

PART VIII
LEGAL AND COMPLIANCE

CHAPTER 187
CONTRACTING

[Prior to 7/4/07, see 261—Ch 168, div VI]

261—187.1(15) Applicability. This chapter is applicable to the programs identified in 261—173.1(15).

261—187.2(15) Contract required.

187.2(1) Notice of award. Successful applicants will be notified in writing of an award of assistance, including any conditions and terms of the approval.

187.2(2) Contract required. The authority shall prepare a contract that includes, but is not limited to, a description of the project to be completed by the business; the jobs to be created or retained; length of the project completion period and maintenance project completion period; the project completion date and maintenance period completion date; conditions to disbursement; a requirement for annual reporting to the authority; and the repayment requirements of the business or other penalties imposed on the business in the event the business does not fulfill its obligations described in the contract and other specific repayment provisions (“clawback provisions”) to be established on a project-by-project basis. The contract shall include the requirements that must be met to confirm eligibility pursuant to the program and the requirements that must be maintained throughout the period of the contract in order to retain the incentives or financial assistance received.

187.2(3) Contract-signing deadline. Successful applicants will be required to execute an agreement with the authority within 120 days of the authority’s or board’s approval of an award. Failure to do so may result in action by the entity that approved the award (the authority or the board) to rescind the award. The 120-day time limit may be extended by the final decision maker that approved the award (the authority or the board) for good cause shown.

[ARC 7970B, IAB 7/15/09, effective 7/1/09; ARC 8145B, IAB 9/23/09, effective 10/28/09; ARC 0442C, IAB 11/14/12, effective 12/19/12; ARC 1573C, IAB 8/20/14, effective 9/24/14]

261—187.3(15) Project completion date and maintenance period completion date.

187.3(1) Projects shall be completed by the project completion date and maintained through the end of the maintenance date. The contract will establish the duration of the project period and maintenance period. Requests to change the project completion date and the maintenance period completion date shall follow the process for an amended award or contract as described in rule 261—187.4(15).

187.3(2) Projects receiving assistance from programs covered by this chapter shall conform to the time periods established by this rule.

187.3(3) By the project completion date, a recipient shall have completed the project as required by the contract. The jobs and project shall be maintained through the end of the maintenance period completion date. The project completion date is calculated by the authority from the end of the month during which an award is made. For example, if an award is made on June 13, 2007, the three-year project completion date will be calculated from June 30, 2007. The project completion date for this award would be June 30, 2010. The maintenance period completion date would be June 30, 2012.

187.3(4) The following table describes, by program, the length of the project completion period and the maintenance period:

Program	Project Completion Period	Maintenance Period	Total Contract Length
Grow Iowa Values Financial Assistance Program (all components)	3 years	2 more years	5 years
High Quality Jobs Program	3 years	2 more years	5 years
Enterprise Zone Program	3 years	2 more years	5 years

187.3(5) Notwithstanding the standard project completion period and maintenance period lengths described in subrule 187.3(4), the authority may vary the length of the periods provided that the project completion period will not be less than three years and the total contract length will not be less than five years.

[**ARC 7970B**, IAB 7/15/09, effective 7/1/09; **ARC 8145B**, IAB 9/23/09, effective 10/28/09; **ARC 0442C**, IAB 11/14/12, effective 12/19/12]

261—187.4(15) Contract and award amendment approval procedures.

187.4(1) General rule. Generally, the final decision maker that approved the initial award shall approve any amendments or changes to that award.

187.4(2) Contract amendments.

a. General. In general, the amendment process for both awards and contracts mirrors the application process. That is, the same entity that recommended the initial application will also recommend the amendment, and the same entity that had final approval of the initial application will have final approval of the amendment. As with awards, contract amendments must comply with the statutory requirements for each individual program or funding source and the applicable administrative rules. In general, the amendment process begins with review of an amendment request by authority staff. After review by staff, the amendment may be sent to a committee for further recommendation followed by final action on the amendment by the board or by the director, as the case may be. The director may take action on any amendment that is not specifically identified as requiring board action. The authority's various programs and the amendment procedures are described in paragraph 187.4(2) "c," which contains the applicable recommending and approving entities by funding source and program.

b. Key to table. ACE – The accelerated career education program job credits authorized under Iowa Code chapter 260G.

