the broadband infrastructure.

“*Targeted service area*” means a U.S. Census Bureau census block located in this state, including any crop operation located within the census block, within which no communications service provider offers or facilitates broadband service at or above 25 megabits per second of download speed and 3 megabits per second of upload speed as of July 1, 2015.

**80.31(2) Exemption.** An exemption from property tax shall be allowed for each certified project in the amount equal to 100 percent of the actual value added by installation of the broadband infrastructure in a targeted service area that facilitates broadband service for the public at or above 25 megabits per second of download speed and 3 megabits per second of upload speed, as certified by the office of the chief information officer. The exemption shall be allowed beginning January 1 of the assessment year in which an application for exemption is approved until the exemption is revoked or at the expiration of ten years, whichever occurs earlier.

**80.31(3) Calculation of actual value added by installation of the broadband infrastructure.** The actual value added by installation of the broadband infrastructure is the amount of increase in the actual assessed value of the property that is directly attributable to the installation of broadband infrastructure in a targeted service area for the assessment year in which the property receives the exemption. Changes in the value of the property which are attributable to general market fluctuations are not to be included in the calculation of the actual value added by installation of the broadband infrastructure. Installation of broadband infrastructure that is not part of a certified project is not eligible to receive the exemption.

Broadband infrastructure in general may be assessed locally or by the department of revenue. Broadband infrastructure that qualifies as telephone or telegraph property under Iowa Code chapter 433 is centrally assessed by the department of revenue. Broadband infrastructure that does not qualify as telephone or telegraph property under Iowa Code chapter 433 is locally assessed under Iowa Code chapter 441. The owner of the property must separately report property that is centrally assessed from property that is locally assessed.

*a. Locally assessed property.* The local assessor shall determine the actual value added by installation of broadband infrastructure using the methodologies required under Iowa Code section 441.21.

*b. Centrally assessed property.* The department of revenue shall determine the actual value added by installation of the broadband infrastructure by using the appropriate methodologies set forth in 701—Chapter 77.

The department shall calculate the actual value added by installation of the broadband infrastructure as part of the total unit value of the operating property of the company. The exemption attributable to the installation of the broadband infrastructure shall be applied to each unit before any other exemption or credit. In no case shall the taxable value of the property be reduced below zero. The department shall certify the exemption value per line mile for each company to the county auditor pursuant to Iowa Code section 433.8.

**80.31(4) Commencement and completion of project.** To be eligible for the exemption, the date of commencement of the installation of the broadband infrastructure must occur on or after July 1, 2015, and the date of completion of the installation of the broadband infrastructure must occur on or before July 1, 2020.

**80.31(5) Application for exemption.** The owner of broadband infrastructure shall file one application with the department of revenue. The department shall forward the application to the appropriate county boards of supervisors for approval or denial for broadband infrastructure associated with property subject to local assessment. The department shall retain the application for approval or denial for broadband infrastructure associated with property subject to central assessment.

*a. Application deadline.* The owner of the property shall file the application with the department of revenue by February 1 of the year in which the broadband infrastructure is first assessed for taxation or by February 1 of the following two assessment years. If approved, the exemption shall be allowed for ten years from January 1 of the assessment year in which the application is filed or until revoked without further application. However, at any time prior to the completion of the installation of the broadband infrastructure, an owner may submit a proposal to the department requesting that the owner be allowed to file an application for exemption by February 1 of any other assessment year following completion of the installation of broadband infrastructure. The department shall approve the proposal for property that is centrally assessed. The board of supervisors shall approve the proposal by resolution for property that is locally assessed. If approved, the exemption shall be allowed for ten years from January 1 of the assessment year in which the application is approved or until revoked without further application. If an exemption that was revoked is reinstated on appeal, the exemption shall remain in effect only for the remaining period of exemption. No property shall receive an exemption for the installation of broadband infrastructure for a period greater than ten years.

