261—31.15(15E) Requirements and qualifications for business accelerator entities. Business accelerator applicants must meet all of the following criteria:

1. The business accelerator must be a not-for-profit organization affiliated with an area chamber of commerce, a community or county organization, or an economic development region.
2. The geographic area served by a business accelerator must include more than one county.
3. The business accelerator must possess the ability to provide service to a specific type of business as well as to meet the broad-based needs of other types of start-up entrepreneurs.
4. The business accelerator must possess the ability to market business accelerator services in the region and the state.
5. The business accelerator must possess the ability to communicate with and cooperate with other business accelerators and similar service providers in the state.
6. The business accelerator must possess the ability to engage various funding sources for start-up entrepreneurs.
7. The business accelerator must possess the ability to communicate with and cooperate with various entities for purposes of locating suitable facilities for clients of the business accelerator.
8. The business accelerator must possess the willingness to accept referrals from the economic development authority.
9. The business accelerator must refer 20 businesses per year to the Venture Network of Iowa.

[**ARC 1626C**, IAB 9/17/14, effective 10/22/14; see Delay note at end of chapter]