ASSISTIVE – The assistive device tax credits authorized in Iowa Code section 422.33.

BRN – The brownfield redevelopment advisory council established in Iowa Code section 15.294.

BROWN – Redevelopment tax credits for brownfield and grayfield sites and the brownfield redevelopment fund as established in Iowa Code chapter 15.

CDBG – Federal community development block grant funded programs.

DDC – Due diligence committee organized by the board pursuant to 261—Chapter 1.

EDSA – The economic development set aside component of the CDBG program established in 261—Chapter 23.

ETAP – The export trade assistance program established in 261—Chapter 72.

EZ – Enterprise zone program as established in Iowa Code chapter 15E, including both the business and housing development tax credits.

FILM – The film and video project promotion program tax credits available under the now repealed Iowa Code section 15.393.

GIVF – The grow Iowa values fund and financial assistance program established pursuant to the now repealed Iowa Code chapter 15G, including all prior versions and funding sources of the program.

HQJP – High quality jobs program, as established in Iowa Code chapter 15, including both tax incentives and project completion assistance.

INNOVATION – Programs related to innovation, commercialization, and targeted industries development, including the programs described in Iowa Code section 15.411 and the program rules in 261—Part V.

LCG – Loan and credit guarantee program as established in the now repealed Iowa Code chapter 15E, division XX.

NSP – Neighborhood stabilization program as established in 261—Chapter 27.

TCC – Technology commercialization committee organized by the board pursuant to 261—Chapter 1.

TJWTC – Targeted jobs withholding tax credit program for pilot project cities established in Iowa Code section 403.19A.

TSB – Targeted small business advisory council established in Iowa Code section 15.247(8).

TSB LOAN – The targeted small business financial assistance program established in Iowa Code section 15.247.

c. Recommendation and approval entities for state and federal programs. The contract amendment process for tax incentives, project completion assistance, other financial assistance, or other benefits under the authority’s various programs is as follows:

PROGRAM	STATE/FEDERAL	RECOMMENDATION BY	FINAL DECISION BY
HQJP	State	DDC	Board
GIVF	State	DDC	Board
EZ (Business)	State	DDC	Board
EZ (Housing)	State		Director
INNOVATION	State	TCC	Board
LCG	State	DDC	Board
FILM	State		Director
ASSISTIVE	State		Director
EDSA	Federal	DDC	Board
CDBG	Federal		Director
NSP	Federal		Director
HOME	Federal		Director
BROWN	State	BRN	Director
TSB LOAN	State	TSB	Director
ETAP	State		Director
ACE	State		Director
TJWTC	State		Director

d. Exception. Notwithstanding paragraph 187.4(2)“c,” the director may approve contract amendments for the targeted industries internship program consistent with Iowa Code section 15.106C without board approval.

187.4(3) Amendments and other requests the authority is authorized to implement. The authority is authorized by the board to take action on nonsubstantive changes, including but not limited to the following:

- a.* Recipient name, address and similar changes.
- b.* Collateral changes that are the same or better security than originally approved by the board or director (e.g., securing a letter of credit to replace a UCC blanket filing) or collateral changes that do not materially and substantially impact the authority’s security.
- c.* Line item budget changes that do not reduce overall total project costs.
- d.* Loan repayment amounts or due dates that do not extend the final due date of a loan.

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261—187.5(15) Default.

187.5(1) Events of default. The authority may, for cause, determine that a recipient is in default under the terms of the contract. The reasons for which the authority may determine that the recipient is in default of the contract include, but are not limited to, any of the following:

- a.* Any material representation or warranty made by the recipient in connection with the application that was incorrect in any material respect when made.
- b.* A material change in the business ownership or structure that occurs without prior written disclosure and the permission of the authority.
- c.* A relocation or abandonment of the business or jobs created or retained through the project.
- d.* Expenditure of funds for purposes not described in the application or authorized in the agreement.