Neither the department nor the board of supervisors shall approve an application for exemption that is missing any of the requirements listed in this subrule. The department or the board of supervisors may consult with the office of the chief information officer in order to obtain additional information necessary to review an application for exemption.

*b. Application requirements.* The owner shall submit the application to the department of revenue. It is the responsibility of the owner to ensure that the application is complete and accurate. The application must be made on forms prescribed by the department. In addition, the application must contain the following information, certifications and documentation:

(1) The nature of the broadband infrastructure installation, including the number of new line miles installed within the jurisdiction of the assessing authority to which the owner is applying for exemption, and a description of the property and how it is directly related to delivering broadband services.

(2) The percentage of homes, farms, schools, and businesses in the targeted service area that will be provided access to broadband service.

(3) The actual cost of installing the broadband infrastructure under the project, if available. The application shall contain supporting documents demonstrating actual cost.

(4) Certification from the office of the chief information officer pursuant to Iowa Code section 8B.10 that the installation is being performed or was completed in a targeted service area, including whether or not the targeted service area designation is under appeal pursuant to rule 129—21.7(8B,427), and that it facilitates broadband service at or above 25 megabits per second of download speed and 3 megabits per second of upload speed.

(5) Certification by the company of the date of commencement and actual or estimated date of completion. If an application contains only an estimated date of completion, the owner must notify the department of the actual completion date once the certified project is completed. If the actual completion date occurs after July 1, 2020, the exemption may be revoked.

(6) A copy of any nonwireless broadband-related permit issued by a political subdivision, if applicable.

*c. Special application requirements.* If an owner submits a proposal to the department prior to the completion of the installation of broadband infrastructure requesting to file an application for exemption in any other assessment year following completion of the project, the owner must provide the following information and documentation in addition to those required under paragraph 80.31(5) "b."

(1) The actual cost already incurred for installation of broadband infrastructure, if any, with supporting documentation demonstrating the actual cost.

(2) The estimated costs for project completion.



(3) The estimated date of project completion. Once the project has been completed, the owner must notify the department of the actual completion date. If the actual completion date occurs after July 1, 2020, the exemption may be revoked.

*d. Approval or denial of application.* All applications shall be submitted to the department of revenue. The department shall forward applications for property subject to local assessment to the board of supervisors of the county in which the exempt property is located. The department shall retain the applications for centrally assessed property. The department and the board of supervisors, as applicable, shall notify an applicant of approval or denial of an application for exemption by March 1 of the assessment year in which the application was submitted. The notification shall include a notification of the applicant's right to appeal. The board of supervisors shall forward all approved applications and any necessary information regarding the applications to the appropriate local assessor by March 1 of the assessment year in which the application was submitted.

Approval of an application involving a targeted service area that is under appeal pursuant to rule 129—21.7(8B,427) shall be contingent on the outcome of the appeal. In the event that an application is approved and the targeted service area designation subsequently is revoked upon appeal, the approved exemption shall also be revoked at that time.

**80.31(6) Revocation of exemption.** The department or board of supervisors may revoke the exemption at any time after the exemption is granted if the department or board of supervisors determines that the property owner no longer provides the broadband service to a targeted service area at the speeds required under Iowa Code section 427.1(40). The property owner has the responsibility to provide the department, the board of supervisors or the office of the chief information officer the information required to substantiate that the broadband infrastructure meets the requirements of the exemption. The department or board of supervisors, as applicable, shall provide notice of revocation to the property owner. An owner may appeal the decision to revoke the exemption within 30 days of the issuance of the notice of revocation.

**80.31(7) Appeals.**

*a. Appeal of denial of application for exemption.* An applicant for the exemption under this rule whose application is denied may appeal the denial within 30 days of its issuance.

(1) Denial by board of supervisors. An applicant may appeal the denial of its application for exemption by the board of supervisors to the property assessment appeal board within 30 days of the issuance of the denial.

(2) Denial by the department of revenue. An applicant may appeal the denial of its application for exemption by the department of revenue to the director of revenue within 30 days of the issuance of the denial.

