

**185—10.32(17A) Informal settlement.** A party to a controversy that may culminate or has culminated in contested case proceedings may attempt informal settlement by complying with the procedures set forth in this rule. No party shall be required to settle the controversy or contested case by submitting to informal settlement procedures.

**10.32(1)** Parties desiring informal settlement shall set forth in writing the various points of a proposed settlement, including findings of facts.

**10.32(2)** When signed by the parties and approved by the administrator or the administrator's designee, a settlement shall represent final disposition of the matter.

**10.32(3)** A proposed settlement which is not accepted or signed by the parties and the administrator or the administrator's designee shall not be admitted as evidence in the record of a contested case proceeding. Evidence of conduct or statements made in settlement negotiations likewise are not admissible. This rule does not require exclusion when the evidence is offered for another purpose, such as proving bias or prejudice of a witness, negating a contention of undue delay, or proving an effort to obstruct a criminal investigation or prosecution.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 17A.10.

[ARC 5392C, IAB 1/13/21, effective 2/17/21]