- e. Failure of the recipient to make timely payments under the terms of the agreement, note or other obligation.
- f. Failure of the recipient to fulfill its job obligations.
- g. Failure of the recipient to comply with wage or benefit packages.
- h. Failure of the recipient to perform or comply with the terms and conditions of the contract.
- i. Failure of the recipient to comply with any applicable state rules or regulations.
- j. Failure of the recipient to file the required annual report.
- k. Failure of the recipient to comply with any other provision of the agreement required pursuant to Iowa Code section 15.330 or 15.330A.

187.5(2) *Layoffs or closures.* If a recipient experiences a layoff within the state or closes any of its facilities within the state prior to receiving the incentives and assistance, the authority may reduce or eliminate all or a portion of the incentives and assistance. If a business experiences a layoff within the state or closes any of its facilities within the state after executing a contract to receive the incentives and assistance, the authority may consider this an event of default and the business may be subject to repayment of all or a portion of the incentives and assistance that it has received.

187.5(3) *Authority actions upon default—direct financial assistance programs.*

a. The authority will take prompt, appropriate, and aggressive debt collection action to recover any funds misspent by recipients.

b. If the authority determines that the recipient is in default, the authority may seek recovery of all program funds plus interest, assess penalties, negotiate alternative repayment schedules, suspend or discontinue collection efforts, and take other appropriate action as the board deems necessary.

c. Determination of appropriate repayment plan. Upon determination that the recipient has not met the contract obligations, the authority will notify the recipient of the amount to be repaid to the authority. If the enforcement of such penalties would endanger the viability of the recipient, the board may extend the term of the loan to ensure payback, stability, and survival of the recipient. In certain instances, additional flexibility in a repayment plan may be necessary to ensure payback, stability, and survival of the recipient. Flexibility in a repayment plan may include, but is not limited to, deferring principal payments or collecting monthly payments below the amortized amount. In these cases, review and approval by the board, committee or director, as applicable, are necessary before the authority may finalize the repayment plan with the recipient.

d. The authority shall attempt to collect the amount owed. Negotiated settlements, write-offs or discontinuance of collection efforts is subject to final review and approval by the board, committee or director, as applicable, and described in paragraph 187.5(3) “f.”

e. If the authority or board refers defaulted contracts to outside counsel for collection, then the terms of the agreement between the authority and the outside counsel regarding scope of counsel’s authorization to accept settlements shall apply. No additional approvals by the board, committee or director shall be required.

f. The table below describes the approval procedures that shall be followed for all negotiated settlements, write-offs or discontinuance of collection efforts for state direct financial assistance programs, federal programs, and other programs administered by the authority.

PROGRAM	STATE/FEDERAL	RECOMMENDATION BY	FINAL DECISION BY
HQJP	State	DDC	Board
GIVF	State	DDC	Board
EZ (Business)	State	DDC	Board
EZ (Housing)	State		Director
INNOVATION	State	TCC	Board
LCG	State	DDC	Board
FILM	State		Director
ASSISTIVE	State		Director
EDSA	Federal	DDC	Board

CDBG	Federal		Director
NSP	Federal		Director
HOME	Federal		Director
BROWN	State	BRN	Director
TSB LOAN	State	TSB	Director
ETAP	State		Director
ACE	State		Director
TJWTC	State	DDC	Board

187.5(4) Authority actions upon default—tax credit programs. If the authority determines that an event of default has occurred under the contract and that state tax incentives are required to be repaid, the eligible business and the department of revenue will both be notified of the event of default and of the required repayment amount. If the contract provided for local tax incentives, the community where the project is located will also be notified of the default. In the case of state tax incentives, the department of revenue will undertake collection efforts. In the case of local tax incentives, the local community will undertake collection efforts.

a. Repayment. If an eligible business or eligible housing business has received incentives or assistance under the EZ program or the HQJP and fails to meet and maintain any one of the requirements of the program or applicable rules, the business is subject to repayment of all or a portion of the incentives and assistance that it has received. If the business is an entity that has elected pass-through taxation status for income tax purposes, the department of revenue may undertake collection efforts against members, individuals, or shareholders to whom the tax incentives were passed through.

b. Calculation of repayment due for a business. If the authority, in consultation with the city or county, determines that a business has failed in any year to meet any one of the requirements of the tax credit program, the business is subject to repayment of all or a portion of the amount of the incentives received.