*b. Appeal of revocation of exemption.* An owner whose exemption is revoked may appeal the revocation within 30 days of its issuance.

(1) Revocation by board of supervisors. An owner may appeal the revocation of its exemption by the board of supervisors to the property assessment appeal board within 30 days of the issuance of the revocation.

(2) Revocation by the department of revenue. An owner may appeal the revocation of its exemption by the department of revenue to the director of revenue within 30 days of the issuance of the revocation.

*c. Appeal of value of exemption.* A property owner who is dissatisfied with the value of the owner's exemption may appeal the value assigned by the local assessor using the protest procedures under Iowa Code section 441.37. A property owner who is dissatisfied with the value of the owner's exemption may appeal the value assigned by the department using the appeal procedures under Iowa Code section 429.2.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 427.1(40).

[ARC 2549C, IAB 5/25/16, effective 6/29/16; ARC 2786C, IAB 10/26/16, effective 11/30/16]

**701—80.32(427,428,433,434,435,437,438) Property aiding in disaster or emergency-related work.** On or after January 1, 2016, see 701—Chapter 242 for assessment of property taxes by the department under Iowa Code sections 428.24 through 428.26, 428.28, and 428.29, or Iowa Code chapters 433, 434, 435, and 437 through 438, or by a local assessor, on property brought into Iowa to

aid in the performance of disaster or emergency-related work during a disaster response period as those terms are defined in Iowa Code section 29C.24.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 427.1(41).  
[ARC 3085C, IAB 5/24/17, effective 6/28/17]

**701—80.33 to 80.48** Reserved.

**701—80.49(441) Commercial and industrial property tax replacement—county replacement claims.** For each fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2014, the department of revenue shall pay to the county treasurer an amount equal to the amount of the commercial and industrial property tax replacement claims in the county. For fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 2017, if an amount appropriated for a fiscal year is insufficient to pay all replacement claims, the director of revenue shall prorate the payment of replacement claims to the county treasurers and shall notify the county auditors of the pro rata percentage on or before September 30.

**80.49(1)** For each taxing district, the commercial and industrial property tax replacement claim amount is determined by multiplying the amounts calculated in 80.49(1) “a” and “b” and dividing the resultant amount by \$1,000.

a. The difference between the assessed valuation of all commercial property and industrial property for the assessment year used to calculate taxes which are due and payable in the applicable fiscal year and the actual value of all commercial property and industrial property that is subject to assessment and taxation for the same assessment year; and

b. The tax levy rate per \$1,000 of assessed value of each taxing district for that fiscal year.

**80.49(2)** Reporting requirements.

a. On or before July 1 of each fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2014, the assessor shall report to the county auditor the total actual value of all commercial and industrial property in the county that is subject to assessment and taxation for the assessment year used to calculate the taxes due and payable in that fiscal year.

b. On or before September 1 of each fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2014, the county auditor shall, based upon the information in the report required to be provided in paragraph “a” of this subrule, prepare and submit a statement to the department of revenue which lists, for each taxing district in the county, the information required in 80.49(1). The county auditor shall prepare and submit the required information regardless of whether the legislature has appropriated funds to pay replacement claims for the current year.

c. The department shall pay the replacement amount to the county treasurer in two installments in September and March of each year.

d. The county treasurer shall apportion the replacement claim payments among the eligible taxing districts in the county.

[ARC 1332C, IAB 2/19/14, effective 3/26/14; ARC 3315C, IAB 9/13/17, effective 10/18/17]

**701—80.50(427,441) Responsibility of local assessors.**

**80.50(1)** The assessor shall determine the taxable status of all property. If an application for exemption is required to be filed, the assessor shall consider the information contained in the application in determining the taxable status of the property. The assessor may also request from any property owner or claimant any additional information necessary to the determination of the taxable status of the property. For property subject to Iowa Code subsection 427.1(14), the assessor shall not base the determination of the taxable status of property solely on the statement of objects or purposes of the organization, institution, or society seeking an exemption. The use of the property rather than the objects or purposes of the organization, institution, or society shall be the controlling factor in determining the taxable status of property. (*Evangelical Lutheran G.S. Society v. Board of Review of Des Moines*, 200 N.W.2d 509; *Northwest Community Hospital v. Board of Review of Des Moines*, 229 N.W.2d 738.)

**80.50(2)** In determining the taxable status of property, the assessor shall construe the appropriate exemption statute and these rules in a strict manner. If there exists any doubt as to the taxable status of property, the property shall be subject to taxation. The burden shall be upon the claimant to show that

the exemption should be granted. (*Evangelical Lutheran G.S. Society v. Board of Review of Des Moines*, 200 N.W.2d 509; *Southside Church of Christ of Des Moines v. Des Moines Board of Review*, 243 N.W.2d 650; *Aerie 1287, Fraternal Order of Eagles v. Holland*, 226 N.W.2d 22.)

**80.50(3)** If the assessor determines that all or part of a property is subject to taxation, the assessor shall notify the taxpayer by the issuance of an assessment roll as provided in Iowa Code sections 441.26 and 441.27. If the assessor determines that property has been erroneously exempted from taxation, the assessor shall revoke the exemption for the current assessment year but not for prior assessment years.

**80.50(4)** The assessor's determination of the taxable status of property may be appealed to the local board of review pursuant to Iowa Code section 441.37.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 427 and sections 441.17(11), 441.26, and 441.27.

[ARC 7726B, IAB 4/22/09, effective 5/27/09]

#### **701—80.51(441) Responsibility of local boards of review.**

**80.51(1)** If the board of review determines that property has been erroneously exempted from taxation, the board of review shall revoke the exemption for the current assessment year, but not for prior assessment years, and shall give notice to the taxpayer as provided in Iowa Code section 441.36.

**80.51(2)** If the board of review acts in response to a protest arising from an assessor's determination of the taxable status of property, the board of review shall notify the taxpayer of its disposition of the protest in accordance with the provisions of Iowa Code section 441.37.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 441.35, 441.36, and 441.37.

[ARC 7726B, IAB 4/22/09, effective 5/27/09]

**701—80.52(427) Responsibility of director of revenue.** The director may revoke or modify an exemption on property if the exemption is found to have been erroneously granted by the local taxing officials. Any taxpayer or taxing district may request that the director revoke or modify an exemption, or the director may on the director's own determination revoke or modify an exemption. The director may revoke or modify an exemption for the tax year commencing in the tax year in which the request is made to the director or for the tax year commencing in the tax year in which the director's own motion is filed. The director shall hold a hearing on the appropriateness of the exemption prior to issuing an order for revocation or modification. The director's order to revoke or modify an exemption may be appealed in accordance with Iowa Code chapter 17A or in the district court of the county in which the property is located.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 427.1(16).

[ARC 7726B, IAB 4/22/09, effective 5/27/09]

#### **701—80.53(427) Application for exemption.**

**80.53(1)** Each society or organization seeking an exemption under Iowa Code subsection 427.1(5), 427.1(8), 427.1(21), or 427.1(33) shall file with the appropriate assessor a statement containing the following information:

- a. The legal description of the property for which an exemption is requested.
- b. The use of all portions of the property, including the percentage of space not used for the appropriate objects of the society or organization and the percentage of time such space is so utilized.
- c. A financial statement showing the income derived and the expenses incurred in the operation of the property.
- d. The name of the organization seeking the exemption.
- e. If the exemption is sought under Iowa Code subsection 427.1(8), the appropriate objects of the society or organization.
- f. The book and page number on which is recorded the contract of purchase or the deed to the property and any lease by which the property is held.
- g. An oath that no persistent violations of the laws of the state of Iowa will be permitted or have been permitted on such property.

*h.* The signature of the president or other responsible official of the society or organization showing that information contained in the claim has been verified under oath as correct.

**80.53(2)** The statement of objects and uses required by Iowa Code subsection 427.1(14) shall be filed only on forms prescribed by the director of revenue and made available by assessors.