(1) Job creation shortfall. If a business does not meet its job creation requirement or fails to maintain the required number of jobs, the repayment amount shall be the same proportion as the amount of the shortfall in created jobs. For example, if the business creates 50 percent of the jobs required, the business shall repay 50 percent of the incentives received.

(2) Capital investment shortfall. If a business does not meet the capital investment requirement, the repayment amount shall be the same proportion as the amount of the shortfall in required capital investment. For example, if the business meets 75 percent of the amount of required capital investment, the business shall repay 25 percent of the amount of the incentives received.

(3) Job creation and capital investment shortfalls. If a business has a shortfall in both capital investment and job creation requirements, the repayment amount shall be the same proportion as the greater of the two shortfalls. For example, if a business creates 50 percent of the required jobs and meets 75 percent of the required capital investment, the business shall be required to repay 50 percent of the amount of the incentives received.

(4) Wages and benefits. Notwithstanding any other provision in this subrule, if a business fails to comply with the wage and benefit requirements of the contract, the business shall be required to repay all of the incentives received during the year in which the business was not in compliance with the wage and benefit requirements of the contract.

(5) Minimum eligibility. Notwithstanding any other provision in this subrule, if a program requires a minimum amount of job creation or capital investment in order to qualify for the program and a business fails to meet such minimum eligibility, the business shall repay all of the incentives received.

(6) Definitions. For purposes of this subrule, “incentives received” includes both amounts claimed from the department of revenue or the local community and any future incentives that remain unclaimed as of the date of default. “Capital investment” means the qualifying investment or investment qualifying for tax credits, as specified in the required contract.

c. Department of revenue; county/city recovery. Once it has been established, through the business's annual certification, monitoring, audit or otherwise, that the business is required to repay all or a portion of the incentives received, the department of revenue and the city or county, as appropriate, shall collect the amount owed. The city or county, as applicable, shall have the authority to take action to recover the value of taxes not collected as a result of the exemption provided by the community to the business. The department of revenue shall have the authority to recover the value of state taxes or incentives provided under the program pursuant to Iowa Code section 15.330 or 15E.196. The value of state incentives provided under the program shall include all applicable interest and penalties.

d. Layoffs or closures. If an eligible business experiences a layoff within the state or closes any of its facilities within the state prior to receiving the incentives and assistance, the authority may reduce or eliminate all or a portion of the incentives and assistance. If a business experiences a layoff within the state or closes any of its facilities within the state after receiving the incentives and assistance, the business shall be subject to repayment of all or a portion of the incentives and assistance that it has received.

e. Extensions. If an eligible business or eligible housing business fails to meet its requirements under the Act, these rules, or the agreement described in rule 261—187.2(15), the authority, in consultation with the city or county, may elect to grant the business a one-year extension period to meet the requirements.

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261—187.6(15) Compliance cost fees. An eligible business that executes a contract required pursuant to this chapter is subject to the imposition of certain compliance cost fees as provided in this rule.

187.6(1) One-time fee for closing costs. After execution of the contract and prior to the issuance of a tax incentive certificate or the disbursement of financial assistance, an eligible business shall remit to the authority a one-time compliance cost fee in the amount of \$500.

187.6(2) Ongoing fees based on claims. For each contract with an aggregate tax incentive value of \$100,000 or greater, the business shall remit a compliance cost fee equal to one-half of 1 percent of the value of the tax incentives claimed pursuant to the agreement. The fee required pursuant to this subrule shall be due and payable upon the filing of the business's annual tax return for each tax year in which the business claims incentives under the required contract. The authority will coordinate with the department of revenue to determine which businesses claim incentive benefits each year and will invoice each business accordingly. The requirement to pay the fee required under this subrule shall continue for the duration of the applicable carryforward period of the tax incentives notwithstanding the duration of the other contract requirements.

187.6(3) Applicability. This rule applies to contracts entered into under the high quality jobs program and the enterprise zone program.

[ARC 1573C, IAB 8/20/14, effective 9/24/14]

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code chapters 15 and 15E.

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