**80.53(3)** Applications for exemptions required under Iowa Code subsection 427.1(14) must be filed with the assessor not later than February 1 of the year for which the exemption is requested.

**80.53(4)** If a properly completed application is not filed by February 1 of the assessment year for which the exemption would apply, no exemption shall be allowed against the property for that year (1964 O.A.G. 437).

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 427.1, subsections 5, 8, 14, 19 to 24, 27, and 29 to 33.

[ARC 7726B, IAB 4/22/09, effective 5/27/09]

**701—80.54(427) Partial exemptions.** In the event a portion of property is determined to be subject to taxation and a portion of the property exempt from taxation, the taxable value of the property shall be an amount which bears the same relationship to the total value of the entire property as the area of the portion subject to taxation bears to the area of the entire property. If a portion of a structure is subject to taxation, a proportionate amount of the value assigned to the land upon which the structure is located shall also be subject to taxation.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code subsection 427.1(14).

[ARC 7726B, IAB 4/22/09, effective 5/27/09]

**701—80.55(427,441) Taxable status of property.**

**80.55(1)** The status of property on July 1 of the fiscal year which commences during the assessment year determines eligibility of the property for exemption in situations where no claim is required to be filed to procure a tax exemption. If the property is in a taxable status on July 1, no exemption is allowable for that fiscal year. If the property is in an exempt status on July 1, no taxes are to be levied against the property during that fiscal year. Exceptions to this rule are as follows:

*a.* Land acquired by the state of Iowa or a political subdivision thereof after July 1 in connection with the establishment, improvement, or maintenance of a public road shall be taxable for that portion of the fiscal year in which the property was privately owned.

*b.* All current and delinquent tax liabilities are to be canceled and no future taxes levied against property acquired by the United States or its instrumentalities, regardless of the date of acquisition, unless the United States Congress has authorized the taxation of specific federally owned property (1980 O.A.G. 80-1-19). The following exceptions apply:

(1) Property owned by the Federal Housing Authority (FHA) and property owned by the Federal Land Bank Association are subject to taxation, and any tax liabilities existing at the time of the acquisition are not to be canceled (1982 O.A.G. 82-1-16; 12 USCS §2055).

(2) Existing tax liabilities against property acquired by the Small Business Administration are not to be canceled if the acquisition takes place after the date of levy. However, no taxes are to be levied if the acquisition takes place prior to the levy date or for subsequent fiscal years in which the Small Business Administration owns the property on July 1 (15 USCS §646).

*c.* Land owned by the state and leased by the department of corrections or the department of human services pursuant to Iowa Code section 904.302, 904.705, or 904.706 to an entity that is not exempt from property tax is subject to taxation for the term of the lease. This provision applies to leases entered into on or after July 1, 2003. The lessor shall file a copy of the lease with the county assessor of the county where the land is located.

**80.55(2)** The status of property during the fiscal year for which an exemption was claimed determines eligibility of the property for exemption in situations where a claim is required to be filed to procure a tax exemption. If the property is used for an appropriate purpose for which an exemption is allowable for all of the fiscal year for which the exemption is claimed, no taxes are to be levied against the property during that fiscal year. If the property for which an exemption has been claimed and received is used for an appropriate purpose for which an exemption is allowable for only a portion

of the fiscal year for which the exemption is claimed, the taxes shall be prorated in accordance with the period of time the property was in a taxable status during the fiscal year.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 427.1(1), 427.1(2), 427.2, 427.18, and 427.19. [ARC 7726B, IAB 4/22/09, effective 5/27/09]

**701—80.56(427) Abatement of taxes.** The board of supervisors may abate the taxes levied against property acquired by gift or purchase if the property was acquired after the deadline for filing a claim for property tax exemption if the property would have been exempt under Iowa Code section 427.1, subsection 7, 8, or 9, if a timely claim had been filed.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 427.3. [ARC 7726B, IAB 4/22/09, effective 5/27/09